

Key contact information for Dance Etc., School For Performing Arts, Inc.:

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203-426-8717

JenM@newtowndance.com

www.newtowndance.com

STAYING INFORMED:

We work hard to make the dance experience organized and fun. Keeping you informed is one of our primary goals. Please read all emails, postings and other school information.

Important updates are emailed regularly and posted on the information boards in the lobby areas. They will also be available on the Dance Etc., School For Performing Arts, Inc. website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions regarding the information distributed, we encourage you to contact the office at 203-426-8717 between the hours of 4-8pm during the dance season.

We answer email on a daily basis, except on weekends. Feel free to email questions to jenm@newtowndance.com.

Website www.newtowndance.com

We are constantly updating our website. News, important parent and student information, contact information, and more are available online 24 hours a day.

Facebook & Instagram Page [www.facebook.com/pages/Dance-Etc-School-For-Performing-Arts-Inc]

“Like” the Dance Etc., School For Performing Arts, Inc. page on Instagram and Facebook to receive daily updates on school events. Please invite your family and friends to “like” the school.

Please do not post questions on the school’s Facebook page. Instead, please email them directly to jenm@newtowndance.com or brandy@newtowndance.com.

Parent Portal: Once your child is registered for classes, you will receive an email with a link in it to set up your parent portal. Here you will be able to see your account, what classes your child is in, view transactions and much more. You can also make online tuition payments via the parent portal.

Dance Etc. App: Coming Back soon !!! Downloading the Dance Etc. app on your iphone or smartphone is another great way to stay connected with us. The app allows you to view the information on your parent portal including important documents, newsletters and any updates.

Important Dates, Closings and Vacations

First Day of Classes: Monday, September 11, 2023

Bring a friend to class week: October 2nd - October 7th

Last Day to Register for Holiday Show: October 14th

Costume Deposit Due: October 15th

Spirit Week: October 23rd - October 29th

Trunk or Treat: October 28th

Holiday Show: December 2nd

Last Day to Withdraw from Spring Show: December 15th

Dance Team Showcase: January 21st

Bring a friend to class week: January 22nd - January 27th

Registration closes for season: March 15th

Costume Balance Due: April 15th

Costume Pick-up Day: April 21st (Tentative Date)

Photo Day: April 27th/28th (Tentative Date)

2024 Recital: June 1st (Tentative Date)

Bring a friend to class week: June 3rd - June 8th

Projected Last Day of Classes: June 9th

Closings:

Yom Kippur: Monday, September 25th

Halloween: Tuesday, October 31st

Thanksgiving: Wednesday, November 22nd – Saturday, November 25th

Holiday Break: Tuesday, December 20th – Friday, January 5th

Martin Luther King Day: Monday, January 15th

Winter Break: Friday, February 16th - Tuesday, February 20th

Spring Break: Monday, April 15th – Saturday, April 20th

Memorial Day: Monday, May 27th

Dress Code Requirements

In general, we ask that our students wear something easy to move in, nothing too baggy, no denim and to avoid dresses and/or skirts. Proper shoes are essential and in most cases required for our intermediate and advanced level classes.

- Students should carry their dancewear, shoes, and other belongings in a dance bag. Please print your child's name on the bag as well as on all of its contents.
- Dancewear is to be kept in good repair and laundered on a regular basis.
- Boys age 10 and older must wear a dance belt
- Watches, jewelry, and safety pins should not be worn to class.
- Dance shoes should never be worn outside.
- Students should wear their hair tightly secured and styled away from the face; a neat bun is required for all levels of ballet PP-7.
- Students are expected to observe good personal hygiene habits. Deodorant is required for students age 10 and older.

Pre-Dance, Ballet/Tap, Combo Classes:

• *Boys:* Black sweatpants, white T-shirt, black ballet shoes. (Black tap shoes may be required.)

• *Girls:* Leotards, tights. Ballet specific skirt optional.

Pre-Dance: Pink leather or canvas ballet shoes.

Ballet/Tap I: Pink leather or canvas ballet shoes and black patent leather tap shoes.

Ballet/Tap II: Pink leather or canvas ballet shoes and black patent leather tap shoes.

Jazz/Tap Combo: Tan jazz shoes, Tan tap shoes

Jazz/Lyrical Combo: Tan jazz shoes, Nude ballet shoes

Hip Hop/Acro Combo: Black hip hop sneakers

Jazz/Theatre Jazz (Grades 1-12):

• *Boys:* Black sweatpants or jazz pants, white T-shirt, black jazz shoes.

• *Girls:* Leotard or form fitted dance top and leggings, Leotard and tights, Shorts are ok if worn over tights. Please avoid baggy pants or oversized shirts, denim and dresses. Hair up and out of face. Tan jazz shoes unless specified by the instructor.

Tap/Theatre Tap/Tap Technique (Grades 1-12):

- *Boys & Girls:* Shorts or leggings with a form fitted top, leotard and tights. Please avoid denim, dresses and overly baggy clothing.

Boys - Black tap shoes.

Girls - Grades 2-4 Tan tap shoes. Grades 5 & up Black lace up tap shoes.

Contemporary, Modern & Lyrical

- *Boys:* Sweatpants or shorts, fitted T-shirt or tank top, no shoes.
- *Girls:* Leotard or form fitted tank top and leggings, Leotard and tights, Shorts are ok if worn over tights. Please avoid baggy pants or shirts, denim and dresses. Hair up and out of the face. No shoes.

Hip-Hop & Street Jazz:

- *Boys & Girls:* Comfortable clothes (not jeans) and clean black sneakers used only for class. Sneakers for performance may be selected to compliment costume choices.

Musical Theatre/Broadway Workshop:

All: Something easy to move in. Jazz shoes (any color and any style) or dance sneakers only worn for class. Specific shoes may be selected for performances later in the year.

Ballet Dress Code Requirements

For Class Levels Prima Primary (PP) - Level 7

Ballet:

Boys: Black sweatpants or jazz pants, white T-shirt, black ballet shoes.

Girls: Leotard, pink tights, pink ballet shoes. (Pink pointe shoes may be required.) Hair must be worn in a bun or twist for all levels. No pony tails or messy buns will be allowed. Ballet specific skirts are optional.

*Please contact jenm@newtowndance.com if you are unsure of your ballet level or need to be evaluated.

Wear the leotard color that coincides with your ballet level.

Prima Primary - Light Pink

Level 1A - White

Level 1B - Lavender

Level 2A - Red

Level 2B - Maroon

Level 3A - Dark Green

Level 3B - Navy

Level 4 - Black

Level 5 - Black

Level 6 - Black

Level 7 - Black

*Level 4 and above must not have underwear, sports bras or regular bra straps showing.

*If your dancer is not in proper dress code, they will have to sit out and watch the class and receive an incomplete for the class.

Dance Etc. Policies

ATTENDANCE: Attendance in class is crucial for a dancer's development. When emergencies do arise, dancers are encouraged to notify the studio prior to class. No refunds or credits will be given for classes missed. See the office for a list of appropriate make-up classes. You must notify Dance Etc., Inc. in writing if you are dropping a class, otherwise you will be charged until you do so. But again, please remember there are no refunds so you will be enrolled until the period for which you have registered has expired. If you drop a class, but then decide to rejoin you must re-register for the class and pay the applicable registration fee again.

TARDINESS: When entering a class tardy, the student should ask permission to participate. Due to the importance of a complete warm-up, it is up to the teacher's discretion if there is an adequate amount of warm-up left for the student to participate in class. If you arrive more than 15 minutes late for class, you may not be able to participate, but can watch.

SNOW POLICIES/HOLIDAYS: 2023-2024 Dance Etc. policy:

- If Newtown Schools are canceled, students are sent home for an early dismissal or after school activities canceled due to the weather, Dance Etc. will be closed if the weather continues to pose a threat. An email will be sent out by 2:00pm to confirm if Dance Etc. is closed or open for the evening. If the Newtown schools are delayed then all morning classes are canceled for that day.
- Please check the Dance Etc. facebook page or Instagram page, NBC and WFSB tv stations for cancellation notices.
- If classes are canceled due to weather, please look on the schedule for an appropriate make up option.
- If a class is canceled due to weather or unforeseen circumstances more than 2 times, a make-up class will be scheduled on a Saturday or Sunday.

PAYMENTS/BILLING

The 2023-2024 season starts Monday, September 11th and ends Saturday, June 8, 2024.

TUITION PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Tuition can be broken into 4 separate installments. Payment 1 is due at the time of registration, payment 2 is due November 1st, Payment 3 is due January 15th and Payment 4 is due March 15th. There will be a 10% discount for additional siblings.
- Please contact us if you want to continue on a monthly tuition payment plan.
- A 10% discount is given to clients who pay tuition in full (additional sibling discount not applicable and option expires September 30, 2023).
- A 5 % discount is given to clients who pay in 2 installments. Payment 1 is due at the time of registration and payment 2 is due January 15th (additional sibling discount not applicable and option expires September 30, 2023).
- Please remember that this is a finance plan for the entire season and not a per class fee. Tuition is determined by an hourly rate of classes taken during a week.
- Refund Policy: The registration fee is non-refundable, but if you paid your tuition in full or paid the first installments, please contact us **in writing** and we will provide the following refunds:
 - August 1st - 100% minus registration fee
 - September 11th - 75% minus registration fee
 - October 15th - 50% minus registration fee
 - October 31st - 25% minus registration fee
- Refunds that are issued as credits will expire one year from the date they were issued. There are no cash refunds for credits.
- Payments for classes are due at the time of registration and the quarterly installment due dates. Costume deposits and balances for our annual recital are automatically generated in association with the class in which you are enrolled. All payments towards costumes (deposit and balance) are non-refundable. If you are opting out of the spring recital performance, please notify the office **in writing** before December 15th. Costume deposits are due October 15th. Costume balances are due April 15th.
- Everyone is required to enroll in autopay. You may pay by check or cash, but the payment must be in by the installment due date or the credit card on file will be automatically charged. If a credit card does not go through, and no

payment has been received after 10 days of the due date, a \$15.00 late fee will be charged. Statements will only be emailed to delinquent accounts. If payment is not made within 45 days of the due date, the student will not be able to participate in the classes until the account is brought up to date. If at any time you experience financial difficulties, which prevent you from making payment in a timely manner, please notify Jen M immediately so that a payment plan can be arranged.

- **Registration fees are not refundable.**
- A registration fee of \$50 is to be included with the first payment. Each additional child is \$5 less with a minimum fee of \$5. For example, the 1st child is \$50, the 2nd child is \$45, the 3rd child is \$40, the 4th child is \$35, etc.
- There will be a service fee of \$35 for a returned check. If your check is returned more than two times, you must pay with cash for the remainder of the year.
- Single 45 min classes are \$17.50, one-hour classes are \$23.00 and 1.25 and 1.5 hour single classes are \$28.00.

Tuition

Our 2023-2024 season runs from September 11, 2023-June 9, 2024

Tuition is based on total hours taken per week. These rates reflect the entire season.

- A 10% discount is applied when payments are made in full.
- A 5 % discount is applied when full tuition is broken into two installments. One at registration and one by Jan. 15, 2024.
- Payments can also be broken down into 4 installments. Payment 1 is due at the time of registration, payment 2 is due November 1st, Payment 3 is due January 15th and Payment 4 is due March 15th.
- When payment is submitted, enrollment is confirmed and a commitment is made for the entire season. You may cancel at any time in writing and we will suspend your enrollment until further notice. No refunds will be given for the “quarter”.
- Credit card refunds will be issued minus any merchant fees (approx. 3 %)
- Siblings receive a 10% discount for the 4 installment plan only.
- Auto pay is required for the 4 installment plan.

Total hours/week	Tuition in full (discounted 10%)	2 Installments (discounted 5%)	4 Installments
¾ hour	\$481.50	\$254.12	\$133.75
1 hour	\$626.40	\$330.60	\$174
1.5 hours	\$794.70	\$419.42	\$220.75
2 hours	\$963.54	\$508.53	\$267.65
2.5 hours	\$1,204.42	\$635.67	\$334.56
3 hours	\$1,445.40	\$762.85	\$401.50
3.5 hours	\$1,686.15	\$889.91	\$468.38
4 hours	\$1,927.08	\$1,017.07	\$535.30
4.5 hours	\$2,167.97	\$1,144.20	\$602.21
5 hours	\$2,408.85	\$1,271.33	\$669.12
5.5 hours	\$2,649.92	\$1,398.57	\$736.10
6 hours	\$2,890.62	\$1,525.60	\$802.95
6.5 hours	\$3,131.50	\$1,652.75	\$869.86
7+	\$3,372.39	\$1,779.87	\$936.78

Frequently Asked Recital Questions:

*Is the recital required?

No, our final performance is optional. Dancers not participating still take class until the end of the season. They will learn the choreography, but just in a position that will be easily omitted once we get to the stage.

*When is the recital?

Usually the recital takes place at the end of May/beginning of June
Exact date and times, and “Who’s In What Show” will be announced before the last day to withdraw from the Spring recital, December 15th

* Where is the recital?

We are currently planning to hold the recital at New Milford High School.

* How do I buy a costume?

Costumes will be ordered over the holiday break. They are automatically billed. The recital is NOT mandatory. If you choose not to participate, please inform the office in writing. All costume deposits and balances are non-refundable. You can still participate in classes up until the very end without performing.

*What recital am I in?

Please visit our website www.newtowndance.com or under Shared Files in our Dance Etc. App/Parent Portal for “Who’s In What Show” info. Available December/January.

* When do costumes come in?

Beginning of February - April

* How much are tickets? Ticket prices usually range between \$20 and \$30.

Dancers participating in the recital will be backstage during the performance and do not need a ticket.

* Why does my child have to wear makeup?

If your child is performing on stage, they need to wear makeup or they will be hard to see from a distance and the bright lights will wash them out. Blush, lipstick or

lip gloss on little ones are highly recommended. Browns and whites for eyes are also recommended.

* What is required as far as makeup, hair, tights, shoes, & accessories?

Each class will receive specifics from their teacher on what color tights & shoes, hair style, and other additional costume notes. Please visit our website www.newtowndance.com, click on the recital tab and a link will pull up the documents for you. It should also be available on our app/parent portal under shared files at the beginning of April.

* How do I volunteer?

Volunteer sign-ups will be available online via the parent portal starting on May 1st.

* Can I go backstage during the recital?

Only volunteers are permitted backstage or in dressing rooms. This is for the safety of all of our performers.

* If my child has a costume change, where do they change?

Dancers will have designated dressing rooms for changes. Dancers with quick changes will change backstage. All changes are done by faculty or with a volunteer.

* Can I photograph/video during recital?

No Flash Photography or Video for the safety of the dancers.

* What is the reason for stage rehearsal?

Stage rehearsals are meant so dancers can practice entering and exiting stage, use of lights and blue/blackout, practice spacing, and dancing in front of an audience without a mirror. These rehearsals are **MANDATORY**.

* Where do I bring my child for stage rehearsal? Do I stay?

All dancers report to the auditorium and sit with his/her class until their stage time. Parents are welcome to stay. Each routine has approximately 10-15 minutes on stage.

* Where do I drop off/pick up for recital?

All dancers are to report to designated dressing rooms. Dancers should arrive 30 minutes before the start of the show. One parent/guardian will get a wristband from the office or from a staff member during staging rehearsals or before the show. Only people with wrist bands will be allowed backstage **AFTER** the show to pick up their dancer and their belongings. Please have other family members wait in the lobby. No one will be allowed backstage once the show starts.

* How long is each show?

Each show is 75-90 minutes.

*Is there intermission?

No

* Are dancers allowed to watch the show after they are done dancing?

No dancers are allowed in the auditorium during the recital.

Additional notes:

* Make sure costumes are not wrinkled. Keep hung up and steam if necessary

* Label EVERYTHING with child's name

* Remove noticeable tags

* Make sure tights and shoes are clean, no holes, near new

* No valuables

* No food/drink in dressing areas

Dress Rehearsal/ Pictures:

Picture Day will be a separate Saturday/Sunday. We will post a schedule at the beginning of April.

Tentative Date: April 27th/28th

Dress rehearsal will take place at Dance Etc.* More details to come.

Date of Dress Rehearsal: **TBA**

***Note: Dress rehearsal is different from the mandatory staging rehearsals.**