



Student Handbook

2017/2018

WELCOME TO DRIFTWOOD DANCE ACADEMY

We are so pleased to have your dancers and family as part of our studio community!

Driftwood Dance Academy is a professional dance education centre, providing excellent training for all ages and levels. We believe in the joy of movement and want to share this joy with our students in a positive atmosphere with a talented and supportive faculty.

DDA offers classes in Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Modern, Lyrical Jazz, AcroDance, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, conditioning, Progressing Ballet Technique, and Creative Movement.

Driftwood Dance Academy genuinely enjoys the process of learning. Teachers and students experience this meaningful process together, creating a challenging, yet nurturing environment.

Our own teachers had high expectations and worked with kindness to unlock each individual dancer's personal potential. We aim to emulate this example fully, and consider it our privilege to witness our dancers develop and strive to realize their goals.

At DDA, we are committed to building our students up by providing them with opportunities to shine, share their creative voice, and form an appreciation for the world of the performing arts. Above all, we are passionate about shaping sensitive and strong-willed dancers + young people.

We wish you an exciting and successful 2017/2018 Season!

Laura Killeen & Jen Cole
Studio Directors

PERFORMING COMPANY

Driftwood Dance Academy's Performing Company is a group of dedicated and enthusiastic students who dance intensively and represent DDA at community events and regional festivals during the season, in addition to regular studio involvement.

Each performing company member has a personal and well-rounded training schedule, which must include ballet studies, conditioning, and weekly company rehearsals.

During Company rehearsals, students focus on their creative and performance skills, and are guided by Driftwood directors, teaching faculty, and guest choreographers.

Performing Company auditions are held annually in May for dancers 8+.

YEAR-END RECITAL

Year-End Recital is a beautiful celebration of our dance season!

Driftwood's Year-End Recital involves our entire student body, and showcases the teamwork, progress and creative talents of our dancers and teaching faculty.

This is also when we award annual scholarships, recognizing our outstanding students. Scholarships are chosen for Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap, Musical Theatre, Hip Hop & Studio Spirit.

Dates for Year-End Recital 2018

* Tuesday, June 5 – Sunday, June 10 | RECITAL WEEK **details to follow**
please do not schedule anything else for your dancer during Recital Week

Student Behaviour Policies

Driftwood Dance Academy expects the following from all students enrolled

1. Respectful and Appropriate Behaviour

All students must conduct themselves in a dignified and respectful manner at the studio.

Behaviours not tolerated include

- horseplay
- unsportsmanlike remarks or actions
- inappropriate language
- offensive and hurtful comments, either about others or oneself
- no gum chewing

Issues may be recorded and dealt with at the school's discretion. Students will also follow specific class dress codes, including hair management (pulled back and off the face at all times), shoes, and tasteful warm-up apparel.

2. Commitment

All students must be committed to their classes, examinations, presentations and performances.

Families must also commit to supporting their child's studies at Driftwood Dance Academy.

It is up to the family to notify Driftwood Dance Academy *in advance* of any upcoming absences. Students will be allowed 3 non-medical absences per class, per term, after which the student's class enrollment will be called into review. If a student feels they cannot participate due to illness or injury, they are encouraged to attend and observe class unless they are physically unable to come to the studio. Documentation may be requested in support of medical circumstance.

3. Punctuality

All students must arrive on time and prepared for each class. If a student is late, they must make their presence known by knocking on the studio door, and wait until they are invited to join the class by their teacher. It is at the teacher's discretion whether or not the child may be asked to participate in the class as regular, or perform alternative exercises in order to train safely. If tardiness becomes a consistent issue, the concern will be brought to the Directors' attention, who then reserve the right to make changes as they see fit.

4. General Studio Etiquette

All students will follow rules regarding food and drink, personal items and valuables, inclusion of fellow students and respect for teachers and staff. There will be no food or drink, other than water, in the dance studios. The fridge and microwave are available to all members, but will be cleared at the end of each day. Students are encouraged to keep valuables at home, and neatly store their personal items in the change room, as it is a shared space for everyone. No 'borrowing of others' things without permission. The studio is not responsible for missing effects. Students will value their classmates and treat them with kindness and respect. This attitude will extend to teachers and all staff members. Issues with this rule will be recorded and dealt with appropriately.

Participation Agreement

By registering with Driftwood Dance Academy,
students and their families state + agree with the following

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

I understand that dance classes may include, without limitation, dancing with props, stretching, barre work, across the floor combinations, dance routines in the center, taking the body upside down, and other related activities. I further understand that all of the activities of the dance class involve some degree of risk of strain or bodily injury.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I agree to release, waive, discharge, and hold harmless Driftwood Dance Academy Inc., its owners, and its employees from any liability, claims, actions or losses for bodily injury, property loss/damage, or otherwise which arise out of my child's participation in services provided by Driftwood Dance Academy Inc.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

I authorize Driftwood Dance Academy Inc. to take all reasonable steps to respond to medical emergencies and to seek medical treatment in the case of an injury.

PHOTO + VIDEO

I consent to allow photographs/videos of me, my son/daughter, or other, to be used by Driftwood Dance Academy Inc. for promotional materials. I approve that these photographs/videos may be used but are not limited to studio advertisements, articles, brochures, along with the Driftwood Dance Academy website, and all social media outlets.

Attendance + Withdrawal

ABSENCES

Absences for personal reasons (such as sickness, conflicting commitments, appointments, etc.) will not result in discounted tuition or make-up classes. Students are permitted 3 absences per term, after which their enrolment will be called into review. The student's eligibility to participate in and perform with their class(es) may be revoked at the discretion of the Directors + Faculty.

WITHDRAWALS

To formally withdraw, a *Withdrawal Form* must be submitted by the 1st of the month in order to stop all future payments. Withdrawal deadline is October 31, 2017 for all Performing Company classes, and all registrations paid in full. Withdrawal deadline is January 31, 2018 for all recreational classes. Prolonged absences, phone messages or verbal notice are not acceptable forms of withdrawal. Medial withdrawals supported with sufficient documentation will be granted tuition credit to be used towards future classes within the next calendar year, and may be used by immediate family.

2017/2018 CALENDAR *Studio Events + Holidays*

* Saturday, September 9, 12:00 – 3:00pm | Welcome Day

* Monday, September 11 | First day of classes

* Dancewear + Costume Cleanout (set your price, get ready to donate) | Sunday, October 1

NO CLASSES – Monday, October 9 | Thanksgiving

* Bring a Friend (or sibling!) to Dance | Monday, October 16 – Saturday, October 21

* Kids Physio Group Seminar | Sunday, October 22

* Costume Week | Tuesday, October 24 – Monday, October 30

NO CLASSES – Tuesday, October 31 – Thursday, November 2 | Hallowe'en Break

NO CLASSES – Saturday, November 11 | Remembrance Day

* Family Watch Week | Monday, November 27 – Saturday, December 2

NO CLASSES * Holiday Party * | Friday, December 22

NO CLASSES – Saturday, December 23 – Friday, January 5 | Winter Holidays

* Saturday, January 6 | First day back to class

NO CLASSES – Monday, February 12 | Family Day

* Thursday, February 22 | Performing Company Showcase

NO CLASSES – Tuesday, February 20 – Friday, February 23 | Balance Week

NO CLASSES – Tuesday, March 20 – Thursday, March 29 | Spring Break

* Monday, March 19 – Friday, March 23 | Dance & More Spring Break Camp

NO CLASSES – Friday, March 30 – Monday, April 2 | Easter Weekend

* Tuesday, April 3 | First day back to class

* Saturday, April 7 | Movie Night

NO CLASSES – Saturday, May 19 + Monday, May 21 | Victoria Day Long Weekend

* Monday, June 4 | Last day of regular classes

* Tuesday, June 5 – Sunday, June 10 | RECITAL WEEK **details to follow**

please do not schedule anything else for your dancer during Recital Week

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Kids Physio Group

Kids Physio specializes in growth-related and athletic injuries, and we personalize it to be fun, simple and effective for kids and teens.

Sprained ankles + wrists, groin + hamstring strains, strength + coordination, post-fracture rehabilitation, growth-related imbalance, concussions + more!

DDA & KPG have forged an exciting community partnership with the shared goal of promoting the health and wellness of our Driftwood students!

As dance educators, we feel it is so important for our dancers to understand their bodies and their unique abilities and challenges, and to learn more about anatomy and injury prevention so they can train in the healthiest ways possible.

Kids Physio Group will be supporting our community by presenting educational events throughout the season that will bring our families the relevant information needed to get tuned in to their child's dance body.

All registered Driftwood members will be invited to attend a DANCER WELLNESS seminar held at the studio on the afternoon of Sunday, October 22, 2017.

In addition, all registered DDA students will save \$25 off an initial assessment when visiting Kids Physio Group!

For more information, visit kidsphysio.ca or phone 604 971 0453

Wings of Courage

Wings of Courage is Driftwood Dance Academy's resident charity. The 2017/2018 season marks our fourth year happily partnering with WOC and supporting their fundraising endeavors.

Wings of Courage works with communities in Uganda to provide support to their most vulnerable youngsters - to surround them with a community of care within which they can grow and thrive.

"A world where communities have the capacity to care for every child; where the voices of vulnerable children are heard; and where the individual strengths of every child are fostered."

Driftwood currently hosts **Sunday Drop-In Yoga** from 7:00 – 8:00pm and 100% of the proceeds are given directly to Wings of Courage Orphan Outreach Society.

For regular updates & class scheduling, please visit www.wingsofcourage.ca or email info@wingsofcourage.ca