



Steppin' Out
DANCE STUDIO
PARENT HANDBOOK

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our mission is to enrich our community by providing affordable, high-quality dance training in an encouraging and safe environment for students of all ages. Our program aims to inspire a lasting love and appreciation for dance through a wide range of dance styles and levels.

Recital costume fees due Dec. 1, 2020

COVID-19 **GUIDELINES**

RULES

Dancers who can medically tolerate a face covering over their nose and mouth must wear one when unable to maintain a safe distance (six feet) from others and when entering and exiting the studio. Dancers can remove their face covering once six feet apart inside the dance studio.

ARRIVAL

We encourage parents with children above the age of seven to drop dancers off for class, as opposed to waiting in the waiting area. If parents choose to wait, a mask is required, and they will be asked to sit in a designated area. Instructors will wait at the front door for students. If they are late for class and the instructor is no longer at the door, the dancer's parent/guardian may walk their dancer to class.

Entrance doors are as follows:

- Eola Community Center: Atrium Doors
- Prisco Community Center: North Doors

SANITATION

Masks will be provided to each instructor and worn when not able to socially distance from students. Hand sanitizer will be provided in each dance studio and used by dancers and staff before and after class. 15-minute breaks have been scheduled between classes. Instructors will use this 15-minutes to sanitize the studio by wiping down barres and spraying the studio with disinfectant.

RATIOS

Dance classes will be limited to 10 dancers per class to accommodate social distancing guidelines and allow 6-feet between each dancer.

CLASS PRECAUTIONS

Studio doors will remain open throughout class for levels beginning and higher to promote airflow. The district will tape six-foot squares on the floor; dancers will stand inside the squares while performing centre work to abide by social distancing guidelines. Centre barre will be required for ballet classes. Dancers should not be touching the barre throughout class. Laundry baskets will be placed in each studio for dancers to place their items. Dancers will be asked to bring their dance bag and to have everything placed in their dance bag before class. Dancers will be asked to bring a reusable water bottle to class.

PRESCREENING QUESTIONS

Pre-screening questions will be asked at drop off. Has the dance participant experienced:

- A fever of 100.4°F or higher in the last 14 days?
- An unexplained cough or sore throat?
- Contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
- Any body aches or fatigue that can't be explained?
- A persistent headache in the last 48 hours?

If the participant does contract COVID-19, they should remain isolated at home for 10 days after symptom onset and can be released after feverless and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours, or has two negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart. A doctor's clearance may be requested before your child can return to dance. If a dance participant tests positive for COVID-19, notify the supervisor immediately so others can be notified of the exposure. The participant will not be identified.

PREPARING FOR CLASS

PLACEMENT

It takes many years to train a dancer and develop the proper skills and ability required to advance. Instructors continuously monitor and evaluate dancers in class and reserve the right to place students in a different level class to ensure appropriate level of instruction is given.

ATTENDANCE & LATE ARRIVALS

Dancers should arrive promptly for class and be prepared to dance, allowing time prior to the start of class to allow to put on shoes, pull hair back, and begin any necessary warm ups. Dancers arriving late for class should receive instructor permission to join the class. Proper warmup is important for the dancer's safety, and if a dancer arrives more than ten minutes late, may be asked to observe the remainder of the class. Regular attendance is essential to the progression of technique and ability. Unfortunately, classes will not be made up due to student absence.

CLASSROOM RULES & BEHAVIOR

No gum or food is allowed in class. Due to various food allergies, students will be asked to eat snacks outside of the classroom. Water bottles are acceptable; please no soda or sticky substance that can spill, creating a hazardous environment. Cell phones must be turned off or silenced during class. Courteous behavior is expected, and teachers reserve the right to dismiss any student who is disruptive. Dancers should use the restroom prior to the start of class to minimize class disruption. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, we encourage parents with children above the age of seven to drop dancers off for class, as opposed to waiting in the waiting area.

LATE PICK-UP

Please be prompt in picking up your dancer after class concludes. This allows for classes to remain on schedule and instructors to focus on their next class. Dancers will be released to their parent/guardian at the door at the conclusion of class and if you are late to pick up your dancer, the dancer will remain in the dance studio with their instructor.

CANCELLATIONS

In the event of a class cancellation, families will be notified via email or a phone call. Class cancellations due to inclement weather will be posted on our website and be reflected in a building closure.

LOST ITEMS

Please label all belongings with your dancer's first and last name. Any lost items will be placed in the lost and found boxes located in each dance studio. If your dancer is missing an item, please inform the instructor or Dance Coordinator, Vantenia Kelley, at vkelly@fvpd.net. The Fox Valley Park District is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

PARENT OBSERVATION

Classes throughout the duration of the session are closed to viewing. Instructors are encouraged to invite parents to view their dancer's class twice throughout the session. Please refer to the calendar for exact observation dates.

COMMUNICATION

Steppin' Out Dance Studio primarily communicates through email and important information will be disseminated this way. Information may include, but not be limited to, class cancellations, costume measuring, recital information, etc. Emails will be distributed from dance supervisor, Erin O'Brien, at eobrien@fvpd.net or dance coordinator, Vantenia Kelley, at vkelly@fvpd.net. At any time if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to communicate via email or by phone.

CLASS **ATTIRE**

FEMALE	Class/Level	Shoes	Leotards	Tights	Optional Dancewear
Ballet	Fairytale Ballet, Tutu Toddlers, Budding Ballerinas & Basic	Pink ballet* <small>*Shoes should be leather or canvas, no satin slippers</small>	Pink or black leotard	Pink	Simple dance skirts
	Beginning Ballet & Level I-V	Pink split-sole ballet*	Black leotard		No additional dance attire allowed
Pointe	Beginning & higher	Pink pointe shoes	Black leotard	Pink convertible	No additional dance attire allowed
Lyrical	Beginning-Level II	Tan jazz	Black leotard	Pink or tan convertible	Knee pads allowed
Tap	Tappin' Tots, Tiny Tappers, Basic & Beginning	Black tap	Black leotard	Pink or tan	Simple dance skirts or demi dance shorts
	Level I-V	Black lace-up jazz tap			Demi dance shorts only. No gym or loose-fitting shorts.
Jazz	Jazzin' Jrs., Basic, Beginning & Level I	Black jazz	Black leotard	Pink or tan	Demi dance shorts only. No sweat pants, loose-fitting shorts or gym shorts.
	Level II-V	Balera brand tan jazz			
Modern	Level I-II	Tan jazz	Black leotard	Black leggings	Knee pads allowed
Hip Hop	Little Jammers, Basic & Beginning	Black low-top dance sneakers <small>(No street shoes allowed)</small>	Not required <small>(T-shirts allowed)</small>	Tan	Loose pants, leggings or dance shorts may be worn. No jeans or street shoes.
	Intermediate & Advanced				

MALE	Class/Level	Shoes	Shirts	Pants
Ballet	All	Black ballet	Solid black or white T-shirts	Black shorts or jazz pants
Tap		Black lace-up jazz tap		
Jazz		Black jazz		
Hip Hop		Follow female levels		Black shorts, jazz pants or sweat pants

DANCE **RECITAL**

The 2020-2021 year-round session concludes with a dance recital held at West Aurora High School. Participation in the dance recital is optional, however is strongly encouraged as it allows the dancer to show pride of ownership with their hard work that is shown in class all year. Dress rehearsal for the 2020-2021 season will be held on May 7 and 8 for Prisco, and May 15 for Eola. Recital performances on May 8 and 16. More information regarding recital will be distributed in Spring 2021.

DRESS REHEARSAL

Dress rehearsals will be held May 7 and 8 for Prisco and May 15 for Eola at West Aurora High School. The purpose of dress rehearsal is to ensure the safety of dancers while developing their comfort with spacing and lighting while performing on stage. This time also allows instructors to work with the lighting designers and address any spacing issues that may occur. Dress rehearsals are mandatory for every dancer participating in recital.

RECITAL PHOTOS

Individual and group photos will be taken by a professional photography company during dress rehearsal. Each class will have a reserved timeslot that pictures will be taken. Photos will take place at West Aurora High School.

COSTUMES

Total costume fees are due no later than December 1, 2020. Costume fees are \$55 for classes level 1 and lower, and \$60 for classes higher than level 1. There is a costume fee for each class that your dancer will participate in the recital with. For example, if your dancer participates in four classes during the year, she/he would need to pay for four costumes in the recital. The dance costume fee is nonrefundable.

COSTUME MEASURING

Dancers will be measured by their instructor in class to best select the appropriate costume and tight size for the dance recital. Measuring week will take place Nov. 2 through Nov. 7 during your dancer's class session. Parents/guardians will be asked to agree and sign off on the dancers' size recommended for their costume. If your dancer is not able to attend class during the costume measuring week, please contact Erin O'Brien for further information on measurement options. Costumes and tights will be distributed in class in the spring upon arrival. Parents are responsible for alterations if needed. If a costume needs to be exchanged, please contact Erin O'Brien within three days of receiving the costume.

RECITAL TICKETS

Tickets will need to be purchased to view the recital. Additional information in regards to ticket purchasing will be communicated in Spring 2021.

CLASS LOCATIONS

Eola Community Center

555 S. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60504
630-851-8990

Prisco Community Center

150 W. Illinois Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506
630-859-8606

2020-21 SEASON CALENDAR

Classes meet on days highlighted in grey.
Visiting week dates highlighted in black.

SEPTEMBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

START DATES

Sept. 5: Prisco classes begin
Sept. 12: Eola classes begin

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 31: No classes
Nov. 23 - 28: Thanksgiving break
Dec. 1: Recital costume fee due
Dec. 21 - Jan. 2: Winter break
March 29 - April 3: Spring break

2020-21 RECITAL DATES

Dress rehearsal dates:
May 7 & 8: Prisco
May 15: Eola
Recital dates:
May 8: Prisco
May 16: Eola

CONTACT

Erin O'Brien
Recreation Supervisor
eobrien@fvpd.net • 630-859-8606

Vantenia Kelley
Dance Coordinator
vkelly@fvpd.net • 630-859-8606

