

Mecca's Year-At-A-Glance

Please check the Calendar on our website for updates.

<u>Jan 7</u>	Term 2 Begins; Performance Troupe classes resume.
Jan 31	Perf. Troupe Tour (snow Day Feb. 7)
Feb. 16 <u>OR</u> 17	Performance Troupe - Bdn Festival of the Arts *Please be aware that there has been a shift in the BFA schedule, and we may be performing on SUNDAY the 16th instead of Monday the 17th as we have previous years.
March 9-15	No Regular Classes: Come Support your Teachers & Assistants in our production of Monty Python's Spamalot at the WMCA from March 12-14th
March 24	Rehearsals for Term 2 Final Concert - On Broadway
March 25	Term 2 Concert On Broadway 7:30 WMCA RUSH SEATING Admission: Adults: \$15.00 Students & Seniors: \$10.00 12 and under: \$5.00
April 11	Auditioned Performance Troupe Workshop (New Girls & Synergy)
April 16-18	Our 7th All Kids Musical: FROZEN JR
April 25	Auditioned Performance Troupe Workshop (New Girls & Synergy)
April 26	Spring Concert (Featuring APT & Community Chour)
May 7-10	APT - Canadian National Dance Competition (CNDC) - Winnipeg. *please stay posted for specific dates & times
May TBA	Mini-Musical : How Does Your Garden Grow (pre-K - Gr 2)
TBA	Spring High School Drama Production
TBA	Shakespeare in the Woods

Thank you for making Mecca Productions part of your family's schedule this Spring! Our goal is to make your involvement as rewarding for you as it is for us! We LOVE musical theatre, singing and performing and we love to share that joy with our students! Our teaching team are ALL experienced performers who know how involvement in the arts enriches life. Many of our teachers are 'teachers by day' who work after school sharing their skills and knowledge as they help people of all ages discover talent and GROW!

We are SO excited to welcome you to our new home, the **Mecca Productions Performing and Theatre Arts Centre - 110 6th Street!** Our Summer was filled with renovations and we are SO happy with how things have come together (and grateful for all the help!) We can't wait to continue to fill our new space with singing, dancing, laughter and music this year and for years to come! We have a wonderful year planned – and not just for kids! Consider joining our community choir for adults or the cast of Spamalot!

Our new home features 3 bright teaching spaces: the multipurpose room on the main floor, the classroom/voice studio on the second floor and our beautiful, large studio also on the second floor. You are most welcome to stay during your child's class in our large lobby/waiting room on the main floor.

There is also a parent waiting room/student lounge on the second floor. Washrooms are located on the main floor and second floor.

Enter for your class via the north door on 6th Street. There is ample parking along 6th Street. There are also various parking lots in the area empty after 4:30 each day. If the door is locked (and it will be after 7:30 every evening), please ring the bell.

To keep our brand-new studio floors clean, please remove any outdoor footwear upon entering the lobby - we have many shoe racks waiting to hold your outdoor shoes for you. Dance bags and backpacks can be carried into the studio and stored in the provided cubbies.

What to Wear/Bring: EVERY student should bring a pair of indoor shoes (Performance Troupe members should wear their jazz shoes/dance shoes). No outdoor shoes in the classrooms/studio. Dress for comfort and/or movement, depending on your class. Please bring and use a labeled water bottle.

What to expect: Every class focuses on building confidence, friendships and skills; our instruction is planned accordingly. We work hard to make learning fun! The start of each term includes

getting-to-know-you activities and games, singing (or acting) warm ups, skill builders, movement games, and team building activities. Specific activities vary depending on the class or instructor.

Drama students do not learn a number to perform at the concerts. They explore scripts and monologues each class. Parents are invited to attend the last regular class to see the class's work.

Lost & Found: Items left behind will be placed in the Lost & Found in the main floor lobby: Jackets & sweaters will be hung up on the coat rack & boots/shoes will be put on the shelving unit in the entrance to upstairs. We will bring items to the dress rehearsals for each final concert after which we will donate them to the Nearly New.

Term-End Concerts: Everyone in our programs (except drama students) participate in our term-end concerts. These concerts are celebrations of the arts and feature a multi-generational choir. Attendance at the rehearsals for the concerts is mandatory. Rehearsals will be scheduled by class and posted to the calendar as soon as the times are finalized - Please make sure to check our calendar on the website for any updates! Parking for rehearsals is available in Lot 5 (north west corner of Princess Ave). DO NOT park along the WMCA or at the meters. Enter with your child via the front doors. Teachers and assistants will be waiting for them inside the auditorium. Students in our Combo and Show Choir classes will sit in the front three rows of the auditorium for both rehearsal and the concert Parents can pick them up from their seats at the end of the concert. Parents are MOST welcome to stay during rehearsal for the concert. Please do not send food during the concert or rehearsals as food is not allowed in the seats of the auditorium.

What to wear to the Concerts: Show Choir & Musical Theatre classes please wear a solid-coloured, short or long-sleeved shirt with NO print and black (or dark) bottoms to each concert. Performance Troupe classes will have specific costume requirements posted on the FB page.

(We ask at least one parent from each Girls Aloud class and the Boys Only class to volunteer to chaperone the group backstage during the concert. You can sneak out front to watch them perform OR watch from the wings. If you are interested, let Miss Lisa know.)

Admission prices for the concerts are listed in the Calendar. We will sell advance tickets at dress rehearsal. Both concerts are RUSH SEATING.

Staying Informed: While we have included a Year-At-A-Glance Overview calendar with this newsletter, the BEST place to access information about what's happening is our website's **Calendar**. On that page you will find the Mecca Productions' Google Calendar. ALL our concerts and events are posted there. Sync it to your phone to stay up to date. We post times for concerts, rehearsals, auditions and shows directly on to the calendar. We will also update our slideshow that plays on the lobby TV frequently.

Class times are NOT posted on the calendar and to avoid confusion, the Performance Troupe program has its own google calendar accessed through the password-protected Performance Troupe page as those classes involve performances and events that are extra. It's important to know what TYPE of class you have selected for you child (identified below and colour-coded on the YAG), as requirements and expectations are different, depending on the program.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please contact us. At anytime, you can email us at meccabdn@gmail.com and we will get back to you as soon as we can. If it's an emergency, text Miss Lisa at 204-573-7521.

We work hard to continually improve what we do. Our programs have changed a LOT over the past five years, and much of that growth is due to parent and student feedback. **If your love our programs, please let your family and friends know. If not, please let us know.**

Looking forward to a terrific year ahead!

Miss Lisa, Miss Tiana & the Mecca Staff