

Dear Parents:

As a parent and grandparent, I know personally that absolutely nothing comes before your child's health and safety, that nothing is more important than his or her well-being.

As owner/director of Capital City Dance Studio, I bring that knowledge and commitment to the studio every day. As a result, the health and safety of your children comes first, especially when it comes to reopening our studio.

I also recognize that each of you has entrusted your child to us for dance classes. Unfortunately, circumstances prevented us from completing the year as we normally would, and we've all had to adjust. I want to thank each of you for patiently making that adjustment alongside us by allowing us to transition to virtual classes and by encouraging your child to participate – and in some cases participating yourself – in our virtual classes. We know that is not the ideal way to teach dance.

Just as you've made a commitment to us, we've made a commitment to you, and we want to do everything in our power to fulfill our commitment by reopening safely and offering a modified recital opportunity for your students, all in accordance with local, state and federal safety guidelines. We developed our reopening plan along with 10 other studios, all members of Dance Masters of the Bluegrass, and we submitted our plan to the Governor's Office for approval. More on that below.

**How will our reopening/recitals work?** We plan to reopen in two sessions - one for smaller classes and one for larger classes - to allow for two "in person" make-up classes (one from March and one from the last week of May) that will allow students to review the recital choreography they have learned. The recital prep classes will be in-studio (a recording of the class will be available to those who prefer to keep their children home). A recital date for each of these sessions will be held at an outdoor venue that allows for adequate social distancing. We will let you know as those details are finalized.

**Session 1** will be for **classes** with fewer than 10 students and will run from June 15 through June 27. Your **recital** date will be one day during the week of June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 2<sup>nd</sup>. [Click here](#) to see the schedule of classes.

**Session 2** will be for **classes** of 10 or more students and will run from July 6 through July 18. Your **recital** date will be one day during the week of July 19<sup>th</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup>. [Click here](#) to see the schedule of classes.

We are looking at several different outdoor venues as options for recitals and will let you know once the location has been determined. We also will provide curbside costume pickup during the week of June 7<sup>th</sup> through June 11<sup>th</sup> and we will email you as to the specific day and time to pick up your child's costume(s). Each costume package will include written instructions, which we will supplement with an instructional video for each costume. We will email you a link to your child's costume tutorial video as well.

As noted above, we have worked with Dance Masters of the Bluegrass to develop a comprehensive Reopening Plan that we have submitted to the Governor's Office for approval. You can [click here](#) to read that entire plan, but here is a summary:

1. We will continue to provide dance study opportunities through live streaming classes for those students/clients who choose to stay home.

2. We will re-open in two phases, with in-studio classes meeting the local, state, and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for gatherings.
3. We will conduct employee health checks daily, before every shift, screening our instructors for exposure to positive COVID-19 persons and recording their temperatures. Sick employees will be quarantined, meaning they will not be allowed in the studio until they are once again healthy.
4. We will require all staff and dancers to wear approved masks as they enter and exit the facility and at all times outside the classroom areas. We have asked that dancers and instructors be allowed to remove their masks while engaging in the moderate to vigorous physical activity of dance class while strictly enforcing social distancing within the studio spaces and classes. We will achieve this by marking off personal dance space for each student.
5. We will close lobbies and dressings areas. Students will be dropped off by parents at the door, escorted to their respective classes by teachers or teaching assistants while maintaining the “six foot rule,” and dancers will be dismissed through a separate door. As a result, students will be required to arrive in their dance attire.
6. We will allow more time between classes so students will not be arriving and leaving at the same time; and we will use separate doors for arrival and dismissal.
7. Studio spaces and common areas will be cleaned and sanitized as per the [CDC guidelines for Cleaning & Disinfecting Your Facility](#).
8. We will provide hand sanitizer stations in each studio and promote good hand washing practices for employees and students before, during, and after classes.
9. **We will strictly adhere to all local, state and CDC contact tracing guidelines in the event someone comes into contact with anyone who could be Covid-19-positive.**

**I wanted to give you as much information as possible – however, I know that it could change based on circumstances with the virus that are beyond anyone’s control.**

**Thank you for your understanding and for supporting our small business, which has been educating students for more than 50 years...we will get through this together!**

**Laurie Meyer**