

2020-2021

PARENT HANDBOOK



THE DANCE SHOPPE

**(248) 623-1950
3549 Airport Rd. Suite 112
Waterford, 48329
In the Daisy Park Plaza
www.thedanceshoppemi.com**

Thank you for choosing The Dance Shoppe, where everyone's a star! You made an excellent choice when you selected The Dance Shoppe for your child. In order to work together toward giving your child the best dance experience possible, there are specific rules and procedures that will need to be followed; this handbook explains these procedures to parents. The Dance Shoppe's program is limitless, meaning the dancers and parents set their own boundaries, by deciding how much time and energy is to be devoted to dancing. This handbook aims to explain the different Dance Shoppe programs and their costs, so that you can successfully help your child with their dance goals. Please carefully read the handbook; you will then experience no "surprises" throughout the year, as we inform you in detail. Pay special attention to information **that is highlighted**, and refer back to this handbook often.

If you ever have any questions throughout the dance season, do not hesitate to leave a detailed message for your child's instructor at the desk or email MissLauren@TheDanceShoppeMi.com. Let's work together to enjoy the 2020-2021 dance season, and make your child a star!

FACILITY

DANCE ROOMS: The Dance Shoppe has equipped each of its 4 dance rooms with raised wood floors. The raised floors are much safer and kinder to the dancers' bodies than slab floors. Our facility offers three stage size rooms with high ceilings, as well as a 30x30 room.

WAITING ROOMS: Our waiting room will be closed for the fall of 2020. As restrictions lift, this restriction will be re-evaluated throughout the season. Parents of our creative movement students ONLY will be admitted on a "as needed" basis.

PICKING UP & DROPPING OFF: As we approach the start of our season, we will send a detailed email, outlining procedures for drop off and pickup, allowing for safety of our dancers while keeping social distancing in mind. Only students will be allowed to enter our building this season – parents must wait in their cars. Please make sure younger students use the bathroom prior to the start of their dance day. **Parents of students in our creative movement, pre and kinder classes should stay on premises in the parking lot – they should not leave, in case we need to reach them quickly!**

BREAKS: Students with breaks in their schedule will be dismissed between classes, as our waiting room is closed this season. If, due to scheduling conflicts, your dancer is unable to be picked up during their break, please notify the studio ASAP so we can make accommodations for them. No student third grade or under will be allowed to remain at the studio during a break. This restriction will also be re-evaluated throughout the season. Students on the Classy Dancer team will be given special allowances regarding staying at the studio during breaks, but are also encouraged to leave the premises for longer spans of time.

CLASS PLACEMENT

Dance Shoppe instructors confidentially evaluate and place each of our dancers in the recommended classes each season. The strong advantage to our placement procedure is that we attempt to place every dancer in a class that allows them excel and move at an individualized pace. The disadvantage is that in August, when you receive your registration and placement information, you are not given the opportunity to select a convenient night and time. We feel that the advantage strongly outweighs the disadvantage, and most families work their schedules around the recommendations. Your recommended schedule, for those who pre-registered, will be emailed to you. If you have a problem with the assigned class(es), please email Lauren: MissLauren@TheDanceShoppeMi.com. Please note, if you change your recommended class, that usually means your child will be put in a 2nd choice class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

ABSENCES: The Dance Shoppe feels that it is important for students to gain a sense of responsibility and commitment to themselves and their classmates. It is also necessary that a dancer attend his/her classes regularly to continue progressing with the rest of the class. If a dancer misses more than 4 classes, The Dance Shoppe reserves the right to remove that dancer from recital routines. **As we prepare for the June recital, attendance the last month of class is EXTREMELY important, for your dancer, and for their classmates dancing with them.** Special arrangements may be made ahead of time with your teacher, if she warrants the situation an exception. **Please see section on Covid-19 for more regarding absence policies and procedures for the 2020-2021 season.**

TARDINESS: Dancers are expected to be on time for class. Important warm-ups are missed if a student is late, and injuries could result; coming in late also disrupts the other students. For this reason, **if a dancer is 10 minutes late for class, he or she must ask permission to enter the class.** If too many warm-ups have been missed, the student will sit and observe the rest of the class, or the teacher may not give permission to enter. **Three tardies are equivalent to one absence.** The Creative Movement, Pre & Kinder classes are only 30 minutes in length, so please make every effort to be on time. **Please do not send in your dancer more than ten minutes late to any 30 minute class.**

COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES AND SELF-ASSESSMENT

Please perform the following assessment with your dancer each day they will attend class. If the answer to any question is yes, please contact the studio and DO NOT send your dancer to class. We will also be taking the temperature of each dancer before they begin their day. Dancers that have a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home. If anyone at your home is showing the symptoms below, please also keep your dancer at home until it is confirmed that they are not positive for COVID-19.

COVID-19 ASSESSMENT:

Have you come in contact with anyone in the last 14 days that has COVID-19?

Have you experienced a fever of 100.4 or higher in the last 72 hours?

Have you experienced a cough (excluding chronic cough) in the last 72 hours?

Have you experienced shortness of breath in the last 72 hours?

Do you have cough or flu-like symptoms including GI upset, headache, fatigue, runny nose, sore throat, and/or recent loss of taste or smell?

As mandated by the state, dancers (and anyone else entering the studio by appointment only) are expected to enter the building and the dance rooms wearing a mask, as well as wear a mask when not dancing. During dancing, when necessary, dancers may remove their masks, at the teacher's discretion. Masks are required whenever the dancers aren't dancing or eating – dancers will not be able to enter the studio without a mask. Students age 5 and under are not required to wear a mask while dancing.

The studio has been equipped with touchless sanitizers at the front door, and in each dance room. Bathrooms are equipped with touchless soap and paper towel dispensers. Spot cleaning will be done on heavily touched surfaces throughout the evening and the studio will be fully cleaned and sanitized each night. Each room is marked off with six foot boxes, so dancers are able to stay socially distanced while dancing.

DRESS CODE

The Dance Shoppe has a dress code for the following reasons: 1) Uniformity of dance attire enables the instructor to more easily identify a dancer's problem areas. 2) Dressing responsibly for class is part of the discipline of dance. 3) Our dress code eliminates "fashion parades" in class, thus saving parents the expense of trying to outfit their child in the latest dance craze. In fairness to other students who follow the rules, please do not expect us to make an exception for your child. Your first warning is considered a reminder. If your child is out of dress code a second time a note will be sent home, and the third time your child will not be permitted to participate in class. Note: When dancers have reached advanced or professional levels, the instructors may permit exceptions.

GIRLS IN ALL DANCE SUBJECTS:

***Solid colored, plain leotard without attached skirts, designs or decorations of any kind

***Ballet Pink or Suntan tights

*** **Hair must be secured NEATLY up off the neck in a clip or bun.** Hairnet and bobby pins recommended

***Creative Movement, Pre and Kinder Dance, and Tumbling students are permitted ponytails

***Tiny pierced earrings are the only acceptable jewelry worn in class

***No Ballet skirts unless indicated by the instructor

*****NO SHORTS IN ANY BALLET CLASS**

***Baggy, comfortable clothing for hip hop - no leotards and tights please. **Kneepads are required.** No tight shorts or cheerleader shorts.

BOYS IN OUR INTENSIVE PROGRAM (Dazzling Star or Classy Dancer level classes) – dress code for ballet, jazz, stretch, turns, and choreography classes:

***Solid colored shorts or dance pants

*** Solid colored tank top or a tight fitting t-shirt.

ALL OTHER BOYS/BOYS' CLASSES:

***Loose fitting, appropriate clothing

DANCE SHOES:

Ballet : Soft leather **split-soled** ballet slipper (snugly fit), Bloch or Capezio recommended. Cloth ballet slippers for intensive dancers of high school age. Pink for girls, black for boys.

Jazz: Tan soft leather split soled Jazz Oxfords or slip ons (snugly fit), Bloch or Capezio recommended.

Tap: Black patent leather Tap shoes **WITH ELASTIC** and Teletone taps for dancers in second grade or younger, jazz tap shoes for dancers 3rd grade and up.

Hip Hop: Tennis shoes **that are not worn outside the dance room.**

*****All dance shoes and attire must be purchased by October 1st.*****

TUITION

Tuition for the 2020-2021 season is based on the total number of weekly hours your family participates in. The Dance Shoppe offers a considerable discount for families with students attending several classes.

Classy Dancers and dancers in Intensive Level Classes (you will be notified) will pay for a ten month season of dance – tuition will be divided into ten equal payments. **Classes will begin Sept 14 for Classy Dancer and Intensive Level Classes.**

All other students will pay for a nine month season of dance – tuition will be divided into nine equal payments.
All other studio classes will begin on Oct 5.

The monthly payment is the same whether there are 3, 4 or 5 weeks in each month.

Your first payment is due upon registration. Each of the following payments is **DUE ON THE 15th OF THE MONTH, with your final payment on May 15th**. Checks should be made payable to **The Dance Shoppe**. If you opt to pay in cash, you will receive an emailed receipt within 48 hours of your payment. Any payments dropped in the lockbox outside the studio should be in a sealed envelope, clearly labeled with your dancer's name. If mailing in a tuition check, it must be received **by the last day of the month to avoid late fees**.

If you wish to pay with a credit card, please call the studio and request an invoice be emailed to you. This request must be made each month – **WE DO NOT STORE CREDIT CARD INFORMATION!**

Any tuition that is **NOT AT THE DANCE SHOPPE BEFORE THE 1st DAY OF THE MONTH IS CONSIDERED LATE, AND WILL RESULT IN A BILLING FEE OF \$15.00**. Any tuition that is delinquent in excess of 30 days will be charged an additional delinquent fee equaling 15% of the unpaid balance. **Any returned checks will result in a \$25.00 service charge**. Anyone having more than 2 returned checks will be asked to pay by money order or cash. **You must notify the studio by email (not your dancer's instructor), by the last day of the month, to discontinue your tuition obligation.**

The tuition policy is standard business policy and already allows for a 2-week grace period. The front desk is not authorized to make any exceptions, so please make sure your tuition is at the Dance Shoppe **by the last day of the month** to avoid any additional fees. If you are experiencing a financial hardship and would like to request special consideration, please make arrangements prior to delinquency with Lauren Lenter.

We are prepared to continue to keep dancing through the season in any situation, and will switch to virtual classes, if mandated by our state. Tuition payments are expected to continue through any virtual learning situations that may arise.

Monthly tuition payments for the regular dance program are determined by adding the number of WEEKLY HOURS your FAMILY will be studying, and then calculating your monthly tuition

****Please note:** If you have a student in the REGULAR dance program and the Creative Movement, Pre Dance or Kinder Dance, you must price them separately.

REGULAR DANCE PROGRAM (Weekly classes are at least 1 hour)
When paid before the 1st of each month

1 st weekly hour	10 monthly payments of \$58.00
2 nd weekly hour.....	10 monthly payments of \$50.00
3 rd weekly hour.....	10 monthly payments of \$45.00
4 th weekly hour.....	10 monthly payments of \$39.00
5 th weekly hour.....	10 monthly payments of \$31.00
6 th weekly hour.....	10 monthly payments of \$25.00
Additional weekly hours...	10 monthly payments of \$14.00

To figure your cost: add total # of weekly hours (1/2 hour will be half of your next hour)
EX: 3 ½ hours = \$58+50+45+19.5 = \$172.50

CREATIVE MOVEMENT (3 yrs old by Oct 31st and potty trained), **PREDANCE and KINDERDANCE**
(Weekly Classes are ½ hour each)

1 st weekly class.....	10 monthly payments of \$42.00
2 nd weekly class	10 monthly payments of \$36.00
3 rd weekly class.....	10 monthly payments of \$27.00
Additional Weekly Classes.....	10 monthly payments of \$18.00

TUITION CHART 2020-2021

The Dance Shoppe charges a \$20.00 registration fee.

30 min - \$29	20.5 hr - \$451
45 min - \$45	21 hr - \$458
1 hr - \$58	21.5 hr - \$465
1.5 hr - \$83	22 hr - \$472
2 hr - \$108	22.5 hr - \$479
2.5 hr - \$130.50	23 hr - \$486
3 hr - \$153	23.5 hr - \$493
3.5 hr - \$172.50	24 hr - \$500
4 hr - \$192	24.5 hr - \$507
4.5 hr - \$207.50	25 hr - \$514
5 hr - \$223	25.5 hr - \$521
5.5 hr - \$235.50	26 hr - \$528
6 hr - \$248	26.5 hr - \$535
6.5 hr - \$255	27 hr - \$542
7 hr - \$262	27.5 hr - \$549
7.5 hr - \$269	28 hr - \$556
8 hr - \$276	28.5 hr - \$563
8.5 - \$283	29 hr - \$570
9 hr - \$290	29.5 - \$577
9.5 hr - \$297	30 hr - \$584
10 hr - \$304	30.5 hr - \$591
10.5 hr - \$311	31 hr - \$598
11 hr - \$318	31.5 hr - \$605
11.5 hr - \$325	32 hr - \$612
12 hr - \$332	32.5 hr - \$619
12.5 hr - \$339	33 hr - \$626
13 hr - \$346	33.5 hr - \$633
13.5 hr - \$353	34 hr - \$640
14 hr - \$360	
14.5 hr - \$367	
15 hr - \$374	
15.5 hr - \$381	
16 hr - \$388	
16.5 hr - \$395	
17 hr - \$402	
17.5 hr - \$409	
18 hr - \$416	
18.5 hr - \$423	
19 hr - \$430	
19.5 hr - \$437	
20 hr - \$444	

Creative Movement, PreDance, and KinderDance students – Priced Separately

1 class - \$42
2 classes - \$78
3 classes - \$105
4 classes - \$123
5 classes - \$141
6 classes - \$159

SUBJECTS OFFERED

The Dance Shoppe offers a variety of programs for both the serious and recreational student. Our class offerings for this season are: Ballet, Pointe, Adjudicated Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop, Turns, Tap, Acro/Tumbling, Modern, and All Boys, All of the following have an Oct 31st cut off date unless permission is received from Miss Lauren: 3 yr olds that are potty trained for Creative Movement, 4 yr olds for Pre Dance, and 5 yr olds for Kinder Dance. 4&5 yr old students can take ballet, tap, tumbling, and/or Tot Hop. Students taking ballet and jazz that desire more performing opportunities may be invited to join the “Dazzling Stars” performance group. Serious students in 5th grade and up may audition for the “Classy Dancer” competition troupe. Classy Dancers in 9th grade or above, achieving a high technical level, may be chosen for the “Select Program.”

FACULTY

The Dance Shoppe is proud to boast a staff where every teacher is thoroughly qualified to teach your child.

Lauren Lenter has owned and operated The Dance Shoppe for the past 13 years. She is professionally certified by examination through Dance Masters of America in the disciplines of tap, acrobatics, and jazz. She is certified through the Cecchetti Council of America at both the student and teacher levels. She is active in Dance Masters Chapter 4, and currently serves as co-director of their teen title competition. In addition to running the studio, at The Dance Shoppe, Lauren heads up the preschool, tap and tumbling programs. Her competitive students, the Classy Dancers, have achieved numerous accolades on both the regional and national level. Lauren has trained former and current Dance Masters and ADA title holders at all age levels. Lauren loves working with all of her students, in nearly every subject The Dance Shoppe offers. She enjoys spending time with her “little dancers” just as much as she enjoys working with the more experienced ones. Lauren is also the founder of the studio’s popular Dazzling Stars performance group. Lauren is proud of her roots growing up at The Dance Shoppe, where she was a member of the "Classy Dancer" intensive program, as well as the Lakes Area Civic Ballet. Following graduation, she spent two years studying Dance and Arts Management at Oklahoma City University. She also performed with the Rhythm Tap Ensemble, while studying at the University of Michigan. Lauren toured with the cast of "Sesame Street Live" as well, in the lead role of Zoe. Lauren continues to study around the country with master teachers, to further her dance studies, and stay up to date with the latest dance innovations. She is the proud mommy of 2 year old Finn, and when not at the studio, loves spending time with her family.

Terri Newman owned The Dance Shoppe for the first 26 years and continues to teach full time. She founded the Classy Dancers in 1989 when her dancers were invited to perform in the Soviet Union. Terri’s extensive teaching credits include being a master instructor at both the Dance Masters of America and American Dance Awards National Conventions. Terri has taught her turning technique throughout the country and produced the DVD entitled, “Turn Your Dancing Around.” She is proud to have trained numerous dancers that have pursued successful dance careers, including an LA choreographer, an Alvin Ailey Company member, a Miss Dance of America, an

American Female Dancer of the Year, a Juilliard graduate, several NYC Rockettes, and many teachers & studio owners. Terri is certified by examination as a professional dance instructor by both Dance Masters of America and the Cecchetti Ballet Council of America. She has judged in both the U.S. and Canada. Most importantly, in her 39 years of teaching, Terri is proudest of the thousands of strong, confident, and courageous young women that danced at The Dance Shoppe. She finds fulfillment in maintaining contact with so many alumni, and in teaching many of their children.

Chelsea Contway is in her 14th teaching at The Dance Shoppe, where she has developed a unique, award winning, and always entertaining hip hop program. She is an alumni of The Dance Shoppe's Classy Dancer program and the Lakes Area Civic Ballet Company. Chelsea is certified by examination by the Cecchetti Council of America at the student level as well as certified in jazz through Dance Masters of America. Through her creativity, humor and out of the box choreography, Chelsea has brought hip hop at the studio to a highly competitive level for the last twelve years. Her routines have received numerous special awards and high scores. She has been honored with the Shirley Raitz Costume Award in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2017 (DMM). In addition, the Hollywood Vibe Competition awarded her with costume awards for three of her pieces in 2016. Chelsea has been recognized for her choreography with The Diamond Choreography Award (ADA 2013), the Mary Helen Stewart Choreography Award (DMM 2014, 2016) and the Choreography Award for "Out of This World" (Legacy 2016). Chelsea was the proud choreographer of the 2016 Miss Dance of Michigan, the 2017 Mr. Teen Dance of Michigan, and the 2020 Miss Dance of Michigan. In addition to teaching dance, Chelsea is employed as a licensed cosmetologist in Commerce Township. She received her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts from Oakland Community College. She currently resides in White Lake with her husband Scott, and three boys, Weston, William and Wade.

Brittini Kennedy is a 2011 Dance Shoppe alumna and danced with the award-winning Classy Dancers and Select Group. She is certified by examination by the Cecchetti Council of America at the student level. This is her seventh year teaching at The Dance Shoppe. She enjoys working with the pre/kinder program students, as well as our recreational combo, jazz, ballet, tap, and tumbling students. Outside of The Dance Shoppe, Brittini is actively involved in the community. She has choreographed for kindergarten and first grade students at Gretchko Elementary School. Brittini lives in Waterford with her husband Tim and their puppy Roo. She graduated from Oakland University with a degree in Biomedical Diagnostic Therapeutic Sciences and a specialization in Radiation Therapy. She is currently working as a Lead Radiation Therapist at Beaumont Hospital-Dearborn in the Radiation Oncology Department.

Jodie Randolph is a choreographer and dance educator based in Southeast Michigan. She is a member of Dance Masters of America, Michigan Dance Council, and the National Organization of Dance Educators. Jodie received her B.S. from Eastern Michigan University, where she studied dance and management. She recently completed her MFA in Choreography at Jacksonville University in Florida. Jodie is the Creative Director and Resident Choreographer for Pure Existence, a professional contemporary dance company based in Ann Arbor, MI. She also serves as an adjunct lecturer of dance at Eastern Michigan University, is on faculty at Brighton Dance Festival, Company C

Dance Club and the Platinum Dance Experience. She teaches master classes throughout the country for notable organizations including Detroit Dance City Festival, Dance in the Mitten and Oakland Dance Festival. Her students have gone on to study at the Julliard School, Marymount of Manhattan, Indiana University, University of Michigan, Point Park University and other prestigious schools. Jodie's work has been recognized across the Midwest. She was named Choreographer of the Year in 2012. Her choreography has been commissioned for Brighton Dance Festival, Dance Masters of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, and Oakland University, as well as many schools in metro Detroit. Jodie has presented work at Biomorphic Festival (NY), Brighton Dance Festival, Detroit Dance City Festival, Detroit Dance Race and Oakland Dance Festival, in addition to producing full scale concerts for Pure Existence. Her passion is mentoring dancers to find their own unique voice by embracing their individuality. Her organic practice combined with highly athletic movement allows dancers to push physical and emotional boundaries.

Jamie Hetherington has been tap dancing for over 20 years. Her most extensive training was at The Dance Shoppe. Although she trained in all forms of dance, tap quickly became her passion. She has attended many classes/workshops all around Michigan and studied two weeks at The EDGE performing arts center in Los Angeles on scholarship. She has guest taught and choreographed tap numbers for numerous studios including Star Strut Dance Center in Oxford. Her competitive tap numbers have placed in the overall high scores for their age/category. Jamie has a BFA from Grand Valley State University, where she studied many types of art, but specialized in ceramics. Her commissioned wall hangings are displayed throughout the GVSU campus and in other Michigan businesses and homes. Jamie's passion for all areas of art makes her a stronger teacher, by encompassing a focus on art into her teaching. Jamie is married with two young sons and lives in Clarkston. She hopes to instill her love and passion for tap dancing into her students.

Bernadette Foth is an accomplished dancer with a diverse performance background, as well as being an award-winning choreographer, master class instructor and sought after competition adjudicator. She is a certified member of Dance Educators of America, Dance Masters of Michigan, Universal Dance Association and Dance Masters of America. Bernadette is the co-owner of our sister studio, Tina Marie School of Dance. Her dancers have received extensive nationwide accolades for their technique and performances, and many have gone on to dance on Broadway, cruise lines, commercials, music videos and for the Radio City Rockettes. She currently travels throughout the country teaching at conventions and intensive programs, along with judging for many competitions such as Lifetime's hit show, "Dance Moms." She also choreographs the opening routines, television appearances and various floats for the Hobble Noble Gobble and Thanksgiving Day Parade. Bernadette has dedicated her entire life to cultivating talent and enabling her students to reach their fullest potential and enjoys sharing her talents with The Dance Shoppe students. She is the proud mommy of Finn and enjoys being a mom as much as she loves her time in the classroom.

Laurie Papovich has been teaching dance for over forty years. In 1979, she was certified to teach by examination from Cecchetti Council of America and Dance Masters of Michigan/Dance Masters of America. Laurie is one of few who hold the honor of achieving the Diploma teaching certificate of Maestro Cecchetti's Method of Ballet. In addition to serving as a member of the Cecchetti Council of America's National Executive Board, she is an Examiner for the method. She serves as the Scholarship Chairperson for students and teachers and is on the Summer School Committee as the Dorm/Counselor Coordinator. She largely attributes her current and former students successes to the training they have received through the Cecchetti syllabus. Laurie is very excited to once again join the teaching staff for the 2020 season and share her love of ballet and the Cecchetti method.

Nicole Piette is a 2015 Dance Shoppe alumna and danced at The Dance Shoppe for 12 years. Nicole graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2019 with a Bachelors of Science in Allied Health Science-Pre Physician Assistant Studies and will be attending the Accelerated Second Degree Nursing program at Oakland University this fall, to earn her Bachelors of Nursing. Throughout her schooling career, she always makes time to come back to the studio to teach, work the front desk and partake in recital activities. She is so excited to be staying close to home and to have the opportunity to teach again this year! When Nicole is not around the studio or at school, she is working as a licensed Emergency Medical Technician for Alliance Mobile Health and teaches BLS at Dorsey Emergency Medical Academy. She cannot wait for the new and exciting dance season to begin!

Elizabeth Westlake is a 2020 graduate of Everest Collegiate High School. She was a member of the Dance Shoppe's Classy Dancer team for eight years and a student of the Dance Shoppe for 15 years. This is her third season teaching our TDS students. Elizabeth is very grateful that she has been given the opportunity to teach and to share her love of dance with her young students this season and cannot wait to continue to share her passion.

Mallory Marshall is a performer, educator and choreographer based in the Metro Detroit area. She was a student of The Dance Shoppe, where she trained in all subjects of dance, for 16 years. Outside of The Dance Shoppe, Mallory had the experience of training in some of the country's most popular dance hubs — including Los Angeles, CA; New York City; and Chicago, IL. In 2016, she became a faculty member at The Dance Shoppe. She also teaches at Noretta Dunworth School of Dance, and various other intensives and masterclasses as well. One of her most humbling teaching experiences was at the Dance Masters of America National Convention in 2019, as the reigning Miss Dance of America. Mallory's passion for teaching and choreography goes as far back as her early years of childhood, and she is proud to now be pursuing both at a professional level. She attends Wayne State University in Detroit as a Dance Major, where she continues to broaden her education and appreciation for the art of dance.

JUNE PRODUCTION

The Dance Shoppe's June Production audiences are always pleasantly surprised to find our productions much more professional than the typical dance recital. Our production includes all of our dancers at the studio telling a story through dance, with scenery and special effects. We make all our dancers feel special, teaching them to be committed to their class, and comfortable with an audience – invaluable skills!

Our June Shows will be held in mid-June. Many dancers are involved in only one of these performances. The rehearsal and show schedule is not finalized until the week after spring break. **We do our best to schedule students with multiple classes and family members into the same show, but this is not always possible!**

COSTUMES: A **non-refundable** payment for each class that your dancer is in will be **due by Dec 1st, PAYABLE TO LAUREN LENTER (check or cash only)**. For all dancers 1st grade or younger, costume cost for the season is \$70/costume. For all dancers 2nd grade or above, costume cost for the season is \$85/costume. The **non-refundable costume payment** must be accompanied by the Tight and Show Agreement (which will be included in your Fall Newsletter). During the first week of December, costume orders are finalized and the companies have a NO REFUND POLICY.

*****Don't Miss Out!** Pay your costume fee, and turn in your tight and show agreement **by Oct 31**, and pay the EARLY BIRD rate! \$65 for all dancers 1st grade or younger, and \$80 for all dancers 2nd grade and above.

TICKETS: Tickets will go on sale online through Tututix at the end of May. **Accounts must be paid in full before tickets can be purchased.** Our shows are popular, so it is important that parents order their tickets before public ticket sales begin. **WE CANNOT GUARANTEE TICKET AVAILABILITY AFTER THE PRE-SALE DATES.**

DVDS & SHOW PROGRAMS: Parents may video at the rehearsal only, with a battery-operated video camera or phone. We contract a professional DVD company to film the entire show at the performances. Parents have been very pleased with these DVDS in the past. The Classy Dancer Study Trip dancers produce a show program, which includes a complimentary picture of each Dance Shoppe class. You will have the opportunity to purchase personal or company picture ads of your dancer. "Happy Ads" wishing your dancer good luck in the show are also available. You will also have the opportunity to order flower bouquets for your favorite dancer. Information on the ads will be available in late winter and order forms for the DVDS, bouquets and programs will be available in the spring.

THE DAZZLING STARS

The Dazzling Stars performance team offers dancers an opportunity to gain valuable performing experience, without the pressure or commitment of joining our competition team. They are focused on community outreach and entertainment. These dancers take a minimum of ballet and jazz, in addition to their weekly class that includes stretch and a half hour of choreography. Founded in 2007, the Dazzling Stars perform at several

elderly care facilities, the annual Classy Dancer showcase, the Dance Masters Of Michigan competition, and local area parades.

THE CLASSY DANCERS

The “Classy Dancers” are a nonprofit dance company designed for amateur dancers that have chosen dance as a priority activity. Annual auditions are held for the selection of the competing Troupes. Dancers are selected based on dance abilities, future potential, attendance records, and the evaluations of attitude and effort.

The “Classy Dancers” compete and perform numerous times each year. They also attend several workshops and conventions each season. The company was founded to offer involved students more performance opportunities and professional experiences. The nonprofit company also offers parents the opportunity to fundraise their troupe expenses, through participation in Parents for the Advancement of Dance Arts (PADA).

Dancers wishing to audition for the “Classy Dancers” should be studying a minimum of Jazz and Ballet, as well as a turns class. Workshop and convention attendance is also strongly encouraged. Parents should seek guidance from Lauren Lenter or Terri Newman if their child is hoping to train for the “Classy Dancers.”

HOME PRACTICE

Dancers are encouraged to set aside 10 minute practice sessions, 2 or 3 times weekly. Instructors may assign a practice step each week. Stretches that have been taught in class may be practiced at home; this may make television time more constructive. Splitters Club pins are awarded in June for any dancer who can sit in both a correct right and left split for 1 minute. Home practice makes this easier to obtain. To aid in home practice for the June production, a fee is added to your studio account in January, which will allow you access to all recital music for the season. This is a very valuable tool in for your dancer! After your dancer’s show routine has been taught, there will be a video day, so that you may video the entire dance.

PICTURES

Every spring the Dance Shoppe has a professional photographer come to our studio and take pictures of the dancers in full costume and makeup. The photographer offers a variety of packages involving individual and class pictures. This is offered to interested parents, but is **ABSOLUTELY NOT REQUIRED**. In fact, dancers may elect to participate in only the class picture, and will be part of the June Show Program at no expense to the dancer.

SCHEDULED HOLIDAYS

Classes for the 2020-2021 Dance Season begin Monday, Sept 14 for Classy Dancer and Intensive Classes, and the week of Oct 5 for all other classes

There will be no classes on the following dates:

Halloween – No class Saturday, Oct 31

Thanksgiving – Break begins Wednesday, Nov 25 and classes resume Monday, Nov 30

December Break – Break begins Sunday, Dec 20 and classes resume Monday, Jan 4

February Break – Break begins Friday, Feb 12 and classes resume Saturday, Feb 20

Spring Break – Break begins Sunday, March 28 and classes resume Monday, April 5

Memorial Day – Studio closed May 29-31

Recital – Dates available in September

**Look for “Summer Workshop” dates to be posted in newsletters and online in February.

****All dates subject to change if studio is faced with a mandatory government shutdown.**

SNOW CANCELLATION

WE DO NOT NECESSARILY CANCEL WHEN SCHOOL IS CLOSED. If the weather appears questionable in the late afternoon, please check your email, or check our Facebook page, before leaving your home.