

**2020-2021
WELCOME PACKET**

THE DANCE COMPANY



We're ready for our 32nd season of dance!

We're so excited to be back in the studio for another season! This past year has raised new challenges for our dancers and instructors to overcome. We believe that we are prepared for whatever this year throws at us. We have made several adjustments to our new season to maintain the safety of our dancers, their families, and our instructors.

Please take a few minutes to read through the packet to know what to expect for this year.

INTRODUCTION

The Dance Company was originally founded by Lori Lemiux in 1989. Since then, our goal at The Dance Company has always been to instill a passion and commitment to dance and spread our love of dance through the community. Thank you to all the generations of dancers who have danced through our doors over the past 30 + years and to those who continue to support us through our journey!

OUR FOCUS

We have been open for 32 years, and hope that you will join us at our studio! We focus on building strong confidence dancers within a friendly community in Springfield. In 2017, The Dance Company business was passed on to Courtney Normand and Arianna Surprise, both alumni, and instructors of the studio. Our mission continues to be to teach dance in a relaxing, fun, and stress-free atmosphere. As always, everyone is welcome here.

OUR STAFF

Directors: Arianna & Courtney

Instructors: Arianna, Courtney, Janet, & Lori

Desk Assistants: Craig, Tori, & Erin

At The Dance Company, our instructors have 150 + years of combined dance experience!

We are proud members of the National Association of Dance & Affiliated Arts.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions, the best way to find the *correct* answer, is by reaching out to us! All questions & concerns can be directed to any of our instructors! You may also reach us at the following information below:

Phone: (413) 372-5990

Email: thedancecompany413@gmail.com

Website: thedancecompany.net

2020-2021 Season

Class Descriptions

Creative Movement

Created for toddlers, the creative movement class teaches the basics of body movement while incorporating early education lessons.

Tiny Dancer

Previously known as “Preschool” class, Tiny Dancer is a class designed to teach the basics of Tap and Ballet for young dancers ages 4-6 before moving to full Combination classes .

Combo Classes

Offered in both Tap & Jazz, Tap & Ballet, and Hip Hop & Tumble. These classes build off of the basics of these two genres and generally perform two recital dances .

Lyrical/Contemporary

This class branches off traditional ballet and Modern dance, focusing on the connection and movement of the mind, body, music, and choreography. Students ages 8-12 begin learning Lyrical before advancing to Contemporary. Most pieces of this genre tell a story through dance.

Jazz

We offer both Traditional Jazz and Broadway Jazz, which allows more movement than ballet but follows similar technique and structure. Our Broadway Jazz classes run similar to Production classes, having a larger class with acting roles and multiple songs that create a story line. Students interested in Broadway Jazz must be willing to commit to character portrayal.

Tap

This class focuses on teaching technique and sequence to the fundamentals of tap. Dancers will learn how to create rhythms with their body to the sound of music.

Ballet

Ballet is the fundamental of all dance styles. We focus on body placement, posture, balance, technique and stretching. We start with barre work and floor exercises that are age appropriate. Every dancer over the age of nine should take ballet at least once to gain a proper understanding of proper dance technique. Dancers that are 12 years or older are invited to our Pointe classes upon Ballet instructor's approval.

Acrobatics

This class will teach dancers how to properly and carefully complete stunts and create a strong, flexible body while incorporating jazz choreography. This class is about control and hard work and we require full attention from students participating.

Hip Hop

Similar to Jazz, Hip Hop focuses more on street style and freestyle dance. While Hip Hop is a less structured type of dance, dancers are required to present clean movements with loads of energy. We make an effort to ensure that all hip hop music and movements are age appropriate!

DRESS CODE

All dancers are expected to attend class in proper dress code. Dress code allows our instructors to easily correct dancers, reduce chances of injury, notice fine details, and create a clean look to the classroom.

All ladies must wear a leotard, tights, and correct shoes for their class and hair must be pulled back from the dancer's face. All boys must wear fitted athletic clothes that allow for free range of movement. TDC warm ups may be worn during class warm up, barre, and stretching exercises, but must be removed after. Instructors hold the right to have dancers observe class if they are dressed in inappropriate attire for class. Please see below for our formal dress code.

Creative Movement & Tiny Dancer: Leotard, Tights, Pink Ballet Slippers & Black Mary Jane Tap Shoes (Tiny Dancer ONLY)

Combo Classes: Leotard, Tights, Appropriate Shoes for Class

Ballet: Pink Slippers | Tap: Black Mary Jane Tap Shoes | Jazz: Black Slip On Jazz Shoes

Ballet: Black Leotard, Black Dance Shorts/Wrap Skirt (Optional), Pink Tights, Pink Ballet Slippers

Tap, Jazz, Broadway, & Acro: Leotard, Black Dance Shorts/Leggings (Optional), Tan Tights, Appropriate Shoes

Tap: Tan Lace Up Tap Shoes | Jazz: Tan Slip On Jazz Shoes | Broadway: Tan Jazz Shoes/Character Heels

Contemporary: Black Leotard, Black Dance Shorts/Leggings (Optional), Tan Footless Tights Pirouettes/Foot Undies (Optional)

Hip Hop: Fitted Athletic Wear (Avoid excessively long/baggy apparel), Clean Sneakers reserved for STUDIO USE ONLY

2020-2021 SCHEDULE

WEEKLY DANCE SCHEDULE	MONDAY	4:45-5:15 Acro II Ages 13+
		5:15 - 6:00 Acro I Ages 8-12
		6:00 - 6:45 Hip Hop I Ages 8-12
		6:45-7:30 Hip Hop II Ages 13+
	TUESDAY	4:30-5:00 Broadway Ages 10+
		5:00-5:30 Broadway A/B
		5:30- 6:15 Jazz II Ages 13+
	6:15-7:00 Jazz III Ages 18+	
WEDNESDAY	4:00-4:45 Ballet I/II Ages 10-12	
	4:45-5:15 Pointe	
	5:15-6:30 Ballet II Ages 13+	
	6:30 - 7:15 Tap II Ages 13+	
THURSDAY	4:00-4:45 Tiny Dancer Ages 6-8	
	4:45-5:30 HT Combo Ages 7-9	
	5:30-6:15 TJ Combo Ages 7-9	
	6:15-7:00 Jazz I Ages 8-12	
FRIDAY	4:00-4:45 Ballet I Ages 8-10	
	4:45-5:30 Lyrical I Ages 8-12	
	5:30-6:15 Contemp. Ages 13+	
	6:15-7:15 Nuova	
SATURDAY	9:00-9:30 Crtv. Mvmt. Ages 2-3	
	9:45-10:30 Tiny Dancer Ages 4-6	
	10:45-11:30 TB Combo Ages 6-8	

2020-2021 Schedule

September 8	Studio Opens for 2020-2021 Season
November 11	Veterans Day - Studio Closed
November 26-28	Thanksgiving Break
December 24-31	Christmas Break
January 4	Studio Re-Opens
April 19-23	Spring Break
May 31	Memorial Day - Studio Closed

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CLASS SPECIFIC

CREATIVE MOVEMENT

Parents of all Creative Movement dancers are welcome to observe classes from the lobby. Parents must wear masks while observing classes.

At this time, we are not requiring Creative Movement dancers to wear masks once in their square. However, if you feel more comfortable with them wearing their mask, that is fine!

TINY DANCER

Parents of all Tiny Dancers will be encouraged to drop their dancer off at the door. Space is limited in the lobby - we can only allow a few parents to observe from within the studio. We have adjusted our front curtains to allow parents to observe from the front windows if they wish to do so.

Dancers will continue to change their dance shoes half way through the class. As always, we begin our class with Tap! We encourage you to help your dancer practice putting on their tap shoes alone - we have assistants and teachers to provide help as well!

TUMBLE & ACRO

All Tumble & Acro dancers are expected to bring their own YOGA mat to class. Individual yoga mats will be used for stretching, clown rolls, bridges & backbends, headstands, etc. We will use the mat for travelling stunts.

Dancers will be given hand sanitizer before utilizing the mat, and instructors will use hand sanitizer after spotting dancers. In addition, the acro mat will be sprayed with disinfectant spray after each class.

BROADWAY

Broadway Jazz class will meet from 4:30-5:30 for the first class on Tuesday, September 8th. From there, we will follow the schedule below:

Broadway Production (All dancers in class): Tuesdays 4:30 - 5:00pm

Broadway Groups (Group A or B): Tuesdays 5:00- 5:30pm

Broadway groups A & B will rotate weekly. Official groups & schedules will be released during the first class. Masks must be worn during production classes as we will be over 12 dancers.

ATTENDANCE & INCLEMENT WEATHER

ATTENDANCE

If your dancer has a cold or a fever, please do not send them to dance classes!

If your dancer is injured or is feeling unwell (i.e., Cramps, Headache, Joint Injuries, etc.), we strongly encourage your dancer to sit and observe class so that they do not fall behind.

If your dancer is unable to attend class, please let us know! All you have to do is call/email us right before their class. This allows us to start on time and plan ahead!

All dancers should be arriving on time, ready to dance. That means in proper attire, with hair pulled back, and focused to go. If tardiness becomes an issue, we will have an individual conversation with the dancer and the parent.

Please note that all instructors have the right to remove a dancer from any routine, at any time, if they are absent for 3 weeks (unless excused from class). Due to the class size limitations due to COVID - 19, there may be waitlists for any given class. If any dancer has continuous unexcused absences in a class, they will be given a written warning. Following that warning, they may be excused from the class to allow another dancer join if absences continue.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the case of inclement weather, please see our Facebook/Instagram page for updates. In addition, we will send home emails about class cancellations 1 HOUR prior to our first class.

Please note, we do NOT follow the Springfield public school system cancellations, as conditions usually change by the afternoon.

In the case of cancellations, resources and material will be posted to each class's Google Classroom. Dancers are expected to complete material. If absolutely necessary (generally as we approach recital), makeup classes will be offered for all classes. We generally utilize February break to offer those makeup classes!

TUITION & COSTUME PAYMENTS

TUITION

As always, tuition is due the FIRST week of every month. Failure to pay on time will result in a \$10.00 LATE FEE for each week that tuition is late. We are happy to make extensions if needed - please just ask!

We have adjusted our tuition to \$45.00 for 1 dance class (genre) a month, plus \$35.00 for any additional classes (genres) to accommodate for cleaning expenses.

COSTUME PAYMENTS

Costume deposits will be due **November 21, 2020**. Deposits are \$45.00/costume.

Notices will be sent home the first of December for the balance of the costume. Balances are dependent on costume manufacturers, fabric, and quantity. Balances will be due by **January 31, 2021**.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Due to COVID-19, we are encouraging CONTACTLESS payment. We are still accepting payments through cash/check/card forms.

- If you are paying with **CASH/CHECK** - Please put the EXACT amount in an envelope with your dancer's name on the outside of the envelope.

- If you are paying with a **CARD** - You have two options!
 - You may enroll in our Monthly Invoice, which will send you an invoice for tuition on the 1st day of every month. You will have until the end of the week to make a payment before tuition is considered late.
 - You may visit our website:
<http://www.thedancecompany.net/401/login.php?redirect=/make-a-payment.html> which will direct you to our online store. The password is "**thedancecompany**". To pay, add the number of classes your dancer is in (i.e., 1 Class, 2 Classes, etc.) to your cart and pay with a credit card! We will receive a receipt of your payment.

VIRTUAL LEARNING

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

All dancers will receive an access code for their GoogleClassroom. We will post announcements, resources, and videos in these GoogleClassrooms. All dancers are expected to join their classes and check weekly for updates.

HOW TO USE GOOGLE CLASSROOM:

1. Create or log into your Gmail account and go to <https://classroom.google.com/>
2. In the top right corner, click on the plus (+) sign, and select “Join Class”
3. Enter the associated code with your dancer’s class
4. Make sure notifications are on!

Classes	Google Classroom Code
Creative Movement & Tiny Dancer	x4x223y
Tap & Ballet/Tap & Jazz Combo	fsetjbt
Hip Hop & Tumble Combo	fqrvytd
Ballet	xvfxzuz
Jazz	c6feyk6
Broadway Jazz	zyi5rmx
Tap	ulrayus
Lyrical/Modern	5gco7k6
Acro	n2rewgp
Hip Hop	xertdra

ZOOM

ZOOM classes will be utilized only when a dancer is unable to dance due to a sickness or is quarantined due to exposure to COVID-19. You MUST contact us to arrange ZOOM classes!

ZOOM classes will be recorded and made available in GoogleClassrooms as well!

COVID - 19

You can find our extensive COVID-19 protocol on our website at <http://www.thedancecompany.net/safe-return-to-studio.html>. All dancers must bring a copy of the signed waiver to their FIRST class in order to enter the studio.

Below, we have more details about the operation of the studio during COVID-19.

ARRIVAL

- Arrive on time for your class. Dancers must wait in their car until we open the door!
When the door is closed, there is either a class in session, or we are busy disinfecting. If you need to enter while the door is closed, please call us at (413) 372-5990.
- For the safety of your dancer, please walk them to the door to drop them off.
- Anyone entering the building must wear a mask.
- Dancers will have their temperature checked at the door, will receive hand sanitizer, and will have their belongings sprayed with a disinfectant.

TO WAIT OR TO DROP OFF?

- **If your dancer is under the age of 10** - You must remain on the Bicentennial Plaza premises during their class time.
- **If your dancer is over the age of 10** - You are welcome to drop your dancer off and leave during their classes.

DEPARTURE

- To allow time for cleaning, classes will end 5 minutes earlier. Please plan accordingly.
- Dancers that stay for multiple classes may wait in the studio while cleaning procedures take place.
- For the safety of your dancer, please walk to the door to pick them up.

OUR CLEANING PROCEDURE

- Dancers are encouraged to keep items brought into the studio at a minimum. Dancers should only bring in their dance shoes and a water bottle. Phones, keys, and additional belongings must remain in their backpack.
- Between each class, our instructors, desk assistants, and any student assistants will take the time to thoroughly clean all surfaces in the studio, lobby, and bathroom, including door knobs, light switches, and chairs.



