

buffa's dance studio 2011-2012 class descriptions

Dance Movement- (age 3) An introduction to the world of dance using music, singing, props, instruments, stories and creativity to activate the imagination, increase body awareness, enhance socialization and establish a sense of joy through movement.

Advanced Dance Movement – (age 4) An accelerated program advancing the Dance “Movement skills and introducing age-appropriate ballet and tap technique. Strong emphasis on musical awareness, personal and stage space, sequencing and memory, and creativity.

Dance I – (age 5) Dance Movement skills and age-appropriate technique in ballet, tap and jazz are continued for the six year old. The student will master a specific set of information, steps and movement sequences, while continuing to enhance improvisation and creativity.

Dance II – (age 6) Dance Movement skills and age-appropriate technique in ballet, tap and jazz. At both levels the student will master a specific set of information, steps and movement sequences, while continuing to enhance improvisation and creativity.

Pre-Ballet – (age 7) Introduction to the world of ballet using Royal Academy of Dance outlines. Emphasis on establishing the critical basics of alignment, positions and proper coordination of feet, legs and arms, and movement through space. Mime, improvisation and creativity help mold a blossoming artist.

Tap/Jazz – (age 7) Instructs an age-appropriate skill set, in both Tap and Jazz. Focus on musicality, rhythm, timing, clarity, coordination, sequencing, and spatial/stage awareness.

Jazz – (age 8 and up) Each successive level adds steps, walks and combinations. Class includes warm-up, stretching, isolations, jazz walks, turns, pirouettes, across the floor patterns, and combinations.

Tap – (age 8 and up) Emphasis placed on clarity of sounds, rhythm, timing, coordination and style.

Lyrical – (age 8 and up) A cross between jazz, ballet and modern with an emphasis on drama and emotion.

Modern – (age 8 and up) Learn basics from many styles and methods. Focuses include technique, weight, isolation, suspension, and release. By experimenting, students will push their boundaries of expression through movement and improvisation.

Hip Hop – (age 8 and up) One of the most current dance styles, instruction offers a variety of movements from old school, new school, street, funk, jazz and free style. Using age-appropriate music, emphasis is placed on interpretation and style.

Ballet – (age 8 and up) Classes stress correct alignment, technique, terminology, fluidity, epaulment, port de bras and flexibility combined with strength and style. Goal is a sensitive, intelligent, professional stage performance.

Pre-Pointe – (age 11 and up) A mandatory precursor to pointe work where dancers work on developing strength, placement and balance. Course is a dance year in length, uses ballet shoes, and does not participate in recital.

Pointe – (age 12+) By invitation only and must also be enrolled in a ballet class. Emphasizes proper placement, correct usage of pointe shoe in cooperation with entire body, and sequential progression of technique.

Ballet Technique – (age 9+) Class focused on building strength and flexibility in an effort to improve ballet technique.

Pointe Technique – (all levels) Further instruction for improving proper placement, correct usage of pointe shoe, and progression of technique.

Leaps, Tricks, Turns, Dance Team Technique – (age 8+) Learn and improve jumps, leaps, turns, and special tricks along with working on flexibility. Also learn kicklines, pom, and dance team technique in preparation for dance team tryouts

Musical Theater – (age 8+) Concentrates on Broadway style dance techniques as well as singing and theatre work.

Contemporary – (age 12+) A mix of ballet and modern techniques, expressing emotions through a combination of intricate, highly technical, and pedestrian/naturalistic movement.

Performing Groups – Designed for students who desire to be a part of a specialty dance group with additional performance, competition and convention, and choreography opportunities.

Rhinestones – (grades K-3) Program includes further instruction in Jazz, Lyrical, and Ballet in preparation for performances and competitions.

Crystals – (grades 3-7) Program includes further instruction in Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, and Ballet in preparation for performances and competitions.

Diamonds – (grade 6+) Program includes further instruction in Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Ballet, Hip-Hop and more in preparation for performances and competitions.

Dance Company – An opportunity to be a part of a pre-professional group with performances, conventions, competitions, and Choreographer's Showcase. Open by invitation only to selected dancers who exhibit above-average facility, talent, dedication, discipline, character, commitment, and love for dance.