

VanDance Studio Fall Newsletter 2011

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Welcome back to another year of dance! We hope you've all had an awesome summer!

Stay in touch at vandance.ca updated weekly! Also, join us on facebook!

Be sure that we have your correct email address. This is how most studio communication will be done this season. All other newsletters will be sent via email address on file.

Office Hours at our Lethbridge office will be a little different this year. Lesley the book keeper will be in the office on Friday from 9:30-4:00 to deal with your book keeping needs. You may call or see her then. There will also be office staff in the building on Monday and Wednesday from 4-7:00 pm.

Taber and Claresholm parents, please call or email us at the Lethbridge studio if you are need of assistance.

Dance Fees: Please remember that all dance fees are due into the office immediately. We **DO NOT** collect fees on a monthly basis. All fees should have been submitted before your first lesson by post dated cheque, credit card # or cash.

Shoe Exchange: Please pick up all shoes that were brought in for selling at the shoe exchange and check for money that you may have made at the sale.

10 Week Session Classes: Classes for Adults, Moms and Tots and Moms and Babes start the week of October 3. Come and give it a try! There are beginner and advanced level classes. Come see what your children are doing in class! See our website for further details.

Boys Programs: Here at VanDance we offer classes to both girls and boys. For the past several years we have had approximately 40 boys involved at the studio and we hope to continue this. We offer a Boys Only Hip Hop Program. We will also integrate boys into regular classes if they so desire. Please contact us for more information. Lethbridge Boys Hip Hop stars Wednesday with Evan! Come try a class!

Stretch/Tech Classes: Just a reminder that Stretch class is very important to all students especially jazz students, as it helps prevent injuries and improves flexibility. All festival jazz students should be participating in the stretch/tech class of their level. The 45 minute jazz class does not allow good stretch time as well as time for all the jazz technique. We do not want injuries! Be sure to register for your level.

Attire: I have asked the instructors to enforce the attire rules at the studio this season throughout the year. Dance is a discipline and if you look and feel like a dancer, you'll dance like on! All hair should be in a bun for all classes!

Important Studio Dates:

No Classes: Monday October 10 (Thanksgiving)

Thursday November 11 (Remembrance Day) No classes in Claresholm or Lethbridge

December 23-January 8 Inclusive (Christmas Holiday) We realize Taber school holidays are different, however these are the dates the studio is closed.

***New* Company Program:** Company program will be an extension of our festival program and will be the program that we pull the out of class groups from (small groups). This program will be held on Friday afternoons and be divided into 3 levels, junior company, intermediate company and senior company. In each level, an audition class will be held and 8 dancers plus 1 spare will earn a spot in VanDance's Company. The goal is to let this company represent us in festival small groups, extra performances, perform at workshops and extra shows that we are frequently asked to do throughout the year. Students who audition for company will then be chosen by different instructors to participate in their choreography for the season. We are hoping that this program will give the students a little extra to strive for throughout the year as well as eliminate scheduling difficulties that occur with the small groups. It will be held every Friday afternoon from 1-4 however, not all students will be required to attend every Friday for all 3 hours, only the groups that they are required for. Students must be available! A schedule for classes for the company will be sent out at our first meeting in October. Cost will be divided between these 27 students. Auditions to start Friday Sept 16, 23 and 30: Junior(10-12 years) 1-2:00, Intermediate(13-15 years) 2-3:00, Advance(16 and up)3-4:00. Ages are set up this way to get our average age of each division for the festivals at the top of the division. Our goal with Company Students is to attending regular festivals: Dance Power Lethbridge, Festival of Friends Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw Festival of Dance and company will also attend Las Vegas Dance Power.

Reminder: Company is an audition process. Not all students will be chosen, however, they will get another opportunity next season. There are no audition class fees. We encourage all students to attend these free classes throughout Sept.

New York: There are several teachers attending a Tremaine workshop in New York on January 21 and 22. This trip is open to all parents and students who wish to take part. Preliminary plans are in the works for a Thursday January 19 late departure returning late on Monday January 23. We will also be attending a day of workshopping at "Steps on Broadway" and attend several Broadway shows. Senior students are welcome to attend without parents as well.

Triple Threat Calgary: An excellent local workshop for students to attend, Triple Threat Calgary takes place on **Oct. 22 and 23**. Early registration deadline is Oct. 3 so fees will be collected for this event on Friday Sept. 30 ONLY. Lesley will be in the office 9:30-4:00 to collect and register this day. See the workshop board or website for more details as we get them.

Dates To Remember: September 26-30 (**Bring a Friend Week** for all recreational classes)

Tuesday September 20(Entry Fee Deadline Fall Graded Ballet Exams more info TBA)

Friday September 30 (Triple Threat Entries Due)

October 22-23 (Triple Threat Calgary)

Friday November 18 (Tap Exam Entry Fees Due more info TBA)

There is still space in several of our classes. If you are wanting to add on any classes feel free to come try in the next week. We would be happy to fit your child into an appropriate class.

Here is to a wonderful dance season!