

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

The Stars on 9 Dance Center offers a comprehensive variety of programs for children, teen and adults. Whether your goal is to perform professionally or to take recreational lessons for “just for fun” and to “meet new friends”... we have a program to meet your needs.

Students at Stars on 9 Dance Center learn MANY dances throughout the year.

Our primary goal is to teach “how” to dance, as apposed to “how to perform ONE dance”.

(This is usually an important goal for dance studios where the “Recital” or “Competition” is their paramount. ultimate and only goal.)

At Stars on 9 Dance Center – EVERY student is a star ~ not just a few *chosen* to be on a dance team or performing company.

Personalized attention is given to each student's placement to help him or her find the class that is the “right fit”. Every class is aimed to promote fun and challenging material ~ enough for everyone to enjoy and progress in!

By exposing students (of any age) to a positive learning process and encouraging experience, we hope to increase an awareness of Art, Music, Dramatic Arts while building the foundations for a more positive sense of “self” and personal talents, where students can (& will) will feel a deep sense of accomplishment, relaxation, and appreciation of their inner given gifts.

Early Childhood Classes:

For our youngest students’ first steps into the dance world, we offer specialized, developmentally appropriate programs:

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Little Star Lights | Parent/Guardian & Me | Ages 2-3 |
| • Twinkle Stars | Creative Ballet | Ages 3-4 |
| • Fairytales Stars | Fairytales Stories Come Alive | Ages 3-6 |
| • Sparkling Stars | Pre-Primary –Ballet Level 1 | Ages 4-6 |

Children are introduced to dance terminology, improvisation and Character Dance through magical fairy tales, treasured Ballet stories and classic children’s stories. As they “re-create” their cherished story or tale, (becoming each character,) they awaken their spirit of adventure, cultivate their inner creativity and tickle their curiosity.

Our unique activities are especially designed to encourage, imagination, creativity, musicality, rhythm, expression, confidence, fine and gross motor skill development and spacial awareness.

Our movement educational innovative props, instruments, engaging projects, dramatic group games, ribbons, scarves, hoops, bean bags, parachutes, streamers, crowns, tutus, and costumes are often incorporated to develop the basics of dance skills in a “happy and fun” learning setting. These classes are 45 minutes.

Children & Teen Classes:

Combination Classes of Ballet/ Tap /Jazz offer our earliest learners the basic technique skills of each subject, but also offer them an opportunity to discover different styles of dance. Ballet gives them the poise and posture skills; Tap shares musicality and fine coordination abilities, and Jazz shares the latest trends and styles that give children performance and confidence building techniques.

These classes are 1 hour.

- **Ballet/ Tap/ Jazz I** **Ages 4-5**
- **Ballet/ Tap/ Jazz II** **Ages 5-6-7**

Children, Teen & Adult Classes:

Ballet

Our Ballet classes are levels that take learners through specific grades designed by the Royal Academy of Dancing Syllabus, and international organization with over 90 years of dedication to developing quality Ballet Education. This level of excellence is based upon an established material particularly sensitive to the training of young children. It is recognized worldwide and regarded as one of the best techniques to help students progress at a safe, educational and enjoyable progression. Each class incorporates classical training (center work, barre technique steps, Lyrical ~ Free Movement Technique (which encourages “flow and grace” in hands, arms and stage presence. Character Dance (National dances from Hungary, Russia, Romania, Greece, Ireland, Scotland, Spain and Italy) is also part of these classes. These dances are often included in every Ballet story such as The Nutcracker Suite, Coppelia, Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty & Cinderella).

Classes also include correct terminology for barre and center work, include center allegro and adagio combinations as well as traveling allegro (grand & petit), pirouettes and complete performance dances.

The focus of our Ballet classes is to encourage confidence and a sense of self-expression. Pointe work is offered for more advanced & experienced students.

These classes are 1 hour. (Students beyond Grade 2 (Level 3) are encouraged to study in classes that meet 2X/week.)

- **Primary Ballet** **Level 2** **Ages 7-10**
- **Grade 1** **Level 3** **Ages 9-12**
- **Grade 2** **Level 4** **Ages 9-12**
- **Grade 3+** **Level 5** **Teen**

Jazz

Our Jazz classes are a fusion of many styles of the Jazz genre. Students in our Jazz classes are introduced to Classical Jazz, Broadway Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical, Modern and Hip-Hop (which include more variations) keeping students on the cutting edge of current trends.

Lyrical- Cotemporary class offers a more expressive, dramatic style of dance incorporating Ballet and Modern technique skills.

Classes consist of center warm-up stretches, barre work, body isolations, center technique steps, leaps, turns and traveling progressions. Students learn many dances throughout the

year and learn staging, floor patterns and formations that produce exciting and beautiful expressive dance opportunities.

These classes are 45 minutes.

- **Jazz I Juniors** **Ages 6-9**
- **Jazz I & II Pre-teen** **Ages 7-10**
- **Lyrical –Contemporary** **Ages 8+**

Cheer Funk

This is a combination of Cheer, Dance and Hip Hop styles designed especially for students who want a more athletic challenge and fun adventure

This class is 45 minutes.

- **Cheer Funk I & II** **Ages 6-9**

Musical Theatre

This class is a combination of Singing, Dancing and Acting skills. Students learn the techniques to be a “Triple Threat” in the performing arts world. Using lyrics and scripts from many Broadway shows, students learn improvisational techniques.

Theatre games, scene study, monologues and use of props help to teach stage ABC’s, theatre & stage etiquette. Broadway Jazz Dance and basic Ballet moves are introduced. Students gain confidence with relaxation skills and audition preparation techniques.

This class is 45 minutes.

- **Musical Theatre** **Ages 7-Teen**

Tap

Our high-spirited Tap classes take students through our 21 Levels of rhythm, musicality, precision, syncopation and percussive movements. Students learn barre and center technique steps, traveling patters and progressions. Traditional Tap terminology is shared in addition to basic time steps and turns combined with staging patterns and formations.

Both styles of Rhythm & Classical Tap is introduced to all Tap classes.

This class is 45 minutes.

- **Tap I Juniors** **Ages 7-10**
- **Tap I – II Pre-teen** **Ages 9-12**
- **Tap I – II** **Adults**

Praise Dance

This class is an expressive form of combining Ballet, Lyrical, Modern, Contemporary and Free Movement styles to “share a prayer” or convey a spiritual message. This class gives students an opportunity to express, articulate and communicate an “inner feeling” through prayer.

Classical and Contemporary Gospel and Christian Spiritual music will be used in class.

To quote the revolutionary Mother of Modern Dance, Martha Graham:

“The body says what words cannot...”
“The body is a sacred garment.”

This class is 45 minutes.

- **Praise Dance** **Ages 9- Teen**

Ballroom

Our Ballroom classes will focus on all class levels of learning how to dance, rather than merely on the blocking of hundreds of “steps” which end up either being executed improperly or cannot be remembered at all. Ballroom dancing, even on a social level should look and feel natural. That is what we will attempt to accomplish even with the proverbial “two left footer”.

Dances to be covered:

We will be focusing on the beginner and intermediate level dancers and will be including:

- Foxtrot,
- “Eastcoast” Swing
- Rumba,
- Cha Cha,
- Waltz
- Tango Emphasizing ‘bronze’ and ‘silver’ technique