

Dear Parents & Students,

It has been a DTOJ tradition for over 20 years to designate March as **ST. JUDE** month. During the month of March, we ask our students (with their parents' help) to collect donations (rather than pledges) for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, but this is NOT just a fundraiser. We want it to be a teaching tool as well. As a school of dance, we are in a unique position to help promote this cause.

We, as teachers, sit with the children and try to make them aware of how blessed they are to be healthy enough to attend school, dance, gymnastics, *etc.*, and to instill in them a desire to help children who are too sick to be able to do all these things on a daily basis. We would like to stress that a little from EVERY student can go a long way.

This is an opportunity for the children to gain a sense of community spirit by participating in a joint project and to earn rewards. Any business donating \$50 or more will be listed in our dance recital program as a sponsor of this event (please attach a business card or appropriate details on a 3x5 index card). Any size donation is appreciated.

Have all **checks made payable to St. Jude Hospital**. For ease in handling, please replace cash with your personal check or a money order. We have a short time to do this, but with maximum participation, we can top last years' total of \$3,636.91.

To qualify for certificates and rewards, donations should be turned in to Dance Theatre office **by March 31st**. Be sure your name is on your donation sheet that you turn into the studio. If you have questions, call 910-347-3226. Thank you for your help on this meaningful project.

As a part of our St. Jude fundraiser this month, we will be having a DTOJ Spirit Week to help raise money for this wonderful cause and get all of our students involved in something fun and rewarding!

We will be designating the week of March 19-24 as our DTOJ ST. JUDE SPIRIT WEEK!!!

There will be different themes for each day of the week and if your child would like to participate, they can forget about the dress code this week and go all out with a costume, outfit, accessories! Just please be sure they bring their shoes to class and are able to still dance in their outfit!!!

In order to participate, your child needs to bring \$1 with them to class. They will give this directly to their teacher, not the front desk. If your child has multiple classes on the same day, they only have to pay one time. If your child dances on more than one day of the week, they must pay \$1 each day/theme. PLEASE BRING EXACTLY \$1, WE WILL NOT HAVE CHANGE. You are welcome to make a larger donation each day.

All of the money collected will be donated to St. Jude's Childrens Hospital!

MONDAY, MARCH 19 - "DESTINATION" DAY/ OLD COSTUME DAY - they can dress like they are going somewhere or are from somewhere . . . examples: Luau (hula girl), Cowboy/Cowgirl, Pirate, Mardi Gras, Tourist, Kimonos, Aliens, etc! or wear an old dance costume!!

TUESDAY, MARCH 20 - Tacky/Mismatch Outfits or "Nerd" Day!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 - Dress up like your favorite Disney character or celebrity!

THURSDAY, MARCH 22 - Pajama Day OR dress up in an outfit from your favorite decade (poodle skirt, 80s rock star, hippie, etc)

FRIDAY, MARCH 23 - Dress up like your favorite Super Hero or Princess!!!

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 - CRAZY HAIR AND SOCK DAY!