



# Student Handbook 2016/2017

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## **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, Creative Movement and also the Rokit Kids Performing Arts song-and-dance program.

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 2017/2017 Season!

*Laura Killeen & Jen Cole*  
**Studio Directors**

# **Student Behaviour Policies**

Driftwood Dance Academy expects the following from all students enrolled

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## **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
- Gum chewing during class

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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **Participation Agreement**

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

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### **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., it's owners, and it's 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 and/or my son/daughter 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**

Below are details/dates regarding student withdrawal as described on the registration form.

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### **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 1<sup>st</sup> of the month in order to stop all future payments. Withdrawal deadline is October 31, 2016 for all Performing Company classes. Withdrawal deadline is March 1, 2017 for all other classes. Prolonged absences, phone messages or verbal notice are not acceptable forms of withdrawal. Medical 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.

## DRIFTWOOD'S 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 June for dancers 8+.

## YEAR-END RECITAL

Year-End Recital is a beautiful celebration of our dance season, held at the BlueShore Centre for the Performing Arts, at Capilano University.

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 & Studio Spirit.

### Dates for Year-End Recital 2017

- **In-Studio Tech Rehearsals:** Tuesday, May 30 + Thursday, June 1
  - > All classes will be given a specific day/time for their tech rehearsal
- **Dress Rehearsals:** Friday, June 2 (held at the BlueShore Centre)
  - > All classes will be given a specific time for their dress rehearsal
- **Recitals:** Sunday, June 4 (held at the BlueShore Centre)
  - > Exact details + show allocations will be released in May

## **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 new 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 23rd. Full details to follow.

In addition, all registered DDA students will save \$25 off an initial assessment when visiting Kids Physio Group! For more information, visit [kidsphysio.ca](http://kidsphysio.ca) or phone 604 971 0453

### **Wings of Courage**

Wings of Courage is Driftwood Dance Academy's resident charity. The 2016/17 season marks our third 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](http://www.wingsofcourage.ca) or email [info@wingsofcourage.ca](mailto:info@wingsofcourage.ca)

## STUDIO EVENTS & HOLIDAYS | 2016/2017 CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 7, 4:00 – 8:00pm	*Welcome Day*
SEPTEMBER 10	First day of classes
SEPTEMBER 28/29	NO CLASSES
OCTOBER 1	NO CLASSES ( <i>except Rokit Kids 11:00 – 12:30pm</i> )
OCTOBER 8 - 10	Thanksgiving   NO CLASSES
OCTOBER 17 – 22	Bring a Friend Week
OCTOBER 25 – 31	Costume Week
OCTOBER 31, 4:00 – 6:00pm	Hallowe'en Party   <i>*adjusted schedule to come</i>
NOVEMBER 11	Remembrance Day   NO CLASSES
NOVEMBER 12	Rokit Kids Performing Arts Fall Showcase @ DDA
NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 3	Family Watch Week
DECEMBER 13, 5:30 – 8:00pm	Annual Holiday Party   NO CLASSES
DECEMBER 19	Final day of Fall classes
DECEMBER 20 – JANUARY 1	Holiday Break   NO CLASSES
JANUARY 3	First day back to class
FEBRUARY 13	Family Day   NO CLASSES
MARCH 14 – 24	March Break   NO CLASSES
MARCH 13 – 17	Dance & More Spring Break Camp
MARCH 25	First day back to class
APRIL 14 – 17	Easter   NO CLASSES
APRIL 30	Costume Photo Day (tentative)
MAY 20 – 22	Victoria Day Weekend   NO CLASSES
MAY 30 + JUNE 1	In-Studio Tech Rehearsals
JUNE 2	Dress Rehearsals
JUNE 3	NO CLASSES
JUNE 4	Year-End Recitals
JUNE 5 – JUNE 10	NO CLASSES / Fall Schedule Announced
JUNE 12 – 16	Performing Company Auditions