

The Meaning of Barvinok

Barvinok (Periwinkle) is a flowering plant used for special occasions like the Kupalo Festival, which is a Slavic celebration of ancient pagan origin. This festival marks the end of the summer solstice and the beginning of harvest.

Single girls would wear scented herbs and flowers in their hair to attract males. They divined their fates according to what happened to the garlands which they had sent flowing down the river. They also believed that the plants and herbs could protect them from the evil forces of nature and even cure illness in humans and animals. Priests sanctioned this belief by blessing the herbs in church on the day of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist on June 24.

The Goal of Barvinok

To provide the best possible Ukrainian dance instruction in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment.

Mission Statement of Barvinok

To become a strong influence in the Ukrainian Community.

To educate our youth, by developing a bond between them and their Ukrainian culture from their fellow students, parents and instructors.

To personalize every dance to develop and challenge each dancer's own strengths and endurance.

GENERAL INFORMATION

MEETINGS:

General meetings are very beneficial to all families. They provide you with the opportunity to ask questions, learn of upcoming events and offer suggestions. Watch for email updates for dates and times of the meetings.

NEWSLETTERS:

Newsletters/email notifications are distributed periodically. These will keep you informed of upcoming events and other pertinent information regarding your child's dance school. **It is the parents' responsibility to read the newsletter to keep informed.**

SOCIAL EVENTS

DINNER/DANCE :

Our annual Dinner and Dance will be held on February 4, 2012. Further information will be provided in upcoming newsletters.

PICNIC:

Every year Barvinok holds a year end picnic at Bowness Park at the end of May or beginning of June. This is a great event for dancers of all ages and their families.

YEAR END CONCERT:

The year-end concert will be held on Sunday May 6, 2012. All classes take part in the year-end concert. There will be a dress rehearsal scheduled approximately 2 weeks before the year-end concert outside of regular class time. A technical rehearsal will take place on the day of the performance. Both rehearsals are mandatory for all dancers and dressing room aides to attend.

PHOTO DAY:

Photo day is scheduled for all classes. Competition numbers, individual and sibling groups can have their pictures taken at this time. Please do your best to attend even if you are not purchasing any photos. Picture day is held in February, date TBA.

INSTRUCTORS

Barvinok instructors all have extensive dance training and experience. Each instructor strives to provide your child with a high standard of instruction. Teaching your child technique, developing his/her confidence and enjoyment of dance are their main objectives.

DISCIPLINE:

Discipline within the classroom is determined by each instructor. Unruly behavior and disrespect towards fellow students or instructor(s) will not be tolerated. Should your child display these behaviors, the instructor has the right to ask your child to "sit out" the class. You will be notified of continued disruptive behavior. In extreme situations, you may be asked to withdraw your child from the class.

Siblings or children waiting in the Lobby are to be supervised by an adult at all times. This guideline is for your child's safety as out of respect for the facility and others waiting in the lobby.

SPEAKING TO THE INSTRUCTORS:

Due to back to back classes, the instructors do not have time to discuss concerns or to answer questions. Therefore, we ask that you call the instructor and if necessary arrange an appointment with him/her to discuss any concerns. If you require further assistance or receive an unsatisfactory response, contact Trevor, Barvinok's head instructor before calling a member of the Executive.

EXTRA PRACTICE:

Occasionally an instructor may determine that it is necessary to call an extra practice. Usually this occurs as a result of poor attendance throughout the year; therefore, we ask that you make every effort to bring your child to class. If an extra practice does occur, you will be required to pay towards the rent of the space.

LATE OR ABSENCE DUE TO ILLNESS:

If your child will be late for class or absent due to illness, please notify your instructor or call the Barvinok info line at 403 - 246 - 0658.

Injured or mildly unwell dancers still benefit from attending class and observing.

Please note that after 3 absences your child's participation in any upcoming performances will be at the discretion of the instructor.

COMMITMENT LETTERS:

Commitment Letters regarding attendance for regular Thursday classes, Dinner and Dance, SAUDF and year end events are to be signed by both parent and students. The commitment cheque in the amount of \$150.00 will be cashed if a student misses an event without notifying the instructor prior to set commitment date deadlines. Commitment letters will be discussed in detail at registration.

BARVINOK EXECUTIVE

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email
President	Liza Stelmach	403-208-6169	
Vice President	Kathryn Berko	403-208-4698	berko@telus.net
Secretary	Vacant	-	-
Treasurer	Tammy Nahachewsky	403-251-9056	nahachewsky@shaw.ca
Social Coordinators	Tanya Reykdal	403-293-7401	i.dont.know@shaw.ca
	Rhonda Hummelt	403-288-2796	rhonda5@shaw.ca
Fundraising	Vacant	-	-
Member at Large	Angela Matwe	403-945-0859	matwe@shaw.ca
Costume Director	To Be Determined	-	-
Business Manager/Artistic Director	Trevor Shular	403-281-8617	trevorshular@shaw.ca

Please contact any member of the executive if you have any questions.

BARVINOK INFORMATION LINE 403 - 246 - 0658

BARVINOK WEBSITE www.barvinok.ca

BARVINOK INSTRUCTORS

Name	Phone Number	Email
Trevor Shular	403-281-8617	trevorshular@shaw.ca
Andrea Jasinski	403-815-0432	
Tara Sheppard		

WHAT TO WEAR TO CLASS

NO STREETWEAR !!!

e.g. denim, corduroy, khakis, pants or shorts.

Instructors can ask the student to "sit out" a class if the student is inappropriately attired.

GIRLS:

Tights and body suit, leggings, fleece or lycra shorts, dance or yoga pants.

Hair should be secured in place. Braids, ponytails or "ballet buns" are acceptable.

Loose flying hair is not!

Red ballet slippers. Seniors may wear their red boots or character shoes.

BOYS:

Black tights, sweat pants, dance pants, fleece or lycra shorts.

Black ballet slippers. Seniors may wear their red boots.

Other acceptable footwear for practice includes jazz oxfords, dance sneakers, or postoly.

Remember to get your instructor's approval for practice footwear.

Call Donna Visser @ 403-241 – 0031 for gently used footwear.

Any questions or concerns regarding practice wear are to be discussed with your instructor.

WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CLASS

Large items such as skateboards, soccer balls or any other field or gymnasium type of equipment does not belong in a dance studio. Please ensure that these items are left at home or at least in your vehicle.

Ensure that electronic games, audio equipment, or other valuables are not left unattended. It is best not to bring such items as they may get lost or damaged. Children waiting for their siblings may bring books, crayons, homework or other quiet activities to keep them occupied.

Please do not bring glass water bottles. Glass containers may break and create a safety concern for dancers. Plastic/stainless steel water bottles are the best option for the dancers.

Also, Barvinok is a nut free zone. There are dancers and instructors that are severely allergic to nuts. Please do not bring food or snacks containing nuts. As well, please refrain from bringing pets to dancing due to potential allergies.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES AND FEE STRUCTURE

New Students:

All new students must pay a \$10.00 registration fee.

Returning Students:

No registration fee is needed if a student pre-registers in April. Returning students who wait until September to register must pay the \$10.00 registration fee.

The following ages are used as a guideline for registration purposes. In September, the instructors assess the children and place them in the most appropriate class for their age level, ability and dance experience. Decisions regarding placement, once made, are final.

GENERAL CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

APPROXIMATE AGE	CLASS	DURATION	FEE/MONTH
3 - 4 year old	Pre-beginner	½ hour	\$30
5 – 9 year old	Beginner	1 hour	\$40
9 – 12 year old	Intermediate	1 ¼ hours	\$45
13 & up	Senior 1 & 2	2 ¼ hours	\$55
13 & up	Senior 3 & 4	2 ¾ hours	\$65
Adult	Adult	1 ½ hours	\$250 per year
13 & up	Ensemble	3 hours	\$85

NOTE: For families with 3 or more children enrolled, dance fees will be reduced by one month per child (excluding Adult Class).

4 cheques dated as follows: Sept 1, Nov 1, Jan 1, March 1

2 cheques dated as follows: Sept. 1, Jan 1

1 cheque for the entire year dated: Sept. 1

A service charge of \$25.00 will be charged on NSF cheques. You must clear this with the treasurer before the next class or your child may be asked to sit out until the matter is resolved.

Thirty days written notice (dated the 1st of the month) is required should you wish to withdraw your child from our program. The balance of your tuition will be refunded. There will be no partial month refunds.

BARVINOK SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

A CONDITION FOR ACCEPTANCE FOR MEMBERSHIP INTO THE BARVINOK UKRIANIAN DANCE SCHOOL IS MY AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY THE FOLLOWING POLICY REGARDING USE OF ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL DRUGS.

The Barvinok Ukrainian Dance School (Barvinok) is a drug and alcohol free organization. As such, use or possession of any illegal substance including drug paraphernalia at any Barvinok sponsored activity will result in the following actions being taken, as mandated by the Barvinok Executive:

First Time Violation

1. Parents or legal guardians of violators shall be immediately informed
2. Immediate suspension of no less than two weeks.
3. Immediate removal from the activity where violation of the Substance Abuse Policy occurred.

In addition, the Barvinok President in consultation with at least two members of the Barvinok Executive shall have the discretion to use his/her professional judgement in taking other appropriate steps to address issues raised by violators of this policy, and to avoid future violations.

Second Time Violation

IMMEDIATE EXPULSION FROM THE BARVINOK ORGANIZATION

The Barvinok Executive is authorized to review decisions of the President regarding enforcement of the Substance Abuse Policy. The standard of review shall be limited to whether the President has abused his/her discretion.

PARENT VIEWING

No one will be permitted to view classes on any night.

Special circumstances are at the discretion of the instructor.

COSTUME RENTAL

Barvinok owns an extensive collection of regional costumes available for our students use. The rental fee as outlined in the registration form goes towards the updating/maintenance of costumes, storage space and insurance.

It is the responsibility of the person to whom the costume is signed out to, to return it on time and in good order. Should your costume be returned in an unsatisfactory condition, your deposit cheque will be cashed to cover the costs of repair and cleaning.

Dancers will be invoiced for the replacement cost of costume pieces if they are not returned by the designated date or are damaged.

More information regarding rental, costume sharing and care, will be made available to you throughout the year.

OUR COSTUME COLLECTION

Through our fundraising efforts we have been fortunate to get some of our collection from Ukraine.

Following are the regions we currently have class sets of in our inventory.

Central:

Pre-beginner, Beginner, Intermediate and Senior level girl blouses, skirts, poyas and headpieces.

Pre-beginner, Beginner, Intermediate and Senior level boy shirts, pants, hats and sashes.

Intermediate level girls circle skirts.

Senior level "Hopak" for girls, red pants for boys.

Adult "Hopak" for men and women.

Hutsul:

Beginner, Intermediate and Senior level girl & boy sets.

Transcarpathian:

Beginner, Intermediate and Senior level girl & boy sets.

Bukovina:

Intermediate and Senior level girl & boy sets.

Polissia:

Senior level girl & boy sets.

Volyn:

Intermediate and Senior level girl and boy sets

Lyrical:

Senior level girl & boy sets.

Podillia:

Senior level girl and boy sets

Pokuttia:

Senior level girl and boy sets

Adult level men and ladies

FESTIVALS

SOUTHERN ALBERTA UKRAINIAN DANCE FESTIVAL (SAUDF)

March 17 & 18, 2011

The Southern Alberta Ukrainian Dance Festival started in 1997 becoming the first Ukrainian dance festival south of Edmonton. It has become our largest event to date, attracting many schools from across the province.

Because it is a big part of Barvinok, all classes except pre-beginners are required to take part. . Solos, duets and small groups are optional choices. More information will be provided closer to the date.

CHEREMOSH UKRAINIAN DANCE FESTIVAL

This annual festival takes place in May, Mother's Day weekend, in St. Albert, Alberta.

Many of our students take part in this festival as well. Information from Cheremosh will be given to you at a later date. Senior classes regularly participated in this festival. However for other classes, participation is optional. Registration is handled through Barvinok.

CALGARY UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

This annual festival takes place in June in Calgary, Alberta. All students are encouraged to participate. Reminders will be sent out in the spring. Ideally our school will be represented from pre-beginner to adult.

ALL OTHER UKRAINIAN DANCE FESTIVALS

Participation in all other festivals is completely optional. It is up to you to search out relevant information or speak with your child's instructor.

Registration is your responsibility.

WHY ARE THERE REGISTRATION FEES, INSTRUCTOR FEES AND ADDITIONAL FEES?

Registration fees are set by each festival and must be paid to the festival before a deadline date. These are non-refundable fees as stated in the guidelines from each festival.

Instructor fees are paid to the instructor and apply only to solos, duets, and group dances taught outside of regular class time.

Additional fees are to cover rent or any other expenses incurred by the instructor for dances taught outside of the regular class time.

FUNDRAISING/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Fundraising activities and volunteers are very important to the growth and development of our school. Each family is required to give a minimum of 7 hours of volunteer time per child. If this requirement is not met, the volunteer cheque submitted as part of your registration will be cashed.

Sign - up sheets will be available for you to select an activity or activities you wish to participate in. PLEASE contact the member at large in order to record your hours and volunteer activity in the Volunteer Binder.

Following are examples of activities available to choose from:

Casino - Next Casino is held November 9th and 10th, 2011.

Southern Alberta Ukrainian Dance Festival (SAUDF)

Kinsmen Car Awards (during Stampede in July)

Sewing, Mending, Ironing etc. etc. etc." (ongoing – Talk to Costume Director)

Year End Concert - Dressing room assistants (must attend dress & tech rehearsals)

Money raised through our fundraising efforts goes towards expanding our inventory of costumes and instruction.

NOTE: Your volunteer cheque will be shredded the following September once volunteer hours have been calculated and all costume pieces issued to you have been returned in good order.

Additional fundraisers are the Fall sausage sale, Spring sausage sale and the annual Dinner/Dance. Although these do not accumulate volunteer hours, your help is required to continue with the success of these events.

COSTUME REQUIREMENTS

Please note that changes to the following may occur as the instructors finalize their dances.

		PRE-BEGINNERS	BEGINNERS	INTERMEDIATES	SENIORS
GIRLS	Red Ballet Slippers	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Black Character Shoes	No	No	Possibly	Yes
	Postoly	No	No	Possibly	Possibly
	Red Boots	No	No	No	Yes
	White Socks*	Possibly	Possibly	Possibly	No
	Pantyhose	No	No	Yes	Yes
	Red Beads*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
BOYS	Black Socks	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Black Ballet Shoes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Postoly	No	No	Possibly	Possibly
	Red Boots	No	No	No	Yes

Items marked with an asterisk (*) can be purchased from the costume director.

Items indicated as "Possibly" in the chart above are dependant upon the instructor's preferences. You will be informed as soon as all instructors determine their needs.

Intermediate and senior levels will require additional footwear. If you require red boots you will need to call the boot maker and arrange a suitable time to meet and have your child's foot measurements taken. Boot orders are not done through Barvinok.

Please ensure that your child has everything required for the Dinner and Dance in February.

All classes will perform in the year end concert.

REMINDER: Your registration included a costume rental. Information regarding costume rental and sharing will be given to you at a later date. Participation in SAUDF is required of all classes except the Pre-Beginner class. All other dance festivals are optional.