Creation
Dance Studio

RECITAL FAQs 2026

LOGISTICS AND RECITAL VENUE

Where is the dress rehearsal and recital?
Mercer Island High School Performing Arts Center
9100 SE 42nd St. Mercer Island, WA 98040

Questions addressed: Dress rehearsal, parking, recital details, tickets, covid/sick policies, costumes, hair & makeup, backstage/ dressing rooms, dance bag checklist, Class Performance Days, Performance Order (Sat.), Performance Order (Sun.), Performer Shoes, Tights, Hair/Makeup PDF

DRESS REHEARSAL

What time does my dancer need to arrive for DRESS REHEARSAL on SATURDAY, 6/6?
Dancer check-in for dress rehearsal begins at 12:00 PM. Dancers should arrive in costume (with the exception of dance shoes) with their hair and makeup done. Dress rehearsal will begin promptly at 12:30 PM.

What time does my dancer need to arrive for DRESS REHEARSAL on SUNDAY, 6/7?
Dancer check-in for dress rehearsal begins at 11:30 AM. Dancers should arrive in costume (with the exception of dance shoes) with their hair and makeup done. Dress rehearsal will begin promptly at 12:00 PM.

Where do we park?
There are multiple parking lots surrounding Mercer Island High School. Street parking is also available.

How do I find the check-in/check-out area?
Upon entering Mercer Island High School, you will see signs that will guide you to the check-in/check-out area.

Do parents/guardians have to stay for the duration of the dress rehearsal?

Tiny & Mini Dancers: At least one parent/guardian is required to stay at Mercer Island High School after check-in and prior to check-out. Parents/guardians who are not signed up as Backstage Chaperones may watch the dress rehearsal from the audience or remain in the MIHS Commons area.

Levels 1-6 & Beg-Int/Adv.: Parent/guardian observation during the dress rehearsal is optional.

Can parents/guardians go backstage?
- One female parent/guardian may accompany their dancer to the check-in area and help them get situated backstage.
- **Once a dancer is checked in, we ask that only female parents/guardians who are signed up as Backstage Chaperones remain backstage.**
- All other parents/guardians should exit the backstage area as soon as possible and are invited sit in the theatre to observe the dress rehearsal.

Can I take photos or videos during the dress rehearsal?
Photos and videos are allowed during the dress rehearsal. Flash photography is not allowed.

Are food and drink allowed in the theatre during the dress rehearsal?
Only bottled water is allowed in the theater.

What should we do during the break between the dress rehearsal and recital?
- The break between the dress rehearsal and recital is scheduled for 2:30 to 3:15 PM on both Saturday and Sunday. It is possible that dress rehearsal will end closer to 2:15 PM on one or both days.
- All students must leave the backstage area and be checked out to a parent/guardian during the break.
- We recommend that all dancers eat a substantial snack or an early dinner during the break.
- Dancers can remain at Mercer Island High School as long as they are with a parent/guardian and outside of the dressing room and theatre area.

What should we bring to dress rehearsal?
In addition to all costume related items, please have your dancer bring a **water bottle** with a secure lid and **non-messy snacks** that do not contain any nuts. Please click HERE to see snack suggestions. Snacks should only be eaten when a dancer is not wearing their costume OR has a coverup over their costume.

PERFORMANCE DAYS

What day is my dancer performing?
To view the class performance days document, please click HERE.

What is the performance order for Saturday, 6/6? (Subject to change)
To view the performance order for Saturday, 6/6, please click HERE.

What is the performance order for Sunday, 6/7? (Subject to change)
To view the performance order for Sunday, 6/7, please click HERE.

Will the dress rehearsal follow the exact performance order for both days?
Yes, the dress rehearsal on Saturday, 6/6, and Sunday, 6/7, will follow the exact performance order, however, there will be no intermission.

Can my dancer switch performance days?
No, the class performance days and show orders are final and cannot be changed.

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RECITAL DETAILS

What time does my dancer need to arrive for RECITAL on SATURDAY, 6/6?
Dancer check-in for the recital begins at 3:15 PM; doors open for audience members at 3:30 PM; recital begins at 4:00 PM. We ask that all dancers arrive in their first costume (with the exception of dance shoes) with their hair and makeup done.

What time does my dancer need to arrive for RECITAL on SUNDAY, 6/7?
Dancer check-in for the recital begins at 3:15 PM; doors open for audience members at 3:30 PM; recital begins at 4:00 PM. We ask that all dancers arrive in their first costume (with the exception of dance shoes) with their hair and makeup done.

Is my dancer allowed to watch the recital once they have finished performing?
Dancers must stay backstage for the duration of the recital. This is to prevent distraction such as entering and exiting the theatre, to keep the backstage area running smoothly, and to ensure that all dancers are safe and accounted for. There will be a final bow at the end of the recital where all dancers return to the stage (please see more information below).

Will there be a final bow at the end of the show? What is the final bow?
Yes! There will be a final bow at the very end of the show. All dancers will remain in their final performance costume while backstage and will return to the stage to bow and conclude the show. All dancers will also receive a special medal during the final bow.

When can my dancer change out of his/her last costume and into street clothes?
Dancers may change out of their last costume following the final bow.

When and where can I pick up my dancer?
All dancers must be picked up promptly at the end of the show. Dancer check-in/check-out will take place just outside of the dressing room area. There will be separate check-in/check-out lines for Tiny Dancers, Mini Dancers, and Beginning to Advanced Dancers. Dancers will be checked off of a master list as they are released to a parent or guardian. **We ask that all parents stay outside of the dressing room area during check-out so that we can ensure that the process runs as smoothly as possible as we make sure that all dancers have been safely released to a parent/guardian.** We appreciate your patience during this process.

What is theater etiquette?
All cell phones must be turned off or silenced. Please only enter and exit during applause, between numbers, or during intermission.

Can I take photos and videos?
Yes, photos and videos are allowed during the dress rehearsal and recital as long as flash is turned off.

Will there be merchandise and concessions for sale?
Yes, concessions including bottled water, cookies, and snacks will be sold. We will accept CASH OR VENMO ONLY for merchandise and concessions.

Are food or drinks allowed in the theater?
Only bottled water is allowed in the theater.

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TICKETS

When will tickets sales open?
Ticket sales are open!

How do I purchase Tickets?

- Tickets can be purchased through your Portal Account by logging in, clicking on "Tickets" located under the "Quick Links" menu, and selecting either the Saturday or Sunday show.
- Tickets can also be purchased through the CDS website or by using the direct ticket link that is provided below.
  - Spring Recital Ticket Link: https://dancestudio-pro.com/tickets/cds

What are ticket prices?
Tickets are $23 per person + processing fees. There are no refunds for purchased tickets. There are no lap seats for children three years old & up. Children who are younger than three years old may sit on a parent/guardian's lap. All other guests, regardless of age, must have a ticket. Please print your tickets prior to the show or have them easily accessible on your phone so they can be scanned.

Does my CDS dancer need a ticket for the show if they are NOT performing and watching from the audience on either Saturday or Sunday?
- Dancers who are performing in a show do not need a ticket for that same show because they will remain backstage at all times.
- Tickets for dancers who are currently enrolled in a performing class at CDS are $10 each.
- If your dancer is performing on Saturday and attending the Sunday show, or performing on Sunday and attending the Saturday show, you can select the “CDS Dancer Ticket” option for their ticket only.

Are tickets available for sale at the door?
We strongly recommend purchasing tickets online because we cannot guarantee that additional tickets will be available at the door. Remaining tickets will be sold first come, first serve, for $25 per ticket, CASH OR VENMO ONLY.

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COVID & SICK POLICIES

What do I do if my dancer tests positive for Covid-19?
If any performers or volunteers tests positive for Covid-19, please email info@creationdancestudio.com. We will work with you to determine how to move forward on a case-by-case basis.

What do I do if my dancer is sick on the day of the performance?
If your dancer has been sick with an illness that is NOT Covid-19 during the week leading up to the performance, please email info@creationdancestudio.com. We ask that dancers who are continuously coughing, sneezing, or showing sick symptoms wear

a mask while backstage to protect their fellow dancers. Masks should be removed before going on stage and replaced once a dancer has returned to the dressing room area.

Does my dancer need to wear a mask on stage while they are performing?
No, dancers do not need to wear a mask during their performance.

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COSTUMING

Does my dancer need to arrive in their first costume?
Yes, please have your dancer arrive dressed in their first costume with a cover up over their costume to ensure it stays clean for both the dress rehearsal and the recital. Please make sure you have all of your dancer's costumes, accessories, and shoes in their dance bag.

Should I write my dancer's name on the tag of their costume(s)?
Yes, we strongly recommend that all families label their costumes, dance shoes, dance bags, water bottles, and accessories so that they can be easily located and returned if misplaced.

Does my dancer need a specific style/color of dance shoes or tights?
Yes, please confirm the shoe and tight style/color by referring back to the Performer Shoes, Tights, Hair/Makeup PDF.

What kind of undergarments should dancers have?
Dancers should wear undergarments that are not visible while wearing their costume(s). We recommend no undergarments underneath tights for young dancers as they may bunch. Older students must have correct dance undergarments that are not visible under the costume. Dancers may wear a skin colored leotard or sports bra with skin colored or clear straps under their costume if preferred. Bra straps and leotard straps should not be visible.

HAIR

How should my dancer's hair be styled?
Please see the information listed below along with helpful tutorial videos for each hair style (more tutorials are available on YouTube if needed).

Hair for Tiny & Mini Classes
Please review the Performer Shoes, Tights, Hair/Makeup PDF to view which hairstyles your dancer will need for each dance.

Tiny Tumbling + Dance: high ponytail (no part) - High Ponytail Tutorial

Tiny Ballet & Tiny Ballet/Tap: high ballet bun (no part) - High Ballet Bun Tutorial , Short Hair Ballet Bun Tutorial

Mini Ballet & Mini Ballet/Tap: high ballet bun (no part) - High Ballet Bun Tutorial, Short Hair Ballet Bun Tutorial

Mini Hip Hop/Jazz, Mini Hip Hop: high ponytail (no part) - High Ponytail Tutorial

Hair for levels Beg-Int/Adv. and Ballet 1-6
Please review the Performer Shoes, Tights, Hair/Makeup PDF to view which hairstyles your dancer will wear for each dance.

Low bun (center part): Low Ballet Bun Tutorial, Low Ballet Bun (Short Hair) Tutorial, Low Ballet Bun (with Bun Builder) Tutorial,

Low ponytail (center part): Smooth Low Ponytail Tutorial, Smooth Low Pony Tail (Curly Hair) Tutorial

High bun (no part): High Ballet Bun Tutorial , Short Hair Ballet Bun Tutorial

High ponytail (no part): High Ponytail Tutorial

Where should hair accessories be placed?
Hair accessories should be placed on the right-hand side of the head unless otherwise specified, with the exception of bows which should be centered. Please email info@creationdancestudio.com if you have specific questions about accessories.

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MAKEUP

What kind of makeup should dancers have and what color palettes are acceptable?
Neutral color palettes are acceptable. We recommend that all dancers wear makeup because the stage lights are extremely bright and tend to wash out dancers' faces while they are on stage. **For this reason, stage makeup is heavier than regular makeup.**

Tiny & Mini makeup suggestions
Young dancers should wear blush and pink/rose colored lipstick at minimum (neutral eye shadow and mascara are optional additions that are encouraged due to the bright stage lights.):
Makeup Tutorial 1 , Makeup Tutorial 2 , Makeup Tutorial 3

Levels Beg-Int/Adv. and Ballet 1-6 makeup suggestions:
Beginning to Intermediate/Advanced dancers should wear "stage makeup", which includes blush, rose colored lipstick, neutral eyeshadow, eyeliner, and mascara.

Stage makeup is heavier than regular makeup because of the stage lights: Stage Makeup Tutorial

False eyelashes are encouraged but not required for Int.-Int/Adv. dancers. False eyelashes help to enhance your dancer's features while on stage: False Eyelashes Tutorial.

Is jewelry allowed? If so, what kind? Why or why not?
No, jewelry including bracelets, necklaces, earrings, watches, etc., is not allowed. If it is not part of the costume, it can be distracting or hazardous.

Is hair/body glitter or shimmer spray allowed?
No.

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BACKSTAGE/DRESSING ROOMS

Who is allowed in the dressing room?
One female parent/guardian may accompany their dancer to the check-in area and help them get situated backstage before the show begins. **Once a dancer is checked in, we ask that only parents/guardians who are signed up as Backstage Chaperones remain backstage.** All other parents/guardians should exit the backstage area as soon as possible.

Will the dressing rooms be monitored by responsible adults?
Yes, the dressing rooms will be monitored at all times by volunteers (female parent/guardians of Creation Dance Studio dancers) and female Creation Dance Studio faculty/staff members.

What if I have more than one dancer in the show?
All dancers will be assigned dressing rooms or areas backstage that are determined by class and level.

Who will be there to help my dancer?
Female parent/guardian volunteers and female CDS faculty/staff members will assist dancers with costume changes, escort them to the restroom, and direct them on and off the stage. If you have a Tiny, Mini, or Beginning level dancer with multiple costume/hair changes, we strongly recommend volunteering as a Backstage Chaperone so that you can provide them with further assistance.

Are electronics allowed backstage or in the dressing area?
Yes, but Creation Dance Studio is not liable if the items are damaged, lost, or stolen. Photos and videos are not allowed in the backstage dressing room areas.

Are food or drinks allowed backstage or in the dressing rooms?
ONLY bottled water is allowed backstage. Dancers may also bring approved (nut-free) snacks that should only be eaten when a dancer is not wearing their costume OR has a coverup over their costume.

DANCE BAG CHECKLIST

- Costumes - labeled and in costume bag
- Correct number and colors of tights
- All dance shoes
- All costume/hair accessories
- Cover-up (robe, button up shirt, or zip up jacket to cover costumes)
- Street clothes for after the recital (optional)
- Hair ties
- Extra bobby pins and hair nets
- Hairspray/gel
- Makeup for touchup if necessary
- Small mirror
- Safety pins/needle and thread
- Makeup remover wipes
- Tissues
- No-spill water bottles
- SNACKS: Approved, mess-free/nut-free snacks that do not need to be refrigerated (ex: protein bar, granola bar, goldfish, fruit snacks, dried fruit, graham crackers, fruit leather, pretzels, string cheese, crackers)

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