

Rainier Dance Center – Class and Recital Commitment

Thank you for choosing Rainier Dance Center and for enrolling in a class! We're glad you're here!

We get lots of questions about the length of our session and our end of the year recital. We've included details for both below, so you can make an informed decision before our deadline on **November 16, 2019**.

Our classes/schedule: We offer the same classes and class schedule all year, as we believe that length of time helps dancers learn, progress and improve more quickly. Dancers are continuing to learn new things all year and work on learning and perfecting choreography!

Performance specifics: We do a work-in-progress, informal performance in December, where dancers show off what they've learned in class thus far. No costumes and just a casual suggested donation cost of \$2-\$4 per person, just to cover the cost of the venue. Then, our recital in June is our biggest, most exciting event each year. We will have four different shows on June 20 and 21 at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. It's a 550 seat theater that gets close to selling out! We order costumes for each class/dancer, have professional photos taken of all dancers and have in-studio and dress rehearsals prior to the four shows! All RDC classes participate in the recital and family members and friends are welcome to come. Tickets are \$15.

Why we recommend performing: Dance is a performing art and it's a natural progression to work toward learning choreography in class and performing it. Think about it as a sport – a dance performance is much like a soccer game. Your student spends lots of time honing their soccer skills in practices and then gets to put a uniform on and put their skills to good use in a game. Same thing with dance! Your dancer will learn new vocabulary and skills and our performances showcase what they've learned in a supportive and fun environment, where you can watch!

Costume costs and info: Each RDC dancer that participates in the recital is charged a \$70 recital costume deposit per class. This covers most, if not all of the costume cost, along with the cost of tights. We order those as well! We take measurements in class, and once costumes and tights are ordered, we reconcile the actual costs for each dancer plus tax and update your account. You may get a refund from your deposit or have a very small balance due in the spring, based on the total cost of your costume. Costumes take a long time to make and ship.

Your default enrollment status: By enrolling in a class online, we default and assume your student plans to continue their class for the rest of the dance year (through end of June 2020) and participate in both of our annual performances in December and June. You are able to change this status.

YOUR ACTIONS: While we want your dancer to get the most they can out of class and performances help them do that, we also understand that kids change their minds, families are busy and the June recital is a big time and financial commitment! You don't have to commit to taking your class all year or do either of the performances, we just need to know ahead of time if you choose not to! **We need your commitment to one of the three options below by Saturday, November 16, 2019.**

YOUR THREE OPTIONS ARE:

1. **Option 1 (Default)** - Commit to your class(es) for the entire dance year AND participate in the June recital (99% of our students do this).*
2. **Option 2** - Commit to your class(es) for the entire dance year and choose NOT to participate in the June recital.*
3. **Option 3** - Month to month class commitment and NO participation in the June recital. You may drop the class at any time, but there is a \$10/month increase in tuition for the remainder of the time you're enrolled in the class.

**If you commit to option 1 or 2 above and then drop the class before the end of June 2020, you will be responsible for 50% of your remaining monthly tuition costs. For example, if you drop the class in April, you will owe 50% of your monthly tuition for May and June.*

I urge you to ask myself or your dancer's teacher any questions you have so you can make the best decision for your family. If you know another dancer or family who has been with us prior to this year, I'd also suggest you talk to them about the recital process and their experience. That can be a big help. We recognize this may feel like a big commitment this early in the game, but we have to order costumes in December and January, in order for them to arrive in time for fittings before the show. That's why we ask for your commitment so early in the dance year.

If we don't hear back from you before November 16, we will assume your student WILL participate in the recital, and move forward with adding the deposit to your account and ordering them a costume!

Please let me know if you have any questions at all!

Thank you!

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