



# Culminating Events Handbook 2019-2020

## CULMINATING EVENTS

### IMPORTANT DATES:

*Subject to change – for most up to date version, please visit our [website](#)*

Late April            Costume Distribution (Pre/Prim/B1) – Schedule TBD  
                          Costume Distribution (B2-B5) – Schedule TBD

May 1                Final Tuition Installment (#9) Due – NO GRACE PERIOD

**\*\*ACCOUNTS MUST BE CURRENT AS OF 1 MAY IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MAY RECITAL OR JUNE PERFORMANCE\*\***

### RECITAL

*All Pre-Ballet, Primary Ballet & Ballet 1/Jazz 1/Beginning Tap classes participate.*

To accommodate everyone, we split our PreBallet, Primary Ballet & Ballet 1/Jazz1/Beginning Tap classes into two Recitals. We try to take siblings and costume changes into consideration when deciding which classes will perform in which show.

May 9                10:00am Studio Company Rehearsal at GMHS  
                          10:15am Show A Dancer's Call at GMHS  
                          **11:00am SHOW A at GMHS**  
                          12:00pm DISMISSAL  
                          12:30pm Show B Dancer's Call at GMHS  
                          **1:00pm SHOW B at GMHS**  
                          2:00pm DISMISSAL

### PERFORMANCE WEEK

*All Ballet 2-Studio Company classes, Specials & Supernumeraries participate.*

*Class Uniform is REQUIRED for ALL REHEARSALS.*

May 30              8:30-9:30am      Technique at Ballet Caliente  
                          9:30-3:00pm      Rehearsal at Ballet Caliente- ALL B2-SC dancers.  

- 9:30am-10:30am Rehearsal Act 1 Supernumeraries
- 12:30pm-1:30pm Rehearsal Act 2 Supernumeraries

June 1                4:00–8:00pm Blocking rehearsal at Ballet Caliente

June 2                4:00–8:00pm Blocking rehearsal at Ballet Caliente

June 3                4:00–8:00pm Dress Rehearsal at GMHS, (B2-SC, & Specials) (Supernumeraries wear class uniform)

June 4                4:00–8:00pm Dress Rehearsal at GMHS, ALL PARTICIPANTS (B2-SC, Specials & Supernumeraries)

June 5                June Performance at GMHS– 6:30pm – Dancer's Call 5:45pm

June 6                June Performance at GMHS- 6:30pm – Dancers' Call 5:45pm

June 15              Summer Dance begins

## GENERAL RECITAL/PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

### Volunteers:

Our performances would not be successful without our wonderful volunteers. Please email [patronservices@balletcaliente.com](mailto:patronservices@balletcaliente.com) for our Sign-up Genius link if you would like to help!

### Recital and Performance Tickets:

- **\*NEW\*** Ballet Caliente will no longer provide Coupon Codes for tickets, however, the Culminating Event fee has been reduced.
- Recital tickets (May) are \$10-15. Ticket sales open in April.
- Performance tickets (June) are \$15-\$20. Ticket sales open in May.
- Tickets must be purchased online at [www.tututix.com/balletcaliente](http://www.tututix.com/balletcaliente).
- Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door the day of the event.
- All ticket sales are final and Ballet Caliente will not replace lost tickets.
- All seating is assigned.
- May Recitals – Doors open at 10:30 & 12:30pm, June Performances – Doors open at 6:00pm
- **ALL ATTENDEES OVER THE AGE OF 18 MONTHS MUST HAVE A TICKET**

### Photography and Video:

- A professional company will videotape our events. **Personal videotaping is not allowed.**
- One copy of the event DVD *per family* will be delivered to the studio with the Culminating Event fee paid. Pre/Prim/B1 students receive a Recital DVD and B2-SC students receive a Performance DVD.
- DVDs may be shipped for \$15. Additional copies and shipping may be ordered at [balletcaliente.com](http://balletcaliente.com).
- **Photography of any kind is prohibited.**
  - Lights & screens from devices can be seen on the video footage.
  - Flashes are distracting and often disorienting to the dancers on stage, CAUSING A SAFETY HAZARD.
- *Please DO NOT bring video or still cameras into the auditorium.*

### Something Special:

It is traditional for a dancer, to receive flowers, or gifts from their admirers (parents) after the performance. Flowers, a balloon or picture frame are appropriate gifts. This tradition is purely optional and we only mention it to you so that no one will be left out. Please present you dancer with their gifts or flowers **after the event.**

For your convenience, Ballet Caliente sells flowers which are delivered to the event and may be picked up as you enter the building. These flower bouquets are beautiful, reasonably priced and may be ordered at [balletcaliente.com](http://balletcaliente.com). The order deadline is 1 week prior to the show date.

## DIRECTIONS

Ballet Caliente's Recitals and Performances are held at **Great Mills High School**, 21130 Great Mills Rd.


- From Ballet Caliente travel south on Rt 235. Turn **RIGHT** onto MD/237 CHANCELLOR'S RUN RD.
- Turn **RIGHT** onto MD-246/GREAT MILLS RD.
- Travel .1 miles on Great Mills Road and the school will be on your left.



## STAGE MAKE-UP AND HAIR

Make-up is necessary in a theater because the bright lights drown-out your features. Children should not look “made-up.” Apply make-up to your child as though you were applying it to yourself for an “everyday look”. The level 5/SC dancers require a little bit more.

Backstage moms at dress rehearsal will check make-up and you will be notified if a change is needed.

- B2-B4 (Pre/Prim/B1 if able) Black eyeliner (pencil is easier) extended slightly beyond the eye in a “V”:
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- Level 5/SC dancers extend eyeliner straight out. Please make the line under your eye very thin and not down on your cheek. From the middle of your lower lashes, extend the line straight out. The top line comes straight out from where the top of your eyeball makes a crease in the skin.
  - Mascara B2-SC (Pre/Prim/B1 if able)
  - Lipstick- True Red only. No orange, pink, dark red, or brown.
  - Blush- on apples of cheeks.
  - Eye shadow in brown neutral tones, white highlighter below the brow.
  - Boys, a little blush, eyeliner and lip liner will define their features
  - **Hair MUST be pulled up in a high bun, no part** unless, designated differently due to cast assignment. Studio Company dancers should check with their dance captain. Secure hair **with a hair net and gel or hair spray**. **French twist is acceptable if hair is too short for a bun.**
  - **No bangs**. If a dancer wears bangs, the stage lights will cast a large shadow on the dancer’s face. If you need help or a bun lesson, ask your class mom or pick up a bun head alert form. Hair pins not bobby pins work best.
  - Please do not use *Scrunchies*, colored clips, pins, elastics or any other hair ornaments other than what is costume related.
  - Dancers may not wear jewelry of any kind. All piercings should be removed.
  - Clear fingernail polish only.
  - Use sunscreen when outdoors prior to the performance. Bathing suit lines look unsightly on stage.
  - There is no limit to Body Glitter.
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Younger Dancer  
“Everyday Look”



## MAY RECITAL INFORMATION

*Pre-Ballet, Primary Ballet, Ballet 1 and Beginning Tap*

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

**Recital Date:** Saturday, May 9, 2020, 11:00am or 1:00pm at Great Mills High School  
Dancer's Call: Pre/Prim/B1 10:15am or 12:15pm

### Recital:

We are excited to showcase our youngest dancers. Our goal is to give them more time on stage without the additional rehearsal time required of the older students. This recital also gives a sneak peek at pieces from our June performance.

### Attendance:

PLEASE make every effort to bring your child to class. It is difficult to pick up combinations when the rest of the class already knows the steps. Our recital is a team effort and it is difficult to work on placement when team members are missing. The recital should be a rewarding experience for your dancer and being confident in their dance will insure this.

### Rehearsals (during class time):

Rehearsals preparing for our show are coming along beautifully and the dancers are so excited, confident and beautiful! Although there may be a few feeling anxious, please reassure them. We still have plenty of time to practice. Reviewing the steps in their heads is very effective in remembering the sequence. At this time, you may hear your dancer complain about not dancing the "games" in ballet class. We are working very hard to remember our placement as well as the dance steps. Please encourage your dancer to practice at home. We do our best to be prepared; however, every year there are a few girls that get a little "stage struck" or "stage happy." They always end up stealing the show! Please do not be surprised if your little dancer gets on the stage and does not perform. Being on the stage with lights and over 500 people in the audience can be very overwhelming. Pre-ballet dancers are successful when they step on the stage!

### Free Dance:

At the end of some of the Pre-ballet class dances, the children will perform a "free dance". At Ballet Caliente this is an essential part of dance training. The steps they can perform limit three through five-year olds. Free dance allows them to express themselves and be a beautiful ballerina. Thus, learn to PERFORM. Our hope is that as they grow in their training, they will capture and remember this artful expression.

*Full costume and make-up are required for Dress Rehearsals and Recitals/Performances.*

Make-up should be applied **at home**. Hair should be in a bun and headpieces put on **at home**.

### Costume Requirements:

Ballet - Ballet PINK tights and PINK ballet slippers with sewn on elastic.  
Jazz - TAN jazz shoes and TAN tights.  
Tap- BLACK tap shoes and TAN tights.

*Class related costume specifics will be distributed by your class mom.*

### Arrival:

Pre-Ballet Mon, Pre-Ballet Tues, Pre-Ballet Wed, Pre-Ballet Sat, Primary Ballet Mon, Primary Ballet Thurs, Primary Ballet Sat, Ballet 1 Thurs, Ballet 1 Tues, and Ballet 1 Sat dancers should arrive wearing their **pink tights (NO panties)** under a recital t-shirt or cover-up; **DO NOT WEAR COSTUMES TO OR FROM THE RECITAL. Dancer's call is 10:15am or 12:15pm.** Bring costume and shoes in a **LABELED** bag with name of student, and parent phone number. Please label your dancer's costume, all costume pieces, and **inside** of shoes.

**DANCER DROP OFF:** Take your dancer to the **back** entrance of Great Mills High School near the tennis courts. Older dancers will take your children to their assigned dressing room. The backstage mom volunteers will take

attendance and care for your child for the duration of the rehearsal. Please do not try to escort your child into the building.

**BACKSTAGE AREAS ARE CLOSED TO ALL EXCEPT RECITAL VOLUNTEERS.**

**Dismissal:**

After the conclusion of the dress rehearsal/performances and **after** they have changed out of their costumes, dancers are released by class at the SAME **back** entrance where you dropped them off. With younger dancers it takes time to get their belongings together in the dressing rooms, please be patient. Backstage Moms are not allowed to release children directly from the classrooms to parents. For the safety of all, we ask for your utmost cooperation in this area. Please bring your umbrella in case of inclement weather.

## JUNE PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

*Ballet 2 MW/WF, Ballet 3, Ballet 4, Ballet 5, Studio Company, and Supernumeraries*

### General Information:

Performance Dates:

1. 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 5th 2020 at Great Mills High School.
2. 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 6th 2020 at Great Mills High School.

### Attendance:

PLEASE make every effort to bring your child to every class. It is difficult to pick up combinations when the rest of the class already knows the steps. Our production is a team effort and it is difficult to work on placement when team members are missing. We are as understanding as possible throughout the year when it comes to missing classes due to girl scouts, sports, music lessons etc. Now, we expect dancing to be top priority.

### Rehearsals & Class Time:

Rehearsals preparing for our show are coming along beautifully and the dancers are so excited! Although most of the performers are feeling confident and beautiful, there may be a few that are feeling anxious. Please reassure them, we still have plenty of time to practice. The performance should be a rewarding experience for your dancer and being confident in their dance will insure this. Reviewing the steps in their heads is very effective in remembering the sequence. Please be prepared for extra rehearsals a few days before the show. Things will be hectic, tight, and require maximum cooperation from everyone. With your help, the performance will prove to be one of the most fulfilling days of your young dancer's life.

- Students must be on time for all classes and additional rehearsals.
- Class Uniform is REQUIRED for ALL rehearsals.
- Requests for an excused absence must be submitted [via email](#) or in writing.

At this time during our school year you may hear your dancer complain about not dancing the having "fun" in ballet class. Students are concentrating on remembering their placement as well as the dance steps, which is very hard work. Please encourage your dancer to practice at home. We do our best to be prepared; however, every year there are a few dancers that get a little "stage struck" or "stage happy." They always end up stealing the show! Please do not be surprised if your young dancer gets on the stage and does not perform. Being on the stage with lights and over 800 people in the audience can be very overwhelming. Our younger dancers are successful when they step on the stage!

### Philosophy on Performing:

As most of you know, Mrs. Dunaway usually writes an original story ballet that showcases the students. The reason for this is two-fold. First, assigning characters and roles helps the children feel a part of something bigger. This creates a bonding that allows them to function as a team. Everyone's role is vital to the success of the show. Thus, we are learning life lessons as well as dancing lessons. Although it makes for countless more rehearsal hours and is a much harder task for the students and teaching staff, the benefits are worth the extra effort. Secondly, a story ballet is much more entertaining to the audience than watching class after class perform their routines. Our goal is for audience members to enjoy the whole performance as much as they enjoy watching their own child.

### Stage Placement:

Because every dancer is important, they will all take their turn in the "front row." Generally, for ballet Mrs. Dunaway places the taller dancers in the middle and works out to the shorter dancers on the end. When at all possible, siblings are placed together. Placement is not based on dancing ability in all class dances.



**Special Cast & Supernumerary Assignments:**

Teachers choose dancers that are particularly accomplished, have excellent attendance, and exceptional attitudes for placement in specials or extra parts in class dances. Sometimes, dancers are chosen based on a type of dancing style, ability to perform certain difficult steps with flair, or because their physical stature fits a specific part necessary for the story. Typically, these dancers have studied for several years. Specials are rewarded to students of the highest performance quality. Rehearsals are numerous and mandatory.

**PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**General:** *Class costume related specifics will be distributed by your class mom.*

**Ballet** - Ballet PINK tights, PINK ballet slippers with sewn on elastic, hair slicked back in a bun.

**Jazz** - Flesh tone tights (nude or suntan depending on your complexion)

Girls-TAN jazz shoes,

Boys – BLACK jazz shoes.

**Modern** - Flesh tone stirrup tights (nude or suntan depending on your complexion)

- DO NOT wear underwear under tights. It can be seen and looks unsightly.
- Older dancers **should** wear a dance undergarment with clear or flesh colored straps. NO STICK-ON STRAPLESS BRAS.
- Modest younger dancers may also choose to wear a dance undergarment with clear or flesh colored straps.
- Purchase new tights and shoes. You should have an extra pair of tights for the performance just in case your dancer gets a run the night of the show.

## REHEARSALS, RECITALS, AND PERFORMANCES at Great Mills High School Theater

### General:

- Be Prompt. The sooner we have all students present to start, the likelier we can dismiss on time.
- **ALL REHEARSALS ARE CLOSED.** To ensure the safety of our performers, only **dancers and backstage moms attend rehearsals.** No siblings, parents, relatives, or friends are permitted at any rehearsal without special permission from Mrs. Dunaway.
- All dancers will wear cover-ups to and from the theater. Performance shirts are great!
- Food and drink are not allowed in the theater.

### Dress Rehearsals at Great Mills High School, Wednesday & Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-8:00pm

### Performances at Great Mills High School, June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, Dancer's Call 5:45pm.

1. *Full costume, [make-up](#), and [hair](#) are required* for dress rehearsal and are vitally important to insure uniformity. This allows for any correction prior to the show.
2. Dress rehearsal/performance make-up should be applied at home. For young dancers, put tights on at home.
3. Dancers should wear Cover-ups to the dress rehearsal/performance and change into their costume in their assigned dressing rooms. Performance shirts are great!
4. **DANCER DROP OFF:** Take your dancer to the back entrance of Great Mills High School near the tennis courts. Older dancers will take younger students to their assigned dressing room. The backstage mom volunteers will take attendance and care for your child for the duration of the rehearsal. Please do not try to escort your child into the building.
5. Dress rehearsals are treated as an actual performance with costume changes.
6. For the safety of our dancers, no one is allowed in the back stage area at any time during rehearsal or performances.
7. **ON PERFORMANCE NIGHTS, DANCERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE AND GO INTO THE AUDIENCE AFTER THEIR DANCE IS COMPLETED! ALL DANCERS MUST REMAIN BACKSTAGE.**
8. **DANCER RELEASE:** After the conclusion of the dress rehearsal/performance and **after** they have changed out of their costumes, dancers are released by class at the SAME **back** entrance where you dropped them off.
  - Dress rehearsal dismissal time is **approximate** 8:00 pm. Please be flexible.
  - Dismissal time on Performance night depends on the length of the intermission. If you are not in the audience please be there by 8:45 pm to wait for your dancer.
  - Dancers will be released as a group **only**, by class. Dancers in Ballet and/or Jazz and/or Modern will be released with their Ballet class. As your dancer's class is brought to this door a megaphone will announce the class name and each individual dancer.
  - When your dancer's class is dismissed, we ask that **one** family member come forward to collect their dancer in the cordoned off dismissal area. Adherence to this policy will help make dismissal go faster.
  - With the younger children this process takes some time, please be patient. Backstage Moms are not allowed to release children directly from the classrooms to parents. For the safety of all, we ask for your utmost cooperation in this area.

- Please bring your umbrella in case of inclement weather.

**Be prepared:**

- If your dancer needs to purchase/order any new tights, undergarments, or shoes: **March** is a good time to do so. Keep them aside for the performance so you do not need to scramble to find items during performance week. It is performance time for all local studios and sometimes the demand for these items outpaces the supply available.
- DO NOT IRON COSTUMES - If your dancer's costume is wrinkled, hang it in a steamy bathroom. Tutus should be hung upside down. The fabrics used on costumes melt very easily and is almost impossible to repair.
- Several days prior to dress rehearsal have your dancer try on their costume at home to make sure it is complete. This includes shoes with elastic, headpieces, etc.
- Shoulder straps sewn in place not pinned.
- If your dancer's skin color is dark, use a bit of foundation make-up on the shoulder strap to match her skin tone.
- LABEL** each costume piece with your child's name on the inside, particularly the shoes. Please be sure the labeling is not visible from the outside. **Do not label shoes on the bottom**, it can be seen from the audience.
- Then, place **everything** (tights, leotard, skirt, bows, hats, shoes, etc.) in a bag and **LABEL** the bag with their name, parents phone number and the dance title. Many dancers find laundry baskets the perfect size to hold the bulky tutus. Follow this procedure for each costume change and bring the bags to dress rehearsal, and the show.
- Label** everything your dancer wears or brings into the building including jackets, clothing, shoes, games and make-up.
- Don't forget shoes!
- During dress rehearsal and the performance, the class and backstage moms organize some things to keep the younger children occupied in the dressing rooms. Food and drink should be kept to a minimum. Most class moms ask for donations of coloring books, crayons, books, puzzles and snacks. **No snacks containing peanuts or peanut products are allowed backstage.** WATER ONLY to drink.

## AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

Every year we get questions asking about audience etiquette. Please read on and remember, part of one's agreement as an audience member is to take seriously the pleasure of others, a responsibility fulfilled by quietly attentive (or silently inattentive) and self-restrained behavior. After all, you can be as demonstrative as you like during bows and curtain calls.

1. If you bring a child make sure etiquette is part of the experience. Children love learning new things, but parents should judge carefully when deciding if a child is ready to watch a 2.5-hour performance.
2. Make sure all cell phones, beepers, and signal watches are OFF. And don't jangle the bangles.
3. Electronic equipment with lighted screens (digital cameras, cell phone, etc...) are extremely distracting and ruins the viewing experience for those around you. Please remember cameras are NOT allowed and phones should be OFF.
4. Note to lovebirds: When you put your heads together, you block the view of the person behind you. Leaning forward also blocks the view.
5. THOU SHALL NOT TALK, or hum, or sing along, or beat time with a body part.
6. Force yourself to wait for a pause between dances or intermission before exiting the auditorium.
7. Take it easy with the atomizer; many people are highly allergic to cologne and perfume.
8. The old standby: Do unto others, as you would have them do unto you.