



## Please view the full version of our 2023 – 2024 DDA Handbook on our website at [www.DainDanceAcademy.com](http://www.DainDanceAcademy.com)

Welcome to the Dain Dance Academy!

We take our roles as mentors and teachers in your child's life very seriously. It is our objective to inspire a passion for the art of dance in every child who passes through our doors. In the process, we strive to set the right example and help your child (and you) create memories that will last a lifetime.

### Philosophy

The Dain Dance Academy is committed to providing high-quality dance education to enhance the overall development of each student. We provide a safe and child-centered environment to encourage our students to explore dance with qualified, professional, nurturing teachers.

We believe that dance training encourages young people to develop a positive self-image as they increase awareness of their physical being. Along with improving coordination skills and developing muscular awareness, dance classes give children the freedom to express themselves creatively through movement.

The highest educational standards are expected from all Dain Dance Academy faculty members. They are lifelong learners who continue to educate themselves through certification programs, teacher-training schools, conferences, and other learning opportunities.

### Key contact information for Dain Dance Academy (DDA):

Address: 95 S. Eagle Road, Havertown, PA 19083

Phone: 610-789-8700

Web-site: [www.DainDanceAcademy.com](http://www.DainDanceAcademy.com)

Facebook Page: [Dain Dance Academy](#)

Instagram: [DainDanceAcademy](#)

Owner/Director: Jamie Lee Dain & Martin Dain

Studio email: [DainDanceAcademy@aol.com](mailto:DainDanceAcademy@aol.com)

Studio Manager: Lori Doherty

### Key event dates for Dain Dance Academy:

Start of classes: September 11, 2023

Costume Payments Due by: (see handbook) October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**\*\*\* If opting out of the recital – please notify us via email with the Subject Heading “No Recital” by Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> \*\*\***

Recital Fee Due: \$75 Due March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Picture Days: TENTATIVELY Wednesday, April 24, Thursday April 25 & Fri. April 26, 2024

Recital Ticket Sales: May 6<sup>st</sup> – May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Recital Dress Rehearsal 2024: Tentatively, Wed. June 12<sup>th</sup> OR Thurs June 13<sup>th</sup>

Recital 2024: Tentatively Fri. June 14<sup>th</sup> & Sat. June 15<sup>th</sup>

DDA 5 week Summer Program 2024: June 24<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup> (No class July 4<sup>th</sup>)

\*No Class the week of July 15<sup>th</sup> due to DDA Team being away at Breakout Nationals in AC.

\*\*July 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> will be a MANDATORY Rehearsal Week for Nationals.

### Dain Dance Academy Closure Dates:

Halloween: Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

Thanksgiving: Wednesday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>

Christmas/New Year's Break: Tuesday, Dec 19<sup>th</sup> – Monday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>

Easter Break: Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

Passover Break: Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> & Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Memorial Day: Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

### Understanding Dance Education

*As a parent, you play an important role in supporting your student financially, but your emotional support is of equal—and we believe perhaps even greater—value. Encourage your child to be the best that he or she can be regardless of what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form and children need to be allowed to achieve at a pace that's comfortable for them individually. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the exact same training. It's important to encourage children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments.*

Not all children will develop into professional dancers. One of the primary goals of our faculty is to teach life lessons and skills that offer children the best chance for success. Dance education encompasses far more than technique and the steps your children learn. We believe the discipline of dance training gives young people a better understanding of commitment through learning, experiencing the spirit of teamwork, and discovering what they can accomplish through hard work. Our goal is to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of our students, teaching them the skills needed for a successful life, whether or not they stay involved with dance into adulthood.

## Class Placement

The school faculty meets regularly to discuss the students' progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every child based on that individual child's abilities and his/her mental and emotional maturity.

Placement decisions are derived from many years of teaching experience. Often a child is placed in a particular group or class where he or she will feel confident and be most successful in order to promote the development of self-esteem. Some students who are placed in a higher level become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with students who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex.

## Dress Code Requirements

Dain Dance Academy maintains a dress code to encourage concentration and a sense of inclusiveness (variations in attire can be distracting). Uniformity in dancewear allows the teachers to assess how well the students are implementing the technique being taught, problems with alignment, and other important aspects of dance training.

- 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.  
(Please note: the Printing of your child's name should appear on the **INSIDE** of shoes and/or attire. Please not on the outside.)
- Dancewear is to be kept in good repair and laundered on a regular basis.
- Boys age 10 and older should wear a dance belt and/or compression shorts.
- Watches, jewelry, Fitbits, smart watches, safety pins etc. 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 classes except hip hop & tap.**
- Students are expected to observe good personal hygiene habits. Deodorant is required for students age 10 and older.

## What to Wear: DDA Dress Code (*\*Competitive Class Students: shoes will be specified once costumes are chosen*)

Class	Boys	Girls	Specific Shoes:
<b>Preschool / Kindergarten</b>	Black sweatpants or shorts, white T-shirt, black ballet shoes, Black tap shoes	Leotard (any color), Tights: tan, black or pink *Please no oversized tutu skirts	Pink Ballet Tan Tap (w/snap preferred)
<b>Ballet (Pointe)</b>	Black bike shorts (or tights for ages 10 and up), white T-shirt, black ballet shoes.	Leotard (any color), Tights: tan, black or pink Ballet skirts may be worn. *NO shorts, leggings, t-shirts etc.	Pink Ballet (Levels 4+ : Capezio Juliette 2) ***Pointe shoes will be recommended upon evaluation on an individual basis
<b>Jazz</b>	Black bike shorts or jazz pants, white T-shirt, black slip on jazz shoes.	Leotard (any color); Tights: tan, black or pink Fitted shorts or leggings may be worn	Level 1-3: Carmel slip on jazz shoe (Capezio EJ2 or similar) Level 4+: see teacher for style and color (Heels may be required for teen/adv. levels)
<b>Tap</b>	Black sweatpants, bike short or jazz pants, white T-shirt, black oxford tap shoes.	Leotard (any color), Tights: tan, black or pink Fitted shorts or leggings may be worn	Levels 1-2: Tan buckle Levels 3+: Black Tie Oxford Levels 7+ : see teacher for specific shoe
<b>Hip Hop</b>	Black sweatpants or shorts (NO JEANS) T shirt, Black sneakers. <b>(Hip Hop sneakers are not to be worn outside)</b>	Black Sweatpants, leggings or bike short, (NO JEANS)	Level PW-3: All Black Sneakers Level 4+: Sneakers for class. Combat boots and/or special sneakers may be required for performance. <b>(Hip Hop sneakers/shoes are NOT to be worn outside)</b>
<b>Acro</b>	Black sweatpants or shorts, white T-shirt, no shoes.	Leotard (any color); bike tard Tights: Stirrup or footless OR leggings	Bare feet
<b>Lyrical/Contemporary</b>	Black bike shorts or jazz pants, white T-shirt. slip on jazz shoes and/or bare feet	Leotard (any color); Tights: tan, black or pink leggings may be worn for lyrical joggers may be worn for contemporary	Lyrical Levels 3-5: Tan slip-on EJ2 or similar. Lyrical Levels 6+: see teacher recommendation Contemporary: barefoot as well.
Adult Classes	Comfortable clothes (no jeans) and clean sneakers, or shoes	Comfortable clothes (no jeans)	Tap: Black Tie Oxford Jazz: Tan or black slip on jazz shoe

## Tuition & Fees:

**Registration Fee:** An annual registration fee of \$25 per dancer (\$60 max per family)

**Recital Fee:** An annual Recital fee of \$75 per family will be charged. This fee will include a Recital video, recital T-shirt and a Yearbook that contains your dancer's class photo(s) and shots of studio events throughout the year. Add'l T-shirts - add \$15. Additional yearbooks \$15.

## Tuition Payment Policy

Full monthly tuition is due by the 1st of each month via check or cash. We offer a 5 % discount on annual tuition that is paid in full by September 30th. All tuition payments not received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month are subject to a \$15 late fee. All returned Payment will be subject to a \$25 returned payment fee.

**Parking/ Parking Lot Safety:** Please review the "Parking and Drop off/Pick up Procedures sheet".

Policies for a Safe Re-Opening: Please view the Procedures listed on our website and sent via email (at the start of the season). We will be updating all procedures at the start of the season based on current guidelines (as they are ever changing).