

# The Dance Arts Parent Handbook

## Enrollment

The studio reserves the right to

1. Refuse applicant to limit enrollment (class minimum is 5 students & maximum 25).
2. Require audition before enrollment for proper placement.
3. Dismiss a student.

## Preparation

As the guardian or adult responsible for my dancer I will

1. Pay the 1st month's tuition before classes begin  
Payments only are in cash or ACH auto-debit. The form is emailed to you each year to set it up and allows for easy transfers to be automatic.
2. Pay tuition by the 5th of every month, September through May.
3. Make sure all dancewear has been purchased from Dance Arts that is needed for class
4. Make sure all dancewear has the dancer's name in it

## Tuition

There are a total of 36 classes during the year, it breaks into 9 monthly payments for tuition, September – May. Our session goes for the length of the school year. Or in the summer session 6 weeks from end of June through beginning of August.

Tuition is based on how many hours of dance in a week. This number is based on anyone dancing in the same family. (ie: The Johnson's have a daughter and a son and they take two, 1 hour classes each for a total of 4 hours in a week)

The tuition ladder is as follows:

1 hour	\$47	
1 hour 15 minutes	\$54	
1 hour 30 minutes	\$60	
2 hours		\$88
2 hours 15 minutes	\$95	
2 hours 30 minutes	\$101	
3 hours		\$125
3 hours 15 minutes	\$132	
3 hours 30 minutes	\$138	
4 hours		\$161
4 hours 15 minutes	\$168	
4 hours 30 minutes	\$174	
5 hours		\$196
5 hours 15 minutes	\$203	
5 hours 30 minutes	\$209	
6 hours		\$231
6 hours 15 minutes	\$238	
6 hours 30 minutes	\$244	
7 hours		\$266

7 hours 15 minutes	\$273	
7 hours 30 minutes	\$279	
8 hours		\$301

### Registration Fee

There is a registration fee of \$15 per family due at registration in September (for the year long classes) and a \$5 registration fee per family due at registration in June (for summer classes/camps).

### Withdrawal

To change your method of enrollment, the office must be notified by the 1st of the month. Classes under 5 students fall to semi-private tuition.

Class changes after the 1st 6 weeks - \$10.00 charge.

Withdrawals may be made at the end of any month until March 31. No withdrawals after April 1st (due to recital)

### Liability

I understand that all caution will be taken for the safety of students during classes and programs. I waive any right to claim against Dance Arts staff and teachers and agree to assume liability for any accident, injury, illness or loss of personal items which occurs to my child or myself. I give permission for staff to see proper medical attention if necessary.

### Photo Privilege

My dancer's photo/video or my photo/video may be used on promotional materials, press media, & possible publication on social media sites (Facebook & Instagram for Dance Arts).

### Attendance

Attendance must be taken seriously as the dancer can only move forward when present for each class. We do offer make up classes for any missed classes. Classes **MUST** be made up within 6 weeks of being missed. Please call or email if you are doing a make up class. Make up classes can be anytime except for Visiting Weeks & the last month before recital. Attendance is celebrated each year with certificates and praise is given for perfect attendance.

### Levels

Our classes start with the title Beginner (ie: Beginning Jazz) then progress to a numbered level for ballet (ie: Ballet II) or an Elementary title for other genres (ie: Elem. Tumbling). The progression continues with the title of Intermediate, sometimes being in subcategories by increasing number (ie: Inter Ballet I then Inter Ballet II etc). The highest level is the Advanced level.

### Placements & Evaluations

A student can be in any level for up to 3 years.  
 Each year students are evaluated at the end of the year on what they have accomplished in the curriculum and their behavior.  
 Every year placement forms will be filled out and emailed to you to be able to prepare for the next season.  
 Placements are where the Dance Arts faculty have evaluated them to be.  
 Recommendations are options to add. We strongly recommend always keeping ballet & adding to it the other genres.

Dancewear

For your convenience, all equipment may be ordered & purchased at the studio at a reasonable cost.

We want to match at performing time! :-)

**All Pre-Dance, Beginning, Elementary, and Intermediate students of ballet** are required to wear short sleeved or tank, scooped neck leotard (see color chart below)  
 Pink tights and Pink ballet slippers.

Tiny Tots, Pre-Dance, and Beginning....Royal Blue  
 Elementary.....Royal Blue  
 Inter. I & II.....Sky Blue  
 Inter III & IV.....Light Pink  
 Advanced .....Black



Legwarmers, wrap sweaters, elastics, and knee pads for jazz or hip hop are optional equipment and may be used, but not abused!  
 Skirts are only allowed on visiting weeks or in pointe classes.  
 T-Shirts are not acceptable dancewear. Socks for dance class (in the place of shoes) are prohibited on our floors.  
 NO crop tops are allowed.

All required clothing will be their costume base for Informal Arts Concerts & Mini-Recitals. ALL required clothing is available at registration.

\*\*We prefer everyone purchase their dancewear with us so that we can assure it matches each person for their uniform for classes & performances.

Jazz ---

Black leotard and black shorts  
 Tan jazz shoes

Tap---

Black leotard and black shorts

Black tap shoes

Tumbling---

Black Unibike OR black leotard and black shorts

Contemporary---

Black leotard and black shorts

Tan 1/2 Soles

Hip Hop---

Tight fitting tank top (any solid color)

Black pants

Black hip hop shoes

**All other classes** may wear any color leotard, but should check with their instructor for tights, pants & shoes.

Male Students - Navy shorts, White T-Shirts, White Socks, and Black Shoes...or appropriate dancewear.

**All Students *MUST* have Hair pulled neatly and securely off the face!**

Buns are preferred but braids or ponytails are acceptable. If you have short hair please use a headband or pins and get your hair off your neck as much as possible.

### Performing

We love to perform at Dance Arts and we have numerous opportunities to hone those performance skills.

**Informal Arts Concerts-** We have in-house concerts called Informal Arts Concerts twice a year. This is where the students are afforded the chance to practice performing in front of an small audience.

**Recitals** are for everyone! Everyone participates in as the culmination of a completed year. We have two styles of recitals-- a Mini Recital (the odd ending years ie 2023) and then we have Production Recital (the even ending years ie 2022). Our goal is always to allow the children a chance to perform and shine on stage showing off the skills they have learned that year. The difference is our Mini Recitals are in our studio theatre and costuming is minimal. Production Recitals are done at Lakeshore Community Auditorium and are complete with the glitz and glam as costumes are purchased and kept by you. This is where the kids all come together to tell a unified story (ie: Beauty and the Beast, Coppelia, etc)

**Studio Dance Theatre** is our pre-professional company open by audition to any area dancer, 10 years of age and older, that has had at least three years of formal dance training. SDT is strictly for dancers whom are very interested in the art form, and wish to devote more time into learning how to perform.

SDT does a full length show each year (Spring or Nutcracker in Winter). This group requires an audition and rehearsals are on the weekends.

The non profit company was founded by Rhonda Rabbers in 1975 with a three-fold purpose:

- 1) To better educate young dancers in the performing arts.
- 2) To provide the community with a dance company.
- 3) To donate monies to a local charity.

**Dance Arts Performing CORE** is our performance team that performs locally and competes regionally. DAPC (then City Kids) was started in 1999 and is committed to creating artists who will perform and entertain. Our goal is to create a dancer who is captivating on stage, who is technically proficient, and radiates joy of movement. We are a performance team. During the year DAPC produces a full length show and attends competitions.

**Imagine Worship** is our performing group, that was established in 2010, that dances locally for nursing homes and churches while sharing the love of Jesus with others through movement.

#### Footnotes

Our monthly newsletter, Footnotes, have all the upcoming information happening at Dance Arts. It also may include community events as well. Please make sure you read the footnotes once your student has brought them home. Footnotes are also accessible online on our website [www.dancearts-sdt.com](http://www.dancearts-sdt.com).

#### Visiting Week

Every 6 weeks we have open observation of each class on a rotating schedule based on their classroom (Studio A, Studio B, Studio C). These Visiting Weeks are spelled out in the monthly Footnote newsletter and should be attended by the guardian or parent of each dancer.

#### Dance Camps & Workshops

Throughout the year we love to bring in guest teachers for our Movement Master Class series. These weekend workshops offer our dancers the chance to learn from other teachers besides our incredible staff. These are extra opportunities to grow and be inspired. We truly believe in the importance of being molded by lots of different teachers.

In the Summer we offer Dance Camps and Mini Camps of all kinds. These camps range from 1 day events to 5 day events. Our Summer camp and class information is available in April for registration. Summer classes and camps are a great way to try new styles of dance, hone in on skills without the stress of school, dress up and have a blast!

#### Conventions

Conventions or weekend workshops are out of town, typically in Chicago or Grand Rapids. These are open to any dancer meeting the requirements for each convention (age and ability). These opportunities will be made known to you via our Footnotes

newsletter.

### Cleaning Procedures

The studio is cleaned daily and sanitized using a ionized water fogger before and after each class.

### ***A NOTE To Parents and Students***

*Dance training consists of 95% hard work and only 5% natural talent. The more you work, the faster you advance. It teaches self-awareness, individuality, and appreciation for an art form. Self discipline and physical development go hand in hand, right from the start in dance training. Although, a great deal of attention is paid to gaining a child's trust & respect for their teacher so that it is an enjoyable experience with steady progression, built on a strong foundation.*

*One lesson weekly is adequate for the beginning and elementary students, however, children over 9 years of age, should be taking two or more lessons weekly. Ballet is the recommended beginning form of dance. Ballet is easy to feel & understand unlike other forms, that at a beginning level, are merely imitated...not learned. The anatomy of the young growing body is best suited to benefit from this correct form of dance. Tap, jazz, modern & other genres, are excellent additional classes, but can never be, what they could be, without previous ballet training.*