

RECITAL PROGRAM HANDBOOK



2023-2024

<https://byronparks.org/dance>

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WELCOME

TO BYRON DANCE

ACADEMY



Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Byron Dance Academy! We are excited to welcome back all of our returning students and introduce new students to all that our academy has to offer. We are looking forward to another exceptional year of dance as we explore how beneficial dance truly is. We hope that you find this handbook informative and helpful.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide the most professional dance experience possible all while offering quality instruction to dancers of all ages and abilities. We understand that students enroll in dance for various reasons. It is our vision to build the foundation to make it possible for all students to attain their personal goals. At Byron Dance Academy, we pride ourselves in creating an atmosphere that gets the very best out of each dancer. The positive environment allows each dancer to grow in confidence and self-esteem while mastering the many different dance styles and techniques.



REGISTRATION & PAYMENT



Registration

Dance registration is held in person in August for returning and new dancers at the Park District. Registration will remain open online and at the guest services desk after the in person dates conclude. Registration for the 2023-24 recital dance year will close on **Monday, November 6th 2023**. Dancers are guaranteed their spot in the recitals when they sign up by the second session.

PAYMENT

During dance registration, dancers will be enrolled into all five dance class sessions at once. Payment for the first session will be due during registration. Once a dancer is enrolled in a class for the recital season, they will be charged for the first session and then will be auto charged on the first day of the remaining four sessions. If your dancer withdraws from the program, you will NOT be charged for the upcoming session. If extenuating circumstances arise, please contact Jessica Julian to make special arrangements.

SESSION	PAYMENT DUE DATES
1	At Registration
2	10/30/23
3	1/2/24
4	2/26/24
5	4/22/24

LEVEL PLACEMENT

LEVEL PLACEMENT

Returning dancers will receive class recommendations prior to dance registration. This informs students and parents of what level/class that your dancer should register for in the fall and allows us to track promotions and calculate the number of classes needed for the next year. Age is only a guideline. Level placement is solely based on teacher recommendations. Please respect their decisions and expertise. Any questions regarding placement should be addressed prior to registration.

Staff will be available at registration to help place dancers that are new to the BDA program. Please use this chart as a guideline.

Tiny Tots	Ages 3-4
Combo 1-3	Ages 4-7
Level 1-3	Ages 8 & up





DRESS CODE & SHOES

Proper dance attire is required in all classes. Jewelry is not allowed to be worn during dance class. Necklaces, bracelets, and dangly earrings will be a distraction during class. Stud earrings are acceptable. Hair must be pulled back and out of the face. Some dance shoes and tights can be purchased during registration and also 1-2 months before the annual recitals through BDA. In some cases you may be required to purchase shoes outside of BDA.

*We find that the slip-on shoes are easier to manage when changing shoes during class periods.

- ◆ Tiny Tots- pink ballet, black slip-on tap or paten leather tap
- ◆ All Combo Classes- pink ballet, black slip-on jazz, black slip-on or paten leather tap
- ◆ Level 1-3 Ballet- Pink split sole ballet
- ◆ Level 1-3 Tap- Black slip-on taps or black leather tie tap shoes. No paten leather.
- ◆ Level 1-3 Jazz/Lyrical- Capezio nude leather turning shoes
- ◆ Musical Theatre Jr. Classes- Black slip on jazz shoes
- ◆ Modern/Contemporary- barefoot (no shoes required)
- ◆ Hip Hop- clean sneaker; any color/style for class. Specific color/style will be assigned for recital

DANCE ATTIRE

● Tiny Tots

Shoes: Pink ballet and black slip-on or paten leather tap shoes

Acceptable Attire: leotards, tights, dance dresses, spandex shorts, and leggings and fitted tanks/t-shirts.

● Combo 1, 2 & 3

Shoes: Pink ballet, black slip-on tap, and black slip-on jazz

Acceptable Attire: is acceptable: leotards, ballet dresses, spandex shorts, leggings, fitted tanks, ballet skirts, and fitted t-shirts.

● Ballet 1, 2 & 3

Shoes: Pink split sole ballet

Acceptable Attire: leotards, tights, spandex shorts, ballet skirt, and leggings.

● Jazz/Lyrical 1, 2 & 3

Shoes: Nude leather turning shoes

Acceptable Attire: leotards, fitted tanks, fitted t-shirts, spandex shorts, leggings, and joggers.

● Tap 1, 2 & 3

Shoes: Black slip-on or tie leather tap shoes *No paten leather

Acceptable Attire: leotards, fitted tanks, fitted t-shirts, spandex shorts, leggings, and joggers.

● Modern/Contemporary

Shoes: No shoes required

Acceptable Attire: leotards, fitted tanks, fitted t-shirts, leggings, spandex shorts and joggers.

● Hip Hop Classes

Shoes: Clean sneakers

Acceptable Attire: athletic clothes such as: t-shirts, tank tops, shorts, leggings, joggers, and fitted sweatpants. NO JEANS

● Musical Theatre Classes

Shoes: Black slip-on jazz shoes

Acceptable Attire: leotards, fitted tanks, fitted t-shirts, leggings, spandex shorts and joggers.

ATTENDANCE

Every effort will be made to make up classes cancelled due to inclement weather or an instructor absence. Student missed classes cannot be made up. **If your dancer misses a class, no refunds will be given.** Please do your best to attend every class. Excessive absences may cause a dancer to be dropped from the dance program or may prevent a dancer from participating in the recitals. Consistency is important at any level. Attendance is critical throughout the sessions in order to be properly prepared for the recitals.

In the event Byron Park District cancels classes due to inclement weather, instructor illness or other unforeseen circumstances you will be notified through our automated system by text, phone call or email.



COSTUMES FEES

A costume fee will be required for each recital class. Half of the fee will be billed at the beginning of session two. The remaining balance will be billed at the beginning of session three. **These are NOT auto charged.** Payments can be made online or at the guest services desk once all fees are added. Costume fees are non-refundable. Students will be measured for their recital costumes in November and costumes will be ordered in December. Costumes will be distributed upon arrival once the class' full order has been received.

TOTAL COSTUME FEES BY CLASS

- Tiny Tots & Mini Hip Hop - \$60
- Combos- \$120
- All Level Classes- \$70
- Jazz/Lyrical Classes- \$140

1st Costume Payment

Due 10/30/23

2nd Costume Payment

Due 1/2/24

RECITAL DETAILS & DATES

The Byron Dance Academy's recital dance program includes five sessions. The fifth session concludes with the annual performances of the recitals. **The 2023-24 Byron Dance Academy recital performances will be Saturday, June 8th and Sunday, June 9th at the Byron Middle School Theatre.** Show A will perform at 12:00pm on both Saturday and Sunday. Show B will perform at 3:00pm on both Saturday and Sunday. Show C will perform at 6:00pm on both Saturday and Sunday.

All students are expected to stay until the end of their recital to take part in the Finale/Bows. We ask that you please do not remove your child from the dressing room before that time. Dancers are not permitted in the auditorium to watch the recitals. Exceptions include tiny tot dancers and dancers under the age of 4. These dancers can be picked up by their parent/guardian after their performance.

Admission to the recital is by ticket only. **The cost of each ticket is \$15.** All seating is general admission. Children ages 3 and younger do not need a ticket if they are able to sit on a parent's lap.

Tickets for the recitals will go on sale during Recital Picture Day which is set for mid April/early May. Recital DVD's, flowers, t-shirts, and program ads will also be available to order during picture day. **More information will be provided at a later date.**

DRESS REHEARSAL DETAILS & TIMES

ADDITIONAL COMBO BALLET REHEARSAL TIMES

Combo ballet dancers participate in one large ballet routine in their assigned show. To prepare our combo ballet dancers for the most successful performances possible, we will be hosting a very special combo ballet dress rehearsal.

Date: Saturday, June 1st

Time: 11am-12pm

Location: TBD



Dress Rehearsal

Date: Friday, June 7th

Location: Byron Middle School Theatre

SHOW A DRESS REHEARSAL TIMES

**All dancers should arrive by 9:30am to get ready in costumes*

9:45-10:00am- All combo dancers in Show A will run through dance on stage

10:00am-12:30pm- All dancers in Recital A will do a full run through of the show

SHOW B DRESS REHEARSAL TIMES

**All dancers should arrive by 1:00pm to get ready in costumes*

1:15-1:30pm- All combo dancers in Show B will run through dance on stage

1:30-4:00pm- All dancers in Recital B will do a full run through of the show

SHOW C DRESS REHEARSAL TIMES

**All dancers should arrive by 4:30pm to get ready in costumes*

4:45-5:00pm- All combo dancers in Recital C will run through dance on stage

5:00-7:30pm- All dancers in Recital C will do a full run through of the show

GUIDELINES & REMINDERS

At Byron Dance Academy we are committed to your dancer's learning experience. To maximize dance time and provide the best possible atmosphere we ask that you adhere to the following guidelines.

- Please be prompt! Without proper warm-up a dancer can be injured. This applies to back-to-back classes as well.
- The dance instructor is only responsible for the dancers during class time. Please arrive on time to pick up your dancer.
- Dancers under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult until class begins and must be picked up promptly when class ends.
- Parents must come inside to pick up their dancer. It is too difficult for staff to monitor dancers in the hallway until parents arrive for pick up.
- Please refrain from entering the dance studios with snow boots, rain boots, or dirty sneakers. Only dance shoes and clean sneakers (not worn outside) should be worn inside the dance studios.
- Dancers should use the restrooms prior to the start of their dance class. The less kids we have leaving the studio during class, the more we are able to get done.
- There is no food, gum, candy or snacks of any kind allowed in the dance studio. Water is allowed and should be in a sealed bottle to prevent leaks or spills.
- All shoe changes will take place inside the dance studios except for Tiny Tots and Combo 1 classes. These dancers will be sent out to have a parent assist them with shoe changes.
- Please check tap shoes prior to each class as loose metal or sharp edges and screws can damage the dance floors.
- Instructors may need to physically adjust a dancer's body alignment/placement. This ensures dancers will learn the proper form and technique while mastering their dance steps.
- It is encouraged that younger siblings stay home. If you must bring siblings to class, please provide them with a quiet activity for outside of the dance room. There is limited seating and viewing areas.

GUIDELINES & REMINDERS

CONTINUED

- Do not allow children to run around the facility. Children must be within parent/guardian view at all times.
- Please refrain from speaking to your dance instructor before, during, or after class. Most instructors are teaching back-to-back classes all evening and have limited time. Parents are encouraged to reach out to the Cultural Arts Program Manager, Jessica Julian, with any questions throughout the dance season. You may reach Jessica directly at (815) 234-6279 or by email jjulian@byronparks.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Session 1-** September 11th - October 26th
- **Session 2-** October 30th - December 14th
 - No classes 10/30, 11/22, 11/23
 - Registration Closes 11/6
- **Session 3-** January 2nd - February 15th
 - No classes 1/1, or 2/19-2/22 for break week
- **Session 4-** February 26th - April 18th
 - No classes 3/25-3/29 Spring Break
- **Session 5-** April 22nd - June 6th
 - Recital Photos TBD
 - No classes 5/27 Memorial Day
- **Combo Ballet Additional Rehearsal-** 6/1
- **Dress Rehearsal-** 6/7
- **Annual Recitals-** 6/8 & 6/9

SUMMER CLASSES & COMPETITION TEAM

SUMMER CLASSES

Summer dance classes are offered as an introduction or as a continuation of our regular dance program. During the summer session, the focus is to continue the development of technique, stay active or try new styles of dance. We encourage our returning students to venture out and try new styles over the summer for a new and fun experience.

Byron Dance Academy offers three Summer Dance Camps during the months of June and July. These camps give dancers a chance to make crafts, play games, and learn a fun dance routine with some great friends! At the end of each 4 day dance camp, dancers get the chance to perform for family and friends and showcase all that they have learned.

COMPETITION DANCE TEAM

Byron Dance Academy offers a competition dance program. Competitive dance provides an exciting opportunity for dancers to take their training to the next level. The competitive dance team competes at 3 regional events and various community events through the year.

To take part in this team, dancers ages 7 and up with at least two years of dance experience must audition. Team auditions will take place after our annual recitals.

CONTACT US

 <https://byronparks.org/dance>

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