

RECITAL HANDBOOK

Philosophy, Policies, and Procedures

Dear Parents and Students,

FOR MORE THAN 58 years, Amy's Studio of Performing Arts (formerly JTM Studio and Preston Forest School of Dance) has provided students with an exciting performance experience through its spring recital. The recital—that annual staple of the dance school—conjures images of childhood and Americana for many. It's a rite of passage for thousands of youngsters, a chance to shine in front of family and friends that they anticipate with nervous excitement.

The recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present to their families and friends the results of a year's hard work, dedication, and progress.

A big part of dance training is learning through performance. Although performance opportunities can help prepare some students for a possible career in dance, they also contribute to children's success in non-dance activities. The performing experience helps build self-esteem and self-confidence and can result in better in-school presentations, improved social skills, and strong interview skills for future college or job opportunities.

The rehearsal process is a tremendous learning experience as well. It helps the children develop retention skills, and by working with their classmates on a group performance, they learn the positive aspects of working as a team to create the best end result.

Dedication to recital commitments is the responsibility of both students and their parents. We've created this handbook in an effort to clarify what we expect from you in terms of commitments and responsibility to the annual recital, the school, and other students and parents.

Key contact information for Amy's Studio of Performing Arts:

11888 Marsh Lane, Ste. 600 Dallas, TX 75234

(972) 484-7900

amyc@amysstudio.net

amysstudio.net

Amy Cave, owner/director

Bonnie Arnett, Studio manager

STAYING INFORMED

We work hard to make the dance experience organized and fun. Keeping you informed is one of our primary goals. Please read all newsletters and other school information.

Newsletters and important updates will now be printed and handed out to our students at the conclusion of class. The same newsletters and updates are emailed to you and posted on the Amy's Studio website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions regarding the information distributed, we encourage you to contact the office at 972-484-7900 between the hours of 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday- Thursday.

We answer email on a daily basis, except on weekends. Feel free to email questions to the office at amyc@amysstudio.net.

Website amysstudio.net

We are constantly updating our website. News, important parent and student information, contact information, and more are available online 24 hours a day.

Facebook Page www.facebook.com/Amy'sStudio

“Like” the Amy’s Studio page on Facebook to receive daily updates on school events. Please invite your family and friends to “like” the school.

Please do not post questions on the school’s Facebook page. Instead, please email them directly to amyc@amysstudio.net.

PART I: The Commitment

Important Recital Dates

By allowing your child to participate in the Amy's Studio recital, you commit yourself and/or your child to the following dates and events.

Date	Activity	Where
February 1	Recital fee \$60	At the school
February 15	Costume deposit #1	At the school
March 1	Costume deposit #2	At the school
March 1	Program ad packets available	At the school
April 15	Program ad deadline	At the school
May TBA	Recital photo shoot	At the studio
May TBA	Dress rehearsal	TBD
May 16	Recital	TBD

We are still waiting on final confirmation from the venue to confirm date and time.

Updates

As the season progresses, additional recital information or updates will be posted on the Amy’s Studio website, amysstudio.net, in monthly newsletters, and on the school bulletin board. Make it your responsibility to keep abreast of this important information. Our goal is to make the recital an organized, exciting experience for everyone involved. It’s a team effort: students, their parents, the teachers, and the director are key players in the show’s success.

Home Study

To ensure that the students feel confident about their performance, we ask parents and guardians to encourage them to rehearse their recital choreography on a regular basis. A copy of your child's dance music will be made available upon request via email.

At various points throughout the choreography process (usually between February and April), we will videotape choreography at the end of class to assist the students when practicing at home.

➤ **Our goal is to make the recital an organized, exciting experience for everyone involved.**

PART 2: Costumes

We spend many hours selecting the costumes for each class. They are always age-appropriate and of the highest quality possible. Preschool students will need one costume; all other students will need one costume for each subject they train in. Costumes include all accessories (hats, gloves, etc.), but not tights or shoes.

NOTE: No jewelry is to be worn with costumes. This includes during dress rehearsals and performances and when class pictures are taken.

Fees and Payment

In an effort to ensure that costumes are delivered in time for school photographs and an organized distribution to our students, costume orders are placed when money is received. Costume manufacturers do not accept cancellations or offer refunds; therefore the school does not refund costume deposits.

The estimated cost of costumes is \$65 for child sizes and \$80 for adult sizes. Any special orders, including extra-large sizes, may require an additional charge (determined by the costume company). Additional charges are the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Accessories, such as headpieces or gloves, are included in the cost of the costume. Tights and shoes are not included.

Costumes will not be ordered until they are paid for in full. Parents or guardians accept full responsibility for all expenses, including surcharges and postage for costumes that are ordered late. Amy's Studio is not responsible if costumes are not received in time for the recital due to late payments.

Costume Payment Schedule

Size	February 15	March 1
Child	\$30	\$35
Adult	\$40	\$40

Costume deposits are due by the 1st and 15th of each month during February and March. Deposits are paid through automatic withdrawal from your credit or debit card account if you request. Deposits will be charged directly to your specified VISA or MasterCard. If you prefer a weekly or an annual payment plan, please check with the school office.

We will accept cash, checks, or money orders for costume deposits if received by the 20th of the month. Please write your child's name in the memo portion of the check. If you pay with cash, please ask for a receipt.

No refunds will be made if a parent or guardian withdraws a child from the school after costumes have been ordered and prior to the recital. Purchased costumes may be picked up at the school during the costume distribution period and up to 15 days after the performance. Costumes not picked up after 15 days will be donated to charity.

➤ Costumes are always age-appropriate and of the highest quality possible.