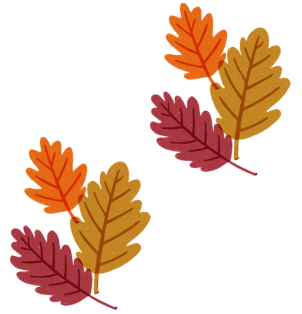


SEPTEMBER 2023

To the Pointe Newsletter



Got 2 Dance Productions



Welcome!

Welcome to Got 2 Dance Productions (G2D) and the 2023-2024 season! This is our 16th year of running G2D, and we are so excited to get back to the dance floor.

Before the season began we emailed out a Helpful Tips info page - please take a read through to ensure we kick off the season prepared and in the know of what to expect.

We look forward to welcoming both our new and returning students and have an exciting year planned, so let's dance!

- Gjenna & Anne-Alisa, studio owners

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Let's get To the Pointe!

At G2D we strive to keep both our parents and students informed of upcoming news and events throughout the year. How do we do this?

- G2D puts out a **newsletter** at the beginning of each month with upcoming news, events, announcements, and schedule changes. Please make sure you read it thoroughly, as it is our main method of communication with our dance families. All newsletters are sent electronically. Our website and bulletin board will also house extra copies. If your email changes during the year, please let us know so that we can update our contact list accordingly.

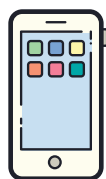
- Join us on **Facebook!** "Like" and follow our page to keep up with news, announcements, pictures and more.

- Follow us on **Instagram!** Pictures, videos and more behind the scenes studio life.

- **Email** us! During the week email is the best method of contact with G2D, and we will provide you with a timely response. got2danceproductions@gmail.com

- Give us a **call or text!** Studio owners Gjenna (403-963-6789) and Anne-Alisa (403-704-5207) are happy to talk over the phone.

If you have not received your monthly newsletter, please follow up with us to ensure you receive the most up to date information. During the year additional questions or concerns may pop up that aren't addressed in studio communications. We are here to help and ask that you contact us after class time by one of the above methods. Thank you for your cooperation!



Final schedule

If you have not received a copy of the finalized schedule for the season, visit our website or help yourself to a copy on our foyer bulletin board. Please note that class lists may shift slightly as dancers find where they are best suited. A reminder that Variety/Conditioning will begin the first week of classes like it did last season - thank you!

Weather cancellation notification process

It seems hard to believe, but winter is just around the corner. When extreme weather conditions occur causing unsafe driving conditions that result in class cancellations, G2D notifies all parents by text message. If the Wolf Creek School Division cancels classes due to extreme weather, G2D typically follows suit. The safety of our instructors and dance families is our number one priority! Cancelled classes due to weather may be rescheduled if timing allows, depending on instructor availability. As always, cancellations will also be posted to our Facebook and Instagram pages.

Dance wear

If you ordered dance wear at our studio apparel night, you can pick it up from our front desk during the first week of classes. Still need shoes, tights, bodysuits and more?

Contact The Edge for all your dance wear needs: anedgeindance@gmail.com



Performing Arts extra number sign up forms

Interested in an extra number this season? Any Performing Arts dancers wishing to do a solo, duet, trio or small group, please fill out our [online sign up form](#)!

2023-2024 performance dates

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming performance dates for this season. All details about performances (times, tickets, etc.) will be communicated in upcoming newsletters. All of the below performances are held at the Red Deer Memorial Centre.

- **Christmas Recital (all G2D dancers):** Sunday, December 3rd
- **Stage Rehearsal & tentative Extra Number Recital (Performing Arts only):** the week of March 4-7, 2024 (weeknight rehearsals)
- **Year-End Recital (all G2D dancers):** Sunday, April 28

2024 Performing Arts festival dates

Festival dates for our Performing Arts dancers are below, so please mark your calendars! Festivals are mandatory for all Performing Arts dancers. Students and instructors work hard all year long for these events and plus - it's our favourite time of year and so much fun!

For those new to festivals, you only need to attend on the day/time when your dancer performs, not the entire festival. Schedules are typically distributed in February, and times are sent home as soon as we receive them.

Our 2024 festival dates are:

- ***More Vibe, St. Albert** - March 21-24
- **Sparkle Camrose** - April 6-7
- **For the Love of Dance, Fort Saskatchewan** - April 18-21 (Rising Stars will attend this festival)

*Please note that More Vibe falls the weekend before the start of Spring Break. The Wolf Creek School Division's Spring Break is March 25-29. If the More Vibe festival dates pose a conflict to any dance families, please let us know ASAP. Otherwise, we will confirm our attendance at this festival by the end of September.

Congrats to our Nutcracker performers!

Congratulations to Junior level dancer Blakely, and Senior level dancer Alexis, who will be performing in this year's Nutcracker at Red Deer Polytechnic! This is a wonderful Christmas tradition to be a part of and we are so proud of both of them for their extra time commitment and dedication to dance. Details on how to purchase tickets will be shared on our social media when the time comes - we encourage everyone to come out and support your G2D team!



September is Performing Arts Try it Out Month!

There are a lot of different options in dance! Sometimes it's hard to decide what to enroll in because we aren't even sure what the class is like. Well, we have a solution for that!

During the month of September, Performing Arts dancers are invited to try out any class they aren't registered in. Think hip hop would be cool? Registered in Back 2 Basics but want to try out acro and lyrical? In Rising Stars Jazz but want to see what Rising Stars Ballet is all about? Do it! If it's a class a dancer decides they would like to add, just let us know at the end of the month and we can make it happen.

Please note that dancers must stay within their level (ie. a Junior dancer enrolled in Back 2 Basics can try out Junior Lyrical, but not Intermediate Contemporary, for example.)

And remember! If dancers want to enroll in secondary disciplines like lyrical, modern, acro, etc. you must also be in Back 2 Basics to ensure fundamental dance technique is being learned. If you would like to try out a class, please email us and we will add you to the list!

G2D's policies for a successful dance season

At G2D we value a fun, respectful, inclusive environment where dancers can build confidence and develop characteristics of perseverance and team work. In order to receive the best possible experience possible, all instructors, dancers and their families are required to adhere to G2D's studio policies. These policies help ensure a successful dance season for all!

RESPECT

We consider our instructors, dancers and dance families all part of the G2D family! Our most important policy is for all family members to respect each other. This includes your instructors, fellow G2D dancers and their families. Show respect to each other by:

- Speaking in a respectful and kind tone
- Supporting, including, and encouraging fellow dancers
- Follow instructions and taking feedback from instructors without opposition
- Cleaning up after yourself
- Taking good care of G2D property including waiting room, studio spaces, and student lounge

Disrespectful behaviors include criticizing fellow dancers, their families or instructors, destroying or vandalizing G2D property, fooling around in class, in the lobby or student lounge, and being late or unprepared for class. Please be seated or walk in the lobby or student lounge areas. Running, jumping or climbing furniture poses safety risks. Parents, please supervise your children and keep noise to a minimum in the waiting area. Excessive noise in the lobby is distracting to classes. G2D has a zero tolerance for bullying or disrespect shown by dancers, instructors or families and this may result in suspension from the studio.

BE PREPARED

Dancers are expected to be ready to dance when class begins. This includes having hair done and dressed in proper attire. Arriving unprepared for class may result in injuries. Please be ready at least five minutes before class starts.

Hair requirements:

- Ballet: Hair is to be in a bun, pulled back off face
- All other classes: Hair is to be pulled back off face. Examples: Pony tail, bun, braids
- For short hairs styles have bangs pulled back with headband or bobby pins
- Not Acceptable: Bangs down, hair down

Attire requirements:

- Ballet: Bodysuit, pink ballet tights, ballet slippers
- Hip Hop: Clothing that does not restrict movement (leggings, sweat pants, joggers) and clean runners
- All other classes: body suit or fitted tank top, fitted shorts or fitted leggings, foot undeez. Loose shirts, yoga pants and sweats are not permitted.

Use the bathroom before class and bring a water bottle to class. Breaks will only be provided if the instructor permits. Unprepared dancers will be given a warning and the opportunity to correct their attire/hair. If this happens subsequent times an email will be sent to the dancer's family.

All personal items are to be kept in the change rooms downstairs. Absolutely NO cell phones in the studio during class. Your instructor may allow them for the last portion of class to record choreography. Make sure you know the choreography for all groups and extra numbers. Dancers should practice choreography between classes and on their own time. Label all of your dance wear (shoes, bodysuits, costumes, etc.) with your name and studio. Many items are lost or misplaced throughout the year and this ensures they make their way back to the correct owner as quickly as possible.

GIVE IT YOUR BEST

When dancers are in the studio, the focus should be on learning and improving dance technique and/or choreography. When your teacher is instructing it is expected dancers provide their full attention. Always give your best effort! Everyone has different strengths and challenges and we are here to learn and grow. The only way to improve is to try your best consistently.

When you are not giving your best effort or not focused in class, you are not only decreasing the quality of your dance experience, but the quality of your classmates' experiences as well. The time your teacher spends asking for your attention or effort is time lost that could be used to improve technique and/or routines.

If a dancer is having challenges focusing and participating in class, the instructor will attempt to approach the student to express their concerns in a respectful manner. If the behaviour does not improve, G2D will contact families to discuss the best path forward. Always put forth your best effort, even if it's something that is challenging or different. That's the only way to grow!

WE ARE A TEAM!

We are all here because we love to dance. We are a team! Each dancer is an important part of the team, no matter the age, abilities or position in a routine. Give and receive feedback in a respectful manner. Constructive feedback is necessary to build a strong team but we also need to be considerate of others feelings. Focus on building each other up to be the strongest team possible.

ATTENDANCE IS KEY

The only way to improve and learn is to be at class! Inconsistent attendance affects the entire class. Dance is a team effort. If a dancer is injured or not feeling well (and are not contagious), please try to come watch the class, if you are well enough to do so.

Cell phones are not permitted when watching unless your teacher grants permission to video choreography. If a dancer asks to sit out in a class, they will sit out the entire class. This includes games and special activities. Excusable absences include illness, personal emergencies and family vacations. These must be emailed or messaged to G2D, by an adult preferably. All other absences are considered unexcused. If a student reaches three unexcused absences, teachers will need to discuss if it is appropriate for the student to continue in that class/routine.

Withdrawing from a class: We understand that circumstances may arise causing a dancer to withdraw from a class. If this is the case, please notify us and we can help ensure the proper steps are taken. G2D wants to award and recognize students who come to class prepared, ready to learn and give 100% effort. Dancer of the Month will be selected based on the policies and rules discussed above.