

*The Pink Slipper
Dance Studio*



Saturday 25, 2022

Westfield High School Auditorium

Gala Handbook

Dear Parents and Students,

FOR MORE THAN 19 years, The Pink Slipper Dance Studio has provided students with an exciting performance experience through its June Gala. It's a rite of passage for thousands of youngsters, a chance to shine in front of family and friends that the dancers anticipate with nervous excitement.

The Gala offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present to their biggest fans the results of a year's hard work, dedication, and progress.

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 dancers 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.

Dedication to Gala commitments is the responsibility of both students and their parents. We've created this handbook in an effort to clarify what we expect from you in terms of commitments and responsibility to the annual Gala, the studio, and other students and parents.

Key contact information for The Pink Slipper Dance Studio:

2350 E. Conner Street
Noblesville, IN 46060
(317) 877-PINK

Website: www.pinkslipperdancestudio.com

At the rehearsal/show, Backstage Moms will receive a Gala identification badge, a clipboard with student names in your assigned class, and a pink apron. Wear the identification badge in the auditorium at all times. Return badges, clipboards, and aprons to Miss Paula at the end of the rehearsal/show.

Please do not bring guests, including children, with you while you are volunteering.

Backstage Mom Responsibilities

Backstage Moms are needed for each class to supervise the dancers and keep them safe and accounted for during rehearsals and Gala. Backstage Moms must work the rehearsal and the Gala performance for their assigned class. 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. They will be able to watch the class dance from the side of the stage. Backstage Moms are required to be at dress rehearsal until the class is finished dancing (and after all students in the class are picked up by their parent), and at your assigned Gala time for the entire show. If there are too many volunteers for one class, some volunteers may be asked to work with children from another class.

PART 11: Parking in the lot at:

Westfield High School Auditorium

18250 N Union St, Westfield, IN 46074

PART 12: Gala Keepsake Book

Each year, The Pink Slipper Dance Studio publishes a Gala Keepsake Book. "Break a Leg" ads are available for purchase in April. All students, parents, and friends have the opportunity to purchase ads with a Gala photograph. Picture ads must include a photo of the dancer taken by The Pink Slipper's official photographer during Gala picture week. Forms for ad purchase will be available at the studio, and must be submitted with payment no later than April 29th.

PART 9: Recital Policies

Video and Photography

Please note: No video or photography will be allowed at the Gala. Security will ask you to take any cameras back to your car.

ALL REHEARSALS ARE CLOSED. No one will be allowed to photograph or videotape dancers during technical or dress rehearsals. No one is allowed to sit in auditorium seats during rehearsals.

Auditorium rules

No eating, drinking, or smoking is allowed in the auditorium or dressing rooms. During the dress rehearsal and Gala, dancers must remain in the dressing rooms with their Class Moms when they are not onstage.

Backstage

Family members and friends are not permitted backstage or in the dressing rooms during rehearsals or the Gala, including during intermission and before and/or 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 or gifts may do so in the lobby areas after the students have been released from the stage after the performance.

Props

All props are the property of The Pink Slipper Dance Studio and are to be left backstage after the rehearsal and performance. Props include such items as canes, parasols, beach balls, etc.

No video or photography will be allowed at the rehearsals or the Gala performance.

PART 10: Backstage Moms

Anyone interested in volunteering is appreciated. Please ask our desk staff for details about this exciting opportunity. There will be an orientation at the auditorium for all volunteers, who must abide by the policies set forth by The Pink Slipper Dance Studio. The Gala 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.

PART I: The Commitment

Important Gala Dates

By allowing your child to participate in The Pink Slipper Dance Studio Gala, you commit yourself and/or your child to the following dates and events.

The performance will take place at Westfield High School auditorium.

Date	Activity	Where
April 25-29	Picture Week	Pink Slipper Studio
May 21, 9:00 a.m.	Tickets go on sale	Online orders ONLY
May 21, 10-noon	Show 3 Tech Rehearsal	Pink Slipper Studio
June 22, 6-9:00 p.m.	Show 3 Tech Rehearsal	WHS Auditorium
June 23: 6-9:00 p.m.	Show 3 Dress Rehearsal	WHS Auditorium
June 25	Show 1 Performance 10:00 a.m.	WHS Auditorium
June 25	Show 2 Performance 2:00 p.m.	WHS Auditorium
June 25	Show 3 Performance 7:00 p.m.	WHS Auditorium

Updates

As the season progresses, additional Gala information or updates will be posted on The Pink Slipper Dance Studio website, **www.pinkslipperdancestudio.com**. Our goal is to make the Gala an organized, exciting experience for everyone involved. It's a team effort: students, their parents, the teachers, and the director are key players in the show's success.

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PART 2: Costumes

Distribution

Costumes will be distributed when the orders come in and when any outstanding balances (including tuition) are paid in full. Costumes and accessories will be tried on at the studio. Rarely, alterations are necessary. If they are needed it will be noted at this time. Please make sure alterations are done before Picture Day.

All balances must be paid before Picture Day so students can have their costumes for pictures.

Class photos will be taken during regular class times April 25- April 29.
Students will not be able to participate in the Gala if their account is not current.

Accounts must be current for students to receive their costumes.

Costume Care

We require that you label all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights with your child's name. Place the costumes in a **small laundry basket** with your child's name printed or taped in LARGE letters on the outside. Pack accessories in a clear plastic bag labeled with your child's name. Baskets should be small enough for your dancer to carry alone (sometimes it's fun to decorate the basket). Dancers in Show 1 *only* may use their dance bags to carry their shoes instead of a basket. Please do not wash or iron costumes.

Remove any tags that could hang out of the costume.

If costume straps do not have snaps or are not attached, please sew them prior to picture day. Never cross the straps unless specified by the teacher.

Many costumes come with headpieces or hats. We will determine how the headpieces will be worn at Picture Day.

NOTE: To ensure that there are no costume problems, students should not wear their costumes, accessories, or tights prior to the performance except to the photo session and dress rehearsal.

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.

We require that you label all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights with your child's name. NO PANTIES SHOWING UNDER TIGHTS!

Student Drop Off and Pickup For Shows on June 25

Parents or guardians should bring students to the lobby check-in tables at WHS auditorium where they will be under the supervision of the Class Mom(s) no later than 45 minutes prior to Gala start. Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms. Students will remain backstage for the entire performance. After the finale, the Class Moms will bring the groups to the auditorium stage and students will be released to their parents one class at a time. Please keep all gifts and flowers with you until you pick up your student at the end of the gala.

Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms.

NOTE: Please do not attempt to visit or 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.

PART 7: Gala T-Shirts and Flowers

Gala Souvenir T-Shirts will be offered for pre-order prior to Gala. Flower bouquets will be available on a first-come first-served basis in the auditorium lobby on Gala day.

PART 8: Gala Tickets

Advance Tickets will be for sale online ONLY and will cost \$12.00 - \$14.00. Tickets will be \$12.00 at the door on Show day. Each audience member must purchase a ticket. Children who are under the age of two are allowed to sit on an adult's lap. To guarantee sitting with a group, please pre-order tickets for the entire group on a single order. Once tickets are ordered and delivered, they may not be exchanged at the auditorium ticket counter to accommodate seating preferences or group requests.

***Tickets go on sale Saturday, May 21, at 9:00 a.m. All seats are reserved!**

TutuTix will be handling all our ticket sales. Customers will be emailed a ticket link to purchase tickets and print them out at home.

Audience Etiquette

Enthusiastic applause is encouraged; however, it is never appropriate to scream out a child's name or yell or whistle in any way.

All audience members should be seated prior to the beginning of the show. If you are unable to take your seat before the house lights go down, you will be made to wait until after the opening number to take your seat.

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.

Children should remain seated for the entire performance. Do not allow children to run around or otherwise disrupt the performance; it is not fair to other audience members. Parents who bring infants to the performance should quickly exit the auditorium if the infant begins to cry or create a distraction for the audience.

The use of video or flash photography is strictly prohibited during the Gala. It is important that you pass this policy on to your Gala guests. Phones and tablets can be a distraction when used in the audience, so the use of these items should be limited to emergencies only.

PART 6: Student Drop Off and Pickup for Rehearsals/Shows

Only Show 3 will have rehearsals.

Technical Rehearsal (for Show 3 only)

Students should arrive to technical rehearsals in leotard and tights 30 minutes before start time, and bring all their shoes. Students will be checked in and placed under the supervision of the Class Mom(s). We will call you when your student is finished dancing. Please verify who will pick up the student and make sure the phone list is correct when checking in your student.

Dress Rehearsal (for Show 3 only)

Parents or guardians should bring the students to the check-in point in the WHS auditorium lobby, 30 minutes before start time. Please verify who will pick up the student and make sure the phone list is correct when checking in your student. Your student will then be placed under the supervision of the Class Mom(s). No one is allowed to stay in the auditorium during rehearsals. All rehearsals are CLOSED.

When rehearsal is over the Class Mom will call the parent(s). Students will be released to their parents one class at a time from the auditorium stage. Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms unless they are assigned to a class.

TIPS: Costume Common Sense

All costumes come with a new pair of tights. Always have a second pair of tights available.

Place costumes in a garment bag for storage.

Store hats in a hatbox or container to prevent them from damage.

Place your name in all costumes and shoes.

PART 3: Shoes, Hair, and Makeup

Shoes

Make sure your student has all the shoes, in the correct size, s/he needs for classes. Shoes must have the child's name in them. **All girls' tap shoes must be black and have buckles/velcro or be boot style.**

Be sure that all shoes are cleaned prior to the Gala.

If you purchase dance shoes just before the Gala, please break them in (indoors) so that they are pliable and comfortable for the Gala.

Hair and Makeup for Pictures and Gala

All female students are required to wear makeup for the Gala: red lipstick, blush, neutral eye shadow, and mascara. For males, a little blush works well.

Uniform hairstyles are required. All female students must wear their hair in a bun. No false hairpieces or extra hair accessories are allowed. Dancers with short hair must pull their hair away from the face and slick it down.

Lip liner works very well for younger dancers; it lasts much longer than regular lipstick and will not smear or smudge.

Do not send extra make-up or hair implements into the dressing room with your dancer. Room Moms are not able to apply or touch-up makeup, or re-do elaborate hairstyles, and the dressing rooms do not have space to spread out cosmetics and hair tools.

PART 4: Be Prepared

Planning

The Gala is not a one-day activity. 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, listing the costume, tights, shoes, and any accessories, and refer to it to make sure you have all your supplies before going to the auditorium.

Bring at least one extra pair of tights of each color required. Also bring extra hairnets and bobby pins.

Do not give your child snacks or beverages that could stain their hands and costumes on the way to rehearsal or Gala. (Never give them chocolate bars or Cheetos!) Snacks are not allowed backstage under any circumstance. Dancers may bring a small water bottle if they are old enough/responsible enough to handle one.

PART 5: Technical and Dress Rehearsal (for Show 3 only)

Participation in the technical and dress rehearsals is **mandatory**. These rehearsals allow the students to become familiar with the auditorium surroundings and feel comfortable with their performance, costume(s), and being onstage. Lighting, music cues, set changes, and all other logistics for an organized and professional performance are rehearsed so that the students make the best impression possible.

Why a Technical and a Dress Rehearsal?

Often parents question the importance of rehearsals for their child. In fact, the key to a successful performance for your child is rehearsal. Here's why:

- The stage is much larger than the classroom and is often intimidating to the children.
- The stage lights can be frightening and disorienting to young children.
- Modifications to the choreography can be made at dress rehearsal. A student who misses the rehearsal will not have the chance to practice any of the changes onstage.

- Students often rely on the classroom mirrors to help them with spacing and formations. Having the chance to dance without the security of the mirror *before* the performance is very important for their confidence.
- Students have the chance to practice their stage entrances and exits and get used to being in such a large space.
- The dress rehearsal is the only time of the year when the finale, which involves all of students, is rehearsed in its entirety. Those who miss the dress rehearsal will have a hard time keeping up with their classmates during the finale.
- Confidence is critical to a successful performance. The rehearsals offer your child the chance to feel ready for the show.

And there's another big reason why the rehearsals are important. One of the main objectives of our curriculum is to teach the spirit of teamwork and commitment to classmates. When children miss rehearsals, the result can be confusion for the remaining students, especially if they have a partner for a specific dance. An absence affects spacing and timing for an entire group.

Finale

All students are required to participate in the finale.

Dressing-room Etiquette

Students must respect other students' space and property in the dressing rooms. Students will spend more time in the dressing rooms than onstage or in the auditorium, so please do your best to keep them organized and clean.

No food or drink is allowed in the dressing rooms. We provide colored pencils and coloring pages for entertainment; no crayons are allowed in the dressing rooms.

Please take your dancer to the restrooms in the lobby before check-in.