

Hello Superstars! We appreciate everyone's patience, support, and understanding during this unprecedented time. The safety and health of our students, their families, and our staff is of utmost importance to us. We are doing our part to align with the recommendations of the WHO, CDC, and the state. Therefore, we will keep the studio closed while schools are closed to ensure we are doing our part to "flatten the curve" and stop the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

With that said, we will cancel classes the week of March 23. Luckily, we are able to treat this week off (Monday, March 23 -Sunday, March 29) as "snow days", as they are built into our schedule each year to give us the flexibility to allow one weather-related cancellation before needing to require make-up classes. With our relatively mild winter this year, we were not forced to use these built-in snow days during the season.

Starting Monday, March 30, we have an exciting and fun plan in place to continue with classes and learning for the following weeks. All recreational classes at the studio will be conducted in a "virtual" format with classes being conducted by our staff on video. These videos will then be uploaded to Dropbox for all Superstars to access. You will receive a Dropbox invite to access these videos and we ask that you have your child watch and participate at home, following the instructors as they would in the studio. All videos will be the same length as their class would be in the studio. (For example, if your child takes a 1-hour Tap/Jazz combo class, the video will be 1 hour in duration.) The instructor(s) will conduct and instruct the video as if the students were in the studio, with a portion of the video's duration dedicated to each genre, as well as necessary warm-ups, etc. The video will also include a review of the routines they have been working on for recital, along with some new choreography and skills to work on at home until it is deemed safe for all students and staff to return the normal studio environment. It is our hope that each student will take this opportunity to continue participating in class as best possible, given our nation's current situation. With all schools being closed for the time being, we hope these videos will also create some sort of normalcy for students and their families, as we understand everyone's doing their best to adjust to a new schedule and routine. If you choose, you could have your child watch and participate in the videos at the same time and day as they would normally have class at the studio, but the virtual format would also give you flexibility in watching and participating at whatever time works best for your child and your family.

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## HOW WILL THIS WORK?

You will receive a Dropbox invite from the studio, which will give you access to the studio folder. You will need to create a Dropbox account if you don't have one already, but these are completely free to create. You will then find the folder for your child's class, and the videos as well as the music for each routine will be included there.

Folders will be named in the following manner: "**Class Name--Teacher--Day--Time**" (Example: *Baton I--Ms. Dawn--Monday 6:30-7:00*) When you open that folder, the 30-minute class video and the music for each routine will be included in that folder.)

All class videos will be uploaded and ready each Monday by 5:00 PM. The Dropbox invitation emails will be sent Monday, March 30 for the first week of virtual instruction and Monday, April 6 for the following week.

We will send the Dropbox invitations to the email address we have on file at the studio. If you do not have an email on file at the studio, please contact us so we can ensure you are added to the Dropbox invitation list.

## **COMPETITION TEAM CLASSES**

Because choreography for our competition routines is complete, the majority of our class time would be spent working on cleaning routines, spacing, and adding final details to enhance our performances. This is obviously not possible to do without the entire team in attendance. Therefore, we plan to hold a 2-hour full-team rehearsal at the studio once it is deemed safe for us to gather as a group again. Please be on the lookout for further information from your team's instructor regarding this, as well as any additional videos, information, or music they are able to share with you.

For upcoming competitions, Superstars is awaiting direction and updates from the competitions regarding the status of their events, as well as any potential rescheduling and/or refunds. We will continue to keep our competition and production families up to date as information is provided to us from the competition owners. We ask that you please direct any questions or concerns about this to the studio – NOT the competitions.

## **CLEANING**

A professional cleaning service has been hired to clean and disinfect all studios while classes are being conducted via Dropbox videos, in an effort to keep our spaces as clean and sanitary as possible for the hopeful return of onsite classes beginning Monday, April 13.

## **APRIL PAYMENT**

Given that the status of closures is unknown, we have decided to extend the date for processing April payments from April 1, 2020 to April 13, 2020. We are delaying our automatic and fixed plans payment withdrawals as a contingency in the event we are forced to delay in-studio instruction. In the event the studio closure is forced to continue past April 13, further information will be communicated.

## **COSTUMES**

We typically hand out recital costumes to our classes the week following Spring Break. Given our current situation, we obviously won't be able to hand these out to our students during class. Because we have pictures scheduled for the last weekend of April, and recital in June, our concern is that we will not be able to return or alter any costumes on April 13, or after. The staff is currently working on a plan to provide a "pick up" time for you to come to the studio to pick up costumes so the students can try them on at home. That way, if there are any issues with costumes, we can address them before April 13. Once we finalize these details, we will communicate them to you.

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We understand that a virtual approach is not ideal for a long term solution, but given our nation's current situation, we are doing our best to provide options that will give students a forum to continue to learn and prepare for recital.

Again, we will continue to reassess the direction from state, CDC, and WHO related to school and business closures, with the hopes that studio will be open for onsite classes on April 13, 2020. We are committed to keeping you all informed as this situation continues to evolve, and the owners/directors are addressing

contingency plans for any extension of school and business closures and the impact on the studio students and families, should it extend past April 13.

We truly appreciate your understanding and support during this unprecedented time and the impact it has on our families and communities. We are a small business, and we are all aware of the potentially devastating impact the COVID-19 crisis could have on all small business owners. We own and operate the Superstars because of our love of dance, baton, tumbling, and cheer. Please know we are also impacted by the current situation and doing our best to keep our students engaged and prepared to return to classes in the future.

In the meantime, stay safe and healthy, and continue to support your local businesses in whatever way possible. We will all get through this together!

Thank you so much,  
Superstars Performing Arts Staff