

Hello wonderful Performers and parents,

Thank you so much for all your patience Saturday as we discussed details for the coming year. Our dancers are working so hard and parents have been a phenomenal support system, so we thank each of you for your efforts. I'm putting lots of information in this e-mail, so please be sure to read all the way to the end so you don't miss something important.

I am attaching a Word document with our schedule as best we can plan for the month of October. I'll do my best to have a November/Holiday schedule out before next month begins.

The following is a list of fundraising activities we conducted last year. We encourage dancers as well as parents to participate. New ideas are welcome and we are not opposed to changing some of our existing projects, but would love to see these slots filled for the coming year:

- Snack box - go to Costco or Sam's when snacks get low and replenish (you will be reimbursed). We try to keep the cost at \$.25 per unit or less in order to make a good profit, so choose snacks that are nutritious and inexpensive. Also collect, count and roll coins. This project raised funds for all of our Nutcracker and Mix it Up costumes last year.
- Posters - We would love to have someone with the creative flair to design our posters.
- Programs - in the past we have sold ads to local businesses and "shout-outs" for \$5 or \$10 to parents and friends. This and the layout require some organizational and computer skills. I have sales forms for ads so they don't need to be recreated.
- Bake sales during performances - this can be whatever the person in charge wants to do. In the past for Nutcracker we made treats from the ballet (I think there was Marzipan :) and for Mix-It-Up we did "mixed up" snacks. We've also sold wine, sodas and water. Be creative and have fun!
- We would love to have an official photographer who can keep up with photos for the website and putting together CDs, etc - Jeff, are you interested? 📷
- Dancers have done individual projects such as making bracelets, dancer survival kits, and lemonade stands to bring in more funds - keep up the great, creative work!
- Technical help with Happenstance and other performances - this mainly entails helping with set up and tear down of the bleachers and wall, but could also branch into technical help with the performance if you're interested. We need to establish a team so we know how much help to expect.

That's all the ideas I have for now - any new inspirations are welcome. Please do take the time to look over the list and respond with your area of interest.

General reminders - please make sure your dancer is taking time to rest and eating well. We have such a busy schedule on top of the amazing academic work they are doing, so we want to make sure they're strong. I'm attaching a copy of Kelly's nutritional Power Point to give you inspiration and ideas of how to keep things in balance - thanks, Kelly!!

I'll send a separate e-mail with information on ordering basic costume pieces - please be on the lookout for that and order early to be sure you have items for performances.

It's a joy to see the spirit of support and camaraderie among the dancers and parents. Let's keep supporting each other with sharing snacks, helping with rides, sewing shoes, fundraising and general encouragement. We're seeing so much growth in the dancers already and it's going to be a wonderful year!