



# T'DANCE HANDBOOK 2023-24

## MISSION STATEMENT

•T'Dance School of Performing Arts is devoted to providing dancers of all ages an encouraging environment in which to grow and excel in their dance education. The teachers strive to offer the highest quality of dance training, while nurturing each student's unique talent and creativity. T'Dance provides an environment that is supportive, encouraging and conducive to learning. We desire for our students to reach their fullest potential, and to support them as they grow artistically and develop into well-rounded individuals. Our students have an enriching and fun experience learning to dance, and also gain a lifelong appreciation for dance!

## TUITION

•Tuition payments are due one month in advance on the first week of each month. Tuition for September is due at time of registration (August) and October tuition is due the first week of September, etc.

•A \$30.00 per student registration fee is due upon registration along with the first month's tuition.

•Options for payment: Cash/check, or automated monthly payments via bank account or credit card is preferred and deducted on the 1st of the month.

•Tuition is based on a year of classes and is the same each month and is not adjusted because of holidays or unattended lessons. All tuition and registration fees are non-refundable. A \$10.00 late fee will be added to the balance due on all accounts paid after the 15th of the month. A \$30.00 fee will be added to all returned checks and declined credit or debit cards. We do not mail or email monthly statements or reminders. A drop box for cash/check tuition payments is in the lobby by the office window. Please have student name on check or envelope with cash.

•T'Dance reserves the right to have students sit out of classes and/or participation in recital for delinquent accounts, until such account is paid in full.

MONTHLY TUITION RATES 2023-24			
SINGLE CLASSES		COMBO CLASSES	
1 CLASS WEEKLY	\$50.00	45 MIN CLASS (AGE 3&4)	\$50.00
2 CLASSES WEEKLY	\$85.00	1 HOUR CLASS (AGES 5-7)	\$50.00
3 CLASSES WEEKLY	\$130.00	1.5 HOUR CLASS (AGES 8-10)	\$75.00
4 CLASSES WEEKLY	\$155.00		
5 CLASSES WEEKLY	\$185.00		
6 CLASSES WEEKLY	\$210.00		
EACH CLASS AFTER 6 ADD:	\$30.00		

- FAMILY RATES: A family discount of 10% will be taken off the total sum of all classes for 2 or more students in the same family.
- \$30.00 REGISTRATION FEE per student and first month's tuition is due at time of registration.
- \$50.00 RECITAL FEE per student is due March 1, 2024.

## CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

•**Ballet/Tap Combo** (ages 3-4 & 5-7) This class is designed for young children beginning to dance. Students increase their understanding of movement and space in creative ways that build strength, balance, flexibility and musicality, and develop fundamental movement skills and coordination through beginning ballet and tap technique. Our classes help students establish a solid foundation to grow from with confidence.

•**Ballet/Tap/Jazz Combo** (ages 8-10) Student must be 8 by November 15. This class will combine all three-forms of dance technique and will begin to challenge the student more in their level of technique, memory and musicality.

•**Tap** classes will combine the learning of tap terminology as well as several different styles of technique. Students will develop rhythm, timing, coordination, counter rhythms and improvisation

•**Clogging** class is different from tap class and has its own terminology, style of dancing and shoes. Clogging is a fun; high-energy class open to Kindergarten through adult.

•**Ballet** is a great foundational technique for all forms of dance and enables the student to be proficient in all areas of dance. Ballet class teaches proper body alignment while building muscle strength, flexibility, grace, poise, balance, self-discipline and self-confidence. It is recommended that all students continue to study ballet in addition to other forms of dance. Ballet is required for a student to take Pointe, Jazz, Modern or Lyrical or Turns/Leaps.

•**Pointe** classes are offered upon instructor approval to advanced students with the technical strength and development in their feet, legs and torso. Several years of ballet study are required before a student will be approved for Pointe class. A length of pre-pointe class work will also be required, this varies between students. Average age to begin Pointe work is age 12. Requirement: Student must be in ballet class.

•**Jazz** - age 8 by November 15 and at least 2 years of previous dance training. Involved in a class are body isolations, floor work, stretching, conditioning and strengthening exercises, progressions and learning of commercial, theatrical and street dance jazz styles. Requirement: Student must be in ballet class.

•**Modern** - students should have at least 2 years of ballet training and must be 10 years of age by November 15. Modern dance classes explore many different styles of technique and expression through movement. Classes involve floor work, stretching, improvisation and some partnering work. Requirement: Student must be in ballet class.

•**Hip Hop** - This class is open to any student age 8 and up. It is recommended that the student also be enrolled in a jazz or ballet class. Hip Hop is a high-energy class that will build upon strength, precision, flexibility and teamwork. Hip Hop dance is a very isolated, precise street dance style. Students must be 8 by November 15.

•**Contemporary/Lyrical** - Offered to ages 6th grade and up. Lyrical is a combination of ballet, jazz and modern techniques and all styles of movement focusing on interpreting the emotion and lyrics of music. Requirement: Student must be in ballet class.

•**Musical Theater** - Students should have 2 years of previous dance training and must be enrolled in ballet class. This class will combine jazz technique with theatrical elements and learning quick footwork, precision, specific arm movements and a bit of acting as well! This class is open to 6th through 12th grade.

•**Acrobatics** - This class will teach flexibility, strength and tumbling skills! This is a high energy class and students will move through stations to build on their skills and tricks! This class is open to 6th through 12th grade.

•**Leaps & Turns** – Focus of the class will be dynamic turns, jumps and leaps as well as strengthening and flexibility exercises required to accomplish consistent, clean turns, jumps and leaps. Requirement: Student must be in ballet class.

## REGISTRATION AND PLACEMENT

•A \$30.00 per student registration fee is due upon registration along with the first month's tuition. Without payment, a place in class will not be guaranteed. Classes are arranged for the student according to age, ability and technique level. Students may be transferred to other classes if the instructor finds it is necessary and in the best interest of the student. Please do not request class changes so that students can be with friends, etc. We do our best to fulfill everyone's wishes and at the same time keep our dance classes at certain technique levels. Many factors are considered when determining placement of a student. Students will advance based on technique level, ability, attitude, consistency in work, attendance, musicality and physical and emotional readiness.



*"There are shortcuts to happiness and dancing is one of them."*

## DROP/WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS

•All class changes or withdrawals from class must be submitted in writing to the T'Dance office. A 30-day notice is required to change your schedule and tuition charges will continue to incur, until notice is given.

## CLASSROOM CONDUCT/ETIQUETTE

•Students will be respectful of themselves, their classmates and their teachers and assistants. We expect students to be on time, dress properly and have a good attitude. If problems arise the student may be asked to sit down or leave the class. We will speak with the parents if a problem arises. We prefer to work and openly communicate with parents on any behavior issues that arise.

•**No gum chewing, food or drink in the studios or dressing rooms.** Please bring your own water bottle into class. We do have a bottle filler on the water fountain in the hallway.

•If you are more than 10 minutes late to class or are not dressed appropriately, you may be asked to sit and observe class. The warm up period of a class is essential to preventing injuries and latecomers disrupt the productive flow of a class.

## CLASS CANCELATIONS

•If classes are canceled due to weather or instructor illness/absence, the studio will try to schedule a make-up class time. Due to the number of classes and instructors involved per evening and student's other activities, it sometimes becomes impossible to make up these classes. All families will be notified via text message and email of class cancelations. You may also check our website and Facebook page, and Local 4 News weather closings.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

•Students should make every effort to attend all classes. Please notify your instructor or the studio if you will be missing a class. It is the student and parent responsibility to schedule a make-up class time with their instructor. The class a student has originally been placed in is of more value to the student's progress than a make-up class; therefore, students should attempt to attend their own scheduled class time. Sometimes, there may not be a suitable class for a student to participate in for a make up class.

•**Students are allowed only one absence per class, per month, from January through May. Also, students may not miss two weeks consecutively during this time.** This is when the performance dances are being taught for our annual recital and any student having more absences than this will not be allowed to perform in that class. Any exception to this must be discussed with your instructor and Teresa in advance. Special private make-up lessons must be arranged with the instructor for any classes missed January – May, at \$70.00 an hour. Attendance should be a priority at all times.

•We must have a written note from a physician for any student with an injury or illness that that requires them to sit and observe class, and a provided timeline or date for recovery and return to class.

## CLASS OBSERVATION

•Viewing of classes is available through windows in the lobby. There will be 3 viewing weeks throughout the year. You may find these dates on the studio calendar.



## DRESS CODE

- Adhering to a dress code is an important part of a student's dance education. Along with proper classroom etiquette, a dress code shows respect for the art of dance, the teachers, and the students themselves.
- All dancers should have a bag to carry their shoes into the classroom. Shoes and bag should be clearly labeled with dancers first and last name.
- Hair must be worn secured back and away from the face and off of the neck at all times, in all classes. For Ballet, hair must be pulled back into a neat, secure ballet bun.

•Dance is a disciplined art form and must be respected as such. To teach effectively, see proper body alignment, and make necessary corrections, the dancer must be dressed properly. Dance shoes are purchased through T'Dance so that the students are sized correctly, and everyone has the correct shoes for their classes. **Do not come to dance class in your sports practice clothing and expect to participate.**

**•DRESS CODES WILL BE ENFORCED. NO SWEATS, T SHIRTS, BAGGY CLOTHES OR STREET CLOTHES ARE TO BE WORN FOR ANY CLASS. BARE MIDRIFTS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN CLASS.**

**•You may not be allowed to dance if you are not dressed appropriately.**

BALLET	Solid color leotards, pink tights, pink Bloch ballet shoes. (skirts optional) <b>Hair in bun.</b>
POINTE	Same as Ballet – all pointe shoes must be pre-approved by instructor before wearing in class. <b>Hair in bun.</b>
TAP	Leotards, tights, or leggings, black tap shoes.
JAZZ	Leotard or fitted tank, tights or leggings and black/tan Bloch jazz shoes. Dance shorts are allowed- <b>regular shorts are not allowed.</b> Some classes require black, and some tan Bloch jazz shoes-depending on costume.
LYRICAL	Same as Jazz class, tan Bloch jazz shoes.
MODERN	Leotard or fitted tank, leggings or footless tights, bare feet. Knees need to be covered-no shorts!
MUSICAL THEATER	Same as Jazz class. Black character shoes required. (We will order these as a class.)
CLOGGING	Leotard and tights or shorts/t-shirt, white clogging shoes, **please see note below on shoes
HIP HOP	Leotard or fitted tank, dance shorts or leggings, jazz shoes or sneakers. <b>If you wear sneakers they may not be worn outside of the studio and must be for use in class only!</b>
POM	Leotard and tights or leggings. Black Bloch jazz shoes
ACROBATICS	Leotard and bike shorts or leggings. No baggy clothes, no shoes.
BALLET/TAP COMBO	Leotard, pink tights for ballet and tap. <b>Hair in bun.</b> Skirts are optional, and leotards may be any color and may have a skirt attached.
BALLET/TAP/JAZZ COMBO	Leotard, pink tights for ballet and tap. <b>Hair in bun.</b> Skirts are optional, and leotards may be any color and may have a skirt attached. Dance shorts or leggings may be worn over tights for tap & jazz only.

•\* Students are responsible for ordering their own clogging shoes from [www.stevensclogging.com](http://www.stevensclogging.com) Youth style #526C or #506 and Adult style #527c or #507. It is best to call for correct sizing when placing an order, and students also need to have the buck taps installed when ordering.

## PICK UP/DROP OFF/PARKING

•Parents may drop off their child 10 minutes before the class begins. If your student is arriving more than 10 minutes before the start of their class, they must be under supervision of a parent. The area in front of the building is for driving through and dropping off students only. **Do not park in the drop off lane to pick up after a class. Please enter the drive from the East and exit to the West to keep traffic flowing. DO NOT PARK ON THE ROCK AREA IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING!** Parking is available on the East side of the building. **Please be on time to pick up your child after class, especially if it is the last class of the evening.** For the safety of our students and your children, dancers must wait inside the building for their ride. Students should not be waiting more than 5-10 minutes for their ride after class.

## LOST AND FOUND

•T'Dance is not responsible for items lost or left behind. We have a Lost & Found, where all items will be placed. Unclaimed items will be donated throughout the year.

## TEACHING ASSISTANTS

•Teacher assistants are selected each year to help instructors in some classes. These students are chosen by considering their level of dance excellence and achievement, understanding and working knowledge of the technique, their personal growth, all around character and love of working with younger children to whom they serve as important mentors or role models.

## NEW YORK TRIP

•T'Dance sponsors a trip to New York City every other summer. The trip is open to Juniors and Seniors in high school. The trip consists of taking dance classes, seeing Broadway shows, other dance performances, sightseeing and shopping. Space is limited on our NYC trips and we will have an informational meeting in the fall. The next planned trip is for June 2025.



## PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

•We encourage parents to be active in their child's dance education. We strive to have great communication between parents, instructors and students about all activities at the studio. Please feel free to speak with your child's instructor if you have any questions about their progress or participation in class. But, also note that depending on teaching schedule they may not have time to talk in between classes. You may also email or call.

•**Parents must provide T'Dance with an email address that is checked regularly!** All studio news, activities and updates will be sent via email. This information will also be posted on the bulletin board in the front hallway, our Facebook page, and studio website: [www.tdance4me.com](http://www.tdance4me.com)

•It is the parents/student's responsibility to stay informed of the latest studio news.

•**Please notify the office in writing or email of any address, phone, or email changes. Also, if a credit card that is being used for auto withdrawal is replaced or expires, the office needs to be notified.**

## SHOWTIME-ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Showtime is our annual performance and is held for 2 evenings at the Hastings City Auditorium. All students may participate in Showtime, but it is not required. We do not separate into age groups for performances. Our younger students aspire to dance like the older dancers, and many of our older students are assisting with the younger students and love to watch them from the wings! Everyone is part of the production together and the performance is the highlight of the year for our students! It is their chance to show what they have accomplished throughout the year of dance training. Performing is part of dance training and helps the dancers to grow in self-confidence, stage direction, awareness in space and working within their class as a group. It is a very exciting event for our dancers that they look forward to all year long! Showtime only happens once a year, please mark these dates on your calendar!

- A detailed handout of information regarding "SHOWTIME" will be emailed out during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of classes.

- Costumes are purchased in November and a detailed sheet including cost for each class, and all items needed for each costume will be emailed out in November. Due date for costume payments is November 2, 2023.

- Dates for all rehearsals are Tuesday-Thursday, May 28-30, 2024. Performances are Friday-May 31, and Saturday-June 1, 2024.**

- Dress rehearsals are CLOSED, only parents that are signed up to help with classes are allowed at dress rehearsals.**

- All rehearsals are required, please mark your calendar now.**

- Recital fee of \$50 per student is due March 1, 2024**

- Students that are in combination classes perform on **only one night** of Showtime.

- Students in all single classes perform on **both nights** of Showtime.

- The assignment of which night each combination class performs (Friday or Saturday) will be sent out with the costume information in October.

"Take more chances, dance more dances!"





# T'Dance Calendar 2023-24

August 2 & 3, 2023	Returning Student Registration
August 8 & 9, 2023	New & Returning Student Registration
September 4, 2023	No Classes - Labor Day
September 5, 2023	Classes Begin
October 23-26, 2023	Class Observation Week
October 31, 2023	No Classes - Halloween
November 2, 2023	Costume Payments Due
November 20-24, 2023	No Classes – Thanksgiving Break
December 22, 2023 – January 7, 2024	No Classes – Christmas Break
January 8, 2024	Classes Resume
February 26-29, 2024	Class Observation Week
March 1, 2024	Recital Fee Due
March 18-22, 2024	No Classes – Spring Break
April 22-25, 2024	Class Observation Week
April 19-20, 2024	Costume Photos
May 28, 29, 30, 2024	Staging Rehearsals
May 29 & 30, 2024	Dress Rehearsals
May 31 & June 1, 2024	SHOWTIME 2024
June-July 2024	Summer Dance Session
June & July 2024	OCU Broadway Bound Dance Camp-Oklahoma, Snowy Range Summer Dance Festival-Wyoming

# Contact Information

- **STUDIO ADDRESS: 1400 WEST A ST., HASTINGS NE, 68901**
- **PHONE: 402-463-2864**
- **WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.TDANCE4ME.COM](http://www.tdance4me.com)**
- **FACEBOOK: T'DANCE SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS**
- **EMAIL: [TDANCEHASTINGS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TDANCEHASTINGS@GMAIL.COM)**

