

DANCE DEPARTMENT SYLLABUS
Firmly Planted Homeschool Resource Center
2025-2026

Meet Our Dance Department:

Alexa Kehler (Department Head) 360-949-9283 alexa.kehler@gmail.com

- Fairytales and Tutus A & B, Ballet LL1, Lyrical UL2, Ballet UL2, Choreography, Dance Strengthening and Technique, Dance Arts, and private lessons.

Rene Cooper (Department Head Assistant)

- Ballet LL1, Ballet LL2, Ballet UL1, Ballet UL3, Dance Conditioning, Worship Dance and Lyrical/Contemporary UL3 and private lessons.

Kaylah Alicea

- Ballet LL3, Ballet Pointe Technique and Development and private lessons.

Jade Moore

- Hip Hop LL3, UL1, UL2, Lyrical UL1, and private lessons.

Kimberly Dahl

- Jazz LL2

Shellie Burkhalter

- Hip Hop LL2 and Lyrical LL2

Alainna Wigginton

- Tap UL2

Hannah Fant

- Tap LL1, LL2 and UL1

Abigail Hill

- Fairytales and Tutus C & D

AJ Bruce

- Hip Hop: Boys Crew LL and UL

Please keep in touch with your student's teachers using our **Slack App**. Please turn on your notifications and check your class channels at least once each week, especially on the morning of your class, in case the teacher has posted any pertinent information for that day. You will be added to our dance information/or spring show channel after classes begin.

Why we do what we do:

Our number one goal in the dance department is to bring honor to God in all that we do through the medium of dance. Whether it's pliés and grandé jetés in ballet class, shuffles in tap or the running man in hip hop, though there are a lot of different dance steps that are being taught, we are all one in purpose. Here at the resource center we are so blessed to be able to have the privilege and opportunity to share the gospel in our classes! We encourage our students to do this through dance, as well as in their behavior and attitude outside of the class.

Our music choices, show themes, devotionals and Bible verse memorization are a few ways that we are able to encourage our students towards living a life of faith. We seek to offer quality instruction in a variety of genres, while encouraging excellence in technique and beauty in artistry.

We also offer a mentorship program by providing opportunities for teens who are excelling in these areas to learn choreography, dance theory, leadership and class management skills. They can start as a class assistant, move up to student-teaching and then may eventually become an adult teacher with us in the future.

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our program here at the center. We offer reasonable prices for our classes and have implemented a costume rental program which allows a greater possibility for participation for families who may have several students taking classes. Each year we seek to present a program that will impact our dancers and audience in a way that points them to our Savior. What an amazing privilege!

Important dates for this year - Please add these dates to your calendars now.

9/8 First Day of Fall Semester

9/15 7PM Fall New Parent Meeting

11/24-11/28 Week off for Thanksgiving

12/15-12/18 Last day of classes before Christmas (Possible in-class showcase/performance for parents.)

12/21-01/03 Christmas Break

1/16 Last day of Fall Semester Classes

1/19-1/23 Inter Semester Break

1/26 First day of Spring Semester

4/6-4/10 Spring Break

March/April TBD Class photos during classes

Spring Dance Show "For Such a Time As This"

4/23 5:00 Show A Dress Rehearsal (4:30 arrival to get dressed and stretch)

4/23 7:30 Show B Dress Rehearsal (7:00 arrival)

4/24 6:00 Show A Performance #1 (5:15 arrival)

4/25 1:00 Show A Performance #2 (12:15 arrival)

4/25 6:00 Show B Performance #1 (5:15 arrival)

4/26 3:00 Show B Performance #2 (2:15 arrival)

5/4-14 Ballet, Lyrical, Hip Hop and Tap class evaluations

5/18-5/21 Class parties will be held during regularly scheduled classes. Turn in spot-cleaned costume (if taken home) and pick up course completion certificate.

5/21 Last day of Spring Semester

Class Materials

ATTIRE:

Dancers are required to pull their hair back and to wear dance attire during class. All clothing should be modest and cover midriff.

Ballet - Leotard, tights, skirt and ballet shoes.

Tap - Sweatpants/ leggings, loose shirt or leotard and tap shoes.

Lyrical - Leotard or t-shirt, tights or leggings and ballet or lyrical shoes.

Jazz - Sweatpants/ leggings, loose shirt or leotard and Jazz shoes.

Hip Hop - Sweatpants/ leggings, loose shirt and Jazz or CLEAN tennis shoes.

We are able to size your student and order dance clothing and shoes for a good price once each semester. We will be sizing students for our Fall order the week of August 18-21. A list of clothing/shoe options and prices will be posted on August 18th. Items should arrive by Labor Day and can be picked up at the Center on September 9th or on their first day of class. Students may buy dance clothes or shoes from any source, and here are some other suggestions:

www.amazon.com (Shoes are difficult to get the right size.)

The Leotard
2432 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Portland, OR 97212

Portland Dancewear
9225 SW Hall Blvd
Tigard, OR 97223

Goodwill, Once Upon a Child and Discountdance.com may also be options.

Participation in Class

Students are expected to participate fully in class and to come prepared to begin class at its start time. Students should be dressed for class, having used the bathroom if necessary **before** class begins. We are asking all students to bring a water bottle with them to class. This will allow for students to receive instruction for the full class time. Parents are encouraged to volunteer at the center or visit in the coffee shop or family lounge during class. This will make it easier for students to not be distracted and help them to focus on their class. If your student is sick or injured please send a message on Slack to his or her teacher prior to class. If the injury was severe enough, then a doctor's note is needed to allow them to return to class. Our Groupzu website now has new information available to you! Within each class you can find files, your child's attendance and any videos that were taken in class.

Class Payment

Payment for class teacher fees is due either by the date listed on the website or on the first day of class unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher. Please check the Slack channel for your student's class for their specific information on payment details. Students will not be allowed to attend classes without payment. Please communicate directly with the teacher about this and do not include the student.

Student Progress and Certificate of Completion

- Our students may get to display their first semester's progress during their last class before the Christmas break.
- Our end of the year Ballet, Lyrical, Hip Hop and Tap class evaluations will be held during classes the weeks of May 4-15. Students will exhibit their dance skills in order for our teachers to give recommendations for remaining in or advancing to the next level.
- A certificate of completion will be given during the last class of Spring Semester. Teachers may also celebrate with a party.

Dance Shows / Costumes

Each spring the students in the dance department have the opportunity to perform in a Spring Dance Show. We are very excited for our dancers to get the opportunity to present to you "For Such A Time As This" - our artistic interpretation of the Biblical story of Esther. This production will use some sets and props, characters who act/dance and some beautiful costumes as they relate this story of a young, courageous heroine and the God who, again and again, rescues and preserves His people.

Most classes will be performing in either Show A OR Show B for the performances of this show. We are excited for the students to learn through devotionals in class about how Esther took a step of faith in order to do what was right. This will also be another great ministry opportunity for them to share this message of God's deliverance with the audience.

Admission will be charged for these events, but unlike other studios, we do not charge the student a large fee to participate in the show. We have a costume rental program in order to make our shows more cost effective for our students and their families. The rental fee per semester is \$25 for most classes. For your convenience, the payment for the costume fee for each semester's costume fee will be included in the admin fee during their class registrations.

Each family is required to have at least one parent volunteer to help with a performance of our Spring Show. Last Spring was amazing and you all were essential parts of its success. Thank you! Sign up opportunities will be available after the Spring Semester Parent Meeting.

Additional Information

It is sometimes necessary for the instructor to use physical contact in order to show a correction or adjust alignment. If a student is uncomfortable with this please email or direct message the instructor so they are aware and accommodations can be made. The teachers will be attempting to record the new material taught in class periodically and posting it to their class channel on Slack. This should enable the student to learn the new material if they miss a class due to sickness. The Spring Dance Show will be professionally filmed, edited and made available for you to view during the summer. Portions of this video may be shared in the future on Fall Preview Night to demonstrate what the classes are like, as well as on the dance page of our new website. Care will be taken to follow the parent's wishes on the center's signed video/photo release form.

Signature page

I have read the dance department syllabus and understand the information presented about my student being enrolled in class. I agree to this department's policies as well as understand my student is expected to participate in both dance shows and dress rehearsals in order to receive their certificate of completion at the end of the year.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Student's Name: _____

Grade: _____

Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Language spoken in home: _____

Home Phone: _____

Parent(s) Cell Phone: _____

Parent email: _____

Indicate best way to contact parent: _____

Health concerns/issues about students: _____

How to Help

Each family is required to have one parent volunteer to help with the Spring Dance Show. Last year's Spring and Christmas Shows were a huge success thanks to all of our volunteers! Parents will be contacted by the volunteer coordinator. Please name your parent volunteer below. Interested in being this year's coordinator for either or both of the shows? Please contact the dance department head.

Parent Name

Phone Number

Email

***Please print and return this page to one of your student's teachers.**