

Parents and Students of STEPS,

Yes, we are returning to the studio! However, Dance Class will run a little differently than you may be used to. STEPS has put into place new procedures to ensure the safety of our staff and students during this time. At this time there is no way of knowing how long we will need to take precautions, but we will assume this “New Normal” for a while. Mrs. Sara and Mr. Jason have developed a plan after considering many factors and consulting with other dance studio’s and their owners across the nation. We feel these new guidelines will allow our staff and student to still dance together and feel comfortable they are in a safe environment. We also understand that these guidelines might not suit all students and parents. For those reasons STEPS will continue to run classes via ZOOM for those not ready to return.

CLASS SIZE

We are preparing for a soft opening starting June 15th. This means we will hold private lessons and small classes at the Uptown Studio only. Downtown studio classes will resume once we feel the main studio has adapted to the change. We will be limiting our building occupancy during this time. Unfortunately, STEPS can only accommodate 9 students per class at this time. 1 teacher, and office staff only. Parents will not be permitted inside the studio or Lobby during classes, apart from Private lessons. (Private lessons will allow 1 guardian only) Students must be registered for their class, first come first serve, no exceptions. In the case we have more than 9 students wishing to attend class, we will direct to use ZOOM for the current discounted price. Classroom student will have regular monthly tuition. Please sign up for classroom privileges via e-mail request prior to June 13th, which is the Saturday before opening. Sara_2781@ymail.com or at www.stepsinatwater.com

NO PARENTS/GUARDIANS/SIBLINGS/FRIENDS IN THE DANCE AREA or LOBBY

We ask parent to only drop off and pick up their dancers. STEPS is lucky enough to have a large Parking area to accommodate parents wishing to wait the hour in the car. We also have a huge front window where you may watch your dancer. If you wish to watch from the front lawn, we ask you to do so by being respectful of the other parents and STEPS by bringing your own chair and remain seated. We ask you do not bring siblings with you or other family members/friends. You may bring an umbrella chair or shade, but again we ask you to please be respectful of other parents and STEPS.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Please drop your student off at the front parking lot entrance. We ask students to remain in their parked car until class time. Younger students may be accompanied to the front door by 1 parent/guardian. We ask all persons to wear a mask at front entrance and students while in the lobby. Parents will not be permitted into the Lobby during class times. Students will Exit the studio 1 at a time at the Palm Avenue Exit. You may wait here on the sidewalk (6 feet distanced) or at the edge of the sidewalk near the Parking lot. A staff member will walk your student to the door and make certain they have an adult to pick them up. Please be available to pick up your dancer no later than 5 minutes prior to end of class, as we will dismiss early to allow for sanitation between classes.

ATTIRE

Student will need to arrive to the studio already dressed. There will be no changing in the restrooms or training area. Students may wear a cover up or bring minimum clothes to pull over if they have another style class back to back. Students must have a dance bag that will fit all their belongings. Bags will be kept at their own personal area properly distanced from others. Do not bring extra clothes that will not fit into their dance bag. We will no longer have “loaner shoes” If you wish to rent out loaners please visit the front desk and we will accommodate for a small fee. They will then become your responsibility and you will keep them with you until return date. There is no guarantee for availability of size or style.

FOOD

STEPS has always had a **NO FOOD** in the studio policy. We will be enforcing that rule now more than ever. Do not send your child with snacks. Dancers may bring a personal water bottle only. No sharing. Younger dancers will not be dismissed to parents during water breaks but rather to their area with their water bottles. Masked Teachers can assist them there if needed. Again, absolutely **NO FOOD** at STEPS.

MASKS

Staff members will be wearing masks unless in a teacher designated area. Masks must be worn in lobby or while visiting the restroom. Dancers do not have to wear a mask while exercising inside the dance room, but they may if parents/dancers wish do so. Please send your child with a signed note indicating so should this be your request.

OTHER PRECAUTIONS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY

Prior to class we will be taking temperatures and asking students to sanitize. This will be done prior to entering the dance area. We ask all parents to monitor health at home and do not send a child to class if they show symptoms of any illness. After entering students will wait in a designated, distanced area until called to the dance floor. Dance space will be separated onto distanced areas during class time. All dance floors, equipment if used, and common areas will be wiped down and sanitized after/prior to each class before student enter.

RECITAL

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone our recital. This was a decision that was made for us, and STEPS has no control. However, we have only postponed. Currently, we are still waiting for clearance into the facility to hold a recital. We are being told the earliest is late August or September. Currently, this is what we are planning for. Costumes are being held at their warehouse and have not been shipped. With exception of competition costumes. This was an option Mrs. Sara chose in the case Recital was postponed and we may need to exchange sizes before shipment or worse case, parent did not wish to participate any longer. This year it will not be the typical recital you are used to, which many families may be happy about. It will be separated into more little shows, rather than a 2+hour long big show. Do not worry though, it will still be special for your little dancer and they will still be able to show off their hard work.

Thank you to all our families during this time of adjustment. Just as many of others, this was a day by day adjustment and we spent a lot of time waiting for answers ourselves. At some points unsure if we would be able to re-open our doors at all. We are excited to be back at the studio and appreciate your patience and understanding during the adjustment. We assure you the health and safety of our dancers and staff is the most important, and we are doing what we can ensue everyone still enjoy dancing in a safe and healthy environment