

## Hello Everyone, Miss Riley here!

I want to start by thanking each of you for making my first year at IBA so wonderful, I'm thrilled to be returning for another year! I also want to wish the IBA families a HUGE welcome to the fall/spring 2022-23 season! We are so happy to have you here at Iowa Ballet Academy, thank you for being with us. Today you are receiving a very important (and somewhat lengthy) Fall Newsletter. As with previous newsletters, there is lots of information including important calendar dates, reminders of some studio policies, and other general info. All dates listed below are in chronological order so it is easy for you to add these to your calendars. I've also color coded this newsletter - **blue** is for policy reminders, **red** is for time sensitive dates and holidays, **yellow** is for upcoming performances, and **green** is for NEW information. Happy reading!

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### **2022 - 2023 Schedule of Studio Breaks - Mark your calendars!**

**Labor Day:** Monday, September 5th (we WILL hold classes as usual on Saturday, 9/3, but NO classes on Monday, 9/5)

**Thanksgiving:** November 23rd - 27th

**Winter Break:** December 22nd - January 2nd

**Spring Break:** March 11th - March 17th

**Memorial Day:** Monday, May 29th

### **Illness Reminder**

Please encourage your dancer to use good hand washing practices and to stay home if they are contagious, have been running a fever in the last 24 hours, or have not been on an antibiotic (as needed) for at least 24 hours. Everyone benefits from taking time to recuperate when you're under the weather – primarily YOU, but your fellow dancers and IBA staff will thank you for taking that rest time, too! Please contact us if you would like info about options to make up classes that you may miss due to illness (or for any other reason you may miss class).

### **Covid-19 Policy**

We are currently not requiring masks to be worn and families of students are welcome to wait inside of the studio if they so choose. Hand sanitizer is still readily available at the front desk and in both studios. Students can Zoom into class if needed as long as they let us know 24 hours in advance.

### **We are a Peanut and Tree-Nut Aware Studio!**

Out of concern and consideration for our dance friends with potentially health-threatening allergies (Including Miss Riley!), we ask that peanut and tree-nut products not be brought into the building and dancers/staff please wash their hands prior to class. Clean hands help you to stay healthy and keep our friends safe! Thank you!

### **Be sure to "LIKE" us on Facebook and "FOLLOW" us on Instagram!**

Our immediate form of posting late-breaking news and current events is via our Iowa Ballet Academy Facebook page – things like weather closures and reminders of studio events are posted even quicker on our FB page than any of our other forms of communication. Like us on Facebook and also follow us on Instagram for fun postings of IBA-related photos! Also, don't forget to check out our website: [www.iowaballetacademy.com](http://www.iowaballetacademy.com).

### **Winter Weather Cancellation Policy**

As we head into the colder and snowier portions of the year, please watch your email, our Facebook page, and the local weather stations for studio closure information. Our general policy is to follow the majority of the Des Moines metro and suburban school districts' cancellation announcements.

### **Discount Dance Supply online ordering code!**

Please consider taking advantage of our special discount rate with the online company, Discount Dance Supply, to order tights, shoes and other dance supplies you may need for the concert or general dance supply. Please use our **Teacher ID #TP34356** when placing your order with Discount Dance ([www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com)). You will receive 10% off your first order with them, then 5% off any future orders you place. ALSO, each time you order it supports our studio in return!

### **Studio Closed on Labor Day – Monday, September 5th**

The studio will be closed on Monday, September 5th and NO classes will take place as we observe the Labor Day holiday. Classes will be held as usual on Saturday, September 3rd.

### **ButterBraid Fundraiser – October 10th - October 31st**

To help you with dance and concert-related expenses, we offer an **OPTIONAL** fundraiser. We will send home a **ButterBraid Pastry order form** with your dancer in early October. The sale will run October 10th -31st. These delicious frozen pastry items are super popular and sell very well. If you choose to do the fundraiser, all money you raise is applied directly to your personal account at IBA as a credit to use for things like the concert fees, costume fees, monthly tuition, and apparel items. You will earn \$5 -\$6 per item you sell.

Arrival of your frozen pastry orders will be on **November 10th**, which makes them wonderful to have in the freezer throughout the upcoming holiday season! You, your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers will love them! If you plan to participate, please note in your calendar NOW **the pick up date for your orders is November 10th** from 4:00 - 7:00PM at the Urbandale IBA location. These are frozen items that MUST be picked up promptly, so please mark your calendars ahead of time if you choose to participate. We cannot keep these items overnight, so if you forget to pick up your items they will go bad!

### **IBA Studio Spirit Apparel Sale! (Mid-October)**

Have you and your dancers been waiting for your chance to purchase IBA T-shirts, tank tops, jackets, hoodies, pants and dance bags? Well, it's here! The Iowa Ballet Academy's Annual Apparel Sale will run in October (official dates TBD). Watch your email and the front lobby for order forms and item descriptions with pricing. We plan to have charts, photos, and size samples of many of the items in the front lobby for you to try out before you order. Orders will arrive by mid-December, so IBA items make PERFECT holiday gifts!

### **IBA's Annual Fall Dance Celebration! – October 24th – 27th**

Monday, October 24th – *PreBallet, and Kindercombo, Pro 1 Jazz, Pro 1 Ballet*

Tuesday, October 25th - *Combo 1, Jazz A, and Ballet A*

Wednesday, October 26th - *Hip Hop and Tap A, Pro 1 Tap*

Thursday, October 27th– *Creative Movement, PreBallet, and Combo 1*

The classes listed above may wear costumes or dress up clothes to their class for our annual **Fall Dance Celebration!** Pro 1 can dress up for both days of class, but will only share their performances on the days listed above. The children are also welcome to bring treats to pass out to their classmates at the end of class, but that is certainly optional! **PLEASE BE AWARE WE ARE A NUT-FREE ENVIRONMENT.** Please do not bring treats with nuts of any sort. Thank you!

During this special week, we will be inviting you inside our classroom to observe the last 20 minutes of regular class time as the children dance for treats and show off some of the dance skills they have learned. Your child's class will begin at its usual time, but you should plan to join us inside the studio for the last 20 minutes of class. ALL are welcome to come watch the fun – parents, siblings, grandparents, and friends! Bring your cameras, we will be sure to include class picture-taking time into the mix!

### **DRACULA presented by Iowa Dance Theatre - October 29th**

Iowa Dance Theatre puts on several performances a year, such as their Fall performance of *Dracula*, the very popular *Nutcracker* production held in December at the Civic Center of DSM, and also a Spring production. This Fall, come see *Dracula* on October 29th at 5:00PM (venue is to be announced). For more information, please visit <https://www.iowadancetheatre.org/dracula-2022/>. Come watch our many IBA students as Dracula cast members!

### **Thanksgiving Break – November 23rd – November 27th**

No classes will take place Wednesday, November 23rd through Sunday, November 27th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Classes will resume on Monday, November 28th.

### **\*\*NEW\*\* Concert Fee/Costume Deposit Payment Deadline – OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup>**

Dancers who want to perform in our 14th annual **Spring Student Concert** on June 2nd and 3rd MUST have their concert fee and initial costume deposit payment made by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 in order to participate. This is an earlier date than previous years, this change is to ensure the timely arrival of concert costumes. The payment of these two fees is your agreement to participate. A detailed **Spring Student Concert Information** email will be sent out to all families later this week.

### **Parent Observation Week – December 12th - 17th**

December 12th - December 17th is our annual parent observation week. We invite you to attend your children's classes so you can see what they have been working on this semester and how they are improving. Watching your child take class is one of the best ways to see their progress and note any areas in which they may need extra work. Level placements are also less of a surprise to families who have a good idea of how their children are progressing. This also gives you the chance to meet all of your child's instructors. Please plan to attend the entire class if observing. Please do not bring siblings who are too young to sit quietly through class as it can be very disruptive to the students.

### **The Nutcracker, presented by Iowa Dance Theatre – December 2nd - 4th**

Performed at the grandest venue downtown, the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines, this holiday classic is always full of Iowa Ballet Academy participation by students and staff alike. Please come see Clara, the Nutcracker and all of their worldly friends take the stage to tell the story of a girl, a prince and their exciting adventures! Through a battle royale, a snowy forest and on to a beautiful palace - here, dancers delight and amaze the young ballerina girl and her prince... or was everything all just a dream? Come see for yourself! Matinee and evening shows will be available, tickets go on sale later this year through the Civic Center box office. Watch our studio postings for more information.

### **Winter Break Date – December 22nd – January 2nd**

Our Winter Break will be from Thursday, December 22nd – Monday, January 2nd. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 3rd.

### **YDC Winter Break Performance - December 28th and 29th**

Please come see the Yaro Dance Company winter break performance on December 28th at the West Des Moines Library and December 29th at the Clive Library! Casting has already been decided for this production, if you are interested in being a part of the 2023 Yaro Dance Company please reach out to Miss Ami at [ayaro@iowaballetacademy.com](mailto:ayaro@iowaballetacademy.com).

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**More Concert Information will be sent to you very soon.** Please watch for much more concert-related information including the Picture Day schedule and specific concert rehearsal days/times. Additional concert details will also be released after Winter Break and throughout the Spring.

Thank you for taking time to read through this important information! We're looking forward to another amazing year of dancing!

Sincerely,

Ami, Steve, Riley, Bailey, BaiYu, Brett, Danielle, Emily, Kate, and Shawna ~ IBA Staff

**Iowa Ballet Academy ~ IBA ~ Inspire, Believe, Achieve!**

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