Welcome DaySpring Dance Department Families!
Whether this is your first or fifteenth year as a student in the Dance Department, we are thrilled to have you as part of the DaySpring family. Our goal for our dance students at every age and level is to create a safe learning environment where the students can develop confidence, cooperation, discipline, and their pursuit of excellence—skills that will serve them not just as artists, but in all areas of their lives. Whether through our Young Dancers Program, the Classical Ballet Program, or our other dance styles classes, we hope to give all students a chance to explore their love for dance! Please read through this information along with the dance policies, dress code, and department calendar included with this letter. Our website provides a list of general policies for the building along with a calendar showing all days we are not in session due to holidays and breaks.

Orientation
All 2020-21 orientation meetings will be held virtually! You should receive a Welcome Letter from your child’s dance teacher(s), as well as a Welcome Week Letter with virtual orientation information for each class.

Performances
All Dance Department students have the opportunity to participate in the end-of-year Finale performance in June. Because Finale performance preparation is an important part of our students’ dance training, it will take place during a portion of class time.
- There are costume fees for dancers in classes that perform in Finale. A costume deposit is charged for each class and the balance of the costume cost is due before you pick up your costume.
- Tickets are available for purchase online as the performance date draws closer.
- There is a mandatory dress rehearsal at the theater during the week of Finale.

Students who miss dress rehearsal or tech week rehearsals will not be permitted to participate in performances.

Production Help
Without our volunteers, we would not be able to produce the quality performances that DaySpring is known for. We need your help with painting, sewing, crafting, building, marketing, ushering and more. Anyone who wishes to help out during production time is warmly welcomed, and we will be sure to let you know what needs as they arise!

Contact Us
If you ever have any questions or concerns, we are here to help! Your teachers can be reached through their DaySpring email, the office is readily available to answer questions and I am happy to speak with you via email, phone call, or in person during my office hours. We greatly appreciate you choosing DaySpring and we look forward to working with your children.

Amber Studebaker
Dance Department Head
amberstudebaker@dayspringarts.org
Policies Specific to the Young Dancers’ Program

There is so much to learn and gain from weekly lessons in dance and much fun to be had! The Young Dancers’ Program at DaySpring includes classes for students aged 3-10 years, including Creative Movement, PreBallet & Tap, Beginning Ballet, Ballet 1, Beginning Tap & Jazz, Beginning Contemporary Modern, and Dance Discoverers.

Communication

- **New this year:** during the 2020-21 school year, DaySpring will be transitioning to a new registration and parent portal software, JackRabbit. Be on the lookout for an email with instructions for accessing your family’s account!
- We encourage you to check your child’s dance bag for any take home papers we may have passed out in class.
- We use email as a main form of communication. Be sure to check your inboxes for important info regarding classes, performances, etc. Your teachers are also available through email. The personal address for each teacher is the first and last name followed by @dayspringarts.org. (ex: amberstudebaker@dayspringarts.org)
- Like us on Facebook! Find our pages: *DaySpring School of the Arts*. We post pictures and videos and all kinds of fun links and updates.
- Don’t forget about our website, www.dayspringarts.org! Most information sent via email is also posted there.

Friendly Reminders

- Be sure to read over the DaySpring General Policies sheet so you are fully informed.
- We ask that you give a good deal of effort to ensure that your child is dressed properly (in dress code) for dance class and that the hair is neatly pulled back: either in a bun or tidy ponytail. Please, avoid distracting jewelry.
- Do not send your child into class until the teacher has opened the studio door and invited them in. If you arrive after class has started, you may open the door and send your child into the room.
- If you are not outside of the studio when the class is dismissed and your child’s teacher has another class, your child will stay in the studio until you arrive. Let the teacher see you when you arrive so that your child can be released to you.

Dress Code

Please, note the dress code for your child’s level below. All leotards/ dance dresses and performance tights should be purchased from the DaySpring office.

**New this year:** dancers may (but are not required to) choose flesh-tone tights and ballet shoes in place of pink and we have three color options for dress code/ performance tights available for sale in the office. Ballet, tap, and jazz shoes may be purchased at any dance supply store (we recommend St. Louis Dancewear, 9644 Olive Blvd, Olivette, MO 63132, (314) 733-5678)

- **Creative Movement, PreBallet & Tap, Beginning Ballet:**
  - Blue dance dress or leotard and skirt, pink or flesh-tone tights or thin white socks, pink or flesh-tone ballet shoes.
  - or
  - Black above-knee shorts, fitted white t-shirt, black socks, black ballet shoes.
  - Hair should be secured away from the face.
- **Ballet 1:**
  - Black leotard, pink or flesh-tone tights or thin white socks, pink or flesh-tone ballet shoes.
  - or
  - Black above-knee shorts, fitted white t-shirt, black socks, black ballet shoes.
  - Hair should be secured away from the face and long hair must be pulled back into a neat bun or twist.
- **Beginning Tap & Jazz, and Beginning Contemporary Modern:**
  - Any solid color leotard or fitted athletic top; black fitted shorts or pants; leggings; or tights (if leotard is worn).
  - Solid color socks (optional) and any style black tap shoes/ any style black jazz shoes/ bare feet for Contemporary.
  - Hair should be secured away from the face and long hair must be pulled back into a neat ponytail, bun or twist.
- **ALL DANCERS:**
  - No dangling jewelry, excessive or distracting accessories, or gum.

The Young Dancers’ teachers are excited to get this year started! Feel free to contact us with any questions you may have throughout the year. See you soon!

Sincerely,
Your teachers: Ms. Mary, Ms. Kim, Ms. Tasha, Ms. Christine, Ms. Amber
Dance Department Head: Amber Studebaker, amberstudebaker@dayspringarts.org
# Important Dates, 2020-21 Season

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date, Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>7, Mon</td>
<td>Labor Day - No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8, Tues</td>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>20-21, Fri-Sat</td>
<td><em>Taking Flight</em> performances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23-29, Mon-Sun</td>
<td>Fall Break - No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>21-Jan 3, Mon-Sun</td>
<td>Winter Break - No Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>4, Mon</td>
<td>Classes Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>1-6, Mon-Sat</td>
<td>Dance and Performing Arts Observation Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>22-27, Mon-Sat</td>
<td>Spring Break - No Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>10-15, Mon-Sat*</td>
<td><em>Finale</em> Portrait Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28, Fri</td>
<td>Last Day of Enrichment Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29, Sat</td>
<td>Last Day of Dance &amp; Performing Arts Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31, Mon</td>
<td>Memorial Day - No Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>First Week</td>
<td><em>Finale</em> Dress Rehersals &amp; Performances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*date(s) subject to change*