



# It's your First Recital!

Recital is fast approaching and we know you have lots of questions. Here are some FAQ that may help you prepare.

**Where do I get my tickets?** Advanced Ticket Sales will take place at the dance studio. You will be assigned a date and time to purchase tickets during Advanced Ticket Sales. This is assigned by number of years in dance and then by lottery for those with the same number of years at this studio. Remaining tickets will be sold during office hours, at leotard rehearsal and at the door on the night of the show.

**Does my child need to be at rehearsals?** YES! We have a leotard rehearsal and a dress rehearsal. You will be given times and dates for these. you will need to be there with your child. Your child will wear their leotard and dance shoes just like they wear to class for the leotard rehearsal. This rehearsal allows your child to get acclimated to the Opera House, know where to line up backstage for their numbers, and where they need to be on stage. Dress Rehearsal is just that, a run through of the show in full costume. You will need to have your child at this rehearsal with hair and makeup ready just like for show night. Dressing Rooms are assigned and you will be responsible for getting your child in costume and ready for their performance. Remember underwear is not worn under tights/leotards/costumes.

**What do we mean by hair and make-up?** Your child will need to wear makeup on stage in order to be seen. The lights are bright and you will want to be able to see their beautiful eyes and pretty smile. You will need foundation for color so their skin won't look washed out, purple eye shadow and white eye shadow (purple for the eyelid and crease, white for the highlight area under the eyebrow, black eyeliner, black mascara, mauve blush, red lip liner and red lipstick. Hair is typically worn in a bun at the nape of the neck unless your child is asked to wear their hair differently for a particular dance. Hair nets help keep buns in place and hair spray will be your best friend.

**When will I get my child's costumes?** Costumes are given during your child's last class the week before the recital. It is essential that you are available to attend this last class as instructions will be given on ribbons, ties, etc at that time.

**What are Good Luck Wishes?** Good Luck Wishes are just that. Wishes of good luck or little encouragements. Space can be purchased in the program to wish your child good luck on their big night. Forms will be available in your recital packet.

**Will we be able to purchase pictures of our child?** Yes! June 7<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> photographers will be taking photos of all our dancers in costume. Times for your child's class pictures will be posted. You will be able to review these photos and make your purchases during rehearsal at the Opera House.

**When do I need to be where?** You will receive a recital packet listing dates and times of rehearsals, parking information, etc.

**Can I bring food to the opera house?** Food is allowed in the dressing rooms only. We recommend you bring a blanket to spread out for your child to sit on in the dressing room between numbers. Quiet toys are also suggested as well as snacks to help pass the time. REMEMBER NOTHING MESSY! Your food will be around your dancer, other dancers and many costumes. Think about spills, clear liquids are best, bottles with lids and covered cups. Think about food residue on clothes and teeth. Things like cheetos and red Kool-Aid aren't a good idea. You are responsible for cleaning up after yourself and leaving the dressing room just like you found it.

**How do I know what dressing room my child is in?** Dressing room assignments are posted on the wall to the left as you come in through the Saunier Alley (the street that runs along the left side of the Opera House) entrance.

**Can Dad, Grandma, little sister come back stage?** No, for the safety of our dancers the backstage area is closely monitored by security. You will be given a backstage pass if you are working backstage the night of the show. If you are the one family member dressing your child and are not working show night you will get a stamped ticket. These will be checked as you go backstage. We want to make your travel back and forth from the audience painless. So pin your stamped ticket, stamp side out, to your top so the guard can see it easily as you pass and you won't have to dig it out of your purse every time. You wouldn't want strangers roaming around backstage or in the dressing rooms and neither do we so please be courteous to the security guards. They are there for your child's safety. You will also be given passes for rehearsals and must have these to enter the opera house so double check before you leave home. It's something you don't want to forget. Remember to go back stage **between** dances so everyone can see the performances they came to see.

**What is Finale?** Finale is the finale number of the show, the icing on the cake. Our lines will perform a short final number. Your child will be lined up by the number that will be on their leotard rehearsal wristband. They will come on stage at the end of the show one more time for a final bow. Seniors, teachers, perfect attendance etc. will be recognized. Some parents choose to bring flowers for their child to carry on stage at this point. If you choose to do this remember little ones will need to be able to carry them by themselves. If they receive more than one bouquet you may want to have them choose one to carry on stage. They have to wait their turn in line to go on stage and flowers can get heavy. Parents working dressing rooms recital night will be supervising your children as they wait in line but can't possibly hold a whole class of children's flowers.

**What are some things I don't want to forget?** Hair pins, hair spray, make up for touch ups. Needle and thread in case you have a costume malfunction. Safety pins, hair bands, Band-Aids, snacks, blanket, your tickets or passes, water for your dancer and for you. You may want to wear or bring comfortable shoes especially if you are working in the dressing rooms as there will be stairs to climb. I've always found it helpful to have my daughter wear or bring something easy to get off and on for easy changes. Tops or dresses that button up the front, wrap around, or can be stepped out of are great so you don't mess up that hair and makeup you've worked so hard on. Don't forget your child's dance shoes. Remember to encourage good behavior. Teachers will need to be heard during the rehearsals so be as quiet as possible.

**What is the most important thing to remember?** Enjoy this time with your child! Yes it can be hectic and tiring but they have worked all year for this big night, their time to shine. Believe me, before you know it a dozen or so recitals will have passed and you will down to your last one or two wondering where all the time went. Have fun! You're going to love seeing your child on stage!