



**The Academy of Performing Arts**  
**P.O. Box 1506**  
**Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**  
**906-253-2180**

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August 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

A warm welcome is extended to all our students for our 2020-2021 season! We are looking forward to an exciting new year! We are still adjusting to all of the changes that came along with the COVID-19 pandemic and are very appreciative of the continued patience and understanding that you all have allowed us as we began to navigate through those changes, beginning last spring 2020.

The location of our studios at Chi Mukwa (Big Bear) provides us with two spacious studios with mirrors and ballet bars, locker and changing rooms, convenient parking, a receptionist on duty all day until 9:00 P.M. and large waiting areas with a concession booth for our families. However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there are a few adjustments that needed to be made, and one of them is the location of our Studio. Temporarily **ALL** of our dance classes have been shifted to accommodate the requirements provided to us by the Administration and Governing Board of the Big Bear Area and Recreational Center. **ALL** students will be shifted to the **Volleyball Court** where **ALL** students will be **required** to be checked for symptoms and will be **required** to wear a mask and remain in spaces designated by their instructor throughout the duration of their class(es). **IMPORTANT:** Parents will **NOT** be allowed to enter into the Big Bear Arena and Recreational facility with their child, until further notice. Children are to be dropped off in the front entrance and with our designated Classroom Aide and/or Instructor. Children will also be released to their vehicles at the end of class and by their Classroom Aide and/or Instructor. Other changes that have been made to our normal routine, such as hand washing, etc. will be provided in document form to each family during the first week of class.

With so many changes upon us, we want to make the transitions as easy on you, as possible. So, what we would like to do is host our Registration virtually this year. The link to register will be posted to our 'Academy Facebook Page' and will also be e-mailed to those that have a valid e-mail on file and you may also be emailed upon request.

You may also pre-register, as we have in the past, by mail, by sending the enclosed registration card with registration fee and tuition to P.O. Box 1506, Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783. Please make checks or money orders payable to the Academy of Performing Arts. For additional information or to place your child on a class list, please contact Miss Luanna at (906) 253-2180. Credit cards are also accepted. We are also preparing a complete virtual experience for our members this year which will include having access to parent and student portals, group messaging, up-to-date statement review and payment options, etc., all for your convenience.

Second Skin Shop from Marquette, Michigan will be **NOT** be on hand with us this year. You may view products by way of their website [www.secondskinshop.com](http://www.secondskinshop.com) or you may contact them directly at 906-226-2263. They have many quality products that are reasonably priced and shipping has always been very quick! Please review the dancewear policies on our dance etiquette form, prior to making any purchases.

Our year end production will again take place at the **DREAM MAKERS THEATER, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Plans are underway to present: **'A Performance Celebrating 20 Years'**. Our **2020-2021 Faculty Includes:** Luanna Luxton Armstrong, Erika Laitinen-Odbert, Kayla Price, and we welcome Tina Pountney back to the Academy as our new tap instructor. For all of your billing questions, please contact Christin McKerchie at 906-440-9397.

We look forward to an exciting new year and most of all we look forward to seeing you in September!

Sincerely,

Luanna Luxton Armstrong, B.A.T.D.  
Director

**\*PLEASE NOTE: Due to rapid changes in information and rapid changes with planned events, ALL official updates will be posted to our 'Academy Facebook' page on a continual basis and as changes come in.**