

NW Dance and Acro

★ September Newsletter ★



Welcome!

Welcome back to all of our returning families and a warm welcome to those joining us for the first time! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer but we're so happy to be back in the studio to kick off another fantastic year of dance! Ms. Augga and the crew have been hard at work making improvements around the studio as well as to our new streamlined registration process and class management system and we're very excited to share those changes with you!

Parent Portal

The biggest change you may have noticed is our new online registration and class management system. Once you have registered, your user name and password allow you access to the Parent Portal which is an incredible tool for our families. You can easily add classes from the portal, view your dancer's schedule, and register for master classes and conventions! We are always happy to assist you at the front desk, but the Parent Portal puts a lot of information at your fingertips when you need it-- whatever your schedule-- and we strongly encourage our families to explore and take advantage of this helpful new system. You may access the Parent Portal on our website, nwdanceandacro.com, under the Register menu and located on the Parent Portal tab.

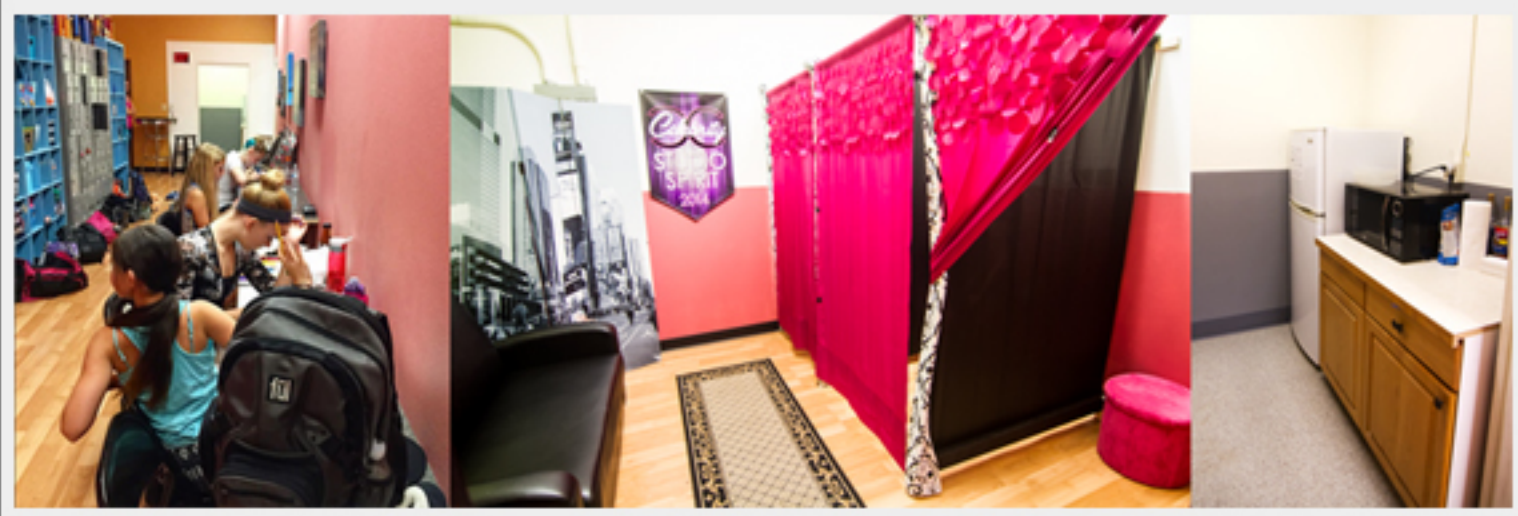
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New Features

There have also been several upgrades around the studio that we're pleased to share! We have created a more functional study area for students in the back hall with plenty of table space and seats, perfect for those days when your dancer may have time between classes. We also have opened up a small kitchenette area with microwave, refrigerator, and sink for snack and meal times. If you've wondered what's behind that black curtain in the back hall, that's our new three-stall changing area which will allow more room for quick outfit changes and free up the restrooms in between classes. A projector and screen have been installed in Studio 1 so students can take online lessons and practice learning new choreography on a regular basis, an additional stretching rack has been built in Studio 2 to aid students in improving flexibility and core strength, and Studio 4 has new ambient lighting which will help set the mood for more relaxed freestyling and practice. We have also added two new television monitors in the lobby and hallway which will display important reminders and information throughout the year.

With some of these new features comes responsibility and we ask that, for the benefit of all, people pick up after themselves. Please talk to your students about this so that we can all fully enjoy these new conveniences and keep the studio looking great!

Viewing Windows

We would also like to point out that the studio viewing windows have been equipped with blinds to be used at the discretion of the teachers. We know this may be disappointing to parents who look forward to watching classes but it can greatly increase student focus by limiting the distractions during class as well as relieve some of the self-consciousness that may come with being observed while exploring new movements. While they may not be used every week, we appreciate your understanding when they are in use and hope that you know it is your dancers' best interest that we have in mind.



Meet Abner and Melanie

You may have seen them around the studio in the past and you're sure to see them in the future! In addition to designing and maintaining our website and newsletter, Abner and Melanie also take photos of our dancers in action, during classes and onstage at recitals. This allows us to highlight student progress and capture the dance experience to share with families online as well as for a special slideshow at recital. This means that they will be popping into class on occasion so, if you see them, don't hesitate to say hello!



Recital

Our spring recital was such a treat to watch and really highlighted the hard work and drive of our incredible dancers! We were able to capture some of the special moments from the two shows and we have posted these on our website for you to share with family and friends. You can find the School's Out for Summer Spring Recital photos at nwdanceandacro.com under the Gallery menu. Enjoy!



Nationals

The NWDA Performance Team had a fantastic time at Spotlight Dance Cup's Pacific Northwest Finals this summer in Seaside, Oregon. Several of our soloists and teams earned first place Diamond awards at the Championship Finals and we were thrilled to take home another Studio Spirit Award thanks to our enthusiastic and supportive dancers and families! Visit the News section at nwdanceandacro.com for all of the exciting details and photos from our trip.