



2023-24 Season Parent/Student Handbook

Welcome to Konnect Dance Company. We are thrilled you have chosen to join our program. Our mission is to provide a dance training experience like no other, whether you're dancing for personal enjoyment or aspiring toward a professional career. We are committed to offering quality dance education to all of our students through carefully designed programs that meet every level of a dancers needs throughout their training.

CLASS PLACEMENT - Students will be enrolled in classes based on their abilities and physical facility. All class placements are made by the Director and faculty and will be reviewed throughout the year to ensure proper placement for progression. **We DO NOT base classes off ages as every student learns and grows at their own pace. Ages listed for classes are general recommendations.*

REGISTRATION - Each student must complete a registration form at the start of every season. There is a \$25.00 non-refundable registration fee (\$40 per family) due at the time of sign up. Registration is not final until all paperwork and payments have been received.

TUITION - Konnect Dance Company runs a 35 week schedule from September to June. Tuition is calculated by those 35 weeks and then split up into 10 monthly payments. Tuition can be paid in full at the beginning of the season if desired.

All students participating in the annual performance must be enrolled for the season and pay monthly tuition. Open enrollment ends February 1st every season.

Monthly tuition is due on the 1st of each month. Tuition is payable by cash, check, Venmo or auto-pay via a credit/debit card or ACH payment with a bank account. Accounts on auto-pay will be charged the morning of the 1st each month.

There will be a \$10.00 late fee added to any tuition paid after the 10th of the month. Tuition that is past due by 2 months will result in the student being dropped from the class. Your child/children will not be permitted to attend classes or participate in performances unless the account is up to date.

*All returned checks will asses a \$35.00 penalty fee.

**Tuition is non-refundable

MAKE UP CLASSES - Any missed class, that is NOT a scheduled holiday or vacation closure, is eligible for a make-up class at either the same or a lower class level. Please send an email if you need to schedule a make-up class and options will be given by the director and scheduled accordingly.

CLASS WITHDRAWAL - Any student withdrawing from classes MUST submit an email one week prior to the end of the month. Once monthly tuition has been paid it cannot be refunded. If you choose to withdraw at any point during the month you can either complete the classes paid for or forfeit those classes, pro-rates will not be given for withdrawals.

CLASS ETIQUETTE - Proper dance training requires discipline and structure. All students are expected to behave in a respectful manor during classes to ensure maximum retention and growth. Students are required to be on time to class and in the proper dress code. Anyone not in proper dress code or more than ten minutes late to a class may be asked to sit and observe class instead of participating. Without a proper warm-up, injuries may occur. Please email the studio if you are missing class or arriving late. No chewing gum or eating will be permitted in the studio. Only water will be allowed in the classrooms, no outside beverages.

STUDIO ANNOUNCEMENTS - Detailed studio emails with general information about the studio including any class cancellations, inclement weather, costume deposits, performance information etc. will be sent throughout the year. Please make sure to check your email daily prior to attending class. We also use social media for all announcements and have a family Facebook Page so be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook to be added to the group.

****NEW*** - we are utilizing the Band app to help streamline important information this season. You will receive a link to join our Konnect Families Band app. This app is only for you to receive critical information and updates, you will not be able to send any messages back to the studio.

INCLEMENT WEATHER/STUDIO CLOSURE - In the event of bad weather or an unexpected closure, an announcement will be made via the Band app, on social media and via email by 2pm that day. Make-up classes are available for all missed classes due to unforeseen closure.

PRIVATE LESSONS - We offer private and semi private lessons for dancers. Please email the Director to schedule private lessons. Privates lessons will be charged the morning of your lesson to the credit/debit card on file with the office. If you wish to pay by cash or check that MUST be submitted in advance, no later than the evening before, or the lesson will be cancelled. If you need to cancel a private lesson for any reason kindly do so at least 24 hours in advance.

YEARLY PERFORMANCE - 2024

The end of each season will culminate in an annual performance. Any student **NOT** performing **MUST notify the Director prior to January 1, 2023.**

This years performance date is **Saturday, June 22nd** at the Gamm Theater in Warwick. Please block out that entire day for your dancer. Times will be sent later in the season. **There will be a MANDATORY tech/dress rehearsal at Gamm Theater on Friday, June 21st,** in the evening. Detailed schedules will be sent out closer to the show.

- **RECITAL FEE** (**NEW THIS SEASON**)

A non-refundable Recital Fee of \$50 per student will be due with your January Tuition. Each student will receive a custom designed cast t-shirt with their name on the back and the professional video footage of the annual performance included with their fee. Any dancers not participating in the annual performance will not incur this fee. Keep in mind, we must be notified prior to January 1st if your child will NOT be participating in the annual show.

- **COSTUME DEPOSITS**

A \$40.00 costume deposit is required for each costume and due on **November 15th.** Costume balances will be due on **March 6th.** Once a costume has been ordered it cannot be returned per the costume company's policies.

- **TICKET SALES**

Tickets for the annual performance will go on sale approximately one month prior to the show and will be available on a first come basis.

- **FINALE/CLOSING NUMBER PERFORMANCE**

All students participating in the annual performance are eligible to perform in the closing number of the show! Rehearsals will begin in May and a schedule will be released in March with details on days and times and attendance. This is an optional performance but it is definitely the most fun of the whole show to have all performers on stage together! Costume will be Black bottoms and a designated top each season. Cost is minimal, if any, and usually something you already have or something very inexpensive to purchase.

STUDIO CALENDAR

Fall classes will begin on Monday, September 11th and run through Tuesday, June 18th.

Listed below are important dates and holiday openings and closures for the season.

*We **DO NOT** follow school calendars for closures, please do not assume if there is no school there is no dance. Refer to the dates below.

- **First day of classes - Monday, September 11th**
- Rosh Hashanah - **OPEN** (Sept 16th)
- Yom Kippur - **OPEN** (Sept 25th)
- Indigenous People's Day - **CLOSED** (Oct 9th)
- Halloween - **CLOSED** (Oct 31st)
- Election Day - **OPEN** (Nov 7th)
- Veteran's Day - **OPEN** (Nov 10th)
- Thanksgiving Break - **CLOSED Tuesday - Saturday** (Nov 21st - 26th)
- Holiday Break - **CLOSED 2 WEEKS** (Wednesday Dec 20th - Tuesday Jan 2nd)
- MLK Day - **OPEN** (Jan 15th)
- February Break - **CLOSED 1 WEEK** (Feb 19-25th)
- Good Friday - **OPEN** (Mar 29th)
- April Break - **CLOSED 1 WEEK** (Apr 15-21st)
- Memorial Day - **CLOSED** (May 29)
- **Last day of classes - Tuesday, June 18th**
- **Dress Rehearsal - Friday, June 21st (evening)**
- **Annual Performance - Saturday, June 22nd (all day)**

- **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Please follow the studio on Facebook and Instagram as lots of important information is released there and sometimes is a faster way of receiving that info over email.

Facebook - Konnect Dance Company

Instagram - @KonnectDance

COMPETITION AND PERFORMANCE COMPANY

Konnect Dance Company offers 2 different programs for dancers wanting to perform and/or enter the competitive aspect of dance. Both programs are tailored to fit each dancer's specific interests.

- **PERFORMANCE COMPANY** - Designed for dancers that want to perform without the pressure of competition. Our Performance Company will perform in at least 2 shows each season, a winter or spring showcase event and our annual end of season performance. Dancers must attend an evaluation in June, placement will be based on a dancers ability, not necessarily their age. Dancers are required to take a minimum of 3 technique classes weekly plus a designated choreography and rehearsal class once a week.
- **COMPETITION COMPANY** - Our Competition Company will attend multiple competitions and conventions each season, culminating in a national finale event and perform in our showcase and end of season shows. Dancers **MUST** audition at the beginning of each season for acceptance in to this program. Dancers are required to train anywhere from 5-9 classes/week depending on level.

For more specific information regarding our company's requirements, tuition, class schedules and performances, plus audition forms and applications please email the director.

**Competition/Convention/Master Class Schedules for the season will be emailed out at the beginning of September.*

MASTER CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Each season we will schedule some in-house master classes and workshops with top professionals and choreographers in the industry. These classes are mandatory for members of our competition company and optional for all other Konnect students. Fees for these classes are in addition to any monthly tuition you are paying and will be discounted for Konnect dancers.

We look forward to another amazing season with all our dancers and a big welcome to our new families joining us in season 4!