

## **Welcome to Spring Dance Classes for 2012!**

We are so excited to have you in class this semester! There are just a couple of policies (new and continuing) as well as some announcements we would like to share with you regarding this semester.

**This semester we will have 2 separate recitals.** One will be the **"Main show"** and the other **the "Company show"**.

**The Main show** will be our big production of the "Jungle Book" and most of the dancers will be participating in this show.

The performance dates for The Jungle Book will be May 18, 19, 20.

Mandatory dress rehearsal will be on Mon., May 14 and Tech rehearsal on Wed., May 16. The student Cut-Off date to be in the recital is March 5.

Auditions for specific roles will be on Feb. 26. Specifics and audition forms will be available within the first couple of weeks of class.

**The Company Show** will be a recital hosted by the Weehawken Dance Company. This show will focus on our older and more advanced students and will be an opportunity for them to shine outside of our normal themed recital. Classes participating in the company show are Teen/Adult Hip-Hop, Contemporary Ballet, Modern and Company Jazz.

The Performance date will be May 6. Dress rehearsal at the Weehawken Ridgway studio will be May 5. The student Cut-Off date to be in the recital is March 5.

### **Why do we have a recital cut-off date?**

#### **Here are the reasons why:**

- 1) Costuming and sets for the show are time consuming and require a lot of work from volunteers. We need ample time to organize the show.
- 2) Students need time to learn their dances but not have it interfere with their class technique time.
- 3) It's not fair to the other dancers that have been working hard on their technique all semester. We don't want our students to only sign-up for the performance. They are signing up for the experience of learning and enjoying a new art form.

Part of the performing arts is performing, but students need to be prepared in order to perform well. As with every semester of dance in each class, **students only work on show choreography for the last 20-30 minutes of class. Here are the reasons why:**

- 1) Students attention spans are not long enough to only work on choreography for an entire hour. We don't want classes to become boring.
- 2) We want our students to improve upon their technique each semester. We dedicate time to technique. To improve upon the skills they are learning, we choreograph dances using the same movements they are already learning in class. This keeps their choreography fun and challenging.
- 3) Without a proper warm-up, dancers muscles are not ready to perform and could become injured. This is why we warm-up in the beginning of class.
- 4) Because we do it over a longer length of time, dancers are able to go

home and practice their choreography. Practice makes perfect. Practicing a dance that incorporates your regular technique training makes you a better dancer over-all! We prefer that you not pick-up your child from class early due to our recital schedule. Leaving early means missing choreography. If you will not be able to attend a class, let us know if at possible. You may communicate directly with the teacher if it is a planned absence. For illness or emergency you may contact Weehawken at 970-318-0150 and we will make our best effort to inform the instructor. We want your dancers to excel and not miss out on valuable information. Attendance is important, but we understand that conflicts arrive. Communication is key.

We also prefer that parents not observe classes. It is very distracting to our students. If you have a special need, please contact the teacher BEFORE class. We love that you want to support your dancer, that's why we have a recital at the end of the semester.

Students **must** follow the dress code on the WCA website. Students not dressed appropriately for class will not be able to participate in class for that day.

Continue to check out our website as we are always adding new classes. We would love to hear your ideas for new classes as well.

Have a wonderful Semester of Dance!  
WCA