

2021 Recital Frequently Asked Questions!

What are the dates and times of the 2021 recitals?

There are three days of performance blocks!

Friday, June 18 from 5-8:30pm, Saturday, June 19th from 11am-6:30pm and Sunday, June 20 from 10am-6:30pm.

ZOOM COMBINED CLASS DRESS REHEARSALS – June 14, 15 & 16

- **What are combined class dress rehearsals and why are they important for all students?**
Combined class dress rehearsals are extra rehearsals where we group classes together and dancers get to practice for each other in preparation for the recital on Zoom. It's a fun chance to see other classes dance and it is great practice for your student, especially if they are nervous about being on stage. Parents also get to watch. 😊
- **When are Zoom combined class dress rehearsals?**
They are on Monday, June 14, Tuesday, June 15 and Wednesday, June 16th on Zoom.
- **How do I know when my dancer's dress rehearsal is?**
Search for your dancer's class(es) on the [schedule HERE](#). Find your class day/time/name and confirm your rehearsal time. You ONLY need to be there on the days/times when your class(es) are listed.
- **Where do I find the Zoom links for dress rehearsals?**
In the email that was sent to you from Rainier Dance Center on June 11th at 4:42pm.
- **Should my dancer wear their costume to these rehearsals?**
YES! Your dancer should wear their costumes, tights, shoes and accessories!
- **Should we wear make-up to dress rehearsal?**
You can if you'd like to, but it's not required.

GENERAL RECITAL INFO – June 18, 19 & 20

- **What are the dates and times of the 2021 recitals?**
There are three days of performance blocks!
 - Friday, June 18: 5:00-8:30pm
 - Saturday, June 19: 11:00am-6:30pm
 - Sunday, June 20: 10:00am-6:30pm
- **How do I know when my dancer is performing?**
Check the [performance block order HERE](#)! Look for your dancer's class and name!
- **Where are the recitals?**
Explorer West Middle School - 10015 28th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146

- **How do I buy recital tickets?**

There are no tickets this year. Instead, each dancer was charged a performance fee and will be allowed up to four guests to watch them for each performance block they are in. Dancers and their guests will be checked in at the door together. See below for more detailed information.

- **Do we need to wear masks at the recital?**

Yes! We know many of you are vaccinated and we'll be outdoors, but because this is a kid-focused event and the majority of our dancers haven't yet had the opportunity to be vaccinated, we want to be sure everyone feels totally safe. We appreciate your understanding and patience!

ACCOUNTS & BALANCES

- **Is June tuition discounted because we only have two/three weeks of classes?**

No. Most students will be in rehearsals and performances that will equal more than their regular class time between June 12 and June 20. In addition, RDC does not charge extra for the months when your dancer may have had five classes, so this balances out and makes up for the weeks of classes we don't have in June!

- **What if I have a balance due on recital days on June 18, 19 & 20?**

You will not be able to participate in the recitals until your June tuition is paid and your account is at a \$0 balance. We will NOT accept payments after June 17th, so you must pay your balance by June 17, 2021.

- **What is the last day RDC will accept payment for tuition or any balance due for this dance year?**

Thursday, June 17 at 5pm.

COSTUMES & TIGHTS

- **What if my student's costume doesn't fit correctly? Am I responsible for costume alterations?**

Yes, you will be responsible for fitting and altering your own costume before dress rehearsals on June 14, 15 and 16th. It is too late to order a different size for your dancer, so you'll need to make do with what you have.

- **Are tights included with my student's costume?**

Yes. If your class requires tights with their costume, you were given tights for your student with your costume! You can confirm on the Costume, Hair & Make-up document on the [Performance Info](#) page of our website. Please do NOT wear your recital tights except for during pictures, dress rehearsal and the recitals!

- **When should my student wear their costume?**

Picture days, dress rehearsal and the recital ONLY!

- **When should my student NOT wear their costume?**

Please DO NOT wear your costumes at any time besides picture days, dress rehearsal and the shows. After the recital, students can wear them whenever they want to, but if something happens to your costume, we won't have time to order you another one before the recitals.

HAIR & MAKE-UP

- **How should my student wear their hair for the recital?**

That depends on your class! You can find guidelines on the Costume, Hair & Make-up document on the [Performance Info](#) page of our website. We always want student's hair off their face and secure, so it's not a distraction on stage.

- **Should my student wear make-up for the recital?**

This is up to each family. If your dancer chooses to wear make-up, you can find guidelines on the Costume, Hair & Make-up document on the [Performance Info](#) page of our website.

VOLUNTEERS – WE STILL NEED YOU!

- **How do I sign up to volunteer?**

[Click HERE to sign up!](#)

- **Why do you need volunteers?**

We have over 200 students, three days of performance blocks and four different areas to manage. There is a lot that happens behind the scenes to make things go smoothly and we can't do it all on our own. We rely on parent volunteers every year to make our show possible. **We are so grateful for our volunteers and thank you in advance!**

- **What does volunteering entail?**

This varies based on the role you sign-up for, but basically you are responsible for an area and/or a group of dancers and making sure things run smoothly!

- **IMPORTANT NOTE: You may NOT be able to watch the show from the front as a volunteer, unless you sign up for a job in the performance area. You will need to stay in your assigned area for the show(s) you sign up for.** We will make every effort for you to be able to see your dancer from backstage, and usually it works out, but unfortunately, we cannot guarantee it.
- **Backstage helpers MUST:**
 - Attend one training on Thursday, June 17th or Friday, June 18th to review job roles and duties.
 - Be willing to be assertive and work with kids of all ages. You will need to interact with, direct and help students the entire time.
 - Be willing to miss all or most of the show. The recitals will be recorded and you may be able to watch your student's dance backstage.

- **What are the recital volunteer roles I can sign up for?**

- Entrance staff
- Backstage staff
- Performance area staff
- Onstage staff
- Parking lot manager

- **Are there benefits to volunteering?**

So many! Not only are you helping RDC out and giving back to your direct community, our show can't happen without volunteers. All of our dancers, teachers and parents benefit from having you there and it provides some pretty cool bonding time with your student! You also get to bring one additional guest for each shift you volunteer for!

- **Do I have to volunteer for an entire day?**

No! You can sign up for a half day shift – there are five of them. It's up to you!

- **Will I get to see my student dance if I volunteer?**

Most likely, yes. Although we can't guarantee right now that you can watch your student from backstage while they are dancing, as long as we get enough volunteers for each area, you will be able to watch from backstage!

RECITAL GUESTS

- **How many guests may I bring to watch the recital?**

This is VERY limited this year, due to COVID-19. We know this isn't ideal, but we want everyone to feel very safe and we need to adhere to the state's rules around outdoor performances. **You may bring up to four guests per dancer for each performance block your dancer is in.** If you have more than one dancer in the same performance block, you may bring up to two more additional guests per dancer, per block. We thank you for your understanding!

- **Does my dancer's immediate family (parents, siblings) count as guests?**

YES! Anyone coming to watch your dancer counts as a guest, unless they are a baby or toddler who can sit on a lap.

- **Does my dancer count as a guest during a block they ARE performing in?**

No! All dancers are counted as part of the performance, so they will not sit in the audience at all and won't need a seat or ticket.

- **Does my dancer count as a guest during a block they are NOT performing in?**

YES. Even if they have a sibling performing, if they are not performing, they will count as a guest.

- **Does my infant or toddler count as a guest?**

Not if they can sit on your lap. If a child needs their own seat, they count as a guest.

PREPARING FOR THE RECITAL – WHAT TO PLAN FOR

- **How long will each performance block go?**

Anywhere from 25-45 minutes, depending on the block size.

- What time does my student need to be at the recital venue on the day of the show?**
 All dancers and audience members need to arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of their performance block, even if they aren't first in their block. We need all dancers there at the start of the show, so we can ensure everything runs smoothly and quickly.
- What time do I, as the parent, or my dancer's guests need to be at the recital venue on the day of the show?**
 30 minutes before the start of your dancer's performance block(s)! You and your guests must arrive with your dancer to the recital, so we can check them in and verify the number of guests with you.
- Can we arrive earlier than 30 minutes prior to the start of the show to get a good seat?**
 No. Not unless your dancer is in the first performance block each day. We need to ensure that everyone from the performance block before you have time to clear out, so we can make sure everything is set up for the next block before allowing dancers and guests in. If you are in the first performance block of the day, you will be allowed to enter up to 1 hour before the start of your performance block.
- Where do I drop my student off before the show?**
You and your guests will arrive with your dancer, walk them to the backstage area and then drop them off in their classes designated waiting area and go find a seat for the show!
- What should my student bring with them to the show?**
 Nothing except what's on their body, plus dance shoes and any additional costumes they have! They should arrive in their costume with tights and outside shoes with nothing else, except their dance shoes. A parent/guardian should bring a water bottle for your dancer for after they perform, but you will keep it with you in the audience! No, jackets, games, toys, books or snacks.
- How should my student arrive to the show?**
 Students should arrive to the show in their costume, tights and shoes (the first one they perform, if they have multiple classes), a black mask on, with hair and make-up already done. There is not time nor space for hair and make-up to be done when you get there.
- Should I send food or drinks with my student for during the show?**
 No! The shows are no more than 45 minutes. Food and drinks (other than water) can spill on costumes and/or become a distraction or cause of frustration for dancer's and teachers backstage. Please feed your dancer a meal before they come and after the show and do not send them with anything!
- When should my student eat?**
 Please make sure you feed your student a meal 1-2 hours before their performance, so they are not hungry while they wait to perform.
- Will you have water backstage for the dancers?**
 No. Due to the short timeframe, we will not provide this. You're welcome to bring a water bottle with you and can give it to your dancer after the perform. They will not be able to carry anything with them on the stage.

ADA SEATS & ADA PARKING

- **Will you have ADA Parking?**

Yes! ADA parking is in front of school/main entrance parking lot on 28th Ave. S. To park in this lot, you must be granted special permission and we need to know ahead of time if you need this, as the staff will have a list to check against at the gate. If you need to request ADA parking, please email us ASAP at info@rainierdancecenter.com

- **Will you have wheelchair/ADA seats available?**

Yes! There will be wheelchair/ADA seats available for each show closest to the ADA entrance and parking lot. These are pre-arranged, so if you need ADA seating, make sure to email us before Wednesday, June 16th to get added to the ADA list at info@rainierdancecenter.com

GENERAL PARKING & CARPOOLING

- **Where should I park?**

Non-ADA Dancers and audience members will park in the back parking lot with the entrance on 30th Ave. S. The nearest cross street is 100th St. Look for the orange Explorer West Middle School sign!

- **Should we carpool or drive separately?**

Please carpool, as there is very limited parking in the parking lot behind the school. Be prepared to walk a short distance (a block or two) to the entrance, as the parking lot will fill quickly.

- **Can I park in the front parking lot?**

No. No dancers or audience members will be allowed in the front/east parking lot. You will be directed to the west/back one, unless you are on our ADA list and pre-approved, or if you are volunteering.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARRIVE (AFTER PARKING)?

- You will be directed to the main entrance where two staff will check your dancer's name, to verify that you are in that performance block, and then check the total number of guests with your dancer.
- **All of your dancers and guests should arrive at the entrance TOGETHER when you check-in. All of your party must be present to get into the venue.** Your whole group must be there in order to come in, for seating purposes and safety. No exceptions! Please plan ahead with your guests and plan to carpool together or arrive and meet in the west/back parking lot before entering!
- No one will be permitted to enter, unless you are with a dancer and part of their pre-approved number of guests! If you choose to go into the venue without the rest of your group, they will not be able to get in without you.
- **If you arrive with more than the four allotted guests per dancer in that performance block, your additional guests will NOT be admitted and will be turned away.** We have to adhere to the state rules for outdoor performances and keep all of our dancers and their families safe.

- Once you enter the venue, you will walk your dancer to the backstage area on the concrete and find your dancers class holding area. Look for your class day/time and name and drop your dancer! All other guests can proceed to the performance area to find a seat for the performance!
- **What if I'm late?**
We will not wait for any dancer or guests to start the performance. If you and your dancer arrive after your class moves to the performance area, you will miss your performance.

BACKSTAGE & DANCER DROP-OFF

- **Can we take photos with our dancer at the recital?**

Yes! In the backstage area, before you enter the performance area, there will be a place for you to take photos with your dancer and guests and a big grass area for hanging out in if anyone (small siblings?) needs to burn some energy before sitting down to watch the show!

- **Where does my dancer go when we arrive?**

One parent/guardian will drop off your dancer in their classes holding area. You will leave them with their teacher and/or backstage staff and head to the performance area to find a seat for the show. It's also fine for one parent to stay with your dancer, especially if they are a younger dancer and they are hesitant to stay without you! We want them to feel confident!

- **Is there anything special I need to know/do if my dancer has more than one dance in the same performance block?**

Yes! If your dancer has a costume change in the same performance block, you should leave their next costume in the changing tent with their name clearly labeled before you drop your dancer in their backstage holding area. They will return backstage to change into their next costume. There will not be staff in this area due to a volunteer shortage, so please plan to have one adult help them change for their second dance, if they need help.

- **What should my dancer have with them backstage?**

Nothing except what's on their body! Dancers should wear their outside shoes into the venue and change into their dance shoes once they are in their classes holding area. Their outside shoes and everything else will be given to their adults, so they don't have ANYTHING with them while backstage or on stage. No toys, books, cell phones, food or water, jackets, outside shoes, etc. They will NOT return to the backstage area after they perform, and they cannot bring anything to the stage with them.

- **RULES FOR DANCERS while backstage:**

- No yelling or screaming or loud noises so we don't distract from the performances happening.
- No chewing gum, food or water.

- **What happens if there is an emergency with my dancer backstage?**

We will make an announcement on the microphone for you to come to the backstage area.

- **How many students are backstage during each performance block?**

Between 15-40 in each block!

- **How many dressing rooms are there backstage?**

Just one – for any dancers who have two dances in the same performance block.

- **How will my dancer get to the performance area and on stage?**

Dancers will stay in their backstage holding areas with their teacher and staff until it's time to move to the performance area. The backstage manager will come and get them when it's time to go to the holding area in the performance space to wait. Their teacher will lead them there!

PERFORMANCE AREA - STAGE & AUDIENCE

- **Do we need to bring our own chairs?**

No! We will provide chairs for you.

- **Are there assigned seats?**

No. You can sit where you'd like, but the chairs will be grouped together in groups of four, distanced from other groups for safety. Audience members need to choose a 4-seat section and sit down. If you have 6 or 8 audience members due to more dancers in your family in the same performance block, you will need to utilize a second set of 4 seats close by. Please do NOT move chairs around.

- **How does my dancer get on to the stage?**

- When it's your dancers turn, their teacher will lead them up on stage, set them up on the side of the stage they enter, and/or the color X they start on and get them ready to dance.
- The MC will announce their class and then they perform.

- **Will you be filming the performances?**

Yes. We'll have a professional videographer filming the performances and will be available for purchase after the recital.

- **Audience rules**

- Please do not stand or move around while dancers are on stage, as it can be a distraction. Please stay seated until a dance is over and only move around between dances.
- We ask that you not take photos or video of your dancers while on stage when you are seated in the audience. This can make it hard for audience members behind you to see and we want to be respectful of everyone, so we can all see our dancers from our seats!
- Cheering and clapping for your dancer is encouraged – dancers feed off positive energy on stage!

AFTER YOUR DANCER IS DONE ON STAGE

- **Where do I pick up my student, after they dance?**

- Once their performance is over, dancers will bow and exit off the stage slowly and carefully.
- Parents of younger dancers (ages 8 and under) must be waiting near the left side of the stage (when you're facing it from the audience) or come quickly to the side of the stage to collect your dancer when they are done. We will not start the next dance until all dancers from the previous one have been met with an adult or are seated in the older dancer viewing area.

- **What should my dancer and I do after they are done performing?**

- Your dancer should sit with you or on their own for the rest of the performance block to watch. All audience members and dancers are strongly encouraged to stay until their entire performance block is over. Everyone deserves a full audience, especially since it's such a short time!
- Older dancers (ages 9 and up) can choose to find their adults to sit with or sit and watch the rest of the performance block from the dancer section on the grass next to the stage.
- If your dancer has another dance within that performance block, they should exit the stage to the right, go behind the stage and enter back into the backstage area the way they came in and head quickly to the changing tent. If they need a parent with them to help, please enter into the backstage area and go to the dressing room tent.

- **Can my student/family leave when our dance(s) are done?**

We are aware that some families, especially families of younger dancers, may feel like they don't want to stay for their whole performance block, but our dancers and teachers have worked hard all year long. We ask that everyone support other dancers and families and stay for your whole performance block. It's a huge bummer for classes whose dances are at the end of the show and they look out and there aren't any people there. Please make sure to pass this on to extended family and friends!

AFTER YOUR PERFORMANCE BLOCK IS OVER

- Once your performance block is over, ALL dancers and audience members will need to leave the performance area through our one-way exit, even if your dancer has another performance later in the day. You will exit through the basketball court, to the right and around the front of the school, to the back through the exit only path, back to the parking lot!
 - If your dancer is in another performance block, you will enter through the main entrance and do the same thing all over again!
- **Will you be celebrating Juneteenth on Saturday, June 19?**
Yes! We will be celebrating Juneteenth all day during our performances on Saturday with decorations, announcements and a mural that you can add to.
 - **Will you be celebrating Father's Day on Sunday, June 20th?**
Yes! We will make sure our dancer Dad's feel special on Sunday!

POST RECITAL - PURCHASING RECITAL SWAG & RECORDINGS

- **RDC 2021 Recital t-shirts and hoodies will be available for purchase through July 1st.** You can see photos and get sizing info on the [Merchandise](#) page of our website. Email us with your sizes and quantities at info@rainierdancecenter.com before 9pm on June 30th.
- **The RDC recitals will be live streamed the weekend of July 16-18.** More details will be emailed to families who participated in the 2021 recital in July!
- **RDC 2021 Digital copies of your dances and the recitals are available for sale!** To order, email us with the individual dances or shows you'd like to purchase at info@rainierdancecenter.com.

- Individual dances: \$12 each
- Full shows (includes intro, slideshow, senior spotlights and numerous dances): \$30
 - **Show 1:** All Friday performance blocks + Saturday performance blocks 1 & 4
 - **Show 2:** All Saturday performance blocks
 - **Show 3:** All Sunday performance blocks

SUMMER & FALL

- **What happens after the recital is over?**

RDC is closed from June 21 – July 11. Summer registration is open online during this time, but we take some time off after the recital! 😊 RDC re-opens the week of July 12 for summer classes!

- **If I'm on auto-pay, do I continue paying after classes stop in June?**

No! Once a session ends, your card will no longer be charged. If you register for a new session, it will start charging you again.

- **How do I know what classes my student should take in the summer?**

The week after recital you will receive an email with recommendations for summer and fall classes for your dancer. You're also welcome to register for any open class within your student's age range after August 1, 2021.

- **How can I register for summer session?**

If you are already a student, you just have to log in to your account and click on 'Enroll in a class'. The system will default to showing summer session classes through August 1, 2021 and you can register any time before classes start on July 12, 2021.

- **When do summer classes start?**

Monday, July 12 and they go through Saturday, August 14

- **How do I know what classes my student should take next year?**

The week after recital you will receive an email with recommendations for summer and fall classes for your dancer. You're also welcome to register for any open class within your student's age range after August 1, 2021.

- **How can I register for classes for next year?**

If you are already a student, you just have to log in to your account and click on 'Enroll in a class'. The system will default to showing the summer session classes now and starting on August 1st, you can register for 2021-22 classes any time before classes start on Monday, September 20.

- **When do fall classes start?**

Monday, September 20, 2021

- **Have other questions you don't see the answers to here?**

Reach out to us via email at info@rainierdancecenter.com