



# Marilyn Schneider School of Dance



Classes resume Jan 5<sup>th</sup>!  
I hope you, had a fun holiday  
break! We missed you!

STUDIO CLOSED  
Martin Luther King Jr Day  
Jan 19  
Winter Recess  
Feb 17-23

## 2026 – Dance is our fix

Happy New Year! I don't know about everyone else, but the word "WOW" sums up my experience with 2025. There were "WOW" moments of disappointment and discouragement to be sure, but more than that, there were so many "WOW" moments of inspiration, teamwork, friendship and resilience. This year has been one of the hardest to be a business owner, director and teacher – but also one of the most heartening. I have learned patience, pivoting skills and more technical skills (thanks to my team) than I thought imaginable. We are humbled and honored to again be the recipient of the 2025 Community Choice award for Best Dance Studio for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year!

As I look ahead to this year- 2026, I believe that together as an MSSOD Team – faculty, parents and dancers we will continue to lift each other up, support one another, be safe, continue to follow all "Safer Studio policies" and help our dancers grow to their full potential. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy new year. Dance will be our fix in 2026.

*Marilyn*

## **Congratulations go to.....**

.....December Coloring Contest Winners!

**Junior Division** – Maya Burns

**Senior Division** – Karalyn Arnold

We had several other place winners as well. Congratulations to all! I have many future artists and I am proud of all of them!

## **CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Dance class from now until the end of the year will largely consist of the students learning their dance pieces for recital. Is it very important that your student attend class. Dancers should be prepared for dance class, so be sure to wear proper dance clothes with hair pulled back, preferably in a bun. Please call the studio and leave a message if your child is unable to attend class. Remember, missing class will make it difficult for the student to learn what they missed the prior week and affects the entire class. Like any sport, a dancer has a responsibility to their fellow peers, their teacher and themselves, so please encourage your child to do their part. To help your child practice, consider getting a copy of the recital music. CDs are now available for \$2. I really appreciate your support! We will strive for excellence in 2026.

*Marilyn*

**With a score from 1-10, we hope to be an 11 in 2026**

## **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Remember to turn in a copy of your report card to be eligible for our Academic Award presented in June. Education is the foundation to a bright and successful future!

## ***Cold & Flu Season***

**PLEASE DO NOT** send your dancer to class when they are ill. Germs travel no matter how often we Lysol the barres, mats, etc. If your dancer is too sick for school, then they are too sick for dance as well. This one of the main reasons I always offer make-up lessons.

## **Problems / Concerns**

MSSOD and its staff pride themselves on our positive experience and strong customer service. If you ever feel that something is not working for you or your dancer, please let me know. You can email me through our website at [www.msschoolofdance.com](http://www.msschoolofdance.com)

## **Label your things!**

Now that winter is upon us, many students have the same boots, jackets, etc. Please make sure that your child has their name in all belongings. We cannot be responsible for lost/stolen property but would like to help return items and labeling is the easiest way to get things to their rightful owner.

## Recital 2026

In March, you will receive a letter that outlines important dates and information relating to the 2026 recital. There are a few mandatory rehearsals, based upon the show(s) your dancer is assigned. Rehearsal dates will be coming soon! **LAST CHANCE** to register for the 2026 recital is Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. Final notices have been sent. An additional charge will be made on any forms turned in after January 5<sup>th</sup>. All dance costume companies have service-handling fees on single orders. **One form per number must be filled out, no exceptions!** As I have stated many times, public performance is an important part of dance training. Students learn to be a more appreciative audience. Public appearances develop your child's poise and self-confidence. It is an important event not to be taken lightly as others are dependent upon your cooperation and commitment. Every year, I am proud of the work and devotion that is put forth by all the dancers. I hope you will be part of that success that the 2026 recital is sure to bring.

### **Go Bills!**

Once again, the Buffalo Bills have made it to the playoffs so we will celebrate by wearing Bills attire as long as they keep winning. We will show spirit & cheer them on!



## **HIGH EXPECTATIONS**

Do you underestimate your children? Are you so close that sometimes decide before you give them a chance that they can only do so much? This is normal but hurtful in the development of children. Many children today are getting a "free ride" which hurts them when they go out on their own and see the real world. There aren't many opportunities out there for pampered, less than hard-working, less than aggressive, non-confident in their own abilities' young adults. I believe hard work makes people feel good – even children. Dance allows us to teach this. The harder you work, the more you will accomplish and the more confident in your abilities you will become.

### **Dance skills are LIFE skills!**

### **MSSOD COMPANY**

Our MSSOD Company dancers will be traveling to Baltimore Jan 23-25 to attend the NYCDA National Dance Convention to take classes.

Our Elite Company dancers will also be competing in their first competition of the year!  
Good luck dancers!

### **January Performances**

Madi Boura, Jamie Fetzner, Jayden Trafton & Cal Fetzner will be appearing in 'Sound of Music' at Greece Athena  
Jan 30 - Feb 1 and Feb 6 - 8  
Come enjoy a great musical and support our talented dancers

### **3 Ws in 2026**

As the new season begins, I remind all to continue the 3 Ws – Wear a mask if needed, watch our distance and wash hands regularly. This pandemic is far from over, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. I am grateful to you, our MSSOD families for your confidence in me.

### **Studio Cancellations**

MSSOD classes are cancelled due to inclement weather only when Greece Central closes for the day or for after school activities. Closings will be announced on the studio Facebook page and website.

You are welcome to make up any cancelled classes.

### **Shoe Removal**

Teachers, dancers and parents **MUST REMOVE** all shoes or boots worn outside before entering the dance floor area. Wetness, salt and dirt on the dance floor make it DANGEROUSLY slippery for dancers. Many classes travel the entire dance area so please be considerate of all.

### **REMINDERS**

**Tuition** – Please be sure you are up to date with your monthly payments. To avoid confusion regarding payments, please indicate what you are paying for; such as tuition, costumes or apparel

**Pajama Week** – January 20-25  
Wear your PJs to class. Be sure they are danceable

**Dance Attire** – Please be sure all dancers are adhering to the class attire for each class – hair back, limited jewelry & no baggy clothes

**Lost and Found** – We no longer have a Lost and Found, Please remind your dancer to keep everything in their dance bag.