

# DaySpring Arts & Education

## Dance Department - Young Dancers, 24-25

### *Orientation Letter, Policies and Calendar*



### **Welcome DaySpring Dance Department Families!**

Whether this is your first or fifteenth year as a student in the Dance Department, we are thrilled to have you as part of the DaySpring family. Our goal for our dance students at every age and level is to create a safe learning environment where the students can develop confidence, cooperation, discipline, and their pursuit of excellence- skills that will serve them not just as artists, but in all areas of their lives. Whether through our Young Dancers Program, the Classical Ballet Program, or our classes in other dance styles, we hope to give all students a chance to explore their love for dance! Please read through this information along with the dance policies, dress code, and department calendar included with this letter.

Our website provides a list of general policies for the building along with a calendar showing all days we are not in session due to holidays and breaks. There is also a calendar on the last page of this document with days and events specific to dance classes.

### **Class Orientation**

If you have any questions about your students' class, please feel free to reach out to the Department Head or your students' teacher. Classes meeting on Enrichment Fridays will have an orientation day on Friday, August 30th. All evening and Saturday dance classes, parents are invited to have a meet and greet with instructors for the first 5 minutes of class on the first day. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions! Department policies, class welcome letters, and other class specific information can be found attached to your classes resources in the parent registration portal (JackRabbit).

### **Performances**

Dancers ages 8 and up can audition to participate in our Winter Ballet Production. Rehearsals for this production are outside of class time, generally on Fridays and Saturdays. This year our ballet production will be contemporary ballet, *Alice in Wonderland*. Auditions will be in September, and will include ballet, tap, jazz, and modern.

All Dance Department students have the opportunity to participate in the end-of-year *Finale* performance in June. Because *Finale* performance preparation is an important part of our students' dance training, it will take place during a portion of class time.

- There are costume fees for dancers in classes that perform in *Finale*. Costume fees are charged in January or February and must be paid in full before costumes are picked up.
- Tickets are available for purchase online as the performance date draws closer.
- There is a mandatory dress rehearsal at the theater during the week of *Finale*.

Students who miss dress rehearsal will not be permitted to participate in *Finale*.

### **Production Help**

Without our volunteers, we would not be able to produce the quality performances that DaySpring is known for. We need your help with painting, sewing, crafting, building, marketing, ushering and more. Anyone who wishes to help out during production time is warmly welcomed, and we will be sure to let you know as needs arise!

### **Contact Us**

If you ever have any questions or concerns, we are here to help! Your teachers can be reached through their DaySpring email (FirstNameLastName@dayspringarts.org), the office is readily available to answer questions and I am happy to speak with you via email, phone call, or in person during my office hours. We greatly appreciate you choosing DaySpring and we look forward to dancing with your children.

**Anjuli Kroon**

Dance Department Head  
anjulikroon@dayspringarts.org

## Policies Specific to the Young Dancers' Program

There is so much to learn and gain from weekly lessons in dance and much fun to be had! The Young Dancers' Program at DaySpring includes classes for students aged 3-11 years, including Creative Movement, PreBallet & Tap, Beginning Ballet, Ballet 1, Beginning Tap & Jazz, and Beginning Contemporary Modern.

### Communication

- We use email as a main form of communication. Be sure to check your inboxes for important info regarding classes, performances, etc. Your teachers are also available through email. The personal address for each teacher is the first and last name followed by @dayspringarts.org. (ex: anjulikroon@dayspringarts.org)
- Like us on Facebook and Follow us on Instagram! Find our pages: *DaySpring Arts & Education*. We post pictures and videos and all kinds of fun links and updates.
- Don't forget about our website, [www.dayspringarts.org](http://www.dayspringarts.org), and the online parent portal (JackRabbit). Most information sent via email is also posted there, as well as class welcome letters, policies, and calendars.

### Friendly Reminders

- Be sure to read over the DaySpring General Policies sheet so you are fully informed.
- We ask that you strive to ensure that your child is dressed properly (in dress code) for dance class and that hair is neatly pulled back: either in a bun, ponytail, or braids. Please, avoid distracting jewelry.
  - Enrichment Friday students will be given time to change for class, please help your dancer feel successful in class by ensuring they have everything they need to be in dress code each week.
- Do not send your child into class until the teacher has opened the studio door and invited them in. If you arrive after class has started, you may open the door, wait for the teachers' acknowledgement, and send your dancer into the room.
- If you are not outside of the studio when the class is dismissed, your child will wait for you at the front desk.

### Attendance

Dancers are most successful when they attend class regularly. We encourage you to prioritize your dancer's class time each week so that they can learn and refine the skills they are learning and prepare for Finale performance.

**Any dancer who misses 50% or more of their classes in the last two months before Finale (April and May), may not be eligible to perform.**

### Dress Code

Please note the dress code for your child's class listed below. Dancers may choose either flesh-tone tights and ballet shoes or pink tights and ballet shoes. Ballet, tap, and jazz shoes, tights and other dancewear may be purchased at any dance supply store (we recommend St. Louis Dancewear, 9644 Olive Blvd, Olivette, MO 63132, (314) 733-5678)

We offer lightly used shoes at a very discounted price at the front desk. Please let us know if you would like to purchase a pair. And if you have any lightly used shoes to donate, please bring them to the front desk next time you come for class.

Dress Code violation policy, per semester

1. If a dancer is out of dress code and in clothing that prevents them from participating in class, their parent will be contacted by phone at the beginning of the class. This includes dresses without shorts/leggings underneath as well as other clothing that restricts movement.
2. If a dancer is out of dress code but able to participate, parents will be contacted by the Department Head after 2 incidents
3. If a dancer is still out of dress code for 2 additional classes, they will not be allowed to participate.
4. When age appropriate, dancers will be asked to take observation notes to be turned into their teacher at the end of class

Dress Code by class on the next page...

- **Creative Movement, PreBallet & Tap, Beg Ballet**

- Option 1
  - Blue dance dress or leotard/skirt
  - pink or flesh-tone tights or thin white socks
  - pink or flesh-tone ballet shoes
- Option 2
  - Black above-knee shorts and fitted white t-shirt
  - black ballet shoes and black socks

- **Ballet 1**

- Option 1
  - Black leotard
  - pink or flesh-tone tights and matching ballet shoes
- Option 2
  - Black above-knee shorts and fitted white t-shirt
  - black ballet shoes and black socks

- **Beginning Tap & Jazz, and Beginning Contemporary Modern**

- Solid color leotard or fitted athletic top
- Black fitted shorts or pants; leggings; or tights (if leotard is worn).
- Solid color socks (optional)
- Shoes
  - Tap: black tap shoes
  - Jazz: black jazz shoes
  - Contemporary Modern: bare feet

- **ALL DANCERS**

- No dangling jewelry, excessive or distracting accessories, or gum
- Hair secured away from the face. For example: bun, pony tail, or braids

## DaySpring Dance Department

### *Important Dates, 2024-25 Season*

*\*all dates are subject to change*

Month	Date	Event
September	2 3 28	<b>Labor Day – No Classes</b> Arts Classes Begins Alice in Wonderland Auditions
October	21 31	Ballet Conferences (all Ballet 2+ dancers) No classes, DaySpring Halloween event
November	<b>26-30</b>	<b>Fall Break – No Classes ***Monday classes will take place***</b>
December	<b>23- Jan 4</b>	<b>Christmas Break – No Classes</b>
January	6 13	Classes Resume <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day- No Classes</b>
February	10-14 17-23	Arts Parent Observation Week Alice In Wonderland Tech Week and Show Weekend, no evening dance classes
March	<b>17-23</b>	<b>Spring Break – No Classes</b>
April	14 17	Ballet 2 and Ballet 3 exams, all Ballet classes canceled Ballet 4 and Ballet 5 exams, all Ballet classes canceled
May	24 <b>26</b> 30-31	Last Day of Arts Classes <b>Memorial Day - DaySpring closed</b> Finale Dress Rehearsals
June	1	Finale 2025

