

# STUDIO J DANCE CENTER INFORMATION PACKET

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[www.StudioJDanceCenter.com](http://www.StudioJDanceCenter.com)



August 26, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the start of a new dance year at Studio J Dance Center! Whether you are returning or are new to our studio, we are committed to providing you and your dancer with an exceptional experience, where every student can thrive and develop their passion for dance.

We want to ensure that you have all the necessary information to make this year as smooth and enjoyable as possible. Enclosed in this packet, you will find essential details about our studio policies, class schedules, important dates, and other relevant information.

Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help and support you and your child in any way we can.

Thank you for being part of the Studio J Dance Center family!

Warm regards,

Laura J. Thornburg

WELCOME HOME

# MEET YOUR TEAM

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## **Laura Jensen Thornburg**

*Owner | Artistic Director |*

Ms. Laura has over 25 years of teaching experience in multiple genres of dance, though tap is her favorite. She has been a certified member teacher of Carolina Dance Masters, Inc. and Dance Masters of America for over 25 years. Currently Ms. Laura is serving as the 1st Vice-President of Carolina Dance Masters, Inc.

## **Brandi Black**

*Office Manager | Clogging Instructor*

Ms. Brandi was a student at Studio J when it opened in 2001. After her time as a student, Brandi joined the studio teaching staff as our clogging instructor and eventually took on the role of Office Manager.



## **Leondria McRae**

*Instructor*

Ms. LeiLei began her dance training at Studio J Dance Center as a young child and continued through high school. She continued her dance education at UNC-Greensboro earning her BFA in dance and is a member of Carolina Dance Masters, Inc. Outside of teaching, Ms. LeiLei also performs professionally for area contemporary choreographers.



## **Emily Wooters**

*Instructor*

Ms. Emily joined the Studio J faculty in 2022. She holds a BFA in dance from UNC-Greensboro. A member of Carolina Dance Masters, Inc., Ms. Emily is also the dance teacher at Lexington High School.



## **Claire Fields**

*Instructor*

Ms. Claire has officially joined the studio teaching staff this fall. Ms. Claire obtained her dance training at Studio J Dance Center. She participates in the Carolina Dance Masters, Inc. Junior Membership.



# ABOUT THE STUDIO

Studio J Dance Center strives to create an environment that builds self-esteem and confidence, in addition to providing quality dance education in a loving and family-centered atmosphere.

Parents can be assured their child will receive exceptional dance training and the opportunity to develop tools that extend far beyond the classroom and stage.

We offer ballet, tap, jazz, modern, acrobatics, clogging, contemporary/lyrical, and hip hop, as well as preschool classes (ballet, tap, acrobatics) designed specifically for social, physical, and age appropriate development.

Studio J Dance Center is proud to have three instructors, Ms. Laura, Ms. Leondria, and Ms. Emily that are certified and degreed members of Carolina Dance Masters, Inc., Dance Masters of America, Inc. Affiliate Chapter #15.



# CALENDAR

Registration and shoe fittings from 4pm to 7pm on:

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Monday, August 19, 2024

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

August 26, 2024: First Day of Classes

September 2, 2024: Closed Labor Day

September 23-27, 2024: Bring a Friend Week

October 24-30, 2024: Fall Spirit Week (Wear Costumes)

October 31, 2024: Closed, Halloween

November 11, 2024: Closed, Veterans Day

November 26-29, 2024: Closed, Thanksgiving Holiday

December 16-20, 2024: Holiday Spirit Week (Dress Festive)

December 20, 2024- Jan 3, 2025: Closed, Christmas Break

January 6, 2025: Classes Resume

January 20, 2025: Closed, MLK, Jr. Holiday

February 9-13, 2025: Share the Love Parent Watch Week

April 14-18, 2025: Closed, Spring Break

April 22, 2025: Classes Resume

May 26, 2025: Closed, Memorial Day

May 27-29, 2025: Performance Rehearsal Week, Times TBD

Dress Rehearsal - May 30, 2025 @ High Point Theater, Times TBD

Recital - May 31, 2025 @ High Point Theater, Times TBD

Picture Day - TBA

Snow make-up days - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, and Spring Break may be used as make-up days if excessive classes are missed due to snow.



# STUDIO POLICIES

## UNDERSTANDING DANCE EDUCATION

As a parent, the financial support of your student is important, but of equal and perhaps even greater value is your emotional support. Encourage your child to be the best he or she can be without regard to what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form; each child needs to achieve at a pace that is comfortable for him or her. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the same training. It is important to encourage the children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments.

Dance Education encompasses far more than technique or the steps your children will learn. We believe the discipline that dance training gives young people results in a better understanding of what hard work can accomplish. Our goal is to educate the minds, bodies, and hearts of our students; to teach them the skills needed for a successful life beyond the dance world.

## DOS AND DON'TS

Some parents may compare their child's progress or class placement to that of others in our program. Watch for this behavior in your children as well, and encourage them to focus on their own accomplishments and progression. Looking to others for inspiration is a good thing; however, negativity or making comparisons distracts from the energy that could be focused on becoming a stronger dancer. In addition, speaking negatively about your child's teachers, studio staff, fellow dancers, or other parents in front of your child (or other students) are seeds for gossip and will likely exacerbate an issue or problem.

Children learn important lessons from their teachers and parents, acquiring important behavior patterns through their example. Our staff takes that responsibility very seriously. It is our philosophy to encourage our students to feel, think, and act respectfully to peers, the adults in their lives, and themselves.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's dance education, DON'T PANIC! Please don't talk with other parents when questions arise. Email or call Ms. Laura or Ms. Brandi. Please conduct all communication through email or phone call rather than approaching your child's teacher(s) between or after classes. This will ensure privacy, with no distractions, and adequate time to explain your concerns.

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is necessary to progress in dance training at any level. If absenteeism is frequent, the instructor will determine whether to allow a student to participate in the Dance Recital. This is only fair to those students who attend regularly and are keeping up with class progression. Attendance is a consideration for a student's placement and can affect progressions in class level.

# STUDIO POLICIES

## **CLASS PLACEMENT**

Our teachers regularly discuss student progress and class placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities for all children. Class placement is derived from many years of teaching experience. A student is placed in a particular class where he or she will feel confident to promote a dancer's self-esteem. Some dancers placed at a higher level become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with students who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex. Teachers will move a student if they find they are not in the correct class. Decisions on class placement are not personal and are made for the benefit of each student.

## **PARENT COMMUNICATION**

We will use email frequently to make studio announcements. Please make sure that we have your most recent email address. To be sure that emails reach your inbox instead of your spam folder, please place our email address in your contact list: [studiojdancecenter@gmail.com](mailto:studiojdancecenter@gmail.com). If you do not use email, please let us know so we can send paper copies of any correspondence home with your child.

## **PARENT PORTAL**

Parents can enroll, send messages, check account balances, and make payments online through their Jackrabbit Parent Portal. If you have not yet, please set up your portal account. A link is available on our website or you can request the staff send you a personal invitation to complete your access.

## **CLASS PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS**

- Appropriate behavior is always expected. Students who are disrespectful in class to instructors or other students will be asked to leave. All students are expected to be polite during class as well as dressing and waiting areas.
- Restrooms should be used between classes only. Parents of young students are asked to take their child to the restroom prior to class.
- Students should not be dropped off at the studio more than 10 minutes prior to their first scheduled class. Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children in the waiting areas. Studio J staff is NOT responsible for the supervision of students outside of student's scheduled class time.
- Parents are not allowed inside the classroom as it is often a distraction that takes away from learning. Parents will be invited in periodically so they may monitor their child's progress.

# STUDIO POLICIES

## **RECITAL**

The Recital is presented as a professional performance utilizing full costumes, stage lighting, and music. One learns to perform by performing. The Recital is a time to demonstrate talent and is part of the training experience. Recitals offer the opportunity for students to develop poise, confidence, and pride while increasing knowledge and appreciation of the performing arts. We strive for this to be a positive learning experience for your child.

To participate in the recital, all account balances must be paid in full before the performance

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Inclement weather may result in the cancellation of classes. Email announcements will be sent out by 2:30 pm on the day in question to announce any closings. We usually follow the Asheboro City Schools' decisions; however, some of our staff travel into town to teach and we must consider their safety when making decisions.

## **DROP OFF / PICKUP**

Students will enter through the front door. Staff will walk dancers out to the front sidewalk to meet their parents at the end of class. Students should not be dropped off any sooner than 10 minutes prior to the start of their first class. Parents who need to make payments or complete registration should see the staff at the front desk. A link for online enrollment is available on our website [www.StudioJDanceCenter.com](http://www.StudioJDanceCenter.com)

## **SAFETY PROCEDURES**

Students will be asked to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands as soon as they enter the studio. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building. Each dancer will have a designated location to store their belongings. Please send ONLY items that are essential for their time at dance. For students with extended class time, please bring a personal water bottle.

*Anyone who is sick — including staff, students, and families — should not come to class. We ask that individuals be free from fever, without the use of fever reducing medication, for at least 24 hours prior to attending class. Additionally, students and staff should not attend class until 24 hours after experiencing vomiting or diarrhea. Please refer to the dancer's medical provider on any other return to participation requirements.*

# 2024-2025 DANCE CLASS SCHEDULE



**M**

4:00-5:30	K-2 Ballet / Tap / Tumble Combo	3:45-4:45	Preschool Ballet / Tap / Tumble Combo
5:30-6:15	Junior Modern	5:00-6:00	Ballet / Tap Combo (Mini ages 7-11)
6:15-7:30	Junior Team Jazz (Tech. & Choreo)	6:00-6:30	Jazz (Mini ages 7-11)
		6:30-7:30	Intermediate / Advanced Ballet
		7:30-8:00	Intermediate / Advanced Jazz
		8:00-8:30	Intermediate / Advanced Tap

**T**

5:00-6:00	Petite Team Ballet	5:00-6:30	K-2 Ballet / Tap / Tumble Combo
6:00-6:30	Petite Team Tap	6:30-7:15	Hip Hop (ages 12 & up)
6:30-7:15	Petite Team Jazz	7:15-8:00	Intermediate / Advanced Acro

**W**

5:00-5:45	Intermediate Acro	5:30-6:30	Preschool Ballet / Tap Tumble
5:45-7:00	Junior Team Ballet	7:00-8:30	Sr. Team Ballet
7:00-7:45	Junior Team Tap		

**T**

5:15-6:00	Acro (ages 6-11)	4:45-5:15	Hippity Hop (ages 5-8)
6:00-6:45	Clogging	5:30-6:30	Ballet / Tap / Tumble (ages 4-6)
6:45-7:30	Hip Hop (ages 8-12)	6:45-7:30	Clogging Competition Team

\*Schedules Subject to Change based on class enrollment. Classes will begin August 26th

# DANCEWEAR/DRESS CODE

## DRESS CODE

To purchase the required shoe and dancewear items please use the link below:

[www.shopnimbly.com/studiojdancecenter](http://www.shopnimbly.com/studiojdancecenter)

- Ballet and Tap Classes
  - Leotard, tights, and required Ballet Shoes
- Jazz Classes
  - Leotard and tights (shorts may be worn over leotards) and required jazz shoes
- Acrobatics Classes
  - Leotard and footless tights or footless unitard or biketard (Please note that classes are co-ed and we would like to promote modesty in our students)
- Clogging Classes
  - Shorts or dance pants and T-shirt, white clogging shoes with buck taps
- Hip Hop Classes
  - Shorts or dance pants and T-shirt, sneakers
- Male students in Ballet, Tap, Acrobatics, and Jazz Classes
  - Athletic shorts (a more fitted style preferred) and fitted short sleeve or tank style shirt.

**\*\*Hair is to be pulled back and away from the face securely. Buns are required for ballet class**

**\*\*No jewelry is to be worn during class.**

**\*\*NO JEANS AT ANY TIME! NO BAGGY T-SHIRTS AT ANY TIME!**

***Students not dressed appropriately for class may be asked to sit and watch. Appropriate attire is required to provide a safe and proper dance educational experience.***

- **Shoes:**
  - Shoe styles vary per class.
  - Required styles are available through Studio J and students can be fitted at registration.
- **Recreational Class Required Shoes:**
  - Ballet: Revolution Pink Stretch Split-Sole Ballet Shoes
  - Tap: Revolution U-Shell Tan Tap
  - Jazz: Revolution Dark Tan Premium Slip on Jazz Shoe
- All shoes can be ordered through [www.shopnimbly.com/studiojdancecenter](http://www.shopnimbly.com/studiojdancecenter)
- Clogging shoes can be purchased at Carolina Dancewear: 336-856-9983 // 1627 New Garden Road. Greensboro, NC 27410
- Students can be sized for shoes at the studio. Please ask the front desk for assistance.

# TUITION & FEES

## **Group Class ALL INCLUSIVE Rates (minimum of 6 students per class)**

30 minutes \$74.50  
45 minutes \$83.00  
1 hour \$91.25  
1 hour & 15 min. \$100.00  
1 hour & 30 min. \$110.00

## **MULTIPLE CLASS DISCOUNTS**

Students enrolled in multiple classes receive the following discounts:

10% OFF 2nd Class  
15% OFF 3rd Class  
20% OFF each additional Class

## **FAMILY DISCOUNTS**

Families with 2 or more children enrolled:

First child at regular price, 10% off each additional child

(Discount to apply only to tuition for group classes. "First Child" will be the family member with the greatest number of classes)

Annual Tuition payments are split into 9 installments, due on the 1st day of the month (September - May)

Studio J offers the option of recurring billing. Drafts for monthly payments may be charged to your debit card or credit card on the 1st of each month.

Registration Fee: \$45 - Non-refundable, due at class registration

Costume Fees: INCLUDED IN MONTHLY TUITION

Recital Fee: INCLUDED IN MONTHLY TUITION

Recital Video : INCLUDED IN MONTHLY TUITION

Recital T-Shirt: INCLUDED IN MONTHLY TUITION

# PRIVATE LESSONS

## PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

## COMPETITION SOLOS, DUETS, AND TRIOS

Private lessons for skill development and polishing routines will be available throughout the summer and during the regular season.

The tuition rates for these lessons given by Studio J Faculty are:

\$60 per hour for one person;

\$50 per hour, per person for two students; and

\$40 per hour, per person for three students.

We will not schedule regular weekly lessons to begin in the fall until ALL group classes are scheduled. Tentative times may be reserved, but are subject to change based on the group class schedule. Rates for guest instructors may be higher and have a studio usage fee added.

Competition Solos, Duets, and Trios will be billed and scheduled by routine. The cost includes choreography, music edits, and THREE hours of instruction. Additional instruction at the regular hourly rate will be available, beyond the initial three hours, if desired. This can include weekly lessons, if the schedule permits, or the option of scheduling sporadic lessons for competition preparation.

Competition Solo, Duet, or Trio fees must be paid before instruction.

SOLOS: \$375 per routine

DUETS: \$275 per routine / dancer

TRIOS: \$225 per routine / dancer

*\*Please note that guest choreographers may charge a higher rate, and a studio usage fee above their choreography fee will apply.*

*\*\*All Private Instruction MUST be set up and paid for through the Studio J office.*

# ANNUAL RECITAL

Dress Rehearsal May 30, 2025 @ High Point Theatre  
Recital May 31, 2025 @ High Point Theatre

Costume costs are part of your all-inclusive monthly tuition payment. Required tights are included with each costume. Required shoes are not included, but you can purchase them on our online store. Our staff will be glad to size your dancer.

Tickets will go on sale in early May. Sale dates will be announced via email and social media.

## **Recital Eligibility**

To perform in the recital, dancers must attend at least 75% of their classes. Regular attendance shows commitment, helps prevent injuries, and ensures group cohesiveness, both in choreography and relationships.

Please keep track of your student's attendance and communicate any absences with instructors.

Students who have missed more than 75% of their classes and would like to still participate must book private lessons to make up for what they have missed.



# FAQs

## **What curriculums do you teach?**

We instruct our students utilizing the syllabi of Dance Masters of America, Inc. Additionally we follow the Acrobatic Arts curriculums and Discover Dance preschool methods.

## **Is recital participation mandatory?**

No, students are not required to participate in the recital, but this must be brought to the office manager's attention by March 1st.

## **Can I watch my child in class?**

Parents will be invited in for parent watch weeks. Each parent will receive an invitation on the BAND app for their child's classes. Pictures and videos of class time along with choreography to practice will be shared regularly.

## **Do you offer trial classes?**

Yes, we offer a free one week pass for students to try new classes.

## **What if I miss a class?**

Students who miss a class may make it up at no additional cost, so long as they schedule a makeup time within 2 weeks of their missed class. Please see Ms. Brandi at the front desk for options.

## **Do you have a competition team?**

We have a competition team for students who are at least 7 years-old and have a recommendation from a teacher. Spots on the competition team will be extended privately in the spring.

## **Can we order Studio J Dance Center gear?**

Yes, you can order studio merchandise through the following link:

<https://stores.inksoft.com/StudioJDanceCenter/shop/home>



# DANCE STUDIO COMMUNICATIONS

**You can contact us is through email, phone, or text.**

**Our office team is available during all class hours.**

*Inclement weather updates will be sent via text, emailed to all students, and we will post on our social media channels. Please keep your email address and phone number up-to-date in our system by alerting staff to any changes.*

**Address:** 129 E. Taft Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203

**Studio Phone:** 336-629-3963 (call or text)

**Email:** [studiojdancecenter@gmail.com](mailto:studiojdancecenter@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.StudioJDanceCenter.com](http://www.StudioJDanceCenter.com)

