



IT'S SHOWTIME!!!

It is time once again to start our preparations for the year-end show. It is hard to believe how quickly each year passes. Of course we are hoping that all of our students will join in the show, but first time parents please read this letter very carefully and ask any questions that you may be unclear on BEFORE YOU SIGN UP. It is very difficult to cancel costume orders and re-arrange choreography after everything gets in full swing.

The title of this year's show is "**The World Is A Stage**". The show will be held at the Newmarket Theatre, which is located on Mullock Drive between Bayview Ave. and Leslie St.

There will be three performances and students will be expected to participate in **all three shows**. The first performance will be on Friday June 11th at 7:30pm, the second will be on Saturday June 12th at 2:00pm and the final performance will be on the Saturday evening of June 12th at 7:30pm. The students must be at the theatre one hour and a half prior to show time on both of these days. The show is usually over by 10:30pm. There will be a dress rehearsal on the morning of Friday June 11th at theatre. We realize that this is a school day, but theatre time is hard to come by and it is a wonderful experience that adds to their learning curve. Many teachers agree that performances such as this help to build strong self esteem and confidence. All students will check in for the dress rehearsal at the stage door at 10:00am and the rehearsal will be finished by 2:00pm. Parents are asked to pick up their children at that time and take them home, or out for a meal until it is time to return for the evening performance. Students will not be allowed to remain in the theatre during the break between the rehearsal and the show. They will be allowed to on the Saturday as there is much less time in between.

We have been asked many times in the past if it is acceptable for students to leave after their dance is over. The answer is no. There are a number of reasons for this, the first and most important is the safety of the children. We cannot keep track of almost 250 students if we have them coming and going in all different directions, at all different times. It is also very distracting and unfair to the other members of the audience to have people entering and exiting the auditorium during the performance. We also think that one of the best parts of the show is the Grand Finale when all the students take their final bow. Therefore, if you sign your child up for the show, it is expected that you understand that they must remain backstage until after the show is over. This is part of the condition on the contract that you are signing and we will not deviate from this rule under any circumstances.

We will be looking for volunteers for both the rehearsal and the performances so please keep this in mind when purchasing your tickets. Also only 30 volunteers including my teaching staff are allowed to remain at the theatre on the dress rehearsal so not everyone will be able to stay. The children are well supervised and they sit in the audience and watch the show during the rehearsal so they are also well entertained.

Starting the week of **April 12th, 2010** our show schedule begins. This means that some class times may change, as it may be necessary to combine classes. We try to keep this to a minimum as we know how busy everyone is but we cannot promise that your class time will not change. We usually post the show schedule by the end of January so that you have plenty of time to make the appropriate arrangements. Please note that any student who misses **more than two show practices will be removed from that number.**

Each year we have a full day rehearsal at the studio, which we call continuity. This is basically a run through of the show from start to finish and is as much for the stage crew as for the dancers, it is important for the dancers to know how they will be getting on and off the stage in relation to the dances before and after them. Therefore we also make this rehearsal compulsory if you wish to participate in the show. The date for continuity practice is **Saturday May 29th, 2010**, so mark your calendars now!!!

Usually if a student takes one type of dance then they would be participating in one show number. If they take two types of dance, they would be in two show numbers etc. However, sometimes we do have special parts or reasons to ask a student to participate in an extra number. This is at the discretion of the teacher, not the parents or the students!!!

There is a costume that the students will wear for the show, which will be yours to keep once the show is over. The cost of the costume varies but usually for the younger ones they range between \$70.00 and \$80.00 and for the older students between \$80.00 and \$95.00. It may also be necessary for you to purchase a different colour of tights depending on the costume style. We try our best to keep the costs down but material is expensive, and when you see them up on stage it is worth it. There will also be \$3.00 per costume added to your final bill for duty & shipping charges. We require that you pay a \$40.00 costume deposit per discipline of dance that your child takes. **The balance of the costumes will be due on February 20th, 2010.** You may wish to give an extra amount towards the costume balance throughout the season so that your final bill will not be such a burden.

Tickets will go on sale on **Monday April 12th, 2010** and no ticket orders will accepted before this date. Tickets are allocated on a first come first serve basis so get your orders in early if you want good seats. Warning to first time parents, the shows do sell out quickly, especially the evening performances. This year we will be limiting the number of tickets available to each family for the first month of ticket sales. Each family will be guaranteed 4 tickets per child that is dancing in the recital. You will still need to hand in a ticket order stating which performance you would like the tickets for and they must also be paid for. On **Monday May 10th, 2010** the remainder of the tickets will go on sale, at which time you may purchase as many as you would like until they are sold out. Please note, any family who has not purchased their 4 tickets by this time will lose the hold on their tickets and they may not get any. The cost of the tickets will be \$18.00 for all seats (there is no price difference between adult and children seats). We ask that you watch at least one performance and volunteer backstage for either one or both of the other performances.

Picture day is Friday May 28th, 2010.

There are no cameras or video recording devices allowed in the theatre. This is for the safety of the dancers as well as the consideration of the people seated around you. We will be having a professional video made if you are interested in purchasing one.

For the most part the year-end show is the best part of your child's dancing. Many memories are made not just onstage, but during the preparations that get us there. Over the past 30 years we have improved our system so that everyone can get the most enjoyment out of the experience. But it is important to remember that it takes each participant's true dedication and enthusiasm to make it a success. We have tried our best to answer all of the important questions about the show and the days leading up to it, but if you have any other concerns that we have not covered please do not hesitate to ask.

Please fill out the attached registration form and hand it back to your child's teacher in an envelope with a deposit for the costume either by cheque made payable to the Simcoe Dance Academy or in cash. All costume deposits and cheques must be received by **Saturday November 21st, 2009**. Please do not postdate the costume deposits.

All parents are responsible for measuring their own child. Please give all measurements in inches. Please add 1" to each measurement for growth room. These measurements will be used to order your child's costume, therefore if your measurements are incorrect, or you are not happy with how the costume fits, it will be your responsibility to make any alterations that are necessary. The studio will not be held responsible for wrong sizing. As we order the costumes from the U.S.A. we do not have the option of exchanging the costumes. . All alterations will be the responsibility of the parents' as will all costs incurred for alterations.

There will be a **\$25.00 late registration fee** added to anyone who hands their show registration and costume deposit in after the 21st of November. Many hours are spent sorting groups, schedules and ordering costumes and it is difficult to add students once these tasks are completed.

The costume deposits are non-refundable and you will be expected to pay the full price of the costume if you remove your child from the show for whatever reason.

Please fill out the attached registration form and return it with your deposit no later than **Saturday November 21st, 2009**.

If you have any questions or concerns please call the studio and leave a message asking Miss. Sheila to return your call regarding the year end show.

The studio number is 905-251-1110 or you may email at simcoedance@rogers.com.

Thank you,

Miss. Sheila