

Ballet • Pointe • Acrobatics



Jazz • Tap • Lyrical • Hip-Hop
Contemporary • Ballroom

Dance Unlimited

Student Policy
Handbook

“Teaching Love and
Appreciation for the
Art of Dance”



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***STRIVE
TO
BE
YOUR
BEST!!***

Dance Unlimited

10101 LANTANA RD.
LAKE WORTH, FL 33449
(561) 641-2063

WELCOME TO DANCE UNLIMITED!!!!

Dear Students and Parents,

If you are new to our dance school, the staff and I wish you a hearty welcome! If you are one of our many supportive parents and students from last season, we're looking forward to another successful year.

As our studio continues to grow I feel it is important to inform the students and parents with as much information about our studio as possible. Please hold onto this handbook because in it you will find information on the policies set at Dance Unlimited. Your signature on your registration form assures us that you have read and understand all the issues set forth in this handbook. If you have any questions with regards to this book please feel free to call the studio.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Patti Contartesi Butler
Director

Philosophy

In the warm caring environment of Dance Unlimited every young dancer is special to us. Nurturing their love of dance by creating a class filled with positive learning experiences, your child will be challenged in areas where her growing body and mind can benefit most. Your child will love learning the art of dance at Dance Unlimited. We offer a variety of exciting classes for all ages and levels. We work closely with the parents' schedules and needs and children's desires and we're sure your child will receive an outstanding education.

Benefits of Dance

Dancing provides a creative outlet for both the physical and emotional spirit of children. The classes will develop strength and endurance for your child as well as flexibility. All classes will give your child poise, build confidence and self-discipline. Dance class will offer a chance for children to make new friends and learn social skills.

Faculty

Under the direction of Patti Butler, the instructors at Dance Unlimited have extensive training and experience in teaching youngsters. They are sensitive to the needs of the individual child and are able to communicate with them on their level.

Patti Butler ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Michael Butler BUSINESS AFFAIRS
Danielle Minton JAZZ, BALLET, PRE-SCHOOL
Sheila Wood HIP-HOP, JAZZ, TAP, ACROBATICS
Barbara Leneski JAZZ, ACROBATICS, TAP
Haley Blasi BALLET, POINTE
Holly Morris HIP-HOP
Jennifer Simmers TAP, BALLET, JAZZ
Stephanie Daubenmire ACROBATICS, CHILDREN'S CLASSES
Karl Cineas HIP-HOP
Brooke Moody MODERN
Samantha Smith HIP-HOP, JAZZ
Annie Molina OFFICE STAFF

Hair

Girls in ballet class or combo class are required to have their hair pulled back in a bun. Bangs are allowed as long as they are not longer than the eyebrows. Girls in all other classes are required to have their hair in a bun or ponytail. Jewelry is not permitted in dance class.

Required Dancewear

MOMMY & ME (BOOGIE BABIES) - Any style leotard, pink ballet slippers (students may start in tennis shoes)

TWINKLE TOE TODDLERS, RHYTHM ROMPERS, DARLING DIVAS - Black leotard, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, tan tap shoes.

BALLET - Black leotard, pink tights, pink ballet slippers

JAZZ - Any style dancewear, black jazz shoes

ACROBATICS - Any style dancewear, acro sandals

TAP - Any style dancewear, tan tap shoes (please ask for specific style of tap shoe)

LYRICAL - Leotard, tights, lyrical jazz shoes

HIP-HOP - Shorts, Sneakers

CLOGGING - Any color leotard and tights, clogging shoes.

Label all shoes and dancewear. NO T-SHIRTS OR JEWELRY.

Reception Area

When arriving, students are asked to wait in the reception area. All students are asked to arrive on time and be completely ready to begin class, (proper attire, hair and shoes). Students must remain in the reception area until they are picked up after class. Younger students are not allowed to leave the studio without a parent, guardian, or older sibling.

Recital

Our annual June dance recital is a very rewarding time for all students. This year's recital will be held Saturday, June 11, 2011 and Sunday, June 12, 2011. (These dates are subject to change). Some students may dance in both performances. Each class will perform one dance in our professional stage show. Each student is required to purchase a costume, (and tights, if needed). A costume deposit of \$30.00 is requested to be paid by November 1st, 2010 and the balance is due by December 8, 2010. Dance Unlimited reserves the right to substitute equivalent or greater valued costumes for students who don't participate in our annual recital. Students performing in the recital are required to attend the dress rehearsal which will be either Thursday, June 9, 2011 or Friday, June 10, 2011. Both performances will begin at 2:00pm and will include two brief intermissions. Students may be picked up ONLY after the show has ended as all students will participate in the finale. Students will be dismissed and picked up by parents according to class times. Recital tickets will be available for purchase based on a lottery drawing. Recital tickets will go on sale at the studio on Saturday, June 4. Professional pictures will be taken of the students in their recital costume Saturday, May 21, Sunday, May 22, and Sunday, June 4.

CenterStage

The Dance Unlimited Dance Company, CenterStage, a very important part of the studio, is a testament to the quality dance training offered at Dance Unlimited Studio of Dance Arts. Consisting of more than 40 talented young dancers ranging in age from 5 to 18, CenterStage has earned an outstanding reputation for excellence.

The Company has won numerous awards. The CenterStage dancers have performed extensively throughout Central & South Florida promoting dance as an art form.

Many of our dancers have consistently been accepted into and graduated from Dreyfoos School of the Arts and Bak Middle School of the Arts — formerly combined as Palm Beach County School of the Arts — since 1991. Our students have gone on to dance academically and professionally in many formats, including Julliard, George Mason, The Joffrey School, Broadway, Alvin Ailey and the Dayton Ballet. We couldn't be more proud of their successes, (and love it when they visit home).

The young dancers in the Company represent the promises of Dance Unlimited - the promise to provide the best in contemporary dance training and the promise of the future. Under the direction of Patti Butler, the Dance Unlimited CenterStage Dance Company has developed into one of the finest dance companies in South Florida.



Ballet

Fundamental to a complete dance education is the mastery of classical ballet technique. Dance Unlimited teaches the styles and technique of the Soviet Syllabus. Ballet training includes learning proper placement and weight distribution through barre and center floor work. Ballet is not a required class, however the benefits are numerous including poise, confidence and self-discipline.

Pointe

Dancing on the tips of the toes evolved in the early nineteenth century as a means of elevating the female dancer above the floor in order to give her an airborne quality. It requires special footwear. The pointe shoe is used by dancers to display their ability to spin and balance on its tiny tip. The study of pointe work is begun only after a student has acquired proper placement and a considerable amount of technical strength on the demi-pointe. We recommend the student has been studying ballet technique at least 3 years. These students are required to take a minimum of one ballet technique class in addition to their pointe class. A student with continued absences will not be able to continue their pointe work.

Acrobatics

Acrobatics may be better known as the floor exercise of gymnastics. After a complete and thorough barre and center floor warm-up the students practice tumbling across the floor one at a time, supported by a mat and spotted by the instructor.

Jazz

Jazz is fundamentally popular dancing that has been stylized and polished to a theatrical brilliance. The class begins with a thorough center floor warm-up. Dance combinations are practiced across the floor or center as a short routine. In addition to learning a good sense of rhythm, our jazz classes stress correct body placement and conscientious application of technique.

Tap

In tap the emphasis is on foot work and the expression of rhythm through sound. Class begins with a warm-up at the barre or center floor. Short combinations of steps are practiced across the floor. Finally, longer dance sequences are performed center floor.

Attendance

Regular class attendance and participation is required by all students. The progress of a student and the entire class is a reflection of proper attendance. Students are expected to arrive for class on time and in the proper dance attire. Certificates will be given out at each Watch Week to those few children in each class who have had excellent attendance since the previous Watch Week.

Watch Week

Parents are invited to observe class during Watch Week. Family and friends are welcomed to come and watch too. We ask that those observing class stay seated and quiet giving respect to the instructor and students. The May watch week is mandatory, a parent or parent representative must be present at the class. During this class each student will try on their recital costume and take it home.

1st WATCH WEEK - Monday, November 29, 2010 - Sat., December 11, 2010

2nd WATCH WEEK - Monday, May 2, 2011 - Sat., May 14, 2011

These dates are subject to change. Please check with the office.

Student Accounts

Parents or guardians will be responsible for all delinquent student accounts. Students whose accounts are over 30 days late will not be allowed to take class unless special arrangements have been made with management. We are currently partnering with Flathmann & Stern, LLC, Forensic Collection Specialists for any uncollected accounts receivables over 60 days. Parents or guardians will be liable for all legal and collection fees. A 5% service charge per month will be added to all overdue accounts. Because of these additional expenses it is recommended that tuition be paid on time.

Tuition

Tuition will be paid every four weeks and is due on the first week of each 4-week session. Any student who does not pay tuition by the 3rd week will automatically accrue a 10% late charge. Tuition, including the late charge, must be paid for the student to return to class. There will be a \$20.00 fee for returned checks. The 4-week sessions begin as follows:

Session 1Thursday, August 19, 2010
Session 2Tuesday, September 21, 2010
Session 3Tuesday, October 19, 2010
Session 4Tuesday, November 16, 2010
Session 5Tuesday, December 14, 2010
Session 6Monday, January 24, 2011
Session 7Monday, February 21, 2011
Session 8Monday, March 21, 2011
Session 9 & Session 10 (6 Weeks).....Monday April 25, 2011
The last class will be Monday June 9, 2011

PLEASE NOTE: Students taking class on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays will be receiving 5 classes in Session 1 to make up for only 3 classes in Session 4 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Holiday

The studio will be closed on the following holidays only (we do not close for school holidays):

LABOR DAY	Mon., September 6, 2010
THANKSGIVING	Thurs, Fri, Sat., November 25, 26, 27, 2010
WINTER BREAK	Tues., December 21, 2010 thru Sun., January 2, 2011
SPRING BREAK	Mon., March 14, 2011 thru Sat., March 20, 2011
MEMORIAL DAY	Mon., May 30, 2011

Make-Up Classes

If a student must miss a class for any reason, the parent must inform the studio before the class. Any student missing a class will have the opportunity to participate in a make-up class during that session. Please avoid missing class — your absenteeism holds up the progress of the entire class!

Combo Classes (Ages 2 -6)

Boogie Babies (ages 2-3) is our Mommy and Me class, an introduction to dance. This class is designed to introduce basic motor skills, dance and tumbling in a fun and caring environment. The one-on-one activities shared by parent (adult) and child help expand the learning process in a positive and rewarding way.

Twinkle Toe Toddlers (ages 3-4) is a class the children experience without parent involvement and includes a combination of pre-ballet and tap in addition to tumbling skills. During this class we will also develop your child's attention span as well as their ability to listen and follow directions. These qualities help the children in all areas of life. This class will also focus on building coordination, balance, and developing large motor skills which promote reading readiness.

Rhythm Rompers (ages 4-5) will continue to build on the ballet, tap and tumbling skills begun in the Twinkle Toes class. It is important to begin building the children's self esteem through learning and accomplishment at this age in their development and we help promote this by maintaining a loving, warm atmosphere in class.

Darling Divas (ages 5-6) continues with ballet, tap and tumbling but will also add beginning jazz to their agenda. The students love having the opportunity to move to more popular music in addition to building coordination through more complicated movement. This class will prepare them for the following year where we recommend the ballet/jazz combo class.

Hip-Hop

A dance style emphasizing freestyle expressive rhythmic movement using contemporary music. Hip-Hop focuses on a high level of coordinated movement.

Lyrical

Lyrical is a dance form based closely on Ballet, yet using more contemporary music to evoke a more fluid, emotionally expressive style. Students should have a foundation of Ballet before taking a Lyrical class.

Musical Theater

This class combines dancing with acting and singing. Students master this theatrical style by learning excerpts from the Broadway and Movie Musicals that have been entertaining audiences for so many years. By playing characters, using props, and working together, they'll learn how to tell a story through more than just dancing.

Ballroom

In Ballroom class students will learn the basic techniques of major ballroom styles. In addition to the Latin curriculum of Salsa, Samba, Rumba, Merengue, Tango, and Cha-Cha, students will learn other techniques including Swing, Waltz, and other Ballroom favorites. It is not necessary for students to bring a partner to class, but of course couples are welcome.

Contemporary

Breaking away from the rigidity of Classical Ballet, this class teaches you how to express yourself using a freer style, exploring the use of off-center movements, bending the spine and contractions. Contemporary dance class is very creative and inspires students to express themselves while introducing students to Limon, Horton and Graham technique as well the unique professional styles of our instructors.

The class encourages students to find confidence and joy in their own creative and physical potential while challenging them to find greater range of expression through dynamic physicality and specificity. Juicy phrases full of motion, oppositional tension, and weight change follow a simple warm-up that emphasizes clean technique and articulation of the body.

Clogging

Clogging is a lively dance with roots in the Irish jig. It is a percussive dance meaning the dancers beat out rhythms with their feet. While clogging is related to Tap dancing, cloggers have a different style. Clogging has a distinctive up and down body motion & emphasizes the downbeat of the music whereas Tap dancers emphasize the melody. Cloggers wear two piece taps instead of the traditional single taps worn by tap dancers. Dancers taking this class can wear either type of shoe. It is a great workout and a lot of fun.

Class Structure

Each of the dance classes offered at Dance Unlimited are 1, 1-1/4, or 1-1/2 hours in length and offered once a week at a set time within our schedule. Payment is made on the first week of every 4-week session. The following is a rate schedule per each 4-week session.

<u>Hours Dancing Per week</u>	<u>Single Tuition</u>	<u>Family Tuition</u>
1 hour	\$54.00	
1.5 hours	\$73.00	
2 hours	\$95.00	\$99.00
2.5 hours	\$116.00	\$119.00
3 hours	\$132.00	\$139.00
3.5 hours	\$145.00	\$149.00
4 hours	\$155.00	\$169.00
4.5 hours	\$165.00	\$184.00
5 hours	\$170.00	\$199.00
6-9 hours	\$175.00	\$210.00
10 plus hours	\$210.00	\$240.00

Hours accrue only for a single student or multiple students within the same immediate family, i.e. two sisters, or mother and daughter, etc. Any tuition paid to Dance Unlimited is due on the first week of each session and is not refundable. There will be a \$20.00 fee for returned checks. A 10% late charge will be assessed for all delinquent account past due 2 weeks with a minimum late charge of no less than \$8.00.

Registration

The registration fee for the 2010-2011 year is \$25.00. Family registration is \$35.00. This fee covers liability insurance, administrative and year-end costs. This fee must be paid with the first tuition payment and is nonrefundable.