



Welcome to the Dartmouth Dance Academy!

dartmouth dance
ACADEMY

www.footstepsdance.ca

Info & Policies

Please Read Carefully- You will be responsible for following all information found in this package.

GOALS:

Our goals are:

- To provide a warm, friendly atmosphere allowing students to create and express themselves.
- To encourage students to reach their full potential.
- To develop amateur and professional qualifications.
- To provide students with performance opportunities.
- To develop team spirit, exercise, poise and character.
- To develop sound technique and a love of dance.

TERMS

Dance is offered for two terms of progressive training, September to May. The time will be consistent providing sufficient enrollment. We end our Dance year with a Recital in May.

ATTENDANCE

To fully participate in class and out of consideration of fellow students and teachers, we ask students to **be prepared to dance** at the time designated. We appreciate the effort that students and parents make to be on time. We ask that students use the washroom prior to class.

Parents/Guardians of young children must be available outside the studio to attend to any emergencies that may arise (e.g. washroom) during students' class times. We ask that children be picked up from class at the correct time, as exchanging of students between sessions does not allow for adequate supervision for baby-sitting. Teachers will discuss what we do to provide a systematic and safe method for pickup.

POLICY: ANY STUDENT MISSING 3 CLASSES IN ANY GIVEN TERM MAY RISK NOT BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE YEAR END RECITAL OR DANCE EXAMS- THIS IS LEFT UP TO THE TEACHER'S DISCRETION.

ATTIRE

Dress code: Dance attire is listed in our brochure and is posted on our bulletin board and website. Dance attire should be labeled (**including shoes**) to prevent loss.

*** If it is deemed that your child's attire may cause a safety issue, your child may be asked to remain seated for the duration of the class.

EXAMS

Exams are optional. They are taken at the discretion of the teacher in all three disciplines. Students are not required to take these exams but are encouraged. They prove to be a valuable assessment of progress for student and teacher. They are recognized across Canada and are high school credits in some provinces. Dance examinations are not usually taken until the second or third year of dance and are usually taken in the spring. Students are evaluated through the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (CDTA), a national organization that provides the standards for dance school students and instructors.

Students may take graded (theory) and medal testing (performance) and they receive certificates and/or medals. These exams can lead to professional certification. You will be notified if your child qualifies for a Dance Exam. Parents should understand that Dance Exams are sometimes booked during regular School Hours (during a weekday morning or afternoon) and are at times booked in another location than where your child normally takes their Dance Classes. Payments for exams will be required in February.

PARENT DAY

Watch for a notice near the end of 1st term to invite you to attend a class in progress. This time can be used for Questions and Answer. If a matter is urgent, please give the teacher your phone number and the teacher or Lisa will call you rather than take up class time.

New students, particularly students in the Toddler and Pre-School Classes, are often nervous or shy in the first few classes. The teacher will make suggestions, such as a parent attending the class or allowing the child to see you if you are waiting outside. The aim is to diminish the need for a parent to be present all the time. Students participate more freely when others are not watching and look forward to Parent Day to be able to perform for their parents.

NOTICES

During the Dance Year, there will be several notices sent home regarding Parent Day, Recital, and Exams etc. Please check with your child as well as the bulletin board for important information. Information and notices will be available on the DDA website- visit anytime at www.dartmouthdance.ca

RECITAL

Our annual recital takes place in May each year and is a wonderful experience for parent and child alike. The costumes, dances and the ambience of the theatre is a rewarding experience for a dancer. If you cannot participate let the teacher know by the second term if possible, as costumes and dances will be prepared by then. Recital costs are kept to a minimum. Rehearsals are held for the recital and are counted as a class during the second term. For safety reasons the rehearsals are mandatory to participate in the recital. Complete recital information will be distributed and posted on the bulletin board.

COSTUMES

A costume is required for each discipline (Ballet, Jazz, Tap etc) that your child is enrolled in. Costumes are resold, revamped, re-used, loaned and/or wearable for everyday use if possible. The staff spend many hours trying to find the best prices for you that they can. Payment for costumes for Level 6 and up will be required in November. All other levels will pay for costumes in January. Costume costs are non-refundable once ordered. It is advisable to keep your costumes from year to year because Dartmouth Dance Academy may be able to sell, re-use or add to existing ones. Please pay your costume fee on time so that the instructor can proceed with purchasing costumes.

PHOTOGRAPHY

DDA school photos are done in May each year. These pictures are done by a professional photographer and are taken in full dance costume. All dances are photographed and we ask that all students be present even if you do not wish to purchase photos, as group pictures are taken as well. Photo days are counted as a class during second term.

SHOE EXCHANGE

Shoes for sale should be tied together in a see-through bag with name, telephone number, and price listed on the shoe or on an index card that is attached. Shoes can be put in the 2nd hand box at either location. DDA cannot be responsible for lost or stolen shoes.

CANCELLED CLASSES

This facility rarely cancels classes. In emergencies there will be public announcements so check TV, radio, or call the Facility. In case of cancellation, a staff member will also try and reach you.

FOOTSTEPS DANCE TEAMS

Ms. Lisa Hart directs Footsteps Dance Team(s). Footsteps is a competitive performance troupe. For complete info see www.dartmouthdance.ca and click on "Footsteps Competition Dance Team" at the top of the page (right-hand side).

CONTACT INFO

For further info, visit our website at www.dartmouthdance.ca. DDA Faculty each has a work email address posted online. Questions pertaining to your class, inquiries, or attendance notes may be sent to your teacher's email. Staff are not available for contact by phone, other than Lisa Hart. To leave a message with the director, you may call 464-2600 ext 572.

We hope you enjoy the year with us and thank you for your support.