

Hello Wonderful Harbor Dance Families,

This newsletter will be quite different from the normal monthly newsletters you receive, our world is quite different and changing daily. We hope to answer some questions that you may have about dance hanging in the air to the very best of our abilities.

We hope all of you are hanging in there, we know it is such a huge learning curve, this change in our way of life right now. I have included a video link below for students and families to view. The link is going out to all of my classes along with their dance skills this week, it's about gratitude in times of change.

Here is the (modified) news!

1. Weekly Studio Updates: We will update you each week (as our circumstances change frequently) via studio emails. We will send you pertinent information regarding the status of the studio, COVID-19 updates, what we are doing to abide by Health Department and CDC standards (as they change), and any other 'need to know' information.
2. Re-opening for dance classes: As Governor Inslee ordered, all non-essential businesses must remain closed for 14 days. This puts us at a re-open date of April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please note, **this date is different than previously announced and may be extended out, per State orders.**
3. If we are allowed to re-open by April 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have a modified schedule allowing classes to maintain the social distancing parameters as well as follow any standards given by the CDC and Health Dept. Please note, these changes may shift the time of your dancer's class time(s) slightly. We will make sure to let you know as soon as we know of any changes we need to make that may affect your dancer and class time/studio location.
4. Recital and 'Point of No Return' Date/Deadline: We intend to do all we can possible to hold our Annual Production in June, on the same dates as previously announced (June 12-13 and June 18-20). We need to be re-opened and up and running by April 27<sup>th</sup> to do this. An earlier re-open date is MUCH more preferable, but we can work with the return date of April 27<sup>th</sup>. Our faculty and students need time to learn and rehearse repertoire. We want all dancers to go onstage and perform with aplomb and confidence, to be well-prepared. We believe we can make this happen if we are back by April 27<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

We will need to have a few modifications to our yearly schedule and break weeks. Please read below for these modifications.

--Whether we return April 7<sup>th</sup> or April 27<sup>th</sup>, the following modifications will be made to our calendar: 1. We will hold class over Spring Break, originally scheduled April 13-18<sup>th</sup>. 2. We will hold class over Memorial Day weekend, May 22, 23, and 25<sup>th</sup>.

--If we cannot return until April 27<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our photo shoot for ALL classes over the weekend of May 30-31 or June 13<sup>th</sup>, possibly during our dress rehearsal or recital weekend. We will solidify the alternative photo-shoot dates as the April 7<sup>th</sup> possible re-open date nears closer.

--If we return April 7<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our photo shoot week as originally scheduled, the week of June 8-12. Again, if we return April 7<sup>th</sup>, we WILL have class over Spring Break and Memorial Day.

5. YouTube Videos: We will continue to send you class videos that give the material a dancer receives in a full class (warm-up/Barre, technique/center, conditioning, choreography) until we are cleared to re-open for live, in-person classes. If we modify our schedule to the extent that classes are shortened to allow for ample room space, we will continue to supplement these classes with additional 'remote-learning/at-home' videos, as well.

6. Tuition: Whether the date is April 7<sup>th</sup> or April 27<sup>th</sup> for re-open, Harbor Dance will charge 50% tuition for the month of April rather than the full amount. Please get in touch with us directly if your dance expenses become a hardship due to loss of wages from COVID-19 ramifications.

Reminders from past newsletters:

ANNUAL PRODUCTION 2020: Our Annual Production will take place in June. We are hoping the 2nd weekend (June 12/13th) for Premiere Shows and June 19-20th, for Encore and Ballet Production, pending final venue approval. We will be starting our Annual Production choreography in February/ March. Please make sure your contact information and class enrollment is correct . We order costumes, plan choreography etc. based on the information we have in our system so please ensure enrollment accuracy. Costumes were ordered the first week of March. If you have not paid and are not on a payment plan, a costume will not be ordered for your dancer. Additional expenses to consider while making your decision to participate: Families will need to purchase tickets to the show(s). Approximately two weeks prior to recital, we will have a photo shoot by the amazing Lisa Hystek to commemorate the year. These photos are available for purchase through her. We want everyone who considers to participate in recital to be made aware of any fees that might be associated with this production. MORE REMINDERS: AT THIS TIME, FOR RECITAL PARTICIPANTS/RECITAL CLASSES, WE WILL ALLOW NO MORE SHIFTING OF CLASSES. If your dancer is NOT participating in recital, it is important you please notify the front desk as well as your dancer's instructor(s). Dancers may only participate in recital if all account fees are paid in full by the time of the production in June.

We need VOLUNTEERS, for recital. If you are willing to help with the dancers, in their rooms, you must be available for both dress rehearsal and the show. Please let the front desk know (call us at 253-858-5550 or email us at [info@harbordance.net](mailto:info@harbordance.net)) if you are available and willing.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR COSTUMES: As costumes arrive and are sent home, please do not allow your dancer to wear or play with the costume until after recital. If anyone loses a hair or head piece which cannot be replaced by the costume company in time, the policy is that no one in the dance gets to wear one, so PLEASE be extra diligent not to lose them if one is included with your dancer's costume

SUMMER AND FALL SCHEDULES: Will be drafted and ready to view (preliminary and subject to changes) in a few weeks. You can register for Summer starting in May, and Fall registration will take place in July.

We are thinking of you all daily, hoping for your health and safety. We miss you all and send you love and support during this unique time.

Sincerely,  
Simone, Sue, Dawn, owners  
Harbor Dance and Performance Center