



*At Front Street Dance, we believe that participation in dance (not unlike other performing arts) helps to promote healthy exercise, strong developmental growth, improved focus, and increased resilience in kids.*

*We also firmly believe that children who have exposure to dance gain more of the self-worth, self-confidence, and self-acceptance that is so imperative for children and adolescents to grow up feeling grounded and being successful in their everyday lives.*



May 1, 2021

Despite the overwhelming unpredictability of the past year, Front Street Dance has worked tirelessly to continue adhering to CDC guidelines while still **providing our students with a familiar, engaging, and safe environment, one in which they can focus on developing skills and techniques to become better dancers - and overall, better young people - despite so many of our current uncertainties.**

Even now, we are working toward bringing another small slice of “normalcy” to the lives of our dancers and their families as we prepare for our **Annual Recital and Online/Silent Auction, to be held on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the beautiful and historic Arcada Theatre in St. Charles, IL.** Of course, with social distancing requirements and limited capacity restrictions still in place, this year’s recital will likely look far different than those in the past. Our audience will likely be much smaller, our dancers will likely be wearing face masks that match their costumes, and some items for our Annual Silent Auction will be shifted to take place online.

But even though so many things will be so different, one thing is certain: **We need your help.**

As a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, Front Street Dance relies heavily on grants, donations, and corporate support to fund operating expenses and scholarship programs so that all children, ages 2-18, can discover the benefits of dance, regardless of physical ability or family financial situation.

**Would you be willing to make a donation to Front Street Dance?**

- Donate a gift card or unique Gift Basket to be included in year’s Online/Silent Auction
- Make a one-time or recurring donation to our Scholarship Fund
- Place an ad in this year’s Commemorative Recital Program

Donating or placing an ad is easy - simply visit our website at [www.FrontStreetDance.com](http://www.FrontStreetDance.com) or complete and mail back the enclosed donation or ad submission form in the envelope provided.

Now, more than ever, we are so incredibly grateful for all of the businesses and individuals that have funded, celebrated, and advocated for Front Street Dance through the years. While clearly all of us are still facing great challenges at this time, we hope that you can find some joy in knowing that you will be helping a child gain the skills necessary to better navigate an uncertain world because of your generosity.

If you have any questions about donating, please do not hesitate to contact me directly either via email at [fsd.donations@gmail.com](mailto:fsd.donations@gmail.com) or by cell at 630-909-9152.

Best,

*Stacey J. Anderson*

Stacey J. Anderson  
 Front Street Dance Fundraising Chair

P.S. Please keep in mind that all donations made to Front Street Dance are tax-deductible - and even if you can’t make a donation at this time, you are still welcome to support our dancers by placing a cost-effective ad in this year’s Commemorative Recital Program!



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Whether you are making a donation to our Silent/Online Auction or would prefer making a monetary donation to our Scholarship fund, we'd like to offer you our heartfelt gratitude. All donors will be recognized for the full value of their donation in our 2021 Commemorative Recital Brochure and on the Front Street Dance website. In addition, all donors who donate \$50 or more in auction items or monetary funds will be eligible to have an ad placed in our Recital Brochure and featured on our Social Media Platforms AT NO CHARGE!

	FSD FRIEND	FSD ACTIVIST	FSD ADVOCATE	FSD CHAMPION	FSD HERO
<i>DONATION AMOUNT:</i>	<i>up to \$49</i>	<i>\$50+</i>	<i>\$150+</i>	<i>\$250+</i>	<i>\$500+</i>
Donor Name/Logo Recognized in Commemorative Recital Brochure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Donor Name/Logo Recognized on Front Street Dance Website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Donor Name/Logo Recognized on Front Street Dance Social Media Platforms	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recital Brochure Ad Featured on Front Street Dance Social Media Platforms		✓	✓	✓	✓
1/4-Page Ad Placed in 2021 Commemorative Recital Brochure FREE		✓			
1/3-Page Ad Placed in 2021 Commemorative Recital Brochure FREE			✓		
1/2-Page Ad Placed in 2021 Commemorative Recital Brochure FREE				✓	
Full-Page Ad Placed in 2021 Commemorative Recital Brochure FREE					✓

## *P.S. Can I share a quick personal story with you?*

As a parent, I know you can't really throw a rock around without hitting a dance studio (or three). **So what makes Front Street Dance so different from any other dance studio in or around Wheaton?**

I grew up as a Theatre Kid and have always felt that involvement in the arts has been an integral part of my life, helping me to grow into the adult that I have become. So when my daughter was in preschool and started showing an interest in dance, I dutifully started looking around in my area for a good fit for her.

I honestly struggled to find the "right" dance studio. The studio I was looking for would be one that openly focused on using age-appropriate costumes and music. The studio I was looking for would be known for challenging their dancers to strive for growth long before they were asked to attempt to attain perfection. The studio I was looking for would encourage all their dancers to develop a love for the arts and a love for themselves, regardless of whether or not they looked like a "dancer."

**It turns out the studio I was looking for was totally and completely Front Street Dance.**

My daughter started dancing at Front Street Dance in 2015. She's really found a love for ballet, and I'm constantly in awe of the grace and confidence with which she carries herself as a result of considering herself a "dancer." Now 8, she has already begun developing more strength, flexibility, and focus than I EVER developed as a child. My son (who is currently an awkward, gawky 10-year-old who loves to "crazy dance" but often has no idea where his body is in space), started taking Boys' Hip Hop at Front Street Dance when he was 6. Although "dancer" has never really been on my son's short list for what he wants to be when he grows up, I'm so incredibly thankful that his experiences in dance classes have helped him to become so much more self-aware and so much less insecure in his pre-teen-awkwardness.

I've really come to believe that even though we live in a world where dance studios are a easily "dime-a-dozen," **Front Street Dance is more of a "one-in-a-million."** Of course, I'm impressed with how much my kids have learned and grown during their years as "dance kids." I'm even more impressed that because **Front Street Dance is a 501c3 non-profit, they operate with a focus on making sure that ALL kids have the opportunity to learn and grow from dance and the arts, just like my children have been able to, regardless of their backgrounds, abilities, or family financial situations.** I love knowing that due to the kindness and generosity of others, Front Street Dance can offer Scholarship funds to students who would otherwise completely miss out on the incredible experience my kids have had.

On behalf of all of the kids at Front Street Dance, especially those who rely on the Scholarship Program and the proceeds of our Annual Online/Silent Auction and other fundraising efforts, thank you so much for your support and for helping to make the world a more wonderful place to be, one kid at a time!

*-Stacey*



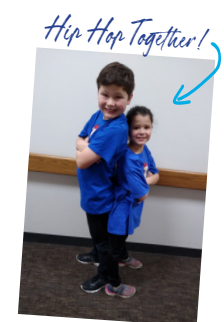
*My First Dancer in 2015...*



*... and in 2019...*



*My Son LOVED Boys Hip Hop!*



*Hip Hop Together!*