Interested in helping backstage?

We need one volunteer class mom for all Preschool, Creative Ballet and Love 2 Dance classes. You will receive a DVD of the performance. Sign up by emailing info@gracefuldance.com

Please be sure that you meet the following criteria:

• Be present at all rehearsals and the recital, without siblings.

• Be able to devote your attention fairly to all students in the class. Consider how you and your child work together and whether your child will have a good experience if your attention is shared with the whole group.

Save the Dates

Photo time:
(optional, sign up on the bulletin board at the studio beginning April 6th)

Studio rehearsal:
(arrive in ballet costume)

Theater rehearsal at the Cary Arts Center:
(wear regular dance attire)

June 13 recital

Drop off time:

Recital Time:

Inside this packet:

• Rehearsal information
• Recital information
• Information about portraits and ordering t-shirts, dvds, flowers, program ads

New this year:

• Portraits will be taken the weekend before studio rehearsals

• The box office for the Cary Arts Center has moved to the new Cary Theater on Chatham St. Hours for the box office are Tues.-Fri. 11am-6pm; Sat. 10am-1pm. On Mondays tickets are available at the Cary Arts Center from 4-8 pm. Tickets can also be purchased at the theater the day of the show, if we do not sell out. Tickets for our performance will go on sale in early May and you will be notified by email.

• A new state law requires sales tax on all performing arts tickets.

• DVDs will be mailed out rather than picked up.

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Mandatory Rehearsals

Dress rehearsal at the studio, Week of May 11-16 (wear costumes):

No regular classes this week! Come to your rehearsal instead!

Kids:
- Please make attendance at rehearsals a priority -- it's important for you, and it's a commitment to your classmates! (In sports terms: this is like the play-offs -- your team needs you!)
- Be on time and be ready to go -- but also be flexible. We will do our best to stick to schedule.
- Wear your hairstyle to rehearsal at the studio. Class photos will be taken during this time.
- Arrive in your ballet costume. You will only wear your ballet costume for this rehearsal.
- If you are in acro and have another part: wear a leotard under your costume so that you can take off your ballet costume for rehearsal. Bring your acro costume to class the week of June 1st.
- If you are in tap and have another part or costume: bring your costume to class the week of June 1st for a “quick change” rehearsal. You will leave your costume with us that day so that we can have it set up for you at the theater. Be sure both are marked with your name!
- Use the bathroom before arriving. No eating in costumes!

Parents:
- Both the studio and theater rehearsals are closed rehearsals. We need the full attention of our dancers, so we ask that parents do not watch through the windows.
- Only class moms will come in the studio for rehearsal.
- Registration for fall and summer classes as well as DVD, flower and t-shirt pre-orders will be available at all rehearsals.
- The parking lot will fill up — PLEASE USE THE GRAVEL LOT AT THE MATTHEWS HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET!

Rehearsal at the Cary Arts Center, June 10 & 11 (no costumes):

Come to your rehearsal and recital the week of June 8. There will not be classes at the studio.

Kids:
- Wear normal dance class attire and ballet shoes.
- Arrive for check-in 10 minutes prior to rehearsal. Follow the signs to be dropped off at the backstage door which is down the hallway to the right of the theater.

Parents:

Kids should be under our supervision or yours. You may drop off your dancer with us and return at the end of rehearsal, or you may wait in the lobby or walk to the nearby library. Siblings must be kept with you at all times.
Recital Information
We will have four recitals at the Cary Arts Center on Saturday, June 13th. Your recital time is on the front of this packet, and recital times will also be posted on the bulletin board at the studio. The show will last one hour.

Costumes
- Most costumes will be handed out in class the week of April 27.
- Label the costume and your child’s dance shoes with your child’s name.
- Costume sizing is general -- small, medium, etc. so a perfect fit can not be guaranteed. You may alter as needed; often straps need to be tightened or secured with simple hand-sewing.
- We want all dancers to be comfortable onstage. If you feel that for modesty reasons, your dancer needs to wear a leotard or other undergarments with their costume, please select a skin tone or white.
- Girls in ballet need full-footed or convertible pink tights and pink leather ballet shoes in good condition.
- Boys in ballet need black ballet shoes.

Day of the Show
- Drop off your child at the entrance to the Marcus Dry Room 20-25 minutes prior to show time in costume and shoes for their first dance (typically ballet). (Signs will show the way -- this will be in the same hallway as rehearsal drop off.) Dancers will be checked-in by Miss Bria and will wait backstage with their class and class mom/helper.
- Space at the theater is limited, so arrive dressed and ready to go.
- We will have multiple shows that day. Do not arrive at the back door more than 30 minutes prior to show time as dancers will be exiting from the prior show up until that time.
- The auditorium opens 30 minutes prior to the show for first-come, first-served seating.
- Dancers will be backstage with their class throughout the show. They will be able to see much of the show from the backstage viewing area and enjoy the excitement of being a part of the experience!
- During the show, please model and require good audience manners from siblings and guests. Talking or moving through the theater are very distracting for our young dancers. Enjoy the show and be proud of your beautiful dancers!
- The theater does not permit videotaping or photography during the show. The house manager enforces this policy.
- Dancers will be checked out from the same door they were dropped off at. Please send a parent to pick-up, do not send a friend or relative unfamiliar to our studio staff.

Tickets
- Pick up your two free tickets per child at your studio rehearsal.
- Additional tickets can be purchased online or at the box office at The Cary (not at the Arts Center) for $8 each.
- Tickets are general admission. There are no assigned seats — grandma can buy her ticket on a different day than your neighbor and they can still sit together.
- Tickets are required for everyone in a seat. Children four and under who are on laps do not need a ticket.

What’s next?
We are committed to dance education, and there’s plenty more to learn! The recital is not the conclusion of our dance year. Continue with us for classes throughout the summer. Don’t miss registering for summer or fall! All studio families are invited to Family Appreciation Day on Friday, July 10 at Pullen Park.
Tips for Make-up and Hair

Getting “made up” for the recital is part of the fun for many of the dancers. We will be using stage lighting, and wearing make-up will help the dancers appear natural instead of washed out from the harsh lights. Following are some recommendations, but these are open to the discretion of the parent and the interest/comfort of the child.

- Eyeshadow in a natural shade (browns, mauves, use lighter shade or white to highlight under brow).
- Mascara and brown eyeliner
- Blush to add color to cheeks
- Lipstick a little darker than child’s lips – a light red or mauve
- Foundation is optional, apply in a shade slightly darker than natural skin tone. Top with powder to decrease shine.
- **NO** jewelry or hair accessories besides those provided with your costume
- **NO** visible nail polish

Tips for hair:

- Secure bangs and loose hair with two bobby pins crossed in an “X”. (Make sure these are bobby pins that secure snugly, not loose hair pins). Securing loose hair prevents it from becoming a distraction to your dancer, and the double bobby pins help keep them from falling onto the stage where they could be a safety hazard.
- When using hair spray, gel, mousse, be sure to use more than you would normally apply…the dancers will be very active, and a falling hairdo can be a real distraction!
- When making a bun, use two hairbands for extra security. A good ponytail is the start of a good bun. Always use a hairnet wrapped around the bun to hold in the loose hairs!
- If your child will be wearing her hair down or in a ponytail, and you would like to have curls, put mousse or spray gel into slightly damp hair, roll hair in soft rollers, dry hair and leave rollers in until you leave your house for the show. Oh, the price of beauty! ☺ Or try spraying hair with hairspray while it's still on the curling iron. Braided hair can make pretty waves, too. If your daughter will be wearing her hair in a ponytail, please use two hairbands for a secure ponytail.
- Most dancers will be wearing their hair in buns. Those who will be wearing ponytails or other styles will receive that information with their costumes.

HAIR SHOULD BE DONE FOR DRESS REHEARSAL, MAKE-UP IS OPTIONAL. MAKE-UP AND HAIR SHOULD BE DONE FOR THE RECITAL.
Make your recital day extra special!

Portraits

Professional portraits will be taken of dancers in costume the weekend before studio rehearsals, May 9th and 16th. We will not be taking individual portraits during rehearsals. There is no commitment to purchase and there are no sitting fees!

DVDs

A top-quality production of the recital will be available for order at the rehearsals and recitals for $28 per copy. This is a great way to preserve a special day or send a copy to out-of-town grandparents! DVDs will be mailed to you three weeks after the recital.

Program Ads

Write a special message of best wishes or congratulations and include with a photograph of your dancer in the program. Please return the program ad sheet by the date of your studio rehearsal.

Flowers and T-shirts

Flowers and t-shirts will be available for pre-order at the studio rehearsals only. These items will be available for pick up at the recital. You may pay in cash, check or request that these be charged to your studio account. Pre-orders on these items will be taken at studio rehearsals.

Graceful Expressions Family Appreciation Day – July 10

Mark your calendars now to join us for a FREE event to thank our studio families for your commitment and hard work this school year!!
Recital Program
Turn your recital program into a special keepsake!

Dancer’s Name __________________________________________

Size (select one):

☐ ¼ page, text only ($15)
☐ ¼ page, with picture -- vertical orientation ($30)
☐ ½ page, with picture -- horizontal orientation ($55)
☐ ½ page, with color picture — horizontal orientation ($75) (only 4 available)

Program ad message (please keep to 20 words or less):

You must have a professional picture done for the program during photo weekend, May 9 or 10. Please be sure to sign up for a time slot if you wish to be included in the program. (No obligation to buy prints.)

DUE MAY 14TH
Ads are available at the same rates for your business, school or organization!