

STUDIO POLICIES* & PROCEDURES



2021
-
2022

WELCOME

Session dates

Fall 2021 session

August 30 - December 18, 2021

Winter/Spring 2022 session

January 10 - June 7, 2022

Summer 2022 session

June 20 - August 11, 2022 (tentative)

You must re-register for every session. Registration does NOT roll over. Dancers do NOT have to take the same class(es) each session, we encourage them to try new classes! Dance is a session commitment. For drop policies, see Jackrabbit.

Registration & Tuition

Tuition installments

We refer to our tuition as "installments" and not monthly tuition. Some months have a different amount of classes than the other. So we take the total class cost for the session (example: a 60 minute class for Winter/Spring is \$300) and divide it into 5 equal installments of \$60 due Jan 1, Feb 1, March 1, April 1, May 1.

NEW beginning January 2022

All families must be enrolled in auto pay. You can pay by a different form of payment BEFORE the 1st, otherwise ALL families cards on file will be charged on the 1st of the month.

Accepted forms of payment

Using our Jackrabbit parent portal, you must add a credit or debit card. Or, you can pay by check in the studio **before** the 1st of the month.

Multi student discount

Families enrolled in 3+ classes receive 10% off.

Policies

When you register online, you are prompted to review and sign off on all studio policies. This booklet is an overview!

Spiritwear

DDA spiritwear can be purchased through the Kustom Kreations online store (link on dreamsdance.com)



From their first steps....

Dreams Dance
ACADEMY

2012-2022

At DDA...no dream is too big and every student matters.



...to a pink cap at their senior year recital!

Studio Contact info

PHONE 630.443.2181

Office hours vary but are typically: 3:30-7:30pm M - Th; 9:30am-12pm Sat. Please leave a message if outside those hours or send an email.

EMAIL info@dreamsdance.com
STUDIO CELL 847.721.2907

This should be used when you need to get a hold of us at events outside the studio such as parades, performances, and competitions

Dress Code and Dancewear store

Our dress code can be found on dreamsdance.com! It is important that dancers dress appropriately.

We have an online dancewear store!

Sample shoe sizes are in the studio so you know what size to order. Super easy and convenient! Orders are shipped directly to your home.

We appreciate your support!

shopnimbly.com/dreams



facebook.com/dreamsdanceacademy



[@dreamsdanceacademy](https://www.instagram.com/dreamsdanceacademy)

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What should dancers bring

Dancers should have everything in ONE bag. If your particular class (example Pre-Pointe or Flex/Stretch) requires any additional items, **dancers will receive a handout the first week.**

Please leave all unnecessary items at home. Put your dancer's name in all dance shoes and on water bottles. If your dancer loses something, please check the lost and found.

Dropping off & picking up

Dancers age 2-5 should be brought in by their parent/guardian, as well as the parent come IN to pick them up. Otherwise, it is the parents discretion whether you feel your child needs to be walked in or if you are comfortable dropping them off to walk in themselves.

We try our best (but urgent situations arise!) to have a staff member at the door helping younger kids in and out during peak times. When it's dark out, it is also the parents discretion whether you allow your child to wait for you outside or inside. We prefer they wait inside the first set of doors. Or of course you can tell them you will come in to pick up!

Dancers are NOT permitted to leave the studio to go somewhere to eat, etc. while under our watch unless we are contacted by a parent letting us know this is OK. The exception is dancers of driving age who drive on their own to the studio.

First few weeks of classes

The first few weeks, the studio will naturally get loud and congested during peak times! After a few weeks when everyone gets in a routine - things settle down.

We are a large studio with four dance rooms - it will take a few weeks for us to get in a good groove as well with letting kids in and out of classes when there are multiple classes starting and ending at the same time. Please do not stand in the doorways of the dance rooms.

If a teacher feels a student is not in the incorrect level, they will let the director know and communication will come from the studio via phone or email.

Stay connected

We have a password protected page on our website for families (Zoom links and passwords, private lesson scheduler, and more), and a private Facebook group.

- "[DDA Families only](http://dreamsdance.com)" page on dreamsdance.com - current password is **bethechange**

Our website

www.dreamsdance.com

Our website has a TON of info on all the various programs and "extras" we offer! From class descriptions to Performance Trips to birthday parties to our dance teams...we want you to be in the know of all we offer!

Please browse it when you have time.

More than dance

Read about these programs and offerings on dreamsdance.com!

- Performance Trips: Disney World, New York City, & more. Always open to ALL dancers age 8 and up
- Soul Dancer Conference in CT
- Birthday Parties
- Brownie Troupes (earn a dancer badge!)
- Student of the Month program
- Inspiration Scholarship Program
- Dance teams - Dance Company and Performance Troupe
- Club DDA - Storytimes and special events around the community!
- Pop up camps
- Leadership Academy
- Senior loyalty program. High School seniors who have been dancing here for at least 8 years, receive their senior year PAID for!

Throughout the year we participate in various community parades that ALL dancers are invited to participate in!

Winter weather cancellations

In the case of a cancellation due to weather, an email will be sent. At times, a text alert as well. It will be posted on our social media pages, too. Make up classes will be scheduled or classes held virtually.

Monthly give back & theme weeks

Giving back is important to us and it helps teach our dancers so much more than "just the steps." We hope they will give back on their own outside the studio, too!

Each month (beg in Jan. '22 every other month) we have a different give back and collect either monetary or item donations, depending on the cause. It is typically the same week as our theme week (example: crazy hair week). See our [website calendar](#) and lobby bulletin board! We also send an email at the beginning of each give back and theme week.



youtube.com/dreamsdanceacademy



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Lobby & Parent Observation

FOR CURRENT COVID POLICIES/RESTRICTIONS, SEE WEBSITE. THIS IS BEING WRITTEN FOR "NORMAL" TIMES

Parents can wait in the lobby during class or drop off/pick up. It's a great time to get errands done! There are plenty staff around to help change dancers shoes. The lobby can get loud and congested which makes for unfortunate distractions to our dancers/teachers in class, so please be mindful. Siblings waiting with parents should NOT be eating in the lobby, nor should they be running around unattended.

Dancers in multiple classes

Dancers who have back to back classes or are at the studio for extended periods of time

- Have a copy of their schedule in their dance bag so they know where they need to be and when
 - Dress accordingly! Dancers should NOT be making outfit changes. For example, if they have a hip hop class then ballet - wear a leotard and tights for ballet, with shorts or leggings over it for hip hop. Shoes should be **untied** in dance bag/cubby, ready to put on quickly between classes.
 - Water and snacks. Bring your own water!
- Snacks/meals: For dancers here 3+ hrs, it is OK to bring food but you **MUST** only eat in designated areas. Clean up after yourself and be respectful of our home. There is a fridge and microwave in the back, and tables to eat at (for dancers only).

Studio Holidays

- Feb. 21-22, 2022
- March 2-3, 2022
- March 28 - April 2, 2022 (Spring Break)
- Friday May 27 - Monday May 30 (Memorial Day)

A current, up to date FULL studio [calendar](#) is on dreamsdance.com. These are just the closed dates for Winter/Spring. We have two "random" holidays (Feb 21-22 and March 2-3) so that every class day has TWO no class dates and we can price all classes the same; that is only fair!

Private Lessons

Private lessons are \$40 for 30 minutes or \$55 for 45 minutes. Fees will be posted to your account and must be paid by the day of lesson, otherwise we will use your card on file. The scheduler is on the [DDA Families Page](#) on [dreamsdance.com](#). Parents/dancers sign up on their own. It is a Google Drive doc and a super easy new way of scheduling!

If a teacher isn't listed on the scheduler, they are not offering private lessons. Instructors add their own availability as they choose to.

Attendance & Absences

We do not need to be notified if your dancer will be missing class.* If you do still notify us, please know we do not pass it on to the instructor as it isn't necessary and we would spend half our day doing that.

If your dancer is going to miss two weeks in a row though, we do ask you let us know. We do check in with families of dancers who have missed 2 or more weeks. We want to make sure everything is OK!

*Dance Company members should reference their handbook for absence policies for rehearsal classes

Make-up classes

Dancers who miss a class, are welcome to make up that class in an age/level appropriate class within 2 weeks of the missed class. You must email info@dreamsdance.com to confirm it is OK to attend a particular class, and then you or your dancer must sign in at the front desk.

Virtual classes

Since November 2020, 100% of our classes have been offered virtually in ADDITION to in person. This allows for an easy, seamless option as parents don't even need to contact the studio!

Please check the [DDA Families page](#) on our website for virtual class info; as of this printing, we will continue offering it for the time being.



Covid policies

For current policies, precautions, and restrictions in place due to COVID, please see [the website](#). As you know, things are still constantly changing and we have to continually adapt to keep our doors open and our dance family healthy.

Annual Recital

Our annual recital is held every June at St. Charles North High School...of course with the exception of 2020 and 2021 when we built our own outdoor theater in the parking lot!

Our 10th Anniversary Recital is June 11-12, 2022. It is Disney themed and titled "The Magical World of DDA." Recital season begins with our Winter/Spring session in January. Please reference the [Recital page](#) on our website for further details.

Stay tuned for all the magical FUN we have planned! We go all out for recital and really make it an "experience" for every dancer. We give them (and parents!) so much more than their time dancing on stage with their class. #theDDAWay

Your contact info
Please make sure your address, phone (cell included), and email are always up to date in your [parent portal](#). We send birthday cards, occasional texts, and surprise Student of the Month signs in yards!

Studio Calendar

Please check out the [Calendar page](#) on [dreamsdance.com](#) - we have so much FUN that you don't want to miss out on!

Bulletin Board

We have a bulletin board in the main lobby with upcoming events and reminders, too!

Class curriculum

All our instructors follow the same class curriculum that we have developed over the years. Every genre has curriculum and a syllabi for each level. This ensures accuracy, consistency, and quality dance education. The syllabi must be mastered by a dancer in order to move to the next level. EVERY DANCER LEARNS AND PROGRESSES AT A DIFFERENT PACE! Each child has unique strengths. Example: You can have the same group of dancers all start dancing at age 5, but by age 12 they may be in a variety of levels. As we always remind dancers....**only compare yourself to the dancer YOU were yesterday.**

The teacher of your child's class (or audition in the case of Dance Company), is the one to evaluate your dancer. When and if a dancer is ready to progress to the next level, you will receive written notice via email from the studio.

Parent Observation Weeks

Twice a year (in normal times!) we hold Parent Observation Week. This is a time when parents are invited to sit inside the classroom the entire class to watch! We love doing this and kids love showing you their progress.

Pre-School Program

Monthly Themes

We incorporate a theme into pre-school classes each month! It keeps learning fun and engaging for our youngest dancers. Typically our Pop-up camps coincide with the theme, too! Check out the studio calendar for camps.

January - "Winter Wonderland"

February - "Love is in the Air"

March - "Lucky Leprechauns"

April - "The Bunny Hop"

May - "Recital Ready"

What classes are in the Pre-School program?

- Tiny Dreamers
- Pre-Ballet/Tap
- Tot Hip Hop

Helpful Tips and reminders

Please make sure your dancer uses the restroom before class! This is a HUGE help for us.

Please tuck their ballet laces in, or double knot them then cut off the extra. Ask us for help if you are unsure how to do this!

We do not use prop boxes right now. Please don't send them if you have them from last season.

Trust the process...embrace the journey!

Young dancers may have a hard time at first whether it's tears, tantrums, or lack of participation - it's all normal! Children learn best through consistency, and it will take at least a few weeks for some to adapt to their new activity.