

Davidson Academy Dance Company

Student/Parent Handbook

Mission Statement:

The Davidson Academy Dance program is a unique opportunity for your child to learn dance in a Christian environment. We strive to offer your child the best instruction available in ballet, tap and jazz. Excellence in technique is stressed. Performance opportunities are provided. Your child will have a strong background in dance training should a professional opportunity arise. For those students whom dance is not a lifetime goal, the classes offer discipline, poise, grace and a chance to use dance as a part of the child's spiritual growth.

Amanda (Mandy) Smith **Ballet Instructor**

Ms. Mandy is from Clarksville, TN, where she began her training with her mother. She then continued on to study classical ballet with Albertine Maxwell. Ms. Mandy has Pedagogy Studies (years 1-5) of the Vaganova method of teaching ballet from John White, Director of the Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet Society.

She was the director of her own school for 18 years in Clarksville. Each spring her school presented a spring production, which built and sustained a continuing education scholarship through the Speech, Communication and Theatre Department at Austin Peay State University. She has intensive teaching experience working with children of all ages. She has taught at Davidson Academy since 1997.

In 1989, she won the National Tap Dance Challenge Award associated with the movie *Tap*, starring Gregory Hines. She has created multiple nationally acclaimed tap routines for Artistry In Motion's performance team and has served as a judge with International Dance Challenge, a national competition organization, for 4 years.

Ms. Mandy has two daughters, Alexandra and Morgan.

Sharon Reeves **Tap and Jazz Instructor, Director of Praise Team**

Ms. Sharon began her training at the age of four under Jean Vaughn. After several years she began intensive training under Bettye Kilgrew. Ms. Sharon received her teacher's training and continued to study dance technique under many noted Dance Masters and Choreographers. She received her teacher's degree from Chicago National Association of Dance Masters.

Ms. Sharon directed her own school and instructed classes through Metro Community education for eight years. Ms. Sharon also currently teaches at Lancaster Christian Academy and has served on the Board of Directors for Rejoice Ministries. She has taught at Davidson Academy since 1997.

Her performances have included touring the West Coast with the nationally acclaimed Christ Church Choir and Rejoice Ministries, The Crystal Cathedral, Bill Gaither's Praise Gathering in Indianapolis and concerts with the Christ Church Choir at the Opry House and at Lee University.

She and her husband, Jack, have three children, Ashlea, Jennifer and Chase and one grandchild, Audrey.

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Class Attendance

Students should attend classes regularly, punctually and dressed appropriately. Technique and new choreography is taught at each lesson. Even one missed lesson can place the student behind in knowledge, strength and technique. Choreography is also adversely affected when a student is absent.

Students will not be permitted to participate in class if they arrive 10 minutes after the start of class. This is not a punishment, but rather a precautionary measure for the safety and physical well being of the student as they miss warm-ups. The student will be required to remain and observe the rest of class and they will be marked present. Likewise, a student who is not dressed appropriately for class will be asked to observe class. If the student does not remain to observe the class, they will be marked absent and will be required to make up the class as per the teacher's choice.

Extended absences may result in the student being re-assigned to a different class. This will be done at the teacher's discretion based on the student's ability to keep up with technique and choreography.

Spring Production Rehearsal/Dress Rehearsal Attendance

Dates:

Rehearsal Week: Monday, April 28th – Thursday, May 1st from 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, May 3 – must arrive according to schedule laid out in Production Handbook

Participation during rehearsal week and dress rehearsal is *mandatory*. Rehearsal week and dress rehearsal allow the students to become familiar with the auditorium surroundings and feel comfortable with their performance, costume(s), and being onstage. Lighting, music cues, set changes, and all other logistics for an organized and professional performance are rehearsed during dress rehearsal so that the students make the best impression possible.

Student Requirements, Conduct & Teacher Conferences

Parents & students should plan to complete the entire year of study. One of the goals behind the design of our dance classes is to teach commitment and personal responsibility. The student who is allowed to quit mid-year receives no self-satisfaction in completing what they start.

Studying the art of dance teaches self-discipline, grace and poise and should be treated with respect. In addition, our dancers often represent Davidson Academy at many off campus performances. *The Dance Company faculty reserves the right to suspend or dismiss any student whose conduct jeopardizes or compromises the integrity of the company or the safety and welfare of others.* Our program is covered under the Behavior Contract that each student signs at the beginning of the school year.

Any conferences or meetings you would like to have with the company director/teacher, please schedule an appointment in advance in the Extended Care office.

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Company Divisions

Ballet

Promise – Acts 2:39

For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Shining Light – 2 Corinthians 4:6

For God who said, "Let light shine in darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light and knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Hope – Psalms 39:7

And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in you.

Mercy – Psalms 23:6

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Grace – Psalms 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Faith –Philippians 1:25-26

And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you for all of your progress and joy of faith, that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

Glory – 1 Chronicles 29:11

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, And You are exalted as head over all.

Tap

Joy – Psalms 16:11

You will show me the path of life: In your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Jubilee – Psalms 106:1

Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

Jubilation – Psalms 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Triumph – Psalms 106:47-48

Save us, O Lord our God, And gather us from among the Gentiles, To give thanks to Your holy name, To triumph in Your praise.

Victory – 1 Corinthians 15:57

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Victorious – 1 Chronicles 29:11

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, And You are exalted as head over all.

Jazz

Precious Stones – 1 Chronicles 20:2a

Then David took their king's crown from his head, and found it to weigh a talent of gold, and there were precious stones in it. And it was set on David's head.

Lively Stones – 1 Peter 2:4-5

Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Cornerstone – Ephesians 2:19-22

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

J.A.M. Rock – Matthew 21:42

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Solid Rock – Deuteronomy 32:4

He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.

Salvation Rock – Psalms 18:2-3

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My god, my strength in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold, I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.



For His Majesty

*To God Our Savior, who alone is wise,
Be glory and majesty, dominion and power,
Both now and forever. Amen.*

Jude 25

Mission Statement: The purpose of this class is to teach children to dedicate their gift of dance to God, to praise and glorify the Lord, and spread the Gospel of Jesus' love.

The Majestic Dancers meet once a week for a class in which God is the complete focus. It is a wonderful time of prayer, Scripture reading, worship and praise. The students learn choreography that is performed during school chapels, the spring recital, Rejoice School of Ballet performances and other off-campus functions.

These performances provide students with opportunities to present God's Holy Word to audiences who may not otherwise experience His Glory. As such, participation is highly recommended.

Participation Requirements

Students must:

- have a desire to worship the Lord with dancing and a joyful heart,
- be registered with DA Dance Company in at least one subject,
- attend all classes and rehearsals,
- dress in appropriate dance attire for class,
- participate, when asked, in ministry opportunities in school chapels and other functions.

Class Dress Code

A Team (older dancers)

- Solid color leotard
- Class capris or dance skirt
- Pink tights – footed or convertible
- White ballet shoes (also worn during performances)

B Team (younger dancers)

- Class leotard
- Class capris or skirt
- Pink tights (Style #T-9010)
- White ballet shoes (also worn during performances)

White tights will be worn for performances. These tights should not be worn to class lest they turn black.

Fees

There is no additional monthly fee for the praise team. There is, however, a \$30.00 Registration Fee due at the beginning of each semester. This fee will show up on your School Account the first month of each semester.