The recital gives each of our students the chance to “take the stage” and show their family and friends the result of all their hard work this past season. Each show is treated as a professional performance with lights, sound and great sets! We know that the recital can also be a very hectic time for everyone and so we hope this guide will allow things to run as smoothly as possible. Please read this guide thoroughly as it contains all the information you will need to make this year’s recital experience successful. We are very excited to bring “Broadway Meets Bethlehem” to the stage June 16th – 18th, and appreciate your help and dedication in making it the best it can be. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email us.

**Costumes:** All costumes need to come out of their bags and be hung up. Tutus should be hung upside down in order for it to release any wrinkles and become full. Costumes CAN NOT BE IRONED! Steamers are fine, BUT be super careful. Costumes are not custom made so some alterations will probably be needed. Please do not allow children to wear their costumes until picture day and recital. If something should happen to your child’s costume, we cannot get another one. All alterations to costumes need to be done prior to picture day. This includes sewing straps and additional pieces onto the costume. Please put your child’s name in everything including, tights, shoes, costumes and bags. Costume accessories such as gloves and hair pieces are easy to lose, so be sure to keep them together in a small zip lock bag with your child’s name on it. If you have several costumes, it is a good suggestion to buy some garment bags (we sell very nice ones in the boutique for a cheap price) and keep each costume with its accessories, tights and shoes in a separate bag. This will keep things really organized for all shows and make any quick changes a breeze for you. Make sure shoes are cleaned up and in good condition. **No underwear** (tights act as underwear). **No jewelry** (except AOD rhinestone performance earrings which can be purchased in the studio boutique), **No colored nail polish** is to be worn on hands or feet.

**Workshop classes** need to remove any bows from tap shoes and replace it with black elastic so shoes do not come untied on stage. You can get this elastic at Walmart, Hobby Lobby, etc.

**Workshop II Classes:** You will layer your tights for dress rehearsal and recital. You will put your pink tights over the top of your suntan tights. This way, when your child is backstage, she will always have tights on. You may also purchase a nude bodyliner to wear under costumes as well.

**Shoes and Tights:** **TIGHTS MUST BE CAPEZIO BRAND TIGHTS!!!! NO OTHER TIGHTS ARE PERMITTED!** Tights are in stock in our boutique. **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT TO PURCHASE TIGHTS!** This is a very busy season for the manufacturer and they tend to go on backorder quickly. **Jazz shoes and hip-hop shoes must also be purchased through AOD.** You cannot get these shoes in any store.

**Recital Hair:**
**Workshop I and II:** May wear their hair anyway they want but it should be off their face. A good option is half up and half down or a curly bun or ponytail.

**Workshop III, 5-7 Hip Hop, Tumbling 4-6, and All Other Classes** must have their hair slicked back and pulled up in a tight high bun using a bun maker and a hairnet to keep the bun neat during the entire recital. No Bangs or flyaways! We sell bunmakers and hairnets in the studio boutique. There is a link on our website which will show you exactly how to do your hair. Go to [www.artofdancestudios.com](http://www.artofdancestudios.com) click on “recital” tab.

**Recital Makeup:** Makeup should be very heavy and everyone needs to wear base and powder to set it. Eyes should be done in 2 shades of brown (darker shade in corner and crease) with white highlighting the brow, heavy eyeliner and mascara. Blush should be heavy and applied directly under the cheek bone. EVERYONE must wear a dark burgundy lipstick. Remember the lights will make you look very pale and washed out so make sure you have enough makeup on. If makeup looks beautiful up close, it probably isn’t enough. False eyelashes are optional but highly recommended. Again, if you go to our website there is a tutorial on how to
apply stage makeup. www.artofdancestudios.com  We also have Mary K samples in the office of recommended colors.

**Picture Week:** Picture week is May 15th-20th. Please see the attached Picture Week Schedule for your child’s time. Times will vary from your class time so PLEASE check the schedule! All pictures will be taken in studio A and we will use studio B as a changing room.

***All Workshop II Classes will have their group picture taken in their Ballet costume***

***All Workshop III Classes will have their group picture taken in their Jazz costume***

After the group pictures are taken you can take your individual pictures in the costume of your choice or both. We will take one group picture then 3 individual poses. There will be a screen set up so you can see the pictures as they are being taken. **Only the parents of the group being photographed will be allowed in the room while their child is being photographed however, due to all the equipment and the amount of people, we ask that you do not bring siblings the day of the photos. If it gets too noisy and the kids are not able to hear the photographer or the teachers, we will ask parents to wait outside. NO CAMERAS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE STUDIO WHILE YOUR CHILD IS BEING PHOTOGRAPHED.** All pictures will be posted online by the next day to view and order. Pictures will only remain online until July so be sure to order before then! **Everyone needs to arrive on time. We will not wait for anyone that is late to take the group picture.** You need to arrive with your hair and makeup done. Hair and makeup can be done however you like but remember, they are dance pictures and photos will come out best if hair and makeup reflect that. Costumes should have all the alterations done to them prior to picture day and PLEASE make sure you are wearing the correct color tights! Once your picture has been taken, you are free to go. Please see attached sheet on how to order pictures. Centre Stage solos and Sr. solos, must sign up in the office to have your solo pictures taken.

**Recital Tickets and Seating:** Recital tickets will be on sale at the studio during picture week May 15th-20th in the main office. Tickets are $16.00 and will go up to $18.00 at the door. Tickets sold at the door will be cash or credit only. **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT TO PURCHASE TICKETS!** We highly recommend you purchase tickets during picture week. Children 2 and under are free, only if they will be sitting on a parent’s lap. If you want your child to have a seat, you will need to purchase them a ticket. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to the show. **Performers are not allowed in the audience at anytime during the show.** Seating is general admission.

***Also at ticket sales: When you come into the studio to buy tickets, you will see several stations set up. Station A will be ticket sales, Station B will be early dismissal passes and video order forms, Station C will be T-Shirt Sales and Summer Camps, and Station D will be the recital programs. Please make sure you visit each station and check the show order for any misspelled names or quick changes. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! If your child does not have at least one number in between dances, YOU NEED TO SPEAK TO OFFICE STAFF IMMEDIATELY!***

**Dress Rehearsal:** Dress rehearsal will be held at Zoellner Art Center on June 12th-15th. **THERE ARE NO REGULAR CLASSES AT THE STUDIO THIS WEEK.** A schedule is attached. On Monday the 12th, there will be a tech rehearsal held at Zoellner. This will be for Opening, Finale, Centre Stage, Dad’s dance, and some of the bigger production numbers. A full list of dances and times will be emailed to you soon. You must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled time in full costume and ready to dance. **If you are late, we will not hold up rehearsal.** THIS IS A FULL DRESS REHEARSAL and therefore, your hair and makeup are to be done as well as all proper costumes, shoes and tights. Please do not show up with holes in your tights or the wrong color tights. The rehearsals are photographed and you have plenty of time to make sure you have everything. When you arrive, please stop by the table out front and a staff member will direct you to your dressing room and let you know where you should be. We will call each group up by class, they will perform their number and the teacher will make any corrections... Once your child is done all their dances, they are free to go. Please feel free to stay as long as you like and watch the other routines. **NO FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE AUDITORIUM!** No one will be allowed to sit in the orchestra seat area during dress
rehearsal. These seats will be used by the photographer, video staff, and where we will be lining up our students to go on stage. NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY IS PERMITTED DURING DRESS REHEARSAL! This is a danger to our dancers and disruptive to the entire crew. VIDEO TAPING IS ONLY PERMITTED FROM THE BALCONY. THESE RULES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

Last year I had to stop rehearsal several times to ask people to stop taking pictures and video. If that happens again this year, I will have no choice but to make it a closed rehearsal and parents will have to wait in the lobby. I know this sounds harsh and I do not mean it to be, but the safety of our dancers is our first priority.

Videotaping and Photography: Our show will be professionally videotaped and photographed. Anyone seen taking video or pictures at the recital will be asked to leave. This rule is in place for the safety of our dancers and so that everyone may enjoy the show. Video order forms will be available during ticket sales and at the recital. Pictures will be available for order online.

Backstage Volunteers: If your child is in more than one show and you would like to help out backstage, please read the following before signing the sheet on the main bulletin board. Volunteers are committing themselves to an entire show. They will be responsible for making sure that each child in their group has the correct costume on with proper shoes and accessories, taking children to and from the bathroom, keeping them occupied and making sure they are lined up at the appropriate time. They will stay with their group until each child is picked up by a parent. You will not get to see your child perform from the audience but you will be able to watch the performance on the monitors in the dressing room. Parents are NOT allowed backstage or in the dressing rooms at anytime unless you are a volunteer! NO EXCEPTIONS!

Backstage Crew: You will notice quite a few people backstage and out front with AOD shirts or badges. These are the people that you are to go to with a problem or concern. No one will be permitted backstage that is not wearing a shirt or badge. This is for your child’s safety and there are absolutely no exceptions! No one will be permitted backstage at intermission. If you are picking your child up early (please see below) YOU MUST PRESENT A YELLOW PASS OR YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN! Again, please do not take out any frustrations on our volunteers. They are following the rules that I have set in place so that your child remains safe while in our care and the show runs smoothly. Many of these volunteers are backstage for all 4 shows, they give up watching their children perform, they are working very hard and some are my family and friends, so I really need them to still like me when this is all over! Remember, we only have your child’s best interest at heart.

Taking Your Child Early: All performers will remain backstage, supervised in their dressing rooms for the entire performance. If you would like to have your child dismissed early, you need to request a Yellow Early Dismissal Pass when you purchase your tickets. You will not be allowed backstage without this pass (this is strictly enforced). This pass does not give you unlimited access to backstage or dressing rooms. It is for the sole purpose to pick your child up early. You may NOT take your child out of the dressing room and then bring them to sit in the audience. If you are taking them early and want them to see the rest of the show, you must have a yellow pass and they must be dressed in regular street clothes, NO COSTUMES! Once a child leaves backstage, they will NOT be allowed to come back for finale. We kindly ask that you wait until intermission or in between dances to leave the auditorium. Shows usually run around 3.5 hours. NO DADS WILL BE ALLOWED IN DRESSING ROOMS.

Dressing Room Etiquette: All students must respect each other and the moms that are working backstage. You must respect other students’ property as well as their space in the dressing rooms. You must be quiet when you are lined up in the hall as well as backstage waiting to perform. Please stay organized and keep the dressing rooms neat and clean. If you have a quick change, please find a backstage volunteer, give them your costume, and they will be in charge of getting you dressed. You are to stay in your dressing rooms until a backstage crew member comes to get you. You are not to roam the halls, you are not allowed out front or behind stage. Only student assistants and seniors are permitted backstage.
**Recital Day:**
Please make sure you are aware of what show your child is performing in. All dancers need to report 1 hour prior to show time. Even if your first dance is in the second half of the show, you NEED to arrive 1 hour prior to the start of the show! We need to take attendance and make sure everyone is present. Dancers should arrive with hair and makeup done and then dressed in your first costume. Please make sure you eat something prior to coming to the show. Parents that are not working the dressing room need to leave the dressing room 30 minutes prior to show time. **Remember no one will be allowed backstage or in dressing rooms once the show starts!** We have plenty of staff, volunteer moms, and alumni to help your child with changing costumes, hair and anything else they may need. Enjoy the show!

**NO MYLAR BALLOONS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BUILDING!!!! THEY SET OFF THE FIRE ALARM. IF YOU BRING BALLOONS, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THEM OUTSIDE.**

**Recital Program Shout Outs!:** If you would like to put a shout out in the recital program for your favorite dancer, please fill out the attached sheet and turn it into the office no later than May 11th.

**WHICH SHOW IS MY CHILD PERFORMING IN?**

**Friday June 16th 6pm**
- Workshop I Monday 5:15 Miss Becka
- Workshop II Sat. 10:15 Miss Becka
- Workshop III Sat. 11:15 Miss Becka
- 8+ Classes
- Beginner Acro
- 10+ Classes
- Intermediate Classes
- Int./Adv Classes
- Advanced I, II, III Classes

**Saturday June 17th 6:00pm**
- Workshop II Thurs. 4:15 Miss Tricia
- Workshop III Thurs. 6:15 Miss Sarah
- 5-7 Hip-Hop Thurs 5:15 Miss Lindsay
- Beginner Acro
- 9+ Classes
- 10+ Classes
- Intermediate Classes
- Int./Adv Classes
- Advanced I, II, III Classes

**Sunday June 18th 12:00pm**
- Workshop I Wed. 5:00 Miss Lissa
- Workshop II Wed. 6:00 Miss Sarah
- 8+ Classes
- 10+ Classes
- Intermediate Classes
- Int./Adv Classes
- Advanced I, II, III Classes
- Tumbling 4-6

**Other Recital Guidelines:**
1. Plan ahead! Don’t wait until dress rehearsal to check that you have everything. Make a packing list and double check it!
2. **PUT YOUR NAME IN EVERYTHING!!!!!!**
3. Stretch! Please make sure that you all take a few minutes to properly stretch.
4. No Food or Drinks in the auditorium at anytime. This includes dress rehearsal as well. Water only!
5. If you are not staying to see your child dance, please be sure you are there on time to pick them up. Most shows run around 3.5 hours.
6. Please go over everything in this packet with your child so they are also aware of all the rules.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY… HAVE FUN AND GO OUT ON THAT STAGE AND “SHINE”!**

**Recital Meeting:** If you are new to AOD or just have some questions you would like answered personally, I will be holding a recital meeting on Tuesday April 18th 7:15pm in studio C lobby. This meeting will cover
everything you need to know about recital, dress rehearsal, hair, makeup etc. This meeting is not mandatory but if you have never been part of a recital before, it is highly recommended that you attend.

**Directions to Zoellner Art Center:** 420 East Packer Ave. Bethlehem 18015 610-758-2787

From Route 22 (East or West): Take Rt. 22 to the Rt. 378 exit in Bethlehem. When you cross the bridge over the Lehigh River, stay in the left-turn lane, marked Third St. Bear left at the traffic light for Third St. Continue one block to the traffic light. At Brodhead Ave., turn right. Continue through one light. At the stop sign, turn left onto Packer Ave. Proceed through three more stop signs. Zoellner Arts Center is the last building on the right. You will see the large flags. The parking garage is just past the flags. There is a $3.00 fee to park in the garage.