

GENESEE DANCE THEATRE  
YOUTH TRAINING  
PROGRAM



# STUDIO GUIDEBOOK 2023 - 2024

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# WELCOME TO DANCE!

**Thank you for choosing the youth training program at Genesee Dance Theatre for your child's dance education!**

At Genesee Dance Theatre, our mission is to educate and enrich our community through quality performances and training in the art of concert dance, particularly ballet.

The training program seeks to foster individual growth by encouraging and challenging students as they learn technique and artistry. Ballet, by nature, demands discipline and excellence; our program brings this to children with an age-appropriate, nurturing and student-centric approach.

We believe you can work hard, challenge yourself and have fun doing it!

## What we teach . . .

- A strong foundation of technique.
- **Confidence both in current ability and to try new things.**
- **Creativity and curiosity.**
- **Discipline, patience and work ethic.**
- **The ability to collaborate with others.**
- **Lifelong appreciation for dance, music and the performing arts**



# CALENDAR

*Find all of our scheduled holidays and events here!*

***Please BOOKMARK this calendar for easy reference!***

## FALL DATES

- **Sept. 5** First day of classes.
- **Oct. 6** "Girls Night In" Event.
- **Oct. 24 - 30** Costume week!
- **Oct. 31** No classes.
  
- **Nov. 22 - 26** Thanksgiving break. No classes.
- **Nov. 27 - Dec. 11** Adjusted schedule for Nutcracker
- **Dec. 12- 16** Holiday celebration week in class
- **Dec. 17 - Jan 1.** Holiday recess.

## WINTER/SPRING DATES

- **Jan. 2** Classes resume.
- **Feb. 2** World Tutu Day Celebration
- **Feb. 17 - 23** President's Day Recess - No classes.
- **April 1 - 7** Spring Recess - No classes
- **May 27** - Memorial Day - No classes.
- **May 30** - Last day of regular classes.
- **June 1** - Spring Performance

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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## MONDAY

Ballet 2 -3	4:30 - 5:30
PBT Pilates	5:30 - 6:15
Ballet 5*	6:15 -8:00
*includes pointe	

## TUESDAY

Ballet 4	4:00 - 5:15
Broadway Jazz 2	5:15 - 6:00
Ballet 5	6:00 - 7:30
Pointe	7:30 - 8:00

## WEDNESDAY

Ballet 2 - 3	4:30- 5:30
Broadway Jazz 1	5:30 - 6:00
Barre Fitness	6:00 - 6:45
Teen/Adult Rec. Ballet	6:45 - 7:30

## THURSDAY

Modern	4:00 - 5:00
Ballet 5 & Pointe	5:00 - 6:30
Student Company	6:30 - 8:00

## FRIDAY

Ballet 1	4:15 - 5:10
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## SATURDAY

Leap & Twirl	10:00 - 10:30 AM
Pre-Primary Ballet	10:30 - 11:10 AM
Primary Ballet	11:15 AM - NOON

# PERFORMANCES



## NUTCRACKER

December 2nd - Perry

December 8th & 9th - Wellsville

Participation is optional. Rehearsals will be held in lieu of regular classes after school and early evenings Nov. 27 - Dec. 1.

Student company members are automatically cast.

All other students ages 7 and older are guaranteed a role. Participation is optional.



## HANSEL & GRETEL

June 1st.

Our student company presents a new original ballet inspired by the beloved folk tale. The ballet will be the first act of our annual spring performance.



## SPRING DANCE CONCERT

June 1st.

Every class pre-primary ballet and higher performs in this showcase to celebrate their growth and accomplishments at the end of the year.

We call this a concert rather than a recital to emphasize our goal of presenting a professional, entertaining production for our audiences.

# DRESS CODE

Every dancer is unique. If you have concerns or questions about making our dress code work for your dancer, we are happy to discuss!

## LEAP & TWIRL

Any comfortable clothing that allows the dancer to move with minimal distraction.

- Shorts, t-shirts leggings, and leotards are all good options!
- Diapers/pull-ups must be fully covered by pants, leggings etc..
- Bare feet recommended.

### PRE-PRIMARY AND PRIMARY BALLET

Girls:

- Assigned leotard with attached skirt.
- Pre-Primary: Pink.
- Primary: Teal
- Pink tights and ballet canvas slippers with elastics attached.

Boys:

- Solid white t-shirt,
- black shorts or leggings, socks
- white or black ballet slippers.

## BALLET 1 - 4

Girls:

- Black leotard,
- Footed ballet tights (pink or skin tone),
- Canvas split sole ballet slippers same color as tights (i.e. pink and pink).
- Long hair in bun, french twist, or similarly pinned up style.

Boys:

- Fitted white shirt (i.e. under armour)
- black footed tights
- black canvas ballet slippers.

## BALLET 5 & POINTE

- Any color leotard,
- pink or skin tone footed tights and canvas ballet slippers **in same color as tights (i.e. pink and pink)**.
- Optional short ballet skirt.
- Pointe shoes, if applicable.
- Male/alternate option uniform same as previous levels.

## MUSICAL THEATRE JAZZ

- Any color leotard and tights.
- Optional shorts or leggings.
- Split sole slip on jazz shoes in tan or black.
- Teen students may be required to purchase character heels for performance.

## MODERN

- Any color leotard or fitted underarmour-style shirt and tights. Optional shorts or leggings. Bare feet or half-sole shoes. Long hair pulled off of face and neck.

Students may wear a short wrap sweater over leotards if desired. Recommended for colder months!

# POLICIES

## Attire

- Come prepared and ready to dance. Students who do not have dance appropriate attire will need to sit and observe class.
- Correct uniform items must be obtained by October 1st. If a dancer does not have the correct attire by that date, the studio will provide necessary items and charge the student's account.
- No jewelry except small earrings and well secured rings allowed. No watches or any kind, including Apple watches, fitbits etc. either. Sorry!
- For ballet, long hair should be pulled back in a **neat** bun, secured with pins. If you need helping learning how to put your dancers hair in a bun, we are happy to help!
- NO t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants etc. over leotard.

## General

- **Please drop off dancers no more than 10 minutes before their scheduled class time.**  
Exceptions are made in the event your child has to come to class to wait during an older sibling's class.
- If you choose to wait in the lobby during your child's class, keep your cellphone on silent and avoid interrupting class. Parents often mean well but can easily draw focus away from the teacher.
- No gum chewing, food or drinks other than water are allowed in class.
- Dancers who are more than 10 minutes late being picked up will be charged a \$20 late pick up fee.
- Students are expected to respect others and follow etiquette guidelines set by the teacher at the beginning of each school year. Repeated disruptions to class may result in the child being asked to leave the classroom. We reserve the right to dismiss a student at any time for refusal to comply with policies.
- We have zero tolerance for bullying and harassment of all kinds. Behavior of this nature will result in immediate dismissal from the program without a refund.
- We ask that all our students and families refrain from speaking negatively about the bodies or appearance of themselves or others while on our property. We aim to foster an environment that appreciates and values all bodies, and to set an example for young people.

## Payment Policies

- Tuition for the session is based on the total number of classes offered. **No refunds or credits will be offered for classes your child misses.**
- You may pay for the full year at once or in monthly installments. Monthly installments are due by the 5th of each month. Families on this plan must be enrolled in autopay with a credit card on file in our system. A \$10 late fee is assessed for any tuition unpaid by the deadline. An additional \$5 will be accrued per week the balance remains past due. After 30 days of nonpayment, dancer will not be permitted to attend class until full payment is made.
- Tuition is NON-REFUNDABLE once paid. If your child chooses to withdraw from class before the end of the paid session, we cannot offer any credits or refunds.
- We do not prorated tuition for missed classes for any reason, including illness, family vacations etc.
- Tuition is designed to include classes and one costume per dancer per class. Dancers who join after September will be charged an additional costume fee not to exceed \$50 total.
- **Payment is accepted by credit card online or by check.**





# OTHER POLICIES

## Attendance

- Regular and consistent attendance is key for success! While we know absences are sometimes unavoidable, please do not schedule regular weekly extracurriculars that conflict with your child's dance class times.
- **In order to perform in the end of year dance concert, students must not miss more than 2 classes in the 8 weeks prior to the performance.** Any dancer who exceeds that must take a makeup class with their teacher for an additional \$85 fee.
- **Dress rehearsals are mandatory** for all performers. Missing dress rehearsal will result in your dancer's immediate removal from their dance. Exceptions are made only in the case of serious emergency.
- **Be prompt for class.** If you arrive late, wait in the lobby until invited to enter by the teacher.

## Performance

- Students may take their costumes home only once spring tuition installments have been paid in full. Students who withdraw before March 1st do not receive a costume or perform in the show.
- **Students must be enrolled in group classes at the GDT program to perform.** Students wishing to perform solos must be enrolled in both group ballet classes and a minimum of 6 private lessons in the spring.
- Accounts must be fully up to date by May 30 in order for a student to perform in the show.
- Participation in the spring performance is optional for non-company but strong recommended!
- No refunds are given for dancers who choose not to participate in the spring performance.

## Emergency Closings and Illness Policy

- We will follow the lead of local public school districts when determining whether to cancel classes in case of inclement weather.
- Parents will be notified by email and text by 1 PM for weekday classes or 8 AM for weekend classes, in the event of an emergency closing.
- 2 emergency closing days for weather or instructor illness are factored in to the cost of tuition for each class. In the event of additional closings, make up classes will be offered.

Have questions? Contact the office at  
[admin@geneseedance.com](mailto:admin@geneseedance.com).



**"When a  
student finds  
joy in the  
process, a  
dancer is born."**

William  
Wadinger

