



Dear Parent & Dancer –

We are delighted to have you participate in the Towson University Community Dance (TUCD) program. Towson University Community Dance is an extension of the Department of Dance. Its mission reflects the department's mission of advocating "Dancing for a Lifetime." TUCD's Children's Dance is a unique program designed to help children grow as artists at all levels, from fundamental to pre-collegiate. TUCD employs nationally recognized dance faculty and staff who create an encouraging yet challenging environment that engages young dancers to sample the exciting world of sophisticated and inventive choreography and teaching methodology. Our program emphasizes a strong technical foundation, while educating and broadening the mind to appreciate and integrate the artistic voice of dance, past and present, in all forms.

Enhancement (ages 18months – 7yrs)

An introductory study of dance technique offered to establish a fundamental love of the art of dance. Enhancement classes provide students with the fundamental basis of classical training, as well as refinement of self-expression and creativity.

Open Classes (ages 8-13yrs)

These classes have beginner-to-intermediate dancers seeking to enhance their technical training, while expanding their knowledge and appreciation of dance.

Enclosed you will find the TUCD Student Handbook of policies and procedures, required attire, performance schedule and information, along with the session's program schedule.

We thank you for selecting Towson University Community Dance as the dance program to train and inspire you!

Sincerely,

Candice Webster
Education Director



Towson University Community Dance

Children's Dance Student Handbook

In order for each student to grow to their fullest potential, the student must attend all classes with active participation and focus. Only then can we guarantee success at Towson University Community Dance.

Etiquette

TUCD seeks to maintain a pleasant and healthy educational atmosphere. We ask all guests to help us achieve this goal by conducting themselves in a safe and considerate manner at all times.

- **Inappropriate behavior such as running, horse-playing, screaming, or destructive behavior in the Center for the Arts is prohibited.**
- **No food, drinks or gum are allowed in the studio**
- **Video or photography is prohibited of students while taking class due to the safety of our students.**
- **Appropriate dance attire and shoes are required in the studio. No street shoes may be worn on Marley floor.**
- **To ensure the safety of our students, we ask that all parents with children ages 3-8 yrs. to always remain in the vicinity of their child's class.**
- **Parents and students are asked not to disturb classes already in session, unless consent has been given by the instructor. Studio doors must remain closed at all times; guests may observe during the session's Informal Presentation.**
- **Any student arriving 15 minutes after the start of class will not be able to participate.**

Attire

Standard Student Attire

Students are required to wear the recommended dance attire per dance genre and program in which they are enrolled. Students entering class without the proper attire will not be able to participate and will be asked to observe.

- No jewelry included but not limited to watches, rings, bracelets, toe rings, necklaces. No dangle, hoop or large earrings.
- No jeans, pants, ballet skirts, legwarmers, warm-up clothing, costumes, or leotards with attached skirts
- Leotards and tights are the only garments to be worn in class for girls. Leotards with built-in shelf lining should be purchased. Please no undergarments under leotard.

Standard Student Hair

Ballet

- Students' hair should be worn in a ballet bun. Hair must be gathered together at the center of the crown and secured with bobby pins. Please refrain from Ponytails or Pigtales. Very short hair should be pulled back away from the face with a headband secured with bobby pins.
- Hair must be tightly secured away from face at all times.

Developmental Dance/Creative Movement/Dance Fundamentals/Modern/Jazz/Tap

- Student's hair should be worn in a bun, braid, or in a cleanly pulled back ponytail. Very short hair should be pulled back away from the face with a headband secured with bobby pins.
- Hair must be tightly secured away from face at all times.

Please see below the proper dress attire for all children's programs within TUCD

TUCD Children's Dance Program Dress Attire

Girl's Attire:

Developmental Dance: Any color leotard, leggings, bare feet

Creative Movement and Dance Fundamentals: Black leotard, pink or skin toned footless tights, bare feet.

Ballet: Black leotard, pink or skin toned tights, pink or skin toned ballet slippers with elastic sewn in. NO BALLET SKIRTS

Modern: Black leotard, jazz pants or shorts, bare feet

Jazz: Black leotard, jazz pants, jazz shoes

Tap: Black leotard, jazz pants, tap shoes

Hip Hop: Athletic clothing, clean sneakers. NO OPEN TOE SHOES

Boy's Attire:

Developmental Dance: T-shirt, shorts, bare feet

Creative Movement and Dance Fundamentals: White shirt, black shorts, bare feet

Ballet: White shirt, black tights, dance belt, white ballet slippers with elastic sewn in

Modern: White shirt, black jazz pants, bare feet

Jazz: White shirt, black jazz pants, jazz shoes

Tap: White shirt, black jazz pants, tap shoes

Hip Hop: Athletic clothing, clean sneakers. NO OPEN TOE SHOES

Level Assessment

TUCD conducts student level assessment the first two weeks of each session to ensure all students are placed at the appropriate skill level for them to grow to their fullest potential. Parents will be notified immediately of any level or class change. Students will also receive a written, cumulative skill assessment by their instructor post session to accurately measure skill growth.

Performances

All classes will perform in our Informal Presentations in the fall. The Informal Presentation will take place in the class and studio the dancer is registered in.

Our Spring Production will be held in Stephens Theater in the month of May. Students, ages 6+, must enroll in the repertory class held on Tuesdays starting January in order to participate in the production.

Attendance Policy

In order for the student to grow and improve in all aspects of dance, participation and dedication are essential.

- **Make-up classes must be arranged through the TUCD Administrative Office – tucd@towson.edu**

Refund Policy

A non-refundable administrative fee of \$60 is applied for each registration upon notifying the TUCD administrative office of discontinued participation. Refunds are no longer available after 1-week of start date.

Facility Closures

For all unscheduled facility closures due to inclement weather, make-up classes will be offered at the end of the session. In the event of inclement weather, information will be available on our website at www.towson.edu/dance/community **Inclement Weather cancelation of TUCD classes will follow Baltimore County Public School closures.**

Class Cancelation

All TUCD classes and workshops must meet the minimum requirement of five participants in order to remain on the TUCD schedule. Any class below the minimum requirement will be canceled until further notice.

Liability

TUCD is committed to conducting all programs and classes in a safe manner and holds the safety of participants in the highest regard. Students and parents/guardians of minors must recognize that there is an inherent risk of injury when choosing to participate in physical activities. Towson University Community Dance and the Towson University Dance Department are NOT responsible for any injury incurred on or off premises of the Towson University campus.

Student Drop-off/Pick-up

We highly recommend all students be accompanied by their parent/guardian to and from the Center for the Arts building. Students will be received by their instructor in-front of the studio in which they are registered for class. Instructors will dismiss students at the end of the scheduled time as a group. It is the parent's responsibility to assure their child is picked-up at the appropriate time. If you should need to pick-up your student earlier than the scheduled dismissal time, please notify your instructor at the beginning of class.

Parking

TUCD students and guests may park in-front of the Center for the Arts building at the designated times as listed on the parking signs for a small fee. Parking passes are available for the Union Garage. Please contact tucd@towson.edu for additional information. Saturday parking on campus is free for all commuters parking in front of the Center for the Arts building and in the Student Union Parking Garage.

TUCD Program Calendar

January 27th

Spring 2025 Semester Begins

April 13th – April 20th

Spring Break (NO CLASSES)

May 3rd

Spring Production- Carnival of Animals

May 10th

Last Day of Spring 2025 Classes

September 2nd

Fall 2025 Semester Begins