

Beautiful Dancing For Joy Community,

Thank you for your patience, love and support in this difficult crisis. We are excited to announce that dancing is NOT on lockdown. We can't dance together in person, but we can still DANCE! Dancing For Joy learning will continue using a combination of online platforms, ZOOM and YOUTUBE. Classes will begin this Monday, March 23rd, and will be held during your child's regular weekly class time. We anticipate that there may be troubleshooting and a learning curve, but we are dedicated to ironing out the kinks of this experience to make it work for everyone involved.

### **Here's how it works!**

1. You will receive a ZOOM link to "join your live dance class" using the \*email we have on file for your DFJ account. You should be taken to a download of Zoom, when you try to join your first class. Everyone will need to download the Zoom application on their device. The first part of your class each week, will be LIVE through the Zoom application. Please use the link to join your class at your regular class time each week. The same link will work each week for the same class. (You may need to cut and paste the link into your browser)

\*If you do not receive an email, need to change or add an email, please contact the office immediately. You can also change emails through your studio director account.

2. Your teacher will be your host during the LIVE portion of class. You will be checking in, taking attendance, doing warm-ups and learning technique "LIVE" with your teacher. During the time of instruction that involves music, the instructor will have to mute the class, and/or you will have to mute yourself in order to hear the music properly. The teacher will unmute the students to ask them if they have any questions and to give feedback.
3. Once the Live Portion of your class has been completed, your teacher will then e-mail you a YouTube link for the second portion of your class. This will be the pre-recorded section of learning, and can be watched as many times as you want. This portion will include, but not limited to, choreography for your child's dance for the June show. It also may include a strengthening activity or homework of some kind to do during the week.

### **Things you will need:**

- 1) A computer or device able to download Zoom, Live Stream, and play Youtube.
- 2) An area to set-up a device for participating with your class, and room enough to move.
- 3) Know when your classes are, and how to find and execute links in your email.

### **Troubleshooting Tips:**

#### ***I'm having trouble with the audio:***

- 1) We have discovered that there are more audio settings available when streaming from a computer than from a mobile device, but the application should work on either. If you are having trouble with the audio on your mobile device, try a computer or laptop.
- 2) Try different audio settings on your account and on your device. Things to look for depending on which device you are on: You want to "preserve original sound", turn off any noise cancelling software, turn any "computer audio only" ON.
- 3) MUTE yourself, when you are trying to hear music (this is because of the built in noise cancelling software built into zoom, and it accounts for the music to be background "noise" while people are

talking). You can unmute yourself, or use the “raise your hand” option during the lesson to ask a question to the teacher. If the settings are default - you should be able to press and hold the spacebar on a laptop to temporarily unmute yourself.

***I'm having trouble with the video:***

- 1) As with audio, we have discovered that there are more video settings available when streaming from a computer than from a mobile device, but the application should work on either. So, if you are having trouble with the video on your mobile device, try a computer or laptop.
- 2) The main screen keeps changing to whoever is talking. To avoid this you must “pin video”. For example: you have to click or double click the instructors screen and then click on “pin video” for it to remain the screen that you always see.

**FAQ'S**

1. Will there still be a June Production? - *At this point, YES! We are moving forward with our June production of “The Creation Story.” If for some reason we can't have it in June, we will try to reschedule for when we can!*
2. Will tuition still be charged? - *Yes, tuition will still be due and charged on the first of the month. However, we will be waiving all late fees on accounts from now through the summer.*
3. How can we help? *Stay enrolled, encourage others to do the same. This will help us keep our teachers employed, our bills paid, and the arts alive.*

**What's next?**

Following this initial letter, the DFJ Department Heads will be sending out an additional email, with more specific details for their particular dance department. In this additional email we will go into detail on safety, setting up your learning environment at home, suggested at home supplies needed for your class etc. Also, look out for your class links to start coming into your emails - and maybe organize them in a way that is easy to find.

**I still have questions.....**

We anticipate there will be a huge learning curve, and a lot of questions. Thank you ahead of time for your patience. Please email your questions to the studio, and one of our office staff members would be happy to assist you.

Thank you again for your patronage and support. We are thinking about your families during these most uncertain times. What is certain is this beautiful community, and our plan to keep moving forward to bring you excellent dance instruction and fun! It is more important than ever to keep on being active, staying positive, and dancing for joy!

Happy Dancing,  
Kurt and Maluhia Vander Griend & the DFJ Staff