

# **Turning Pointe Dance Company**

2018 – 2019 Student & Family Handbook



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## **Our Mission**

Turning Pointe Dance Company strives to provide every student with the highest quality of dance and tumbling education. We feel that providing a solid education is equally important for all of our dancers regardless of age or level. Our commitment to the health and well-being of our students continues beyond their studio years and into adult hood.

## **Our Core Values**

### Excellent Dance Instruction

The dance industry is constantly evolving and it is important to us that our dance instructors continue their education on a regular basis. Our teachers are dedicated to teaching proper technique and terminology in all classes. Age appropriate music, movement and costumes are required for all Turning Pointe Dance Company dancers.

### Community

We want all members of TPDC: staff, students and parents/families to feel like they are a part of the TPDC family. In each and every class, we will strive to create a sense of community among the dancers and create team-like atmosphere. All of our families deserve our very best, no one person is more important than anybody else.

### Professionalism

We aim to create a positive atmosphere in our classrooms where students should feel pushed and challenged to do their very best. Everyone in the classroom should feel respected, teachers and students alike.

## **2018-2019 Studio Calendar**

September 11<sup>th</sup> / 2018-2019 Season Begins

October 31<sup>st</sup> / Studio CLOSED

November 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> / Thanksgiving Break – Studio CLOSED

December 17<sup>th</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup> / Holiday Break – Studio CLOSED  
(\*Studio related make-up classes may be scheduled during this time\*)

January 7<sup>th</sup> / Classes Resume

March 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> / New Lenox Studio Spring Break – Studio CLOSED

March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 5<sup>th</sup> / Lockport Studio Spring Break – Studio CLOSED

April 15<sup>th</sup> – April 20<sup>th</sup> / Hair & Make-Up Week @ the studio

May 4<sup>th</sup> / New Lenox Studio Picture Day @ the studio

May 5<sup>th</sup> / Lockport Studio Picture Day @ the studio

May 27<sup>th</sup> / Memorial Day – Studio CLOSED

May 29<sup>th</sup> / Make-up classes for Memorial Day, come at your regular class time

May 31<sup>st</sup> / New Lenox Studio Stage Rehearsal @ Lincoln Way West

June 2<sup>nd</sup> / New Lenox Studio Recital @ Lincoln Way West

June 7<sup>th</sup> / Lockport Studio Stage Rehearsal @ Lemont High School

June 8<sup>th</sup> / Lockport Studio Recital @ Lemont High School

## **Our Program**

### **Dancing Debut (15 mos – 5 yrs)**

During every step of this program, dancers learn age appropriate skills and dance terminology to lay a strong foundation for their future. We have carefully developed this program to ensure that each dancer takes home more than just steps. **They take with them** confidence, musicality and the beauty of movement. All dancers in our dancing debut program are encouraged to participate in our summer recital.

Tiny Tots (15 months – 2.5 yrs): Ballet/Tap/Tumbling Combo

PreDance I (2.5 yrs – 3 yrs): Ballet/Tap/Tumbling Combo

PreDance II (3.5 yrs – 4 yrs): Ballet/Tap/Tumbling Combo

KinderDance (4.5 yrs – 5 yrs): Ballet/Tap/Tumbling Combo

\*\*\*At the age of 6 dancers have the ability to consider two different programs to continue their dance training: our Instructional Program (non-competitive) and our Intensive Program (competitive dance company).

### **Instructional Program (ages 6 & up)**

Our instructional program provides a wonderful balance for dancers looking to make dance a part of their lives! In this program, we offer a wide variety of classes for beginner – advanced students. Dancers will receive a quality dance education in a fun non-competitive environment!!! Along with providing an excellent dance education, our teachers are focused on giving these dancers skills they can carry with them long after they leave the studio. Confidence, **self-expression**, time-management and risk taking are just a few of the many benefits that a quality dance education provides. All dancers are encouraged to participate in our summer recital.

Encore Division (1<sup>st</sup> Grade – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade): Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop & Tumbling

**Teen Division** (6<sup>th</sup> Grade & Up): Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Modern/Contemporary & Tumbling

## **Dress Code**

Tiny Tots, PreDance I, PreDance II, KinderDance:

Leotard (any color/style), Tights (optional), Skirts/Tutu/Shorts (optional), Ballet Shoes, Tap Shoes,

Hair pulled away from face if possible

For Recital: Pink Ballet Slippers, Tan Tap Shoes

Ballet: Leotard (any color/style), Tights (any style), Skirts/Tutu/Shorts (optional), Pink Canvas Ballet Shoes, Hair pulled into a ponytail or bun

Tap: Leotard/Tank Top, Shorts/Leggings, Hair pulled into a ponytail, Tap Shoes

Jazz: Leotard (any color/style), Tights (optional), Shorts (optional), Jazz Shoes, Hair pulled into a ponytail  
For Recital: Tan Slip On Jazz Shoes

Hip Hop: Tank Tops, Shorts, Leggings, T-Shirts, Sweat Pants are all permitted. Hair pulled in a ponytail, Clean Gym Shoes that are NOT worn outside.

For Recital: A specific shoe style & color will be emailed to your class before Holiday Break.

Modern/Contemporary: Leotard, Tank Tops, Shorts, Leggings are all permitted. Bare feet, hair pulled into a ponytail.

Tumbling: Leotard, Tank Tops, Shorts, Leggings are all permitted. Bare feet, hair pulled into a ponytail.

For your safety, sweats and t-shirts are not allowed.

### **Class Expectations**

#### **Dancing Debut Program**

In this program in particular, it is most beneficial that parents begin to encourage independence. The first step in this is to allow your dancer to enter the classroom independently. Consistency with attendance and arriving at least 5 minutes before class starts will set your dancer up for a successful year. Please follow our dress code to help dancers focus in class. In the couple of months leading up to recital you will be randomly be invited in to video your dancer's recital dance. We encourage you to regularly review the video with your child to help them retain what they have worked on in class. Your excitement and confidence in our teachers will lay the foundation for a wonderful experience for your child.

#### **Instructional Program**

In this program, getting your dancer to focus for the duration of their class is our main priority. The first step in setting this pace is arriving on time and in proper dress code. When dancers miss the first 5-10 minutes of class, they are missing the most important part which is the warm up. A proper warm-up gets the body and muscles ready to handle the skills they will be working on that day. A proper warm up is VERY important for injury prevention. In the couple months leading up to recital you will be invited in (specific days by email) to video your dancer's recital dance. For the Teen level classes, many of them have their own phones, so they often record more throughout the year. Regular practice of their dance is necessary to ensure a successful recital.

### **Studio Rules**

- Only Water Is Allowed in the Classroom (no gum, food or sports drinks)
- No Street Shoes Allowed in the Dance Studios
- See the front desk if you need to pull your child from class for any reason
- No hanging on any of ballet barres, whether they are fixed to a wall or portable
- Chatting should be kept to a minimum and never while a teacher is talking
- Bathroom breaks should be kept to a minimum, please visit the restroom before or after class

### **Attendance**

Regular attendance is necessary for your dancer's success in our program! If your dancer must miss a class, please call the studio or email [info@tpdcdance.com](mailto:info@tpdcdance.com) so we can notify her/his teacher.

### **Make-Up Classes**

If your dancer misses a class, she/he may make-up the missed class in any class that is age and level appropriate. Make-up classes do not have to be scheduled. On the day you wish to make up the class, please stop by the front desk to pick up a make-up class pass. All classes must be made up before May 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Tuition & Fees**

All tuition, registration fees, costume fees, recital ticket payments, company fees, and competition fees are paid to Turning Pointe Dance Company and are non-refundable. Payments made after the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month will incur a \$10.00 late fee. If payments are not paid by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month students will not be able to attend class until all past due balances are paid. All fees must be paid in full 30 days before the end of the session or your dancer may not participate in the recital. Our return check fee is \$30.00.

Tuition ***will not be prorated*** because of absence. Classes may be made up (please see above). In the case of an extended illness or injury (3 or more weeks), I must notify Turning Pointe Dance Company in writing of the circumstance and supply a doctor's note. Turning Pointe Dance Company will make a tuition adjustment.

Our school-year session is based on 36 class meetings, and can either be paid in full or paid in monthly installments. All studio holidays and closings are factored in when determining our tuition.

### **Adding & Dropping Classes**

Students that wish to add or drop classes during the session may do so by completing an add/drop form at the front desk. Tuition will be adjusted accordingly the ***following*** month. You will continue to be billed until the form is completed.

### **Weather Related Closings / Severe Weather Policy**

On days we will be closing for weather (i.e. snow), the studio will email all families and post to FaceBook by 2:00pm. As part of our closing policy, dancers may make-up any missed classes in any class that is age and level appropriate. All classes must be made up before May 1<sup>st</sup>. If we have to close for 2 or more of any particular day, the studio will schedule a separate make-up day.

Once classes have started for the day, if weather becomes of a concern, you may pick up your dancer at your discretion. If we decide to close early, we will send an email and post to FaceBook.

The studio does have a severe weather plan in place. In the event of a tornado warning etc, all classrooms have a particular interior hallway away from windows and glass in which they will take their dancers until it is safe to move.