

We have been hard at work seeking medical advice from professionals at OSU's Wexner Medical Center, the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on a transition phase to bring our students and parents back into our building so our programs can resume.



What NABC has done to insure the building is as safe and clean as possible:

We have installed the new Comfortrol hospital grade air filter system

We are increasing the air filter efficiency of our five Carrier packaged heating and cooling units. The current air filters have a minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV) of 10. This rating ensures that particle sizes from 1.0 to 3.0 pm such as dust are contained 50 to 55%. The new filters will be rated for MERV13. This means your dust spot efficiency will increase to 89-90%. The typical controlled contaminant captured by a MERV 13 filter is droplet nuclei (sneeze particles). This type of filter can be found in use at hospital laboratories.

We are contracting with Clean Air Services, a professional Ozone Disinfectant Company, to provide an even higher level of cleaning to our building.

Ozone dispersion is a broad brush method of treating large open spaces for the purpose of

disinfecting walls, ceilings, and floors as well as items contained within the studio space. Ozone is the disinfectant used in the process. Ozone is a member of the Oxygen family and is denoted as O3, oxygen that we breathe is denoted as

Oxygen family and is denoted as O3, oxygen that we breathe is denoted as O2. The difference is a single oxygen molecule. That single molecule is an important element of the disinfection process. Ozone is an unbalanced molecule with a very short lifespan typically 15-30 minutes. Due to the imbalance, the three bound molecules will vibrate against each other until the heat of friction causes one of the molecules to be ejected; this is called a free radical. These free radicals travel at a high rate of speed and impact hard and soft surfaces. When they impact soft bodied organisms (virus, bacteria, and mold spores) they actually put holes in the organism,

killing or damaging the DNA of the organism. Either way the organism is no longer a threat. The use of ozone is very similar to the disinfection process employed by a local company to disinfect face masks for reuse in medical facilities. Both processes use powerful oxidizers (ozone and hydrogen peroxide) to disinfect unoccupied spaces and all items contained in those spaces.

In the case of the New Albany Ballet Company, students and teachers are continuously touching ballet bars, leaning against windows, and touching dance props and other items found in the studios. Ozone can get into places that cleaning crews can't and therefore a higher level of cleanliness and safety can be achieved. Additionally, the buildings health will be tracked through the use of swab testing after each treatment. All treatments are performed during unoccupied hours. Each studio that is treated will be left with a clean fresh smell.

We are increasing our contract with our current professional cleaning crew

Increasing the cleaning crew to clean daily. This includes both our professional cleaning company as well as our office/boutique staff which will be cleaning the restrooms and common areas between all classes.

Preparing our studio for Social Distancing Standards

- 1. Removing our beanbags. Only keeping the necessary chairs along the hall and lobby for our children's division parents to use while keeping the 6 feet distance.
- 2. Studios will all be properly marked off for 6-8 feet social distance between students both at barre and center.

Providing Hand Santizer and Disinfectant Wipes in all six studios as well as entrances

Changes to our Children's Division Classes and Camps

- 1. Children's division classes will only use props that can be safely disinfected between classes by faculty.
- 2. Cute decorated presentation boards will be used throughout circle, across the floor, and center to provide a barrier between students that is safe and allows the child to still completely see the teacher and their peers. These barriers will also help to continue the social distancing that is necessary.
- 3. Weather permitting all craft time during our summer camps will be held outside along our sidewalk to allow for fresh air and social distancing.
- 4. Parents will be notified of which of our four entrances/exits your class/camp should use allowing us to stagger our class times and spread out parents/students coming in and out of our building.
- 5. Parents will be asked to walk each child into their assigned exterior door, take child to wash hands, then disinfect hands, and drop off to the child's teacher at the classroom door. Parents are asked to seek the professional medical advice from the child's pediatrician on whether a child should wear a mask during physical activity and for that child's age. We will support each parent's decision on this matter. Children will be socially distanced throughout classes so the necessity to wear masks is optional.

Changes to our General, Progressive, and Pre Professional Division Classes

- 1. Temperature checks along with well child check lists will take place for these students prior to them entering the building. Please refer to class emails.
- 2. Parents of these students will be asked to drop off and either pick up after class or wait in our parking lot for the child to exit the building. Our secure drop off/pick up line will be used for all of our Ballet I/II, Ballet 1A and Ballet 2A students where the teacher will meet the students at their cars in the pick up line. Please refer to class emails for directions.
- 3. Students will be asked to wear masks both in the common areas and the classroom at this time. This policy will be evaluated continually based on the covid-19 situation.
- 4. Prior to entering the classroom students will be instructed to go thoroughly wash hands, then disinfect hands, and find assigned spots to sit and stretch. Students will not be permitted to huddle together as they once have but will be expected to continue to stay 6 feet apart at all times while entering and exiting the classroom.
- 5. Classes will be conducted as usual given dance training has always allowed for six to eight feet distancing! Luckily dancers stay apart from each other by habit to avoid getting kicked or an arm hitting them so we are very lucky in that aspect. Dance is not a contact sport at all. Dance is an individualized activity that can be successfully done in these required distancing measures. Combinations going across the floor will be done to continue to stress the social distancing. Center work will be broken down in groups so students may train with even more room to move.
- 6. After barre and prior to exiting the classroom faculty along with older students will thoroughly wipe down all barres with disinfecting wipes.
- 7. Schedule changes may be announced for these levels allowing for staggered start and end times, splitting up levels that do not meet the 50% capacity recommendations, eliminating any lunch breaks and longer breaks between classes, and allowing for even greater social distancing opportunities. Our building is large and luckily our summer schedule allows for more daytime training.

