



FW Ensemble News

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Covid Policy Reminders

As school has begun, many of our students have had school closures, exposures, and other questions regarding covid protocol at the studio. At this time, we are following CDC guidelines, and not those guidelines that the schools are following.

Students and all visitors inside the building are to wear masks at all times unless eating. We do request that those students eating try to space themselves apart, but as we are teaching we cannot police the tables.

Please remind your child to bring THEIR OWN masks. Masks here at the

studio are for emergencies where you may have forgotten yours.

Students who have had exposures are requested to quarantine at home per CDC guidelines. If you have any questions, please give us a call in the office in the morning or message DeLisa FiGart or Tara Gallimore. If we do not have the answer, we will call and get one for you.

Thank you for doing your part to help keep our dance family safe and in person!

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Bathroom Etiquette

Many of you may be aware that there are some TIK TOK challenges regarding the destruction of bathrooms circulating. Please talk to your children. Though nothing has been stolen, we have had multiple incidents on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at the Vinton location of bathrooms being left with items strewn across the room, as well, as toilet paper rolled off the roll, and paper towels being soaked in water, among other things.

Until we feel that this behavior has ceased, all students will be required to let the secretary know when they are using the restroom like they did last year so it can be inspected and sanitized. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.



ARE YOU READY TO FUNDRAISE???

There are lots of ways to defer the cost of dance. Throughout the year, we will hold several fundraisers, most of which will raise funds specifically for your dancer's account. None of the fundraisers are required and you are welcome to participate in as many or as few as you wish. Please watch the FWSOD Facebook page as fundraising information will ALWAYS be posted there. Follow ups will be sent through emails in parent portal.



For planning, here is a list of what has been scheduled thus far. We will be adding some fundraisers throughout the fall, so this is not a comprehensive list.

Valley Hall Bingo – Weekend volunteers needed to cover day and night games (you can pick). Earn dance credit of \$75 per volunteer shift. Accounts are credited monthly.

Sign up through signup genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094aa9a82aa0fb6-august1>

Lil' Caesar Pizza Kits – Sale begins on September 13th and Orders will be due on October 11th with delivery of frozen product the week of October 25th. To participate, you must be available to pick up when delivered. Dancer to earn \$5-\$7 per item sold.

Butter Braids – This was a new fundraiser for us last year, and it was a hit. We are offering this in late October – November to ensure holiday delivery. Folks love Butter Braids, so mark your calendar and watch for details. Dancer earns approximately \$8 per item sold.

Flower Sales – Seasonal Flower Sales in Fall (Mums), Winter (Poinsettias), Spring (Colorful Baskets). Amount for account will vary based on seasonal price of flowers.

Gift Card Giveaway – Contribute a \$25 gift card and sale tickets for a variety of store gift cards. Generally, we have about \$350-\$400 worth of gift cards. Tickets generally sell \$5 per ticket and dancers receive 100% of profit from ticket sales.

Group Fundraisers On occasion, we will partner with area businesses and restaurants to have a night to promote FWSOD and receive a portion of profits from that restaurant. Please be on the lookout for these nights.

Kroger Cards If you shop at Kroger and have not attached your Kroger Plus Card to an organization, please connect it to FWSOD Ensemble. Go to:

<https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards> to sign up. Our organization number is PL250. We receive quarterly checks for participation.

Questions? Text or Email me:

amyandjeff.97@gmail.com or 540-761-1811

Hotel Information

Hotels fill up VERY quickly in the areas surrounding dance competitions, so you will want to BOOK NOW to avoid any issues once it is time to travel. While the studio will not be handling any large block of rooms this year, below are some suggestions and information for each of our away events.



Showstopper Convention November 5-7 in Myrtle Beach, SC

Showstopper Convention will take place at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. The Sheraton hotel is attached to the convention center. Many may choose to stay elsewhere for this convention since we are at the beach. Information on the host hotel can be found at <https://www.goshowstopper.com/dance-convention/>



Boogie Fever Competition February 25-27 in Rock Hill, SC

There are very few hotels in Rock Hill, SC. Please make sure you make these reservations soon before hotels book up. A few we have found are listed below.

Hampton Inn— Rock Hill (803)325-1100

Hilton Garden Inn— Rock Hill (803)325-2800

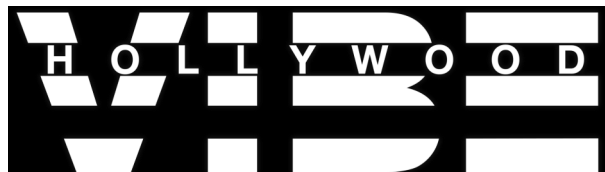


Showstopper Competition March 18-20 in Cocord, NC

The Cabarrus Arena and Events Center is not particularly close to any hotels. Most are about 20 minutes away. Our preferred area to stay in is the Kannapolis/Concord area. The hotels in the Charlotte area can make getting to the Arena difficult depending on traffic near the tracks.

Hampton Inn Concord/Kannapolis (704)793-9700

Country Inn and Suites Concord/ Kannapolis (704)793-6777



Hollywood Vibe Competition and Convention April 8-10 in Norfolk, VA

Most families will choose to stay at the convention center as it is more convenient to be in the same location as classes and competition.

Booking information can be found at <https://www.hollywoodvibe.com/tour/norfolk-va/>

Solos, Duets, & Trios

You must be approved on an individual basis by the studio and a teacher before getting started. Forms are available online under our parent resources tab. You will not be able to start any solos or duets before this is completed. First year team members may not do any extra routines unless they are transferring from another studio team. Bitty prime members may only do one, bitty elite may do up to two, preteen prime and select students may do up to three and all other team members are unlimited based on availability and ability.

Optional Competitions

Those who wish to participate in Optional Competitions for their solos, duets, or trios can find the form on our website under the parent resources and ensemble resources links. As a reminder, teachers will not be in attendance at these competitions.

Forms must be turned in **two weeks before the competition deadline** to allow time for the office to get your child registered. We are excited to see everyone participate in as many competition events as they desire. However, when forms are turned in last minute or past the deadline, it causes major issues within the office. Forms turned in two weeks before the competition deadline will receive no extra fee other than the competition fees charged. However, if your form is turned in later, we will charge your account an additional \$10 administrative fee. We hope you can understand the extra work that we incur when having to ask competitions for exceptions or to reopen registrations that were already completed.

As requested, here is a list of some of the competitions students have attended as optional in the past. This is by no means all inclusive, and you are welcome to research others as you wish. Dates, locations, and hotel information will be listed on their websites. We are happy to help you register your child for any convention and/or competition they wish to attend.

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| 24Seven* | 24sevendance.com |
| ASH* | ashdance.com |
| Bella Moxi* | bellamoxidance.com |
| Celebration Talent | celebrationtalent.com |
| Dance Machine | dancemachineonline.com |
| Encore DCS | encoredcs.com |
| Jump* | jumptour.com |
| KAR | dancekar.com |
| NUVO* | gonuvo.com |
| Radix* | radixdance.com |
| Southeast Showdown | southeastshowdowndance.com |
| Star Talent | startalentproductions.com |
| Titans of Dance* | titansallaccess.com (Convention Only) |
| Turn It Up | turnitupdance.com |
| Velocity * | velocitydanceconvention.com |
| World Class Talent | wctedance.com |

* Indicates a Convention Competition. If this is your child's first year doing a solo, please consult with your child's teacher to see if he/she is ready for a convention style competition. All students are encouraged to attend as many conventions as they wish to attend class only.

Important Dates

PLEASE POST THESE ON YOUR CALENDAR!

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| October 25-30 | Halloween Dress Up Week |
| October 30 | Christmas Extravaganza Fees Due (Christmas Costume Deposit– Recreational Classes) |
| November 5-7 | Showstopper Convention– Myrtle Beach, SC (ALL TEAMS) CLASSES ONLY– NO COMPETITION |
| November 13 | National Honor Society for Dance Arts Induction– Location and Time TBD |
| November 20 | (Christmas Costume Balance Due– Recreational Classes) |
| November 25-27 | Thanksgiving Break |
| December 2 | Vinton Christmas Parade– ALL TEAMS |
| December 4 | Fincastle Christmas Parade- ALL TEAMS |
| December 10 | Roanoke City Christmas Parade- ALL TEAMS |
| December 11 | Town of Buchanan Christmas Parade- ALL TEAMS |
| December 12 | (Spring Costume Deposit– Recreational Classes) |
| December 17 | Dickens of a Christmas Performance 6:00pm (Routines TBD) |
| December 18 | Christmas Extravaganza |
| December 19– January 2 | Christmas Break |
| January 3 | Classes Resume |
| January 22 | Ensemble Team Dress Rehearsal at Grace Family Church |
| January 23 | Solo, Duet, and Trio Dress Rehearsal at Vinton Studio |
| January 29 | Recital Fees Due |
| February 26 | (Spring Costume Balance Due– Recreational Classes) |
| February 25-27 | Boogie Fever Dance Competition– Rock Hill, SC (ALL TEAMS) |
| March 18-20 | Showstopper Competition– Concord, NC (ALL TEAMS) |
| March 27-April 3 | Spring Break |
| April 2 & 3 | Ultimate Starz– Roanoke (ALL TEAMS THAT ARE NOT ATTENDING VIBE) |
| April 8-10 | Hollywood Vibe competition and Convention– Norfolk, VA (ELITE TEAMS ONLY) |
| April 25-30 | Ensemble Evaluation Week |
| May 14 | Last Class Day |
| May 14-16 | Ensemble & Recital Pictures |
| May 17-19 | Dress Rehearsal |