

Dear Parents,

Once again, recital time is upon us. In the past, we have relied heavily on parent volunteers to help backstage taking care of children before and after they perform. This is a very important task that involves reassuring the children, helping with potty breaks and costume changes, maintaining a quiet and safe environment, and handing out a lot of “tender loving care”. We are asking for parent volunteers again this year, since the kindness and caring of previous volunteers has helped ensure that the recitals are happy experiences for all the children. Our Backstage Manager, Anne Foster, who is in charge of coordinating volunteers for the recitals and rehearsals, explains more of the volunteer chaperone process below.

Parent volunteers are one of the essential elements that make Buffa’s Dance Studio Recitals so special. Every class of younger children (generally ages 12 and below) needs at least one chaperone for the rehearsal and the show. The classes for 3 to 7 year olds benefit from having two chaperones.

The mandatory dress rehearsal is on Sunday, June 12th. The chaperones must be available approximately 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after the scheduled time, as well as during the rehearsal time. One benefit of chaperoning the rehearsal is you get a sneak peek at the dances for that recital. Only scheduled volunteers are allowed in the theater during rehearsals.

The recitals are scheduled for June 24th and 25th. Each class needs 1 to 2 chaperones to sit with the class backstage during the show. The chaperones must be female due to the fact that many dancers must change costumes in the dancer holding room. If you are chaperoning, you will be able to see your child’s dance from the audience. As soon as we line up your child’s class we escort you to the audience section through a side door. Line up is done 3 dances prior to the classes scheduled slot. Once your child’s dance is complete you will return backstage through the side door and escort the dancers to the large dancer holding area.

The role of the chaperones is very important. As a chaperone you will be watching over a group of dancers to be sure they are safe. Other tasks involve fixing make-up, bathroom escort, finishing touches on costumes as needed and getting to feel the excitement backstage.

In addition to class chaperones, we need people to act as security during the rehearsal and shows. The job of the security people is to prevent unauthorized people from entering the theater and backstage area. For each rehearsal and recital we need at least 4 security volunteers.

If you are interested in helping with the dress rehearsal and/or recitals, please fill out the form on the opposite side of this page. Please return it to the front desk by May 23rd. You will receive a phone call confirming your time and duties. At the recital, we will make sure you are free to go to the audience and watch your child perform.

If you have any questions, please email: buffadance@msn.com or backstage255@yahoo.com. Thank you so much for your help - - it is greatly appreciated.

Buffa Hargett and Anne Foster

(See back for Volunteer Form – Thank You!)