

**2021-2022**

**PARENT HANDBOOK**



**THE DANCE SHOPPE**

**(248) 623-1950**  
**3549 Airport Rd. Suite 112**  
**Waterford, 48329**  
**In the Daisy Park Plaza**  
**[www.thedanceshoppemi.com](http://www.thedanceshoppemi.com)**

Thank you for choosing The Dance Shoppe, where everyone's a star! You made an excellent choice when you selected The Dance Shoppe for your child. In order to work together toward giving your child the best dance experience possible, there are specific rules and procedures that will need to be followed; this handbook explains these procedures to parents. The Dance Shoppe's program is limitless, meaning the dancers and parents set their own boundaries, by deciding how much time and energy is to be devoted to dancing. This handbook aims to explain the different Dance Shoppe programs and their costs, so that you can successfully help your child with their dance goals. Please carefully read the handbook; you will then experience no "surprises" throughout the year, as we inform you in detail. Pay special attention to information **that is highlighted**, and refer back to this handbook often.

If you ever have any questions throughout the dance season, do not hesitate to leave a detailed message for your child's instructor at the desk or email MissLauren@TheDanceShoppeMi.com. Let's work together to enjoy the 2021-2022 dance season, and make your child a star!

## FACILITY

**DANCE ROOMS:** The Dance Shoppe has equipped each of its 4 dance rooms with raised wood floors. The raised floors are much safer and kinder to the dancers' bodies than slab floors. Our facility offers three stage size rooms with high ceilings, as well as a 30x30 room.

**WAITING ROOMS:** Our waiting room will be open for business at the front desk this year (making cash payments, asking questions, etc). Our waiting room will be partially open otherwise, as follows:

We ask that all students in first grade and up classes be dropped off no more than 10 minutes early, and picked up promptly at the end of class. Drop off and pick up will be at the front door, unless otherwise specified closer to the start of the dance season. **Parents of dancers first grade and up will not be permitted to wait inside the studio during classes.**

**One parent/guardian** of dancers in creative movement, preschool or kinder classes may accompany their dancer into the studio and stay in the studio during class if they choose. This will be strictly enforced – no extra siblings (except non-mobile infants) or parents will be allowed this season.

**Parents of students in our creative movement, pre and kinder classes that are not coming into the studio should stay on premises in the parking lot – they should not leave, in case we need to reach them quickly!**

## **CLASS OBSERVATION:**

Each dance room is equipped with an observation window, surrounded by benches. Curtains to observe recreational classes will be open every four weeks, based on a schedule emailed out at the beginning of the season. Please send only **one adult** to observe during each observation week - no extra siblings (except non-mobile infants) or adults will be allowed. Intensive and Classy Dancer level classes do not follow the

curtain schedule. **CURTAINS WILL BE CLOSED FOR VIEWING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> TWO WEEKS OF CLASS!** We then begin alternating observation between the rooms. At TDS, we find value in sharing what your dancer is learning, which is why we are altering our class viewing policy from last season. We did, however, notice a very positive change in our dancers this past season, when the focus was on what was happening in the classroom, rather than the chaos of the waiting room. We are hoping this new policy will be beneficial for all.

**BREAKS:** Students 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up with breaks in their schedule may stay at the studio, as long as they are not in need of extra supervision and can find a quiet activity during breaks. All dancers are encouraged to leave the premises for longer breaks. If our waiting room becomes too noisy, students will be asked to take their breaks outside of the studio. Eating and drinking is permitted on the TILE AREAS ONLY. The refrigerator will be available for use again this season.

### CLASS PLACEMENT

Dance Shoppe instructors confidentially evaluate and place each of our dancers in the recommended classes each season. The strong advantage to our placement procedure is that we attempt to place every dancer in a class that allows them excel and move at an individualized pace. The disadvantage is that in August, when you receive your registration and placement information, you are not given the opportunity to select a convenient night and time. We feel that the advantage strongly outweighs the disadvantage, and most families work their schedules around the recommendations. Your recommended schedule, for those who pre-registered, will be emailed to you. If you have a problem with the assigned class(es), please email Lauren: MissLauren@TheDanceShoppeMi.com. Please note, if you change your recommended class, that usually means your child will be put in a 2<sup>nd</sup> choice class.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

**ABSENCES:** The Dance Shoppe feels that it is important for students to gain a sense of responsibility and commitment to themselves and their classmates. It is also necessary that a dancer attend his/her classes regularly to continue progressing with the rest of the class. If a dancer misses more than 4 classes, The Dance Shoppe reserves the right to remove that dancer from recital routines. **As we prepare for the June recital, attendance the last month of class is EXTREMELY important, for your dancer, and for their classmates dancing with them.** Special arrangements may be made ahead of time with your teacher, if she warrants the situation an exception. **Please see section on Covid-19 for more regarding absence policies and procedures for the 2021-2022 season.**

**TARDINESS:** Dancers are expected to be on time for class. Important warm-ups are missed if a student is late, and injuries could result; coming in late also disrupts the other students. For this reason, **if a dancer is 10 minutes late for class, he or she must ask permission to enter the class.** If too many warm-ups have been missed, the student will sit and observe the rest of the class, or the teacher may not give permission to enter. **Three tardies are equivalent to one absence.** The Creative Movement, Pre & Kinder

classes are only 30 minutes in length, so please make every effort to be on time. **Please do not send in your dancer more than ten minutes late to any 30 minute class.**

## **COVID-19 SAFETY MEASURES AND SELF-ASSESSMENT**

**Please perform the following assessment with your dancer each day they will attend class.** If the answer to any question is yes, please contact the studio and DO NOT send your dancer to class. If anyone at your home is showing the symptoms below, please also keep your dancer at home until it is confirmed that they are not positive for COVID-19.

### **COVID-19 ASSESSMENT:**

Have you come in contact with anyone in the last 14 days that has COVID-19?

Have you experienced a fever of 100.4 or higher in the last 72 hours?

Have you experienced a cough (excluding chronic cough) in the last 72 hours?

Have you experienced shortness of breath in the last 72 hours?

Do you have cough or flu-like symptoms including GI upset, headache, fatigue, runny nose, sore throat, and/or recent loss of taste or smell?

As of August 2021, masks will not be required for students or parents entering the studio. This will be updated as needed, in line with any mask mandates issued by the state.

The studio has been equipped with touchless sanitizers at the front door, and in each dance room. Bathrooms are equipped with touchless soap and paper towel dispensers. Spot cleaning will be done on heavily touched surfaces throughout the evening and the studio will be fully cleaned and sanitized each night.

## DRESS CODE

The Dance Shoppe has a dress code for the following reasons: 1) Uniformity of dance attire enables the instructor to more easily identify a dancer's problem areas. 2) Dressing responsibly for class is part of the discipline of dance. 3) Our dress code eliminates "fashion parades" in class, thus saving parents the expense of trying to outfit their child in the latest dance craze. In fairness to other students who follow the rules, please do not expect us to make an exception for your child. Your first warning is considered a reminder. If your child is out of dress code a second time a note will be sent home, and the third time your child will not be permitted to participate in class. Note: When dancers have reached advanced or professional levels, the instructors may permit exceptions.

### GIRLS IN ALL DANCE SUBJECTS:

\*\*\*Solid colored, plain leotard without attached skirts, designs or decorations of any kind

\*\*\*Ballet Pink or Suntan tights

\*\*\* **Hair must be secured NEATLY up off the neck in a clip or bun.** Hairnet and bobby pins recommended

\*\*\*Creative Movement, Pre and Kinder Dance, Hip Hop and Tumbling students are permitted ponytails

\*\*\*Tiny pierced earrings are the only acceptable jewelry worn in class

\*\*\*No Ballet skirts unless indicated by the instructor

\*\*\***NO SHORTS IN ANY BALLET CLASS**

\*\*\*Baggy, comfortable clothing for hip hop - no leotards and tights please. **Kneepads are required.** No tight shorts or cheerleader shorts.

### BOYS IN OUR INTENSIVE PROGRAM (Dazzling Star or Classy Dancer level classes) – dress code for ballet, jazz, stretch, turns, and choreography classes:

\*\*\*Solid colored shorts or dance pants

\*\*\* Solid colored tank top or a tight fitting t-shirt.

### ALL OTHER BOYS/BOYS' CLASSES:

\*\*\*Loose fitting, appropriate clothing

### DANCE SHOES:

**Ballet** : Soft leather **split-soled** ballet slipper (snugly fit), Bloch or Capezio recommended. Cloth ballet slippers for intensive dancers of high school age. Pink for girls, black for boys.

**Jazz**: Soft leather split soled Jazz Oxfords or slip ons (snugly fit), Bloch or Capezio recommended. Tan for girls, black for boys

**Tap**: Black patent leather Tap shoes **WITH ELASTIC** and Teletone taps for dancers in second grade or younger, jazz tap shoes for dancers 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up.

**Hip Hop**: Tennis shoes **that are not worn outside the dance room.**

\*\*\*All dance shoes and attire must be purchased by October 1<sup>st</sup>.\*\*\*

## **TUITION**

Tuition for the 2021-2022 season is based on the total number of weekly hours your family participates in. The Dance Shoppe offers a considerable discount for families with students attending several classes.

Tuition has been divided into ten equal payments for your convenience. The monthly payment is the same whether there are 3, 4 or 5 weeks in each month.

Your first payment is due upon registration. Each of the following nine payments is **DUE ON THE 15<sup>th</sup> OF THE MONTH, with your final payment on May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Checks should be made payable to **The Dance Shoppe**. Any payments dropped in the lockbox outside the studio should be in a sealed envelope, clearly labeled with your dancer's name. If you opt to pay in cash, payment should be made IN the studio during office hours, and you must receive a receipt. If mailing in a tuition check, it must be received **by the last day of the month to avoid late fees.**

For those who prefer to pay with a credit card, you will receive information regarding your studio portal, and will have the option to select auto pay for your tuition for the season, or to pay online via credit card within your portal as well.

Any tuition that is **NOT AT THE DANCE SHOPPE BEFORE THE 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF THE MONTH IS CONSIDERED LATE, AND WILL RESULT IN A BILLING FEE OF \$15.00.** Any tuition that is delinquent in excess of 30 days will be charged an additional delinquent fee equaling 15% of the unpaid balance. **Any returned checks will result in a \$25.00 service charge.** Anyone having more than 2 returned checks will be asked to pay by money order or cash. **You must notify the studio by email (not your dancer's instructor), by the last day of the month, to discontinue your tuition obligation.**

The tuition policy is standard business policy and already allows for a 2-week grace period. The front desk is not authorized to make any exceptions, so please make sure your tuition is at the Dance Shoppe **by the last day of the month** to avoid any additional fees. If you are experiencing a financial hardship and would like to request special consideration, please make arrangements prior to delinquency with Lauren Lenter.

**We are prepared to continue to keep dancing through the season in any situation, and will switch to virtual classes, if mandated by our state. Tuition payments are expected to continue through any virtual learning situations that may arise.**

Monthly tuition payments for the regular dance program are determined by adding the number of WEEKLY HOURS your FAMILY will be studying, and then calculating your monthly tuition

**\*\*Please note:** If you have a student in the REGULAR dance program and the Creative Movement, Pre Dance or Kinder Dance, you must price them separately.

**REGULAR DANCE PROGRAM** (Weekly classes are at least 1 hour)  
When paid before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month

1<sup>st</sup> weekly hour ..... 10 monthly payments of \$59.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> weekly hour..... 10 monthly payments of \$51.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> weekly hour..... 10 monthly payments of \$46.00  
4<sup>th</sup> weekly hour..... 10 monthly payments of \$40.00  
5<sup>th</sup> weekly hour..... 10 monthly payments of \$32.00  
6<sup>th</sup> weekly hour..... 10 monthly payments of \$26.00  
Additional weekly hours...10 monthly payments of \$14.00

To figure your cost: add total # of weekly hours (1/2 hour will be half of your next hour)  
EX: 3 ½ hours = \$59+51+46+20 = \$176

**CREATIVE MOVEMENT** (3 yrs old by Oct 31<sup>st</sup> and potty trained), **PREDANCE and KINDERDANCE**  
(Weekly Classes are ½ hour each)

1<sup>st</sup> weekly class..... 10 monthly payments of \$43.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> weekly class ..... 10 monthly payments of \$37.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> weekly class.....10 monthly payments of \$28.00  
Additional Weekly Classes.....10 monthly payments of \$18.00

# TUITION CHART 2021-2022

The Dance Shoppe charges a \$20.00 registration fee.

30 min - \$29.5  
45 min - \$45  
1 hr - \$59  
1.5 hr - \$84.5  
2 hr - \$110  
2.5 hr - \$133  
3 hr - \$156  
3.5 hr - \$176  
4 hr - \$196  
4.5 hr - \$212  
5 hr - \$228  
5.5 hr - \$241  
6 hr - \$254  
6.5 hr - \$261  
7 hr - \$268  
7.5 hr - \$275  
8 hr - \$282  
8.5 hr - \$289  
9 hr - \$296  
9.5 hr - \$303  
10 hr - \$310  
10.5 hr - \$317  
11 hr - \$324  
11.5 hr - \$331  
12 hr - \$338  
12.5 hr - \$345  
13 hr - \$352  
13.5 hr - \$359  
14 hr - \$366  
14.5 hr - \$373  
15 hr - \$380  
15.5 hr - \$387  
16 hr - \$394  
16.5 hr - \$401  
17 hr - \$408  
17.5 hr - \$415  
18 hr - \$422  
18.5 hr - \$429  
19 hr - \$436  
19.5 hr - \$443  
20 hr - \$450

20.5 hr - \$457  
21 hr - \$464  
21.5 hr - \$471  
22 hr - \$478  
22.5 hr - \$485  
23 hr - \$492  
23.5 hr - \$499  
24 hr - \$506  
24.5 hr - \$513  
25 hr - \$520  
25.5 hr - \$527  
26 hr - \$534  
26.5 hr - \$541  
27 hr - \$548  
27.5 hr - \$555  
28 hr - \$562  
28.5 hr - \$569  
29 hr - \$576  
29.5 hr - \$583  
30 hr - \$590  
30.5 hr - \$597  
31 hr - \$604  
31.5 hr - \$611  
32 hr - \$618  
32.5 hr - \$625  
33 hr - \$632  
33.5 hr - \$639  
34 hr - \$646

**Creative Movement, PreDance, and  
KinderDance students – Priced  
Separately**

1 class - \$43  
2 classes - \$80  
3 classes - \$108  
4 classes - \$126  
5 classes - \$144  
6 classes - \$162



## **SUBJECTS OFFERED**

The Dance Shoppe offers a variety of programs for both the serious and recreational student. Our class offerings for this season are: Ballet, Pointe, Adjudicated Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop, Turns, Tap, Acro/Tumbling, Modern, and All Boys, All of the following have an Oct 31<sup>st</sup> cut off date unless permission is received from Miss Lauren: 3 yr olds that are potty trained for Creative Movement, 4 yr olds for Pre Dance, and 5 yr olds for Kinder Dance. 4&5 yr old students can take ballet, tap, tumbling, and/or Tot Hop. Students taking ballet and jazz that desire more performing opportunities may be invited to join the “Dazzling Stars” performance group. Serious students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up may audition for the “Classy Dancer” competition troupe. Classy Dancers in 9<sup>th</sup> grade or above, achieving a high technical level, may be chosen for the “Select Program.”

## **FACULTY**

**The Dance Shoppe is proud to boast a staff where every teacher is thoroughly qualified to teach your child.**

**Lauren Lenter** has owned and operated The Dance Shoppe for the past 14 years. She is professionally certified by examination through Dance Masters of America in the disciplines of tap, acrobatics, and jazz. She is certified through the Cecchetti Council of America at both the student and teacher levels. She is active in Dance Masters Chapter 4, and currently serves as co-director of their teen title competition. In addition to running the studio, at The Dance Shoppe, Lauren heads up the preschool, tap and tumbling programs. Her competitive students, the Classy Dancers, have achieved numerous accolades on both the regional and national level. Lauren has trained former and current Dance Masters and ADA title holders at all age levels. Lauren loves working with all of her students, in nearly every subject The Dance Shoppe offers. She enjoys spending time with her “little dancers” just as much as she enjoys working with the more experienced ones. Lauren is also the founder of the studio’s popular Dazzling Stars performance group. Lauren is proud of her roots growing up at The Dance Shoppe, where she was a member of the "Classy Dancer" intensive program, as well as the Lakes Area Civic Ballet. Following graduation, she spent two years studying Dance and Arts Management at Oklahoma City University. She also performed with the Rhythm Tap Ensemble, while studying at the University of Michigan. Lauren toured with the cast of "Sesame Street Live" as well, in the lead role of Zoe. Lauren continues to study around the country with master teachers, to further her dance studies, and stay up to date with the latest dance innovations. She is the proud mommy of 3 year old Finn and 6 month old Oliver, and when not at the studio, loves spending time with her family.

**Terri Newman** owned The Dance Shoppe for the first 26 years and continues to teach full time. She founded the Classy Dancers in 1989 when her dancers were invited to perform in the Soviet Union. Terri’s extensive teaching credits include being a master instructor at both the Dance Masters of America and American Dance Awards National Conventions. Terri has taught her turning technique throughout the country and produced the DVD entitled, “Turn Your Dancing Around.” She is proud to have trained numerous dancers that have pursued successful dance careers, including an LA choreographer, an Alvin Ailey Company member, a Miss Dance of America, an

American Female Dancer of the Year, a Juilliard graduate, several NYC Rockettes, and many teachers & studio owners. Terri is certified by examination as a professional dance instructor by both Dance Masters of America and the Cecchetti Ballet Council of America. Currently, Terri is teaching her owned adjudicated system of ballet called “Metamorphosis.” She has judged in both the U.S. and Canada. Most importantly, in her 41 years of teaching, Terri is proudest of the thousands of strong, confident, and courageous young women that danced at The Dance Shoppe. She finds fulfillment in maintaining contact with so many alumni, and in teaching many of their children.

**Chelsea Contway** is in her 15<sup>th</sup> year teaching at The Dance Shoppe, where she has developed a unique, award winning, and always entertaining hip hop program. She is an alumni of The Dance Shoppe’s Classy Dancer program and the Lakes Area Civic Ballet Company. Chelsea is certified by examination by the Cecchetti Council of America at the student level as well as certified in jazz through Dance Masters of America. Through her creativity, humor and out of the box choreography, Chelsea has brought hip hop at the studio to a highly competitive level for the last twelve years. Her routines have received numerous special awards and high scores. She has been honored with the Shirley Raitz Costume Award in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2017 (DMM). In addition, the Hollywood Vibe Competition awarded her with costume awards for three of her pieces in 2016. Chelsea has been recognized for her choreography with The Diamond Choreography Award (ADA 2013), the Mary Helen Stewart Choreography Award (DMM 2014, 2016) and the Choreography Award for “Out of This World” (Legacy 2016). Chelsea was the proud choreographer of the 2016 Miss Dance of Michigan, the 2017 Mr. Teen Dance of Michigan, and the 2020 Miss Dance of Michigan. In addition to teaching dance, Chelsea is employed as a licensed cosmetologist in Commerce Township. She received her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts from Oakland Community College. She currently resides in White Lake with her husband Scott, and three boys, Weston, William and Wade.

**Jodie Randolph** is a choreographer and dance educator based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is a graduate of Jacksonville University where she received her MFA in Choreography. She founded Jodie Randolph Dance, a professional platform for her work, in 2012. Jodie served as an adjunct lecturer of dance at Eastern Michigan University and teaches master classes throughout the country. She has taught for companies, colleges, conventions, and festivals including Platinum Dance Experience, Versatile Dance Company, Michigan Dance Project, Detroit Dance City Festival, Brighton Dance Festival, Wayne State University, and Escuela Nacional de Danza (Santo Domingo). Her students have gone on to study at The Juilliard School, Marymount of Manhattan, Indiana University, Point Park University, University of Michigan, Western Michigan University, and Eastern Michigan University. Her students can be seen working on Broadway, in Sleep No More, and notable companies like Batsheva Dance Company and The New York City Ballet. Jodie has presented work at esteemed venues across the United States and Caribbean including Hudson Guild Theatre (NYC), Huntington Avenue Theatre (Boston), Music Hall (Detroit), and Palacio de Bellas Artes (Santo Domingo), among others. Jodie's choreography has been commissioned for Brighton Dance Festival (MI), Dance Masters of Michigan (MI), Eastern Michigan University (MI), Oakland University (MI), Snow College (UT), and ENDANZA (Dominican Republic). Her work has been presented at DUMBO Dance Festival (NYC), Boston

Contemporary Dance Festival (MA), Brighton Dance Festival (MI), Detroit Dance City Festival (MI), Michigan Dance Festival (MI), Oakland Dance Festival (MI), and EDANCO (Dominican Republic).

**Jamie Hetherington** has been tap dancing for over 20 years. Her most extensive training was at The Dance Shoppe. Although she trained in all forms of dance, tap quickly became her passion. She has attended many classes/workshops all around Michigan and studied two weeks at The EDGE performing arts center in Los Angeles on scholarship. She has guest taught and choreographed tap numbers for numerous studios including Star Strut Dance Center in Oxford. Her competitive tap numbers have placed in the overall high scores for their age/category. She was one of the original faculty members at Tap Dance Detroit in Ferndale, MI. Jamie has a BFA from Grand Valley State University, where she studied many types of art, but specialized in ceramics. Her commissioned wall hangings are displayed throughout the GVSU campus and in other Michigan businesses and homes. Jamie's passion for all areas of art makes her a stronger teacher, by encompassing a focus on art into her teaching. Jamie is married with two young sons and lives in Clarkston. She hopes to instill her love and passion for tap dancing into her students.

**Bernadette Foth** is an accomplished dancer with a diverse performance background, as well as being an award-winning choreographer, master class instructor and sought after competition adjudicator. She is a certified member of Dance Educators of America, Dance Masters of Michigan, Universal Dance Association and Dance Masters of America. Bernadette is the co-owner of our sister studio, Tina Marie School of Dance. Her dancers have received extensive nationwide accolades for their technique and performances, and many have gone on to dance on Broadway, cruise lines, commercials, music videos and for the Radio City Rockettes. She currently travels throughout the country teaching at conventions and intensive programs, along with judging for many competitions such as Lifetime's hit show, "Dance Moms." She also choreographs the opening routines, television appearances and various floats for the Hobble Noble Gobble and Thanksgiving Day Parade. Bernadette has dedicated her entire life to cultivating talent and enabling her students to reach their fullest potential and enjoys sharing her talents with The Dance Shoppe students. She is the proud mommy of Finn and Oliver, and enjoys being a mom as much as she loves her time in the classroom.

**Laurie Papovich** has been teaching dance for 46 years. Her professional career includes modeling, performing with the Detroit City Ballet, Detroit Express Soccer Team's Cheerleader/Dancers, the Maui Maidens Hawaiian dance line and in 1990, traveling throughout the U.S. with the International Auto Show as a narrator for Jeep/Chrysler. In 1979, Laurie was certified to teach by examination from Cecchetti Council of America and Dance Masters of Michigan/Dance Masters of America. Laurie is one of few who hold the honor of achieving the Diploma teaching certificate of Maestro Cecchetti's Method of Ballet. In addition to serving as a member of the Cecchetti Council of America's National Executive Board, she is a Permanent Examiner and serves as a Liaison Officer for the Method. She is a member of the CCA Development Committee, serves as the Scholarship Chairperson for students and teachers and is a member of the Summer School Committee as the Dorm/Counselor Coordinator.

Laurie is the co-owner and Artistic Director of Main Stage Center for the Arts and Nouveau Dance Company. Laurie's teaching career has included training students, coaching teachers, teaching at university dance departments and workshops throughout the U.S., as well as at the CCA International Summer School and Teacher's Course. Many of her former students have the honor of performing with and/or receiving dance scholarships to university dance programs or professional training schools, including National Ballet of Canada, Austin Ballet, Alvin Ailey, Oklahoma City University, Ballet Memphis, Charleston Ballet Theatre, Wayne State University, Grand Valley State University, Point Park University, Marymount Manhattan College, Rutgers University and many other community dance productions. She largely attributes her current and former students' successes to the technical discipline and artistry of the Cecchetti Method.

Laurie is very excited to once again join the TDS teaching staff for the 2021-22 season and share her love of ballet and the Cecchetti method.

**Nicole Piette** is a 2015 Dance Shoppe alumna. She was a student of The Dance Shoppe for 12 years and was a student demonstrator and classroom assistant for 3 years. Nicole is excited to begin her third season of teaching! She enjoys working with the pre/kinder program students, as well as our recreational combo, jazz, ballet, tap, and tumbling students. Nicole graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Science-Pre Physician Assistant Studies and is currently completing the Accelerated Second Degree Nursing program at Oakland University to earn her Bachelor of Nursing. She is very excited to graduate this December! Throughout Nicole's schooling career, she has always made time to teach, work the front desk and partake in recital festivities. When Nicole is not around the studio or at school, she is working as a Nurse Extern at Henry Ford Main Hospital in Detroit in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). She cannot wait for the new and exciting dance season to begin and is grateful to have the opportunity to share her love of dance with her students!

**Elizabeth Westlake** is a 2020 alumnus of The Dance Shoppe. She was a member of the Dance Shoppe's Classy Dancer team for eight years and a student of the Dance Shoppe for 15 years. This is her fourth season teaching our TDS students. She teaches many dance classes, but some of her favorites include Jazz, Ballet, and Dazzling Stars. Her favorite days are the ones that she spends with her students, and she is so grateful to be able to call TDS her second home. Along with teaching at the studio, Elizabeth is heading into her second year at The University of Detroit Mercy, where she is a part of the 5-Year Accelerated PA Program. When Elizabeth is not at the studio, she can be found working at Springfield Urgent Care in Clarkston, where she is gaining experience to help further her education for her work in healthcare. Miss. Liz is very excited to be back for the new season and can't wait to see all of her favorite people!

**Mallory Marshall** is a performer, educator and choreographer based in the Metro Detroit area. She was a student of The Dance Shoppe, where she trained in all subjects of dance for 16 years. Outside of The Dance Shoppe, Mallory had the experience of training in some of the country's most popular dance hubs — including Los Angeles, CA; New York City; and Chicago, IL. In 2016, she became a faculty member at The Dance Shoppe. She has also had the pleasure of teaching at intensives, masterclasses, national conventions, and numerous studios throughout the state. One of her most humbling teaching

experiences was at the Dance Masters of America National Convention in 2019, as the reigning Miss Dance of America. Mallory's passion for teaching and choreography goes as far back as her early years of childhood, and she is proud to now be pursuing both at a professional level. She attends Wayne State University in Detroit as a Dance Major, where she continues to broaden her education and appreciation for the art of dance.

**Caylee Price** is a 2016 Dance Shoppe and Clarkston Varsity Dance Team alumna. She graduated from Michigan State University in 2020 with a Bachelor of Science degree in packaging. Currently, she is employed as a sales specialist at Kautex in Troy. Even while away at college, Caylee always found time to come back to TDS to substitute teach, work the front desk, and help out at recitals. Caylee thoroughly enjoys working with children and is so thrilled to have the opportunity to teach this year!

**Rhyan Marshall** has been a student at The Dance Shoppe for 15 years, and is currently a member of our prestigious select team. She is a senior at Lakeland High School and a part of the Oakland ACE program as well, with dual enrollment allowing her to graduate in 2023 with an Associate's Degree. She has assisted in the classroom the past six years and is excited to share her love of dance within our preschool and kinder program this season.

**Sophie Wirth** is an advanced dancer at the studio and a member of the prestigious select team. She assists in classes of every subject, in every age range. Sophie is a proud senior at Clarkston High School. She can't wait to work with our littlest dancers this year.

## **JUNE PRODUCTION**

The Dance Shoppe's June Production audiences are always pleasantly surprised to find our productions much more professional than the typical dance recital. Our production includes all of our dancers at the studio telling a story through dance, with scenery and special effects. We make all our dancers feel special, teaching them to be committed to their class, and comfortable with an audience – invaluable skills!

Our June Shows will be held in mid-June. Many dancers are involved in only one of these performances. The rehearsal and show schedule is not finalized until the week after spring break. **We do our best to schedule students with multiple classes and family members into the same show, but this is not always possible!**

**COSTUMES:** A **non-refundable payment** for each class that your dancer is in will be **due by Dec 1st, PAYABLE TO LAUREN LENTER (check or cash only)**. For all dancers 1<sup>st</sup> grade or younger, costume cost for the season is \$75/costume. For all dancers 2<sup>nd</sup> grade or above, costume cost for the season is \$90/costume. The **non-refundable costume payment** must be accompanied by the Tight and Show Agreement (which will be included in your Fall Newsletter). During the first week of December, costume orders are finalized and the companies have a NO REFUND POLICY.

**\*\*\*Don't Miss Out!** Pay your costume fee, and turn in your tight and show agreement **by Oct 31**, and pay the EARLY BIRD rate! \$70 for all dancers 1<sup>st</sup> grade or younger, and \$85 for all dancers 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above.

**TICKETS:** Tickets will go on sale online at the end of May. **Accounts must be paid in full before tickets can be purchased.** Our shows are popular, so it is important that parents order their tickets before public ticket sales begin. **WE CANNOT GUARANTEE TICKET AVAILABILITY AFTER THE PRE-SALE DATES.**

### **THE DAZZLING STARS**

The Dazzling Stars performance team offers dancers an opportunity to gain valuable performing experience, without the pressure or commitment of joining our competition team. They are focused on community outreach and entertainment. These dancers take a minimum of ballet and jazz, in addition to their weekly class that includes stretch and a half hour of choreography. Founded in 2007, the Dazzling Stars perform at several elderly care facilities, the annual Classy Dancer showcase, the Dance Masters Of Michigan competition, and local area parades.

### **THE CLASSY DANCERS**

The “Classy Dancers” are a nonprofit dance company designed for amateur dancers that have chosen dance as a priority activity. Annual auditions are held for the selection of the competing Troupes. Dancers are selected based on dance abilities, future potential, attendance records, and the evaluations of attitude and effort.

The “Classy Dancers” compete and perform numerous times each year. They also attend several workshops and conventions each season. The company was founded to offer involved students more performance opportunities and professional experiences. The nonprofit company also offers parents the opportunity to fundraise their troupe expenses, through participation in Parents for the Advancement of Dance Arts (PADA).

Dancers wishing to audition for the “Classy Dancers” should be studying a minimum of Jazz and Ballet, as well as a turns class. Workshop and convention attendance is also strongly encouraged. Parents should seek guidance from Lauren Lenter or Terri Newman if their child is hoping to train for the “Classy Dancers.”

### **HOME PRACTICE**

Dancers are encouraged to set aside 10 minute practice sessions, 2 or 3 times weekly. Instructors may assign a practice step each week. Stretches that have been taught in class may be practiced at home; this may make television time more constructive. Splitters Club pins are awarded in June for any dancer who can sit in both a correct right and left split for 1 minute. Home practice makes this easier to obtain. To aid in home practice for the June production, a fee is added to your studio account in January, which will allow you access to all recital music for the season. This is a very valuable tool in for your dancer! After your dancer’s show routine has been taught, there will be a video day, so that you may video the entire dance.

## **PICTURES**

Every spring the Dance Shoppe has a professional photographer come to our studio and take pictures of the dancers in full costume and makeup. The photographer offers a variety of packages involving individual and class pictures. This is offered to interested parents, but is **ABSOLUTELY NOT REQUIRED**. In fact, dancers may elect to participate in only the class picture, and will be part of the June Show Program at no expense to the dancer.

## **SCHEDULED HOLIDAYS**

**Classes for the 2021-2022 Dance Season begin Monday, Sept 13**

**There will be no classes on the following dates:**

**Thanksgiving** – Break begins Wednesday, Nov 24 and classes resume Monday, Nov 29

**December Break** – Break begins Sunday, Dec 19 and classes resume Monday, Jan 3

**February Break** – Break begins Friday, Feb 18 and classes resume Saturday, Feb 26

**Spring Break** – Break begins Sunday, March 27 and classes resume Monday, April 4

**Memorial Day** – Studio closed May 28-30

**Recital** – Dates available in September

\*\*Look for “Summer Workshop” dates to be posted in newsletters and online in February.

## **SNOW CANCELLATION**

**WE DO NOT NECESSARILY CANCEL WHEN SCHOOL IS CLOSED.** If the weather appears questionable in the late afternoon, please check your email, or check our Facebook page, before leaving your home.