



Hi Sandra, Kristen, Katy, Mindy, Sarah, Kim, Shawna and Jacquie and Nicole:

We will run full days Thursday, Friday and Sunday with 516 dances and 9 studios at Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, 10268 Yonge Street Richmond Hill. Parking is free in the lot adjacent to the theatre. I tried to schedule you on the day you requested.

Running a dance competition during a pandemic is no easy task and we all must do our due diligence to have a successful weekend for all. Please remind your dancers about MASKS, sanitizing often and physical distancing. We are not out of the woods yet and if we are ALL careful, no one will get sick. Your dancers and parents will be prepared if they are given as much information as possible, about what to expect at the theatre.

It may be a good idea to warm up your dancers outside. If you have acro tricks to warm up, it might be helpful to bring mats. There is NO rehearsal room in the theatre and warming up in your cohort area or hallway is not permitted. These are theatre regulations for your safety.

In speaking with other competition directors, who have used the Richmond Hill theatre, the key to running on time with little space between dances, is help from your studio team.

At a competition, you usually have full control of your dancers in your dressing room, but in a studio cohort scenario during strict covid-19 rules, your 45 dancers will be split into 3 different areas: Plaza Suite, Lower East side and Upper West side (see attached document) with 15 dancers/area. Please assign your dancers to the most appropriate area before you arrive so each dancer knows where to go upon arrival. We will have signage indicating the directions to each area.

It is **very important** for you to bring 4 – 5 teachers/parents (DOUBLE VACCINATED, IF POSSIBLE) to help you organize your dancers. 3 of you will be in charge of the dancers in the 3 dressing room areas. 1 person will be responsible for getting the dancers to the backstage holding area and 1 will bring the dancers from the holding area to backstage. If we have lags between dances, we will all be at the theatre a lot longer and later than planned. If 1 studio runs behind, it will affect the entire day. We cannot shorten a lunch or dinner break to get caught up. 45 minutes is **needed** to clear the building, thoroughly clean and bring in the next shift. PLEASE bring enough people to assist you so your shifts will run well and on time. I am sending this to you with 3 weeks notice so you will be able to find reliable adult helpers. Please send me the 4 – 5 names of the teachers and parents on your team, who will be assisting you inside the theatre.

Props are to be kept to a minimum and carried on by the dancers or a teacher. Props will go with the dancers into their cohort area. The loading dock is closed.

If dancers are more comfortable dancing with masks, that is completely fine with us and our judging panel. As you can see by the attached document, your dancers pick up their masks and exit stage left into the theatre and out into the lobby. All 3 dressing room areas are close to this exit.

We hope to do special awards and announce your scores (without dancers on stage) during the cleaning period. We plan to have your awards ready to give to the studio director before she leaves. Overall awards will be announced Sunday after the last cohort at approximately 8:15 p.m. (Let's hope!)

Dances and awards will ALL be live streamed. The dancers and parents can watch on the large LED screen we have rented, which is in the courtyard at the front of the building. Please remind your parents that there is NO AUDIENCE but they can enjoy their children's dances from the large screen. Parents can bring a chair and get a coffee from Covernotes beside the theatre. <http://covernotesrichmondhill.com/#anchor-u51186>

A Participation & Covid Waiver will be emailed to you and needs to be completed by each person prior to coming to the theatre. There is also a Wellness Questionnaire you will receive closer to the competition. Again, everyone attending must have this questionnaire filled out and must be within 24 hours of your arrival. Detailed instructions will be sent regarding both of these documents. Donna is working on these forms and will send more information soon. Please be diligent returning these forms when requested so there are no holdups the day of the competition.

PLEASE upload your music in MP4 format, no later than July 30. Thank you to those of you who have already taken care of this.

With all of us working together as a team, we will ALL enjoy watching your dancers performing live on stage once again, while remaining healthy!

Kind regards,

Nancy & Donna

Hotel info:

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