



IN STEP

studio news from maranatha



New Season of "More Than Just Great Dancing!" begins Aug. 17

We are so excited to begin our **2026–27 Season** of *More Than Just Great Dancing!* Thank you for taking the time to read the following updates so we can make this year wonderful together. Whether your family is brand new to dance, just new to our studio, or has been part of Maranatha for over a decade, we say, "**Welcome Home.**" You have made a fantastic choice to help your child grow not only in dance skills, but also in life skills.

-Mr. Andrew & Ms. Amy, Studio Directors

Contact Us

239.772.3309 | info@maranathadance.com

See SEASON, page 2



Discipleship Corner

"The Great Adventure"

Welcome to a brand-new year of learning and growing together! This season, our ministry theme is "**The Great Adventure,**" inspired by Joshua 1:9: "The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." From steep mountain highs to quiet valley lows, we are setting out on a journey to discover how God equips, guides, and stays near us every step of the way. We are so excited to partner with your family for this adventure and look forward to watching our kids grow in faith all year long!

See DISCIPLESHIP, page 4

Season *(Continued from page 1)*

Arrival

Arrive early (but not too early!), 4–5 minutes before your class is ideal. This gives the previous class time to clear the space and allows parking spots to open. During the first week, the parking lot and lobby will be bustling with excited new faces. Give yourself a little extra time so your child can settle in and feel comfortable for their first class experience.

Parking & Doors

We have parking available in front and behind our building. Studios 1, 2, & 3: Enter through the front lobby doors on the side of the building facing the hospital. Studio 4 & Music Classes: Enter through the rear of the building, two doors down from Jimmy John's. The rear door of the main lobby is exit-only and will remain locked from the outside.

Contact

We are here to serve you! Voicemail and email are monitored Monday–Thursday. We encourage our team to unplug on weekends so they can recharge and give their best to your kids the following week. To allow our teachers to reset for their next class, please direct any questions to the front office. Thank you for understanding! We look forward to an amazing season! 239.772.3309 | info@maranathadance.com

Preschool Ballet Students Dance Barefoot in Class

Early childhood development specialist Rae Pica shares in her article “Being Barefoot Boosts Brain Development” that “the feet are the most nerve-rich parts of the human body, which means they contribute to the building of neurological pathways in the brain.” Going barefoot can also help accommodate sensory sensitivities and reduce distractions (such as untied shoelaces) allowing our youngest dancers to stay focused and engaged. This is why we do not require ballet shoes for our PreK classes. Instead, we maximize our time together dancing, learning, and growing! Ballet shoe requirements begin with our Ballet Kids (K–1st grade) classes.

--Ms. Alicia, Children's Program Director



Studio Calendar

Aug. 15 - Open House

Aug. 17 - Fall Classes Begin

Sept. 7 - Labor Day - Studio Open

Sept. 28 - Oct. 2 - Intersessional Break*

Nov. 5 - Costume Fees Charged

Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day - Studio Open

Nov. 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break*

Dec. 21 - Jan. 1 - Christmas Break*

Jan. 18 - MLK Jr. Day - Studio Open

Feb. 15 - President's Day - Studio Open

Feb. 25 - Recital Fee Charged

March 22-26 - Spring Break*

March 29 - Easter Monday - Studio Open

April 29 - 2027 Membership Renewed

May - Recitals (dates TBD)

*Studio Closed, No Classes



Preschool & Children's Dance Program

MS. ALICIA

We're excited to continue incorporating the research-based conceptual dance approach developed by Andrea Trench of Discover Dance into our Children's Program!

Throughout the dance season, students will explore a different movement concept each month, building a strong foundation as they revisit familiar ideas and discover new ones. This month, dancers will focus on the concept of **Place** as they develop an understanding of spatial awareness. Through age-appropriate activities, they'll learn the difference between moving within their own personal space and traveling through the room in general space, all while applying these skills to their specific dance style.



Calling All Theater Lovers!

Elementary, middle, and high school students, come step into the spotlight! Our **Theater Production Class** builds essential skills in acting, dancing, singing, and theatrical production, all leading to fully staged, end-of-season performances of **Annie Jr.**

Registration is open for students in 2nd through 12th grades. Auditions for 6th through 12th grade roles will take place Saturday, Aug. 15.

Classes start Aug. 19 and meet weekly on Wednesdays. **For more information, visit maranathadance.com/theater**

A New Season of Music Awaits

Our exciting new music season is perfect for young musicians at every stage.

- **Little Mozarts** – Ages 4–6
- **Beginner Piano** – Grades K–5
- **Private Piano Lessons** – Available Monday through Thursday

All classes include the music book your child will need to get started.

Learn more and register at maranathadance.com



Leveled & Teen Dance Program

MS. AMY

Auditions for Momentum Company, MCrew, MCrew JV Coming Aug. 28

Momentum Company is an auditioned group of Maranatha's most dedicated dancers, committed to advancing their training and expanding their performance opportunities. Members not only grow as artists but also build lasting friendships, serve the community, and deepen their relationship with Christ. Auditions for **Momentum** are open to all dancers in our leveled program, and **MCREW** (9th-12th grade) and **MCREW JV** (5th-8th grade) are open to all dancers in our hip hop program!

Throughout the year, company dancers work on choreography pieces and are expected to lead by example, both in and out of the studio. Technique classes and rehearsals focus on achieving excellence in dance as well as in personal character.

For more information about Audition Workshops, Auditions, Choreography Workshops, and other requirements, please visit maranathadance.com/momentum



Discipleship *(continued from page 1)*

August: Backpack

Theme: God gives us what we need

Big Truth: We never travel alone—God helps carry what we need.

Just like we pack a backpack with everything required for a big trip, God equips our kids with strength, courage, good friends, and His Word for everyday life! This month, we're learning that God provides exactly what we need to handle whatever comes our way.

Key Phrase: "God helps me carry what I need!"

Memory Verse: "My God will meet all your needs." —
Philippians 4:19a

Themed Fun Weeks begin in September

Get ready for even more fun this year! Each month, we'll celebrate with a themed **FUN Week** featuring exciting activities for dancers of all ages across the studio. Our first FUN Week kicks off the week of **Sept. 14** with "**Getting to Know You: Wear Your Favorite Color!**" Dancers are invited to wear an accessory in their favorite color to class as we learn more about each other and build community. *(Please remember: proper dance attire and shoes are still required)*

Step into Class with "Sneak Peek Week"

Each month in our Children's Program, we host special **Sneak Peek Weeks**, an exciting chance for families to step into your child's class during the final five minutes and catch a glimpse of the fun and growth happening! Our first Sneak Peek Week will take place the week of **Sept. 21**. During this time, all Children's classes will invite families in to see their dancer "show off" a new skill they've been working on!

Back to Dance Shopping in a Snap

As we gear up for the new dance season next week, don't forget to outfit your dancer according to their class dress code. Most items are available in our Dancewear Boutique, ensuring the proper fit, comfort, and style. Plus, all dancewear, clothing, shoes, and accessories are included in Florida's Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday through Aug. 20!



August Birthdays

Ava Z	Adrianna M
Julia D	Lenora M
Clarisse L	Chloe H
Serah M	Emma R
Tenley H	Kayla S
Amelia D	Sophia M
Brynn B	Olivia M
Chelsea P	Raiza C
Danielle J	Savannah C
Audrey C	Shanell S
Madelyn B	Bella D
Katherine N	Tiana S
Rebecca N	Tatiana S
Ellie S	Carmela C
Isabell J	Amethyst F
Angelina C	Adalynn R
Camille D	Juliette P
Brinley M	

STAFF: Karen M, Aug. 25

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, Aug. 15 | 10 AM to 12 PM

Meet some of our teachers, tour the studio, have questions answered, and shop our dancewear boutique—all in one visit! Plus, take **20% off all Maranatha Logo merchandise** during the event. We can't wait to welcome you!