

### STUDIO NEWS AND ALL THAT JAZZ

A Dancin' Plus Newsletter....End Of Season Edition 2025



Welcome to the final edition of STUDIO NEWS AND ALL THAT JAZZ for this season. Once you have read this, the 2024-2025 dance season is officially over. It is always a time of mixed emotions for the Dancin' Plus team. All the season's hard work by dancers and teachers is a wrap. While it gives us time to reconnect with evenings with our families and our own children again, we miss time with our students. BUT, it means summer classes are just around the corner. It also means the new full length season is getting closer. Summer months have us creating a new dance production for Spring '26. Summer is also the time we create fresh new class plans for the upcoming season. It will soon be time for our dancers to polish new skills and reach new goals. That makes our hearts dance!

#### WOW! DOUBLE WOW! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

We want to compliment our dancers on a great performance weekend! Each one of you danced with your heart and soul and gave your all. It is such an overwhelming accomplishment and you should all be very proud. Thank you for the memories that will last a lifetime!

Thank you to our dance families. Your cooperation with our guidelines and policies allows us to stay organized and focused on your child's dance education and the hundreds of performance weekend tasks. Dance truly is a team effort and we love that we are all on the same team. Great things happen because of it!

## Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

From the bottom of our hearts...Many thanks for the wonderful memories, the flowers, special gifts, cards and pictures drawn by dancers.

You are all too kind and it is very much appreciated. You're the best!

~Ms Tammy, Ms Laura and Ms Aurora

# Join us on the dance floor for summer classes!



#### IT REALLY IS MORE THAN JUST DANCING

For a dance season and production weekend to be successful, it requires everyone involved to be committed and dedicated to attending classes, being prepared, setting goals and working hard to reach them. It means working hard even when you're dancing feet are tired and you must continue giving nothing less than your best....repeatedly. Our students learn to be on time, listen carefully and to follow through with directions. When you enroll in dance classes, not only are you learning to dance, you are making habits out of skills that will benefit you in your life in ways you don't even realize at this moment. Keep up the hard work! Keep giving your best to all that you do and watch yourself soar!

#### KISS...KEEP IT SUPER SIMPLE

Did you know that Dancin' Plus has been around for over 30 years?! We first opened our doors in St James, MN in 1986 and expanded to Fairmont in 1995. In the world of business, that says a lot about us. One of the things we truly credit with our success is that we keep things simple for our busy families. One of our biggest changes we have made in the last few years has been shifting to an online recital ticket box office. We continue to receive wonderful feedback complimenting our box office. It is easy to use! Makes purchasing tickets so convenient! Again this year, we've received wonderful feedback about the box office and we thank you for that! It is the best feeling to know our dance families are happy!

#### SAD TO SEE YOU GO ...

Each year we must say goodbye to those families who are moving. You will be missed and we wish you the best with your new beginnings. Don't forget to find a dance studio in your new area. Sometimes dancers leave the studio for other interests, take a year off to rest or maybe after your first year you have decided dance is just not for you. We understand and will miss you. If you ever decide to leap back into dance, please remember, the door is always open and we would love to welcome you back. You always have a home with Dancin' Plus.

#### **REGISTERED DANCE FAMILIES**

If you have already registered for the new dance season....thank you! You are all set. Watch for your 2025-2026 handbook arriving in late summer. It will contain BACK TO DANCE DAYZ information, class schedules, and more information. The studio handbook is an "office manager." Many have said that the handbook is super helpful, keeps our families from missing a beat and we are glad to hear that!

#### IF YOU ARE RETURNING NEXT SEASON BUT HAVE NOT REGISTERED YET...

Classes are filling fast! We don't want you to feel rushed but opening enrollment early helps us know who will be returning and what level of choreography/class plans we need to prepare over the short summer break. It helps to allow us to provide the well thought out dance season that you expect and deserve. We do limit our class sizes to ensure dancers are getting the attention they deserve during class time.

We make it really easy to register online. Visit our NEW website at www.dancinplus.com

#### <u>FAQ</u>

This time of year there are always lots of questions about class placement for next season. We want dance class to be enjoyable for our dancers and we want to see them be able to do their best and excel in their class but also be challenged. The best advice we can give someone with placement questions is to trust our age requirements. They are in place for those very reasons. When considering placement, use your child's age as of September 1, 2025. Do not use half years to round up. Our age guidelines are in place so that each dancer has the opportunity to learn what they need to in order to go successfully to the next level when it is time. Each age has a stage of development in body and brain. We have to work with those skill sets while pushing the limits just a bit. We have to have realistic expectations for our dancers. When

we place a child in a class not designed for their age level and development we meet frustration and we see dancers dropping out of class. That is not our goal.

Following are a few of the other question we hear most often.

My preschooler loves to jump and twirl around the house so I think he/she would be really advanced for their age. Should I sign up for an older age range? Show me a pre-schooler that doesn't like to be active. Bless them and their energy levels! Jumping and twirling at home is a great beginning but when attending a class we also have to factor in listening and looking skills, concentration, coordination, body strength and flexibility, locomotor skills, direction following and spatial awareness. Making sure a dancer is in a class within the correct level of those factors is so important to a successful dance education so please enroll based on your child's age as of September 1, 2025.

#### My dancer, age 6, already did the ages 6-7 class so should we jump to the ages 8-10 class?

No - Because our dancers are dancing at a recreational level, meaning one maybe two classes a week, it can take 2-3 years to get through material for each age level. Each season, new material is presented and new dance steps are built off of the ones we worked on the previous season. Though you may be in the same age range for two or three seasons, the material changes, advances and works it's way toward the next age level.

My 11 year old has never danced before. Is it too late to start? And, will she/he have to begin in the preschool group? No and No. It is never too late to start! The older the student, the faster they catch on because their development is more advanced than a preschooler. Beginners start in the class best fitting their age as of September 1<sup>st</sup>. While they do have some catching up to do with the dancers in class with previous experience, it usually isn't a problem. All great dancers know that the basics are where all dance steps come from so at the start of the season we do spend some time in class brushing up on them together. Within a few weeks, everyone in the class is dancing at the same level.

# My dancer is 8 and is so excited to start pointe class. She has been dancing a long time. Can you make an exception and let her enroll even though she is not 11 years old?

The age requirement for our pointe dancers has more to do with health and safety rather than years of previous dance experience. Dance is very active and physically demanding. We have to be careful that the movement is age appropriate based on body growth. We can not put more pressure on a young growing body than what their bones and muscles are able to handle.

The age of 11 is the recommended guideline as to when the soft bones in the feet begin to harden, known as ossification. Beginning pointe before that happens can lead to damage to the feet that only shows up later in life. Many of our age requirements for class are in place to meet safety standards for our dancers. We want to keep our dancer's bodies healthy! There are many great articles on pointe readiness online. Check them out.

We hope by sharing some of those questions and answers you can feel comfortable in choosing your class placement.

# So You Are Updated...

Dancin' Plus is now under new ownership. That means new contact information.

You can reach Ms Laura and Ms Aurora at:

Phone - 1.507.236.1721

Email - dancinplusstudio@gmail.com

Mailing Address – 310 South Hampton Fairmont MN 56031

Website Address – dancinplus.com

Ms Tammy is often contacted by students to be a job reference or to give referrals for an assortment of reasons. You can continue to reach her at:

Email - Tammymarmstrong@gmail.com

Mailing Address - Tammy Armstrong 403 East 1st Street Fairmont MN 56031

Personal Facebook Page – Tammy Armstrong

She would LOVE to stay in touch so do not hesitate to contact her.

Join Us
For A
Last
Good Bye!



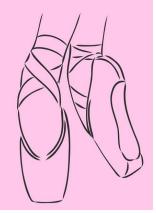
OPEN HOUSE TO CELEBRATE:

# TAMMY ARMSTRONG

JUNE 71 2025

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

DANCIN' PLUS 101 W 1<sup>st</sup> St



We know everyone is looking forward to the lazy days of summer so rest your feet while you can! After a short break we will be gearing up for another fun filled dance season. We are dedicated to bringing you the quality of dance education you appreciate and deserve. We are already looking forward to the new season and we hope you are too! Enjoy the summer!

~Aurora Meadows, Laura Douglas & Tammy Armstrong



Thank You!
Thank You!
Thank You!