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STUDIO LINES

GENERAL

INFORMATION

2017-2018



Celebrating 38 years of quality dance programs!

Welcome to our **2017-2018 Dance Year!** We are looking forward to having you as a student this year and we hope that it will be an "inspiring" dance year for you. The following information will help you to become familiar with (or review) our studio policies.

We offer "**combination**" classes of Ballet, Tap and Jazz for our Studio Line Dancers, ages 3 to adult. Our **dance season** begins **Monday, September 11th** and concludes with a staged and costumed review in June. All of our dancers have the opportunity to perform **in our annual Holiday Show in December and in the Spring Review in June**. Our staged performances are held at Tornstrom Auditorium in the Brainerd Educational Services Building at 804 Oak Street (2 blocks from the Brainerd studios.) Our dancers also perform throughout the year in the community such as at local senior residences.

We are committed to the philosophy that a dancer's education should consist of an excellent, precise, technical training and a chance to grow and perform as an artist.

We want every student to have a **positive dance experience**. It is our goal to not only teach your child about dance, but to help them learn more about themselves. We want them to think creatively, tap into their unique potential and help each student develop positive attitudes about themselves and others.

Many of **the benefits of dance** go way beyond fitness and arts awareness. Some of the very basic early skills to develop that are integral to dance class are learning how to focus attention, learning to be a good listener, and the importance of watching to aid the learning process. Young children learn best through movement. Through dance we become more self-disciplined and learn to work with others. A good dance education can be beneficial in building a child's self-esteem. Dancing is a fun way to think, but also a positive vehicle to learn problem solving. The thought process is very much a part of the dance class as we try different steps and methods to achieve the perfection we are striving for. The most difficult, but valuable lesson we help teach your child is to **achieve success** through hard work. The only way to get from one step to the next is in the correct sequence through mastery of the basic skills.

It is for you and your child's benefit that we are able to communicate effectively. If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to our attention by email at dance@musicgeneral.com or phone 218-829-0076.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Classes begin **Monday, September 11th**.

There is a \$25.00 Registration fee for all Studio Line Dancers.

All registration fees, costume fees, and tuition payments are non-refundable and non-transferable.

You are required to fill out a **REGISTRATION FORM** for each dancer you enroll.

All registration forms received without payment will not be registered until payment is made.

Family Discount: If more than one dancer per year, the first registration is \$25.00, additional registration is \$10.00 after that.

TUITION INFORMATION

- **Class tuition is due on the TENTH DAY OF EACH MONTH by DIRECT PAYMENT with a checking account or debit/credit card;** or payment of the Full Year by October 1st.
- **A \$5.00/month discount will be given to all Studio Dancers on the Direct Payment plan.**
- Credit Card information is required to be on file. Your card will be processed for any outstanding balance of 60+ days.
- All accounts past due 15 days will incur a 5% late fee.
- Monthly tuition fees are due from September 2017 through May 2018.
- Tuition fees are based on the training you receive not on the number of classes you take each month or per year. Therefore, tuition fees are **not** pro-rated due to absences and/or cancellations. **Any missed classes will not be deducted from your fees.**

- Discounts offered to families with 3 or more students enrolled, ½ off monthly fee (Studio classes only). Family Discount: 3rd student in family - monthly lessons are half-price. (Studio Line only)

ATTENDANCE

- Attendance is a very important part of your dance education at *Music General*.
- **To qualify for perfect attendance, dancers must attend all classes, extra practices and performances.** There will be 1 **absence** allowed to qualify for perfect attendance. (See your instructor)
- Students will be recognized for perfect attendance during stage rehearsal in the Spring.
- Please notify the studio if you must miss class. (218)829-0076 or dance@musicgeneral.com
- Classes may be made up in another class of equal level until choreography begins (this will *not* count toward perfect attendance).
- Students who successfully complete five full, continuous years of dance at *Music General* will receive a pin recognizing their accomplishment.

STUDIO POLICIES

- **The studio reserves the right to dismiss any student whose attitude or conduct is unsatisfactory.**
- Students must be dressed for dance. Leotards and tights are required for female dancers. Male dancers should wear shorts and fitted (not baggy) t-shirts.
- Hair must be worn in a ponytail or bun – even short hair must be worn off the face.
- Proper dance shoes are required. **** Please label ALL dance shoes with dancer's full name.**
- Absolutely no street shoes on the dance floor!
- Please arrive five minutes before class.
- **Please pick your child up on time. Music General is not responsible for you child once class is dismissed.**
- No gum chewing. No food or beverages are allowed in the studios.
- Parent observation days will be listed on the monthly calendars.
- **Proper written notification (email dance@musicgeneral.com) is required for withdrawal of a student at any time.** Without it you will continue to be charged for classes. You are obligated for payment until the date of notification.
- Students may only add or drop a class at the beginning of each month.
- All registration, recital, costume and class fees are non-refundable.

NEWSLETTERS/STUDIO INFORMATION

- Newsletters will be e-mailed to you; all updates will be **on-line** at www.musicgeneral.com. (Be sure you provide your e-mail address on your registration form.) Students and parents should look for monthly newsletters, calendars and updates in their email on a regular basis.
- **If you are not receiving emails, please notify Music General immediately by email (dance@musicgeneral.com) or phone at 218-829-0076.**
- Please check your email or listen to WJJY (106.7FM) or KLZ (107.5) radio for any cancellation information. Weather cancellations can also be found on the studio website: www.musicgeneral.com

PROFESSIONAL PICTURES

- Professional pictures will be taken of your child in all costumes in November or December for our Holiday Show and in April or May for our Spring Review by **Kristi Van Camp of Studio Montage**. These pictures are great mementos of your child's dance season. Class pictures will appear in the recital programs, newspapers and other advertisements

COSTUMING

- Costumes are ordered from costume shops or are custom-made by our studio costumers. All dancers will have at least **two** costumes – **ONE for the Holiday Show and ONE for the Spring Review**. Our costumes are age appropriate and include all extras needed, such as tights, headpieces, gloves, etc. **Costume fees are due on or before October 1, 2017.** Fees are listed with individual class information.

COMPETITIONS

Studio Lines grades 2-12 have the option to attend ONE competition in the spring, competing against students their age from other studios in different categories such as; ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, character, etc. The teachers will decide at a later date which contest we will be attending. Contests are held March through May in the Minneapolis- St. Paul area. There is a one-time fee of **\$50.00** to participate in competition, due December 1st. This fee is charged **by the contest, not by Music General**. If your child joins Studio Line Dance in January and would like to attend competition, these fees will be due, in full, at the time of registration. Contest fees are non-refundable.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Each year the entire staff at Music General strives to put on the best possible productions, but we cannot do so without your help. At every Holiday and Spring show we are in need of Parent Volunteers. We appreciate your help and would like to give you credit for your time and service. We are asking parents to volunteer at our Holiday Show and Spring Review!

TELL A FRIEND!

Thank you for choosing Music General! We are excited to be part of your child's dance education. Refer a friend to our dance program and receive **ONE MONTH FREE TUITION!** (*Referred students must pay Costume fees and complete the dance year in order for you to be eligible for the free month*). For details email us at dance@musicgeneral.com Look for "Refer a Friend" on your registration form.

FAQs (frequently asked questions):

What is the Registration/Rehearsal Fee?

This fee is a once a year charge for each student. This helps us to defray the administrative costs of registration, the technical costs and the production costs of the Recitals (lighting, sound, backdrops, props) as well as Janitorial fees and extra classroom usage fees charged to us for each show .

PLEASE NOTE: *The Music General reserves the right to place a student in classes appropriate for his/her abilities. The decision will be based on a student's previous dance experience, the appropriate training required, and the level of technique demonstrated. It is the sincere intent of the faculty of the Music General to provide each student with the very best possible dance instruction. Registration in classes beyond a student's ability or level will not be serving the best needs of the student.*

Is there a studio dress code?

Yes! All students are expected to be properly dressed for each class they attend.

BALLET: all girls must wear tights, leotard and pink ballet slippers.

Boys must wear shorts or sweats, tank top and black jazz shoes.

JAZZ/TAP: all girls must wear tights, leotards, shorts or capris and appropriate jazz or tap shoes.

HIP-HOP: tank tops, sweatpants, or capris are allowed. No sweatshirts or t-shirts.

Everyone's hair must be neatly pulled off the face in a bun (or a ponytail for hip-hop).

I have heard dance is expensive, Is it?

As any sport, hobby, or activity, the more involved you are, the more time you spend doing it, the cost increases. At Music General, we work hard to provide a quality dance program, with qualified instructors at reasonable prices.

What is the point of taking dance class when my child will never be a professional dancer?

No matter the profession you choose, you will need self-esteem, confidence, team work, hard work ethics, determination, and the ability to set and reach goals to be a success. At Music General our teachers not only give their dancers proper dance training, but encourage them to strive to be their best while learning how to work with their peers and achieve their goals!

Can I watch my child's dance class?

Parents are welcome to observe class any time through our waiting area windows. We invite parents into the class **once** before our Holiday Show and **once** again before our Spring Review. Look in your monthly newsletter for notification of your scheduled "parents day".

What is the difference between Studio and Company Lines?

Studio Line consists of dancers Age 3 to Adult. They meet once a week starting in September, ending in May. They perform at two Holiday Shows and two Spring Reviews. In the spring dancers in grades 2-12 have the option to perform **one** dance at **one** competition.

Company Line gives intermediate to advanced dancers age 6–18 an opportunity to compete in Regional and National dance competitions. These dancers meet 2-3 times a week. They perform at **two** Holiday Shows and **three** Spring Reviews. They perform **two** (tap-jazz or lyrical) dances at **three** competitions. If you would like more information about our Company Lines, please contact the studio.