



The Dance Design School

Teaching the heart of dance & music

Dear Studio Families,

Dance & Music Design School will be going through some changes in the 2026-2027 school year, switching to a dance conservatory model. This letter will outline some of those changes. Some of the benefits of this new schedule:

- ★ A more consolidated schedule allowing time for your children's other activities and studies.
- ★ Limited weekend commitments.

I will be holding an in person discussion to address any questions you may have. This meeting will be **held on WEDNESDAY MAY 20, at 7pm**. Here are an overview of what will be changing next year.

- ★ Students in the conservatory program will register for 1 of 2 options; 1. all the ballet classes per week for that age group, or 2. all the ballet plus any additional weekly dance styles (jazz, tap, modern). In the conservatory program, you will not be able to register for less than the recommended number of ballet classes. This option gives you the best 'per class' pricing.
- ★ Students who wish to take individual classes will still be able to do so. There is an hourly fee for this option. This fee will be prorated for classes longer than one hour.
- ★ All conservatory classes for ages 8+ will include a short Nutcracker component. Minimal additional rehearsals will be needed. I am expecting to limit weekend rehearsals.
- ★ June Recital: This will be decided later in the year (based on studio numbers). It may be possible we will not rent a theater for our recital, but hold a small show in the studio for parents and family who would like to attend. Ticket costs will depend on production costs.
- ★ Class Helpers: This program will still be offered to any dancer age 10+. There is NO FEE to be a class helper and the rewards are wonderful for dancers and helpers alike! I will be offering the RAD Assistant Teacher Award again this year.
- ★ Pointe Classes: We will be offering pointe this year. It is not yet on the schedule as I am unsure where to best fit the classes. I will add the classes in after I see who will be taking pointe. Students must be in the conservatory program to take pointe. There will be no additional cost for these classes, it will be included in the current conservatory ballet fee.
- ★ RAD Exams: I plan to continue to hold exams. There are several ways to hold these exams in our new class formats. These options will be discussed after I have a tally of who is interested in an exam in the 2026-2027 school year.

- ★ If you wish to register starting May 1st, you may fill out a paper registration form and bring it back to our office.
- ★ You may register for classes online after May 10th. To do this you will need to access your online account through our web site www.dancedesignschool.com, click on the 'Existing Customer Portal Login' at the top right of the home page. Enter the e-mail address we have on file and your password. If you have never used our portal, click 'I Forgot My Password' and a temporary password will be sent to your e-mail account. Once you sign in, click the 'Registration' tab. Select the session '2026-2027'. Click Category 1 as the style you wish to look up (ballet, jazz, modern...) to view our classes. You may then click on the class(es) you wish to sign up for, select the child who will take this class and click enroll. Lastly, you must update your credit card or debit card information under the 'My Account' tab (we do not have the ability to take an eCheck or bank draft). Your credit or debit card will be charged the registration fee and a place has now been reserved for your child in that 2026-2027 class!

- ★ Year End Show Costumes: Our policy is to rent costumes to dancers ages 6 and up for our year end show. Our costume rental money is pooled together and used to purchase new costumes for a few classes and embellishments for currently owned costumes. Costumes are fitted during class and transported to the theater by a large truck. The costumes are cleaned after the shows by volunteer parents.

- ★ Studios: All our classes will now be held at our 44 Clinton Street, Cornwall studios. We have 3 dance studios and a music room. They are listed on the schedule as dance studio A, B and C, and music. Our 44 Clinton Street location offers a parent waiting room, sprung dance floors, professional dance flooring (marley), acoustic pianos, an office, 2 bathrooms, retail boutique, and a private parking lot. Classes may change rooms due to class size or teacher convenience.

- ★ **MOST IMPORTANT: Classes will fill fast!** Please register early so you secure the class of your choice and so we can plan classes in a balanced manner.

Thank you for reading this lengthy letter. If you have ANY questions, please attend the May 20th, 7pm parent meeting!

Mrs. Aggie

