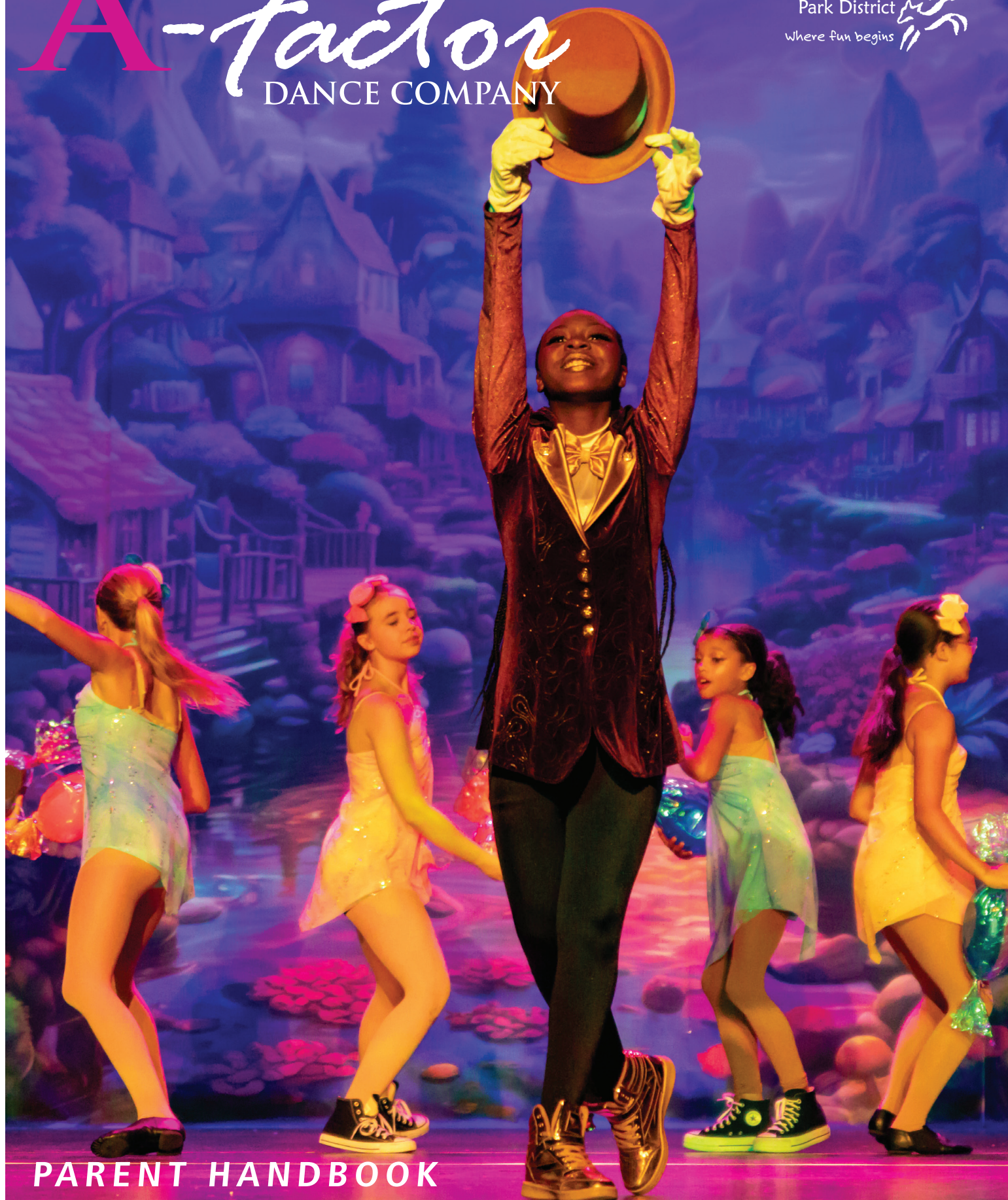


A-*Factor*

DANCE COMPANY

Fox Valley
Park District 
Where fun begins



PARENT HANDBOOK
2024-2025 SEASON

DANCE. DREAM.

DANCER EXPECTATIONS

- Respect the instructors, director and peers.
- Rehearse and memorize the choreography throughout the season.
- Arrive on-time for all classes, performances, competitions and events.
- Have fun and enjoy dancing while working productively.
- Have a positive and encouraging attitude toward fellow dancers.
- Realize the importance of resolving issues in a friendly manner; understanding that bullying will not be tolerated.
- Take and apply direction and corrections at all times.
- Put all wireless devices away during class and rehearsal time.
- Attend all required technique classes.
- Take care of all costume pieces, props and dancewear, bringing to the studio when necessary.
- Meet proper attire and appearance standards at all rehearsals.
- Represent A-Factor Dance Company and Steppin' Out Dance Studio in a positive and appropriate manner.
- Represent A-Factor Dance Company in a positive manner on all social media sites. No one can create pages or post comments on behalf of A-Factor Dance Company. No one can use the A-Factor Dance Company name, logo or pictures to create images or pages that infringe upon the copyright and rights of the Fox Valley Park District.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Consistently arriving late or being absent from A-Factor Dance Company rehearsals may result in removal from a performance or the company. The director must be notified of any absences at least one month in advance. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the company. Any illness-related absences must be communicated at least one hour before a rehearsal begins.

REQUIRED TECHNIQUE CLASSES

Dancers are required to take the company ballet and jazz classes throughout the season. If a dancer misses a required technique class, the dancer will be expected to attend another class of the same style to make up for the absence. Approval from the director is required before attending a make-up class.

INJURIES

Dancers are required to notify the director and instructor(s) immediately when an injury occurs during class or rehearsals. If an injury has occurred, the director and instructors reserve the right to remove the dancer from the piece. Safety is our number one concern, and all aspects of the situation will be taken into consideration. Injured dancers may be asked to observe and take notes during rehearsals. Injured dancers must provide a doctor's note of clearance to begin participating in class and rehearsals again.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Dancers are encouraged to participate in additional activities and school programs. Please be sure they do not conflict with A-Factor rehearsals, classes or performances.

COMMUNICATIONS

The BAND app will be used for all communications. Please check this app for updated information and messages throughout the season. You may use this app to communicate with other parents, instructors and the director.

Emails may be sent throughout the season with important information. Please check your email regularly.

All internal decisions and communications must be kept internal. Do not communicate any A-Factor Dance Company details with other dance studios or individuals outside of the program.

COMPETE. EXCEL.

PLACEMENT & CASTING

Dancers will be placed in the appropriate level based on their audition. Placement is final for the season. Casting decisions are based on who dances well together. The number of pieces a dancer is selected to perform in is based on their placement in the company. Petites/Minis will perform 1-2 pieces; level one will perform 2-3 pieces; level two will perform 3-4 pieces.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Dancers must attend all technical rehearsals and dress rehearsals in order to perform. Schedules will be sent out at least one month in advance of the performance. Rehearsal times and dates are subject to change. Monday rehearsals are required as scheduled. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled upon approaching performance dates.

PERFORMANCES

The A-Factor Showcase, Spring Recital, and community outreach performances are required for all A-Factor dancers. Additional performance opportunities will be scheduled. Please see tentative performance date calendar.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraisers will be held throughout the season to assist with convention and competition fees. All fundraisers will go through the dance company, and all funds raised will be kept by the dance company. Fundraisers will also be used to raise funds for costumes and various A-Factor items. If your dancer chooses to drop the program or an event is canceled, fundraised credits will not be refunded and will be absorbed by the program.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Choreography is an artistic expression and is never meant to upset a dancer and/or a parent. If you have any concerns regarding choreography, please contact the Artistic Director. All casting decisions made by the director or choreographers are final. Dancers should always show respect for staff and choreography by dancing full out.

COSTUMES

Dancers are responsible for all costume pieces loaned to them during the season. Take care of all costume pieces, and return costumes as instructed on the return date. If a costume is damaged or not returned, the dancer will be charged the cost to replace the item(s).

REQUIRED DANCEWEAR

- **Company Jacket:** worn to all competitions and conventions
www.teamstore.gtmsportswear.com/AFACTOR
- **Practices:**
 - Ballet - leo with skin tone tights
 - Jazz - leo or tank with fitted shorts or leggings with skin tone tights.
- **Performances:** nude leotard with clear straps that match the dancers complexion.
- **Tights** (females only): Convertible tights that match dancers complexion
- **Shoes**
 - Tan Jazz and Black Jazz
 - Black Tap (only purchase if cast in a tap piece): Any brand, lace-up
 - Ballet shoes (matching skin complexion of dancer)

Fox Valley Dance Academy has a limited stock of nude leotards and convertible tights for sale. Contact Annette at anocsek@fvdpd.net for stock availability.

MORE ON BACK

PERFORM. GROW.

REQUIRED HAIR PRODUCTS

- **Hair pins:** any brand, match hair color
- **Hair ties:** any brand, match hair color
- **Hair spray:** any brand
- **Donut Bun Maker:** any brand, match hair color
- **Hair net:** any brand, match hair color, thin material

REQUIRED MAKEUP PRODUCTS

- **Foundation:** any brand, match skin color.
- **Blush:** any brand, pink
- **Eyeshadow:** any brand, brown
- **Eyebrow brush:** waterproof, any brand, match hair color
- **Eyeliner:** any brand, black
- **False eyelashes:** any brand, black
- **Eyelash glue:** any brand, black
- **Mascara:** waterproof, any brand, black
- **Lipstick:** any brand, light red
- **Setting powder:** any brand, match skin color

2024-25 CALENDAR DATES

Monday, August 19	A-Factor Auditions	6-8 p.m.
Monday, September 9	Parent Meeting – Room 102	6 p.m.
Saturday, September 14	Nutcracker Auditions	2-4 p.m.
Monday, September 16	Photo shoot – Downtown Aurora	6 p.m.
Saturday, November 23	Early Childhood Fall Showcases	4 & 6 p.m.
Saturday, December 7	Sugar Plum Fairy Tea <i>*A-Factor fundraiser</i>	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
December 9-12	Nutcracker Tech Rehearsals	6-8:45 p.m.
Friday, December 13	Nutcracker Performance	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 14	Nutcracker Performance	1 p.m.
Monday, December 16	Team Holiday Party	5:30 p.m.
December 23 & 30	No Practice - Holiday Break	
Saturday, January 11	Activate Your Artistry Convention	1 p.m.
January 31-February 1	Des Plaines Dance Idol Competition	TBA
Friday, March 7	A-Factor Showcase Tech Rehearsal	6 p.m.
Saturday, March 8	A-Factor Showcase Gala/Dinner	5 p.m.
Saturday, March 22	Early Childhood Spring Showcase	4 & 6 p.m.
March 28-30	Turn It Up Dance Competition Midwest Convention Center, North Lake	TBA
March 31	No practice - Spring break	
April 11-13	Bloom Dance Competition	TBA
May 2-4	Encore Dance Competition Copernicus Theatre, Chicago	TBA
Saturday, May 10	Annual Dance Recital Prisco Community Center	TBA
Monday, May 19	Summer Dance Concert Auditions	5-9 p.m.
Friday, June 6	A-Factor End of Season Banquet	5:30 p.m.

CONTACT

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