

POLICIES

Stafford Academy of Dance LLC

46 Main Street
Stafford Springs, CT 06076
860-684-3532

2022 - 2023

www.StaffordAcademyOfDance.com

MISSION

The *Stafford Academy of Dance LLC* provides quality education in dance and the performing arts to the young people of Stafford and surrounding towns. We offer skilled teaching by educated, experienced instructors in a supportive environment where both creativity and discipline are valued.

CURRICULUM

Lessons are offered in the following styles:

Creative Movement (Preschool)
Modern (4th grade and up)
Pointe (Advanced students only)
Jazz (3rd grade and up)

Adult Seminar
Tap (2nd grade and up)
Ballet (2nd grade and up)
Musical Theatre (3rd grade and up)
Lyrical (open to Ballet A, B and C students)

StAD Company
Creative Dance (K & 1st grade)
Hip Hop (5th grade and up)
Voice/Speech/Singing
Intro to Tap for 1st Graders

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend each lesson. Regular attendance is necessary for individual students and the class as a whole to progress. If a student is ill, but feeling well enough to come to the studio, they may sit and observe class so as to absorb any new material or corrections being given during that lesson. To receive a Perfect Attendance Award at the end of the year, only one make up per class is allowed. Please call the studio if a student will miss class, so the instructor may be informed and have an opportunity to adequately adjust the lesson plan for that session. A lesson missed by a student does not reduce the amount of payment due for that month. Any missed lessons may be made up by taking another comparable class. Arrangements for make ups may be made with Miss Heidi or another instructor.

ATTIRE

Stafford Academy of Dance abides by a professional dress code.

All female students wear a plain black leotard.

Ballet - pink tights and pink ballet slippers

Tap - tan or black tights and tan tap shoes. The style of shoe will be explained by the instructor during the first class meeting. Black shoes are acceptable. If buying new, choose tan.

Jazz - tan or black tights, and tan jazz oxfords. Black shoes are acceptable. If buying new choose tan.

Modern - tan, black or pink footless or convertible tights, and bare feet, half soles or paws

Musical Theatre - tan, black or pink tights, and ballet or jazz shoes

Hip Hop - tan, black or pink tights, and jazz shoes or jazz sneakers. If buying new choose black.

Creative Dance and Movement - black or pink tights, pink ballet slippers, plain pink or black skirts optional

Boys - plain white fitted tee shirt with black shorts or athletic pants, and appropriate dance shoes

ETIQUETTE

Students are expected on time, properly attired, and with hair up for every lesson. No excessive jewelry may be worn. Gum or candy may not be chewed during class. Appropriate behavior is expected before, during and after each class session. While in their dance clothes, it is appropriate for students to be in the dressing room and studio areas only. (Please see "Dance School Etiquette" posted in the studio's dressing room.) Parents are expected to wait quietly in the Waiting Room (not the Dressing Room), beyond the sightlines of the classroom (when Covid guidelines allow).

SCHEDULE

Classes begin the week of September 19th. Each class meets once a week. A school vacation does not necessarily mean a day off from dance class. Students will be informed in advance of any vacation days. Vacation days from dance class as well as snow day make up classes will be posted at the studio and on social media. Holiday break is taken during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. April vacation is taken in correspondence with school vacation. Summer recess follows the June dance recital, followed by a week-long intensive dance program (for ages 7 and up) and other special summer programs. Upcoming workshops will be posted in advance, along with other pertinent dance school information. Open enrollment concludes at the end of October.

- **SNOW DAYS** off from school do **not** necessarily mean dance classes are canceled. In the event of inclement weather, parents should call the studio to listen to the outgoing message or check our website - StaffordAcademyOfDance.com. Lessons canceled due to snow will either be made up, or tuition fee credited to the following month, depending on the circumstances.

TUITION

A monthly statement is handed out during the first week of the month, September through May. The June tuition is included in the May statement. **The tuition is \$10.25 per class.** Tuition decreases to \$9.25 per class for the next additional lesson within the same family, and \$8.50 for the next lesson in the family. If there is a 4th lesson taken within the same family, that lesson is \$8.00, and any additional lessons are \$7.50. For any individual student who takes 4 classes, additional classes will be given to that student for \$5.00. Tuition does apply to any lessons for which a student was absent. Missed lessons may be made up by attending another similar class. Arrangements for make-up lessons may be made with the Instructor or Miss Heidi.

DUE DATE for tuition payments is no later than the last day of the month. Promptness is appreciated.

IN ADDITION, a \$15 family **Registration Fee** is due at the start of the school year. Registration fee appears on the September statement. The May statement includes a \$10 Recital Fee per family, to help cover the high costs associated with that important day. In addition, a \$25 Recital Video fee will be applied in May to each family of students performing in recital. Each family will be supplied with the means to download the video in high definition.

COSTUMES for recital are ordered by the school and purchased by the customer. Information about costumes will be posted on the school's bulletin board. A \$10 deposit towards the total price of the costume is added to the regular tuition statements for the months of December and January, with the final balance charged in February. Stafford Academy makes every effort to keep costume costs as low as possible.

WITHDRAWAL: If for some reason a student is unable to complete the year, the school must be officially informed by letter or phone call. **Tuition will be charged up to the date of the official change in status.**

MAKE ARRANGEMENTS with Miss Heidi to address any financial concerns. Stafford Academy of Dance is flexible and willing to work with families in need.

DRESS REHEARSAL AND RECITAL 2023

The studio produces a spring dance concert each June in the auditorium of Stafford High School. For our 2023 dance recital, SHS will be a participant in choosing our dates, so the schedule of the high school and the studio are both considered. Three options have been submitted to SHS, but no confirmation has yet been given as of August '22.

DRESS REHEARSAL will be either **Saturday, May 13th, May 20th, or June 3rd** beginning at 9:00 AM.

Specific time students are expected to be onstage will be posted in May. Dress Rehearsal is **mandatory**. A \$10 Recital fee for each family is applied in May, to help cover the high costs of renting the theatre. If only in one dance, estimated time spent at Dress Rehearsal is one hour. Professional **photographs** will be taken of youngest students at dress rehearsal in the cafeteria, and older students at **PHOTO DAY**, the Sunday following Dress Rehearsal.

RECITALS will be either **May 20th, June 3rd, or June 10th** at 6:00 PM, and either **May 21st, June 4th, or June 11th** at 2:00 PM. These dates are confirmed by Stafford High School in March following the winter season. Our youngest performers will be participating in one dance recital only (information posted in early May). Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and younger and Senior Citizens. They go on sale during the first week of May, and may be purchased in advance at the studio. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for \$15. High school juniors and seniors are offered the opportunity to perform a special dance in the recital.

SHARE DAY: Creative Movement students perform in our annual Creative Movement Festival, at the Stafford Senior Center, on **May 6th** at 2:00 PM. This marks the end of the session for these students.

Family and friends are invited to witness the young dancers as the level I and II students perform a dance story adventure! Reception follows. Intro to Tap for 1st graders will also perform during the festival.

INFORMATION

Important studio information is regularly posted on the bulletin board in the waiting area, and/or written on the blue board. It is quite helpful for parents to come in and read what is posted. Email at staffordacademyofdance@gmail.com is checked regularly. **RECITAL BULLETINS** are included within the May tuition statement envelope and include extremely helpful information regarding Dress Rehearsal and Recital. Information is also regularly posted on our website, Facebook page and Instagram.

StaffordAcademyofDance@gmail.com

