

Dear Dance Me Families and community,

I am a strong believer that everything in life happens for a reason and things fall into place as they should. When I set out with my Dance Me adventure in 2015 I never imagined that it would grow to the size that it is today, with so much love from all of our dance families! In 2014 I was expecting my 2nd child after having some repeated struggles. I told myself that if this 2nd baby didn't happen then my second baby would be my studio. Well I'm sure you can guess what happened :).

My vision for Dance Me, initially, was that I would be the sole teacher and I would develop close relationships with all of my families. Well the community support for Dance Me proved that I was going to need some help! As I set out to get help I recruited an amazing team of teachers who have been more than open to learning things the Dance Me way and most importantly, developing the relationships with our families the same as I do. As Dance Me continued to develop and grow, the Glenville building was presented to me as a great opportunity to expand and offer my teachers full time positions so they could continue doing what they love to do while making a living. This adventure has been amazing for all of us!

As you all know, I recently welcomed a new baby into my life. This baby was unexpected! As I just described, my studio was going to be my second baby! I couldn't be more ecstatic about the growth of my family. However, I have of course questioned how I would be able to make it all work with 2 Dance Me locations and a little one. While I know I have an amazing staff, it hasn't been sitting well with me that I am not able to offer myself as a part of the Glenville studio. I teach at the Niskayuna studio 6 days per week and I find that I am not able to manage the Glenville studio in the way I would like. I believe that I should have a much bigger role as the owner of Dance Me. I spend a lot of time training our beloved teachers, but it's not the same if our families have never even seen my face in addition to theirs.

These thoughts have been brewing in my mind for some time now, and a few months ago a new and exciting, once in a lifetime, opportunity was presented to me that I am hoping will be viewed positively by our dance family! 2 new studio spaces at the Niskayuna location have been offered to me, directly in line with the current 2 spaces that we occupy on Union Street. One space is right next to studio B and connected to it through a hall way in the back! The 4th is just 2 more doors down from there. In addition, there is discussion of more spaces becoming available in the future allowing Dance Me to blow out walls and make larger, custom studio spaces all in one building right on Union St. Niskayuna has continued to be in very high demand and we believe that consolidating Dance Me Glenville into Dance Me Niskayuna could create a more cohesive feeling to our studio allowing all dancers the same opportunities with classes, teachers, competition teams, etc. This also means that things will be more stream lined in all of our processes and I will have multiple opportunities to build relationships with every family at Dance Me. We love each and every one of our students and families and are looking forward to bringing us all together as one community.

This is an opportunity for some major growth in the strength of our studio. Since Glenville opened, our teachers have been spread pretty thin trying to take care of the daily chores for 2 studio locations along with managing the studio in between classes without always being equipped to answer necessary questions. By consolidating, our teachers will be able to focus more on teaching classes and creating a positive atmosphere for everyone. In addition, the Niskayuna location has offered so many opportunities for community involvement which we haven't had the opportunity to share as deeply with our Glenville families. We are excited that we will be able to be one close family and offer community opportunities to all of our students!

We want to thank you all for making us who we are. We believe that we can continue giving back to you in a stronger and more cohesive manner by consolidating to one location where we can offer the same opportunities to everyone. We love the support and family atmosphere that we have been able to attain thus far, and look forward to making this even stronger. Our main focus is growing our students into amazing dancers and people inside and outside of the studio. While we feel we do this successfully, we will be even better with our character and dance lessons by lessening our daily chores and focusing more on creating our class curriculum for dance and character development. We hope that through our continued efforts we are able to create individuals who will give back to their community by creating these opportunities which have proven to exemplify what we hope for them in the future.

Dance Me Glenville will stay open through the end of August. Starting in September we will be consolidating everything into our expanded studio at the Niskayuna location. This decision has not come easy to us. As I said in the beginning, our emotions are very mixed as we love our Glenville building and had really thought we could make it work. But as I said before, I feel that everything in life happens for a reason, and things will always fall into place. We believe very strongly that this is what is happening at Dance Me. We are following the opportunities that have been placed in front of us and hoping you will continue to be a part of our Family!

If you have questions or concerns you may reach out to me at [info@dancemeschool.com](mailto:info@dancemeschool.com). I'm looking forward to the opportunity to continue the Dance Me community in an even stronger atmosphere coming in the 2019/2020 season!

We are excited for our expansion and look forward to seeing you all on Union Street in the fall!

Sincerely,

Miss Kathy