

Good Afternoon Dance Family,

Like so many of you, we have spent the last few weeks learning about the coronavirus (COVID-19), its impact on our communities and the world we live in. We know dance is a much-needed outlet for many of these kids, but at this time, we have decided to close for the week March 16 – 21st. The reason we are closing is to assist in reducing the footprint in our area, to help our community stabilize during this tough time. If The Dance Department can help “flatten the curve”, hopefully we can make a difference. We will re-evaluate the situation on a weekly basis. We now plan to run classes on the normal schedule during the April spring break, as a make-up for this week. We care about your dancer and your family; we hope we can resume our normal schedule soon.

We hope during this time you will continue your dance adventure in your home. We plan on recording all routines and posting them in the portal so students can practice at home. We will also post a dancer warm up as a separate video. Our goal is to have routines posted by Monday night.

We wanted to personally let you know that we are continuing to actively monitor the situation very closely and take guidance from the CDC. Furthermore, we have taken the following proactive and voluntary steps to address the situation.

### **1. Additional cleaning and sanitizing**

Disinfecting surfaces is one keyway to minimize the spread of viruses, according to the CDC. The studio is being cleaned and sanitized daily and we have implemented the use of CDC-recommended cleaning and disinfectant solutions.

### **2. Following CDC-recommended guidelines**

Simple personal hygiene is essential to minimizing the spread of the COVID-19 and other viruses. We ask that you, along with our employees and tenants, be mindful of and follow these CDC preventative measures as part of your daily routines:

- Wash your hands
- Cover your cough
- Stay home if you're sick

### **3. Providing visuals for general hygiene**

We understand that our dancers and their families are at the epicenter of everything we do—their health, safety and knowledge are absolutely critical. Here is how we are supporting them so they can better support each of you:

- We are creating visual reminders for following CDC-recommended guidelines for use with their teams

### **4. Close Contact**

Since dance is a team sport, many routines include moves where the students touch each other. We are going to temporarily suspend any steps in class that require hand holding or touching of another dancer. For the time being the dances can perform their steps on their own.

### **5. Competitions**

Currently we are planning on attending the competitions we have already registered for, unless the competition cancels or postpones. Access Broadway plans to have their competition as of now. If they must cancel, they have promised a full refund and if you booked a room at The Sagamore, they will provide a full refund as well. The Groove competition already communicated that they were requesting no costume changes and said everyone would be given a perfect costume score. They also are limiting the number of spectators, to only those necessary. Lastly for Groove they are not doing the awards ceremony in person. They will stream it online and the studio director can pick up the awards for the dancers. As we hear more on the competitions, we will keep everyone in the loop.

Thank you for your time and understanding in this matter.