



2024-2025 RECITAL HANDBOOK

Dear Parents and Students,



For more than 20 years, In Harmony Dance & Wellness has provided students with an exciting performance experience through its June recital. The recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present to their families and friends the results of a year's hard work, dedication, and progress. The year-end recital is a chance for dancers to celebrate a fun season, have fun and shine in front of family and friends.

A big part of dance training is learning through performance. Although performance opportunities can help prepare some students for a possible career in dance, they also contribute to children's success in non-dance activities. The performing experience helps build self-esteem and self-confidence and can result in better in-school presentations, improved social skills, and strong interview skills for future college or job opportunities.

The rehearsal process is a tremendous learning experience as well. It helps the children develop retention skills, and by working with their classmates on a group performance, they learn the positive aspects of working as a team to create the best end result.

Recital Information 2025

Location: St Andrew's College

15800 Yonge Street, Aurora, ON L4G 3H7

Date: Saturday, June 7th, 2025

Twinkle Star Show 1 - TBA

Main Show 2 - TBA

Date: Sunday, June 8th, 2025

Twinkle Star Show 2 - TBA

Main Show 2 - TBA

PART 1: STAYING INFORMED

We work hard to make the dance experience organized and fun. Keeping you informed is one of our primary goals. Please read all newsletters and other school information. Newsletter and Notices are emailed to you and posted on the website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions regarding the information distributed, we encourage you to contact the office at **905-898-6229** between the hours of 4:00-8:00 pm Monday to Friday and 9:00-12:00 pm Saturday.

We answer email on a daily basis, except on holidays. Feel free to email questions to the office at admin@inharmonydance.ca

Website → www.inharmonydance.ca

We are constantly updating our website. News, important parent and student information, contact information, and more are available online 24 hours a day.

Facebook Page → <https://www.facebook.com/www.inharmonydance.ca>

“Like” the In Harmony Dance page on Facebook to receive daily updates on school events. Please invite your family and friends to “like” the school.

Please do not post questions on the school’s Facebook page. Instead, please email them directly to admin@inharmonydance.ca

➤ **Our goal is to make the recital an organized, exciting experience for everyone involved.**

PART 2: COSTUMES

We spend many hours selecting the costumes for each class. They are always age-appropriate and of the highest quality possible. Costumes include all accessories (hats, gloves, tights, etc.), but not shoes.

NOTE: No jewelry or underwear is to be worn with costumes. This includes during dress rehearsals and performances and when class pictures are taken.

Recital Participation Fee:

\$215+HST Recital Participation Fee includes:

- Participation in the year end recital
- Costume & tights
- Download of all the recital shows
- 2 recital tickets per family
- Photo day sitting fee

Recital Sibling or Multi Class Discount:

\$215+HST for the first child or one class

\$110+HST for each sibling or additional classes

No refunds will be made if a parent or guardian withdraws a child from the school after costumes have been ordered and prior to the recital. Purchased costumes may be picked up at the school during the costume distribution period and up to 15 days after the performance. Costumes not picked up after 15 days will be donated to charity.

➤ **Costumes are always age-appropriate and of the highest quality possible.**

Sizing

Costume measuring begins in November during scheduled class times. All children will be measured in order to determine their proper costume size(s).

Alterations

Alterations and repairs of costumes will be made at the discretion of the director and/or professional seamstress. If the director or seamstress deems that the fit impedes dancing ability, the costume will be repaired on time for the recital. All costume fit issues will be addressed on Costume Try On Day during class. We are happy to make additional alterations to a costume upon request at customer's own expense.

Distribution

Costumes will be distributed the week before Picture Day when all outstanding balances for the season (including tuition) are paid in full. Please try on all costumes and accessories (except for tights) as soon as you bring them home. This allows you to account for all accessories and avoids class interruption for costume fittings and/or costume mix-ups.

Costume care

We recommend that you label all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights with your child's name. Place the costumes in a garment bag with your child's name on the outside. Pack accessories in a clear plastic bag (labeled with your child's name). Please do not wash costumes in your washing machine; dry clean them only (after the recital). Remove any tags that could hang out of the costume.

➤ **Ironing**

We do not recommend using a traditional iron when pressing costumes. Silks can burn, sequins can melt, and fabric colors may change. Please use only a steam iron.

➤ **Tutu maintenance**

Grasp the waist and give it a gentle shake, then use your fingers to "comb" out any pieces of tulle that are wrinkled. To store a tutu, put it on a hanger upside down. To help remove persistent wrinkles, hang the tutu in the bathroom during a shower or use a handheld steamer.

➤ **We recommend that you label all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights with your child's name.**

TIPS: COSTUME COMMON SENSE

- ✓ Always have a second pair of tights available.
- ✓ Place costumes in a garment bag for travel.
- ✓ Hang and press costumes before each performance.
- ✓ Place your name in all costumes and shoes.

Quick costume changes

During the recital, some students may have quick costume changes. A special team of moms will assist these students, whose costumes and accessories will be placed in the backstage area.

PART 3: TIGHTS, SHOES, HAIR & MAKEUP**Tights**

If tights are required for your routine, they WILL be included with your costume! If you would like to purchase a backup pair, we will have some available for purchase at the studio. Please do not wear or wash them before the dress rehearsal or performance. (Note: Having a second pair of tights on hand offers students and parents a great sense of security.)

Dance Discipline	Required Tights
Acro	Beige Footless
Ballet	Light Pink Footed
Jazz and Tap (ages 7 and over)	Beige Footed

Shoes

The following shoes are required for all students. Be sure that all shoes are cleaned prior to the recital.

Girls
Pink Ballet shoes
Black Tap shoes
Black Jazz shoes

Hair & Makeup**MAKEUP:**

The following makeup is what we require the dancers to wear as stage makeup in order to enhance their features (highlight their smiles and bring out their eyes)

- **Creative Dance, Beginner, Pre-Primary & Primary** classes are to wear pink blush and red lipstick.
- **Junior, Intermediate, Teen & Competitive** classes are to wear white eyeshadow as a base, brown eyeshadow in the crease, black eyeliner on the top and bottom of the eye with one wing extending out from the top of the eye, mascara, pink blush, red lipstick (see picture on bulletin board for better explanation-picture to be posted closer to date)

HAIR, TIGHTS & SHOES:

Shoe, tights & hair requirements for each class will be emailed to families.

→No bangs are permitted since bangs obscure the face and we want to see your beautiful eyes. Spray, gel or mousse all loose ends. No dangles or curly ends are permitted. If you need clips to secure your hair, they must be the color of your hair. Almost all hair lengths can get into a bun. Every bun must have a hairnet.

- *Only ankle socks (below the ankle are permitted to be worn for hip hop classes with a shoe.*
- *All tights will be provided with the costume if needed.*
- *It is not recommended to wear underwear under costumes because the lines will show on stage. Your tights will act as underwear. If you need to wear a bra, make sure it is beige and that bra straps cannot be seen when wearing the costume. Tights are required under all costumes.*

Please refer to the **Hair & Makeup Chart** for Hairstyles specific to each class. Dancers with short hair must pull their hair away from the face and slick it down.

➤ **Having a second pair of tights on hand offers students and parents a great sense of security.**

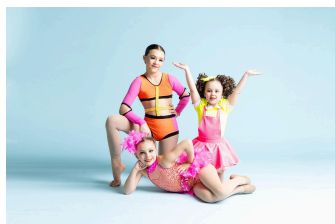
PART 4: BE PREPARED

Planning

Gather all costumes, accessories, shoes, and makeup several days in advance so you'll know if something is missing or isn't right. Make a checklist of your child's routines (if there is more than one class) listing the costume, tights, shoes, and any accessories, and refer to it to make sure you have all your supplies before going to the theater. Bring at least one extra pair of tights of each color. Also bring extra hair gel, hairnets, bobby pins, and hairspray. A reminder that all dancers in classes age 6-8 and up are performing in BOTH main shows. In the spirit of teamwork, dedication & experience for your dancer please try to ensure your dancer is present for both performances.

TIPS: OTHER HANDY EXTRAS

- ✓ Baby wipes/Shout wipes (to fix makeup mistakes or wash hands)
- ✓ Baby powder (for itchy costumes)
- ✓ Safety pins (for emergency costume repairs)
- ✓ Clear nail polish (to repair minor holes or runs in tights when there isn't time to change them)
- ✓ Your pain reliever of choice
- ✓ Band-Aids (the "invisible" kind)



Snacks

Please do not send your child to the recital with snacks or beverages that could stain their costumes. Crackers, energy bars, apples, carrot sticks, and string cheese are good choices. Water is the best beverage; please do not send juice boxes or other sticky beverages. Please send NUT-FREE snacks only!

PART 5: DRESS REHEARSAL

Participation in the dress rehearsal is *mandatory*. The dress rehearsal allows the students to feel comfortable with their performance and costume(s). And there's another big reason why the dress rehearsal is important. One of the main objectives of our curriculum is to teach the spirit of teamwork and commitment to classmates. When children miss the rehearsal, the result can be confusion for the remaining students (an absence affects spacing and timing).

Recital Rehearsals → *Friday, May 2 or Saturday, May 3 at the studio with Picture day*

Times: TBA

Finale

All students are required to participate in the finale, which will be rehearsed during the last month of classes.

PART 6: STUDENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Recital Performances

Parents or guardians need to sign-in students at the Sign-In table. They are then welcome to bring the dancer to the dressing room where they will be checked in and placed under the supervision of the class mom(s). Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms after the children have been checked in for the recital. Students will remain in the dressing-room for the entire performance. After the finale, all dancers will participate in a "Daddy-Daughter" dance wherein dancers will be dismissed to their fathers after daddy-daughter performance.

➤ **Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms after the children have been checked in at the theater.**

NOTE: Please do not attempt to pick up your child during the performance. All students will be under the supervision of responsible adults and will be safe for the length of the performance. The dressing rooms will be stocked with various activities as well as a video feed of the performance.

PART 7: RECITAL PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOS

Recital photos

Picture Day will take place on **Friday, May 2 & Saturday, May 3** at the studio. A Picture Day schedule will be posted to the website and will be available to view in the Recital binder at the front desk. Please wear proper hair, makeup, shoes and tights to picture day. All students must attend! There is no obligation to purchase photos. Please arrive at least half an hour before your child's scheduled time since photo shoots tend to run ahead of schedule.

My child's picture time is _____.

Photo purchase

Photo proofs will be available online approx. 6 – 8 weeks after.

Recital Video

All families will receive a FREE link to download the recital videos.

PART 8: RECITAL TICKETS

Tickets Policies

All studio accounts (tuition, costumes, etc.) must be paid in full before family members may purchase recital tickets. To create an organized and professional atmosphere, all tickets are **reserved seating**. Each audience member must have a reserved seat.

SHOWS

COST

Twinkle Stars

Adults:
Seniors (over 65) & Children (under 10):

Recital Show

Adults:
Seniors (over 65) & Children (under 10):

- *Children under 2 can sit on parent's lap and do not require a ticket*
- Tickets go on sale via OnStage Direct (more detail to follow) - TBA

PART 9: RECITAL POLICIES

Video and photography

NO video or photography will be allowed at the recital.

Parent: Recital Audience Etiquette

Because we present a professional performance, we ask that everyone remain seated during the entire performance.

Auditorium rules

- No eating, drinking, or smoking is allowed in the auditorium or dressing rooms. During the dress rehearsal and recital, when the dancers are not onstage they must remain in the dressing rooms with their class volunteers.
- Children should not bring handheld electronic games or other devices with sounds and/or lights that could be a distraction for other audience members.
- Because we present a professional performance, we ask that everyone remain seated during the entire performance. If you do leave the auditorium during the show you will be allowed back into the auditorium only between dances. This rule is strictly enforced by the theatre; please do not create a disturbance with the auditorium ushers in regard to this policy.
- Children must remain seated for the entire performance. If you think they will have a hard time remaining seated during the performance, please do not bring them to the recital. Allowing children to run around or otherwise disrupt the performance is not fair to other audience members.
- The use of video or flash photography is strictly prohibited during the recital. It is important that you pass this policy on to your recital guests.

Backstage

Family members and friends are not permitted backstage or in the dressing rooms during the recital, including during intermission and before and after the show. There is a lot of backstage activity in a limited space, and dressing rooms are private areas. Please remind your family and guests to be respectful of these areas. Those who wish to greet performers after the show or present flowers may do so in the lobby areas.



PART 10: VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Recital volunteers

Anyone interested in volunteering to help backstage is welcome. Please email admin@inharmonydance.ca if you would like to volunteer. The recital weekend is a hectic experience and all volunteers must work in a cooperative manner at all times. Our backstage managers work very hard to put an efficient system in place, and we ask that all volunteers rely on their experience and follow their instructions.

All volunteers will be given a t-shirt to wear or a name tag, which must be worn in the theater at all times. Please return the t-shirt or name tag after the recital.

Class moms

Class mothers are needed for each class to supervise the dancers and keep them safe and accounted for. They are responsible for making sure that each child is in the proper costume, has the proper accessories and shoes, is backstage at the appropriate time, and returns to the appointed dressing room after the performance.

The number of volunteers needed for each class will be determined by the number of students. If there are too many volunteers for one class, some may be asked to work with children from another class. Volunteers are not allowed to enter the stage area. Because there will be live microphones backstage, only dance teachers and assistants are allowed in the wings

Thank you for choosing In Harmony Dance!!



