



# DANCE AVENUE, INC.

## *Information & Policies 2025-2026*

### **OUR MISSION**

Dance Avenue opened in June 2006 under the direction of Ms. Sarah Sieloff (and co-founder, Ms. Jessica Hall). Together, they created a loving space where students are free to explore their dreams and potential. The instructors and director of Dance Avenue take immense pride in fostering a positive culture and community with dancers, families, staff, and the Downriver area.

Dance Avenue instructors and staff are highly experienced and professionally trained dancers who share our vision and mission. Our team guides every dancer to an advanced technical level while maintaining individual artistry and stage presence. We love teaching our students and sharing our passion for dance with them and their families.

At Dance Avenue, we strive to provide quality dance instruction in a friendly, exciting atmosphere. Our goal is to instill a sense of love and artistry in every dancer we have the pleasure of training.

We provide a warm, nurturing environment focused on equipping students with the discipline, confidence, and technical skills necessary to achieve future success. Through the skills and education in the art of dance, we cultivate technical dancers and caring, passionate, motivated, and successful individuals.

***“Dance Lessons are Life Lessons”***

### **DEVELOPMENT**

Dancing develops the mind and body. It challenges, and therefore improves, all six components of physical fitness: muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, body composition, and neuromuscular coordination. Dance also adds to one's grace, poise, self-confidence, sense of rhythm, appreciation of music, and overall conditioning.

From an emotional, psychological, and social aspect, dance is extremely rewarding. A dancer may find a healthy release of tension and stress while exploring a sense of creativity and artistic empowerment. In the classroom setting, dancers are taught to appreciate the value of working hard and maintaining self-discipline while learning the importance of respect and loyalty. As a dancer develops physically, mentally, emotionally, and artistically, she/he may discover the joys and rewards of choreography and creating.

Through the art of dance, an individual may gain maturity, pride, and appreciation few art forms can duplicate.

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Good attendance is imperative. If a dancer misses a class more than five (5) times, she/he may not be allowed to perform in the annual Dance Avenue Recital.** Absences *and tardiness* can hold back an entire class. Dancers are expected to arrive to the studio a few minutes early to be prepared to begin class on time. There will not be make-up classes for absent dancers and no refunds, credits, or transfers will be made for missed lessons. We ask that a call is made, or email sent to the studio in the event of an absence. If a dancer is absent for three consecutive weeks without having paid tuition or contacting the studio, the dancer will be dropped from class regardless of what tuition has been paid and no refund will be given.

### **LEVEL PLACEMENT**

The Dance Avenue Director and Instructors solely determine a dancer's class level placement. Evaluations are ongoing; a dancer's level placement can change, but will be finalized by Saturday, November 1, 2025. Dance is an individual art form where children should be allowed to grow at a comfortable pace and no two dancers will progress at the same rate, even if they have experienced the exact same training. It is important to encourage children to give their all and be satisfied with their own accomplishments.

### **CLASS SIZE**

A specific number of dancers is predetermined in each class to avoid overcrowding. Dance Avenue reserves the right to cancel a class if attendance has dropped to less than six dancers participating. In the event this happens, we will try to find an alternate class for the dancers to attend.

### **WAITLIST**

When a class becomes full, interested students will be out on the waitlist. If a spot becomes available, dancers will be contacted in the order of the waitlist. After being contacted, there will be a 24-hour window of opportunity given to contact the studio to hold the spot in class. Word of advice: Try your next favorite class instead or try something new!

## **PRIORITY REGISTRATION**

Once you are an enrolled member of Dance Avenue you are then considered top priority for registrations for a new school year or program. Currently enrolled Dance Avenue dancers can register for the classes they want before anyone else! All account balances must be paid in full before registering for the next season.

## **DRESS CODE**

It is imperative that dancers wear dance attire to class. **No street clothing allowed.** Our Instructors must be able to see the dancer's form for optimal instruction. In the event a dancer wears street clothing to class, she/he will only be allowed to view class, and a parent will be notified.

- Dance Avenue Instructors are permitted to require specific dancewear.
- Hair must be worn up, off the back of the neck, in a bun or flipped ponytail.
- While in class, students are NOT permitted to wear jewelry or fitbits/watches.
- Dancers must purchase the required dance shoe per class.
- Dancewear, tights, and shoes are available for purchase at **Bee's Dance & Skate in Westland, or online at Discount Dance Supply, discountdance.com.** (Discount Dance Shoe order info provided below; 10% off Teacher Code: TP30340)
- Dance Avenue also sells stylish dance apparel and bags!

<b>Girls Dance Attire</b> Leotard, Sports Bra, or Fitted Tank Top Fitted Shorts, Ballet Skirt, Leggings, Capris, Tights Sweatpants may be worn for Hip Hop & Jazz Funk	<b>Boys Dance Attire</b> Fitted Short Sleeve or Sleeveless Shirt Sweatpants (fitted) or Gym Shorts (Optional for Ballet: Men's Footed or Footless Tights & Dance Belt)
<b>BALLET POINTE*</b> Pink Split-Sole Canvas or Leather Ballet Slipper Mini & Petite: 205C Junior, Pre-Teen, Teen, Senior: S0203G *Consult Instructor for Pointe Shoe Purchase & Fitting	<b>TAP</b> Black Tap Shoes Mini, Petite & Junior: Dolly Tap Shoe #S0302G Pre-Teen: Split-sole, Lace-up Tap Shoe #CG16 Teen & Senior: Full-sole, Lace-up Tap Shoe #S0361L
<b>JAZZ</b> Tan Split-Sole Jazz Shoe S0401L-adult / S0401G-child	<b>CREATIVE MOVEMENT</b> No Shoes Required – Bare Feet, no socks
<b>CONTEMPORARY</b> No Shoes Required – Bare Feet, no socks	<b>HIP HOP JAZZ FUNK</b> Street Sneakers w/either Velcro or laces, no slip-on shoes. Shoes must be clean. Please do not wear dance class sneakers outdoors.
<b>TINY TOTS</b> Parent & dancers should wear socks or bare feet. Please, no outdoor shoes worn in the dance room.	<b>BOYS SHOES</b> BALLET – Black Split-Sole Ballet Shoe JAZZ – Black Split-Sole Jazz Shoe TAP – Black Split or Full Sole Tap Shoe CONTEMPORARY – Bare-Feet, no socks HIP HOP & JAZZ FUNK – Sneakers, not slip on

## **REQUIRED TIGHTS**

Dancers must have the Capezio brand tights required for Picture Week, Dress Rehearsal & Recital.

**Ballet, Pointe:** Capezio Ultra Soft Ballet Pink Footed Tight

**Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Jazz Funk, Creative Movement:** Capezio Ultra Soft Caramel Footed Tight

**Contemporary:** Capezio Ultra Soft Caramel Stirrup Tight

Please Note: the Contemporary stirrup tight can be worn for any class that requires the caramel colored tight.

## **PICTURE WEEK**

Dance Avenue will hold a Picture Week in the month of April in which a hired photographer will come into the studio for Class & Individual pictures. Picture Week is not mandatory, but we request that your dancer participate to join her/his class photo. For Picture Week there are additional costs to consider: picture packages will be offered by our photographer, families may purchase space in the full-color Recital program to feature their dancer, and there is a **\$5.00 per class fee** added to April tuition for dancers to appear in the class photo printed in the Recital program. Additional information regarding Picture Week will be made available during the school year.

## **RECITAL**

Our annual Recital performances will be held in the month of June. Dance Avenue performs three separate Recital shows: Friday Evening, Saturday Matinee & Saturday Evening. Tickets are sold by assigned seating and will be available for purchase in May. The purchased tickets are non-refundable and may not be returned on the day of the show. Dance Avenue hires a professional videographer to record each show and Recital DVD's and/or HD File will be available for purchase. The full-color Recital program can be pre-ordered in April for \$20 each. Flower bouquets will also be available for purchase on Recital day.

## **DANCE AVENUE COMPETITION TEAM (DACT)**

Dancers, ages 5-19, may audition for the award winning and nationally renowned Dance Avenue Competition Team (DACT). Flexible commitment options available. For more details, please email or ask for the DACT Elite, Crew or KickStart Team Audition info at the Dance Avenue office. Please note: there will be an additional DACT membership fee added to the members' monthly tuition.

## **TUITION PRICING**

<b>30 Minute Weekly Class</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$45.00 Month (each)</b>
<b>45 Minute Weekly Class</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$50.00 Month (each)</b>
<b>60+ Minute Weekly Class</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$55.00 Month (each)</b>
<b>5+ Hours Weekly (total)</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$250.00 Month (flat fee)</b>

## **MONTHLY TUITION**

Tuition is paid for a 10 Month Season (Sept. - June) and is due from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month. September tuition is due the first week of classes, Sept. 2 - 8, 2025. Tuition payments are non-refundable and non-transferable.

- A \$15.00 Late Fee will be applied to monthly tuition fees paid after the due date.
- Each month allows for 2-5 lessons, and tuition fees will remain the same regardless of whether it's a short (2-3 weeks) or a long (5 week) month and regardless of absences. Picture Week and Recital rehearsals will count as monthly lessons.
- If an account becomes two months delinquent, the dancer will not be allowed to return to class until tuition and fees are paid in full. Account balance must also be paid in full by the June Recital or a dancer may not be allowed to participate.
- Cash, Check, and Credit Card are accepted. Credit Card payments can be made by phone during business hours. For check payments, please indicate child's last name if different from parent.
- There is a \$36.00 fee for a returned/bounced check.
- If the studio is closed, there is a locked mailbox on the parking lot side of the building for tuition check payment drop-off.
- Dance Avenue reserves the right to refuse service and/or admission to anyone, at any time, and for any reason.

## **REGISTRATION FEE**

A \$15.00 (per student) or \$20.00 (per family/immediate siblings) **non-refundable** annual registration fee will be required upon time of registration to hold a dancer's spot in class.

## **PICTURE WEEK CLASS PHOTO FEE**

A \$5.00 per class fee will be added to April tuition to cover the cost of having a dancer appear in the Recital Program Group Photo. Families may choose to opt out of the Group Photo but must inform a Dance Avenue office manager before April tuition is paid.

## **AUTO DEBIT**

An Auto Debit authorization form must be completed at the studio and cannot be done online. The monthly tuition cost will be charged between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. An email notification will be sent if the Auto Debit is declined, and if payment is not made by the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month, the Late Fee will be applied. To stop the Auto Debit program, you must contact the studio office before the 1<sup>st</sup> calendar day of the month. Auto Debit will carry over from year to year. For non-returning students, the Auto Debit form will be shredded upon the beginning of the new season.

## **RECITAL COSTUMES**

Costumes can be paid in full, \$80 per costume, due November 7, or paid in four monthly deposits (\$20 a month per costume) added to Sept-Dec tuition. Costumes will not be ordered if not paid within the given timeframe, and dancer will not be allowed to participate in the Recital performance. Costume payments are non-refundable and non-transferable. Studio credit may be given upon Studio Director's approval only.

- Costume measurements and orders will occur in November. Costumes will be distributed in February/March 2026.
- Costume sizes are not tailored specifically to the individual dancer. Our size measurements will allow for some growth; however, alterations may be needed and must be paid for by the family. If a costume size is too small the parent must notify the studio immediately to receive the new size by Picture Week and/or Dress Rehearsal & Recital.
- Costume fees do not include the cost of shoes or tights.

## **PRIVATE LESSONS (available upon request):**

**30-minute lesson = \$35.00**

**45-minute lesson = \$50.00**

**1-hour lesson = \$65.00**

- Payment is due at the time of the lesson.
- Contact the studio to set up lesson dates, times & instructor.

## **FAMILY DISCOUNTS**

Dance Avenue offers a discount to families with multiple immediate siblings. (Please note: tuition costs will be rounded up to the nearest dollar.)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sibling = 10% off total monthly fee

3<sup>rd</sup> Sibling = 15% off total monthly fee

## **REFERRALS**

Enroll a friend for an entire school year, through June 2026, and receive a \$50 tuition credit. There is no limit to the number of friends you can refer! Credit will be applied to May and/or June 2026 monthly tuition.

## **DROP-IN**

Dance Avenue offers single class drop-ins at \$15 per class. If the class is full, there is no guarantee for a drop-in from week to week. Please contact the studio prior to your drop-in to ensure a spot in class is available.

## **ALUMNI**

Dancers who performed in the Senior Recital Dance during their graduating year of High School will be considered to be a Dance Avenue Alumni. Alumni dancers are allowed to attend two day of Drop-in classes monthly, for free; however, if enrolling in classes for the entirety of the 2025/2026 season, tuition payments and Recital costume fees will be required.

## **CLASS OBSERVATION**

Parent Viewing Weeks are scheduled in December and May. Observers are not permitted inside the classrooms on days other than the specified viewing days. The Studio 2 observation window will remain open during the first week of each month and visitors are welcome to observe. We ask that observers are courteous and respectful to their fellow Dance Avenue parents and families in attendance. Please refrain from critiquing or gossiping about others. We take immense pride in showing respect to one another and in doing our best to keep our studio home a safe zone.

## **CLASSROOM & LOBBY RULES**

Studio classroom doors may only be opened with permission.

No food or drink in the dance rooms.

No outdoor sneakers worn on the dance floors.

Dancers are not allowed to have their cell phones or fitbits/watches in the dance rooms.

Dancers must be enrolled in a Ballet class to participate in a Pointe class.

Dancers are prohibited from using musical equipment.

Dance bags should NOT be stored in the vending machine area during classes.

Young children should never be left unattended.

No running in the lobby and hallways.

Please take pride in your dance studio and clean up after yourself.

## **HOLIDAY SCHEDULED CLOSINGS**

Dance Avenue will participate in the following scheduled Holiday closings: Halloween; Thanksgiving; Winter Break (Christmas/New Year); Spring Break/Easter; Memorial Day Weekend. Please note: monthly tuition will remain the same.

## **SNOW DAYS & POWER OUTAGES**

Dance Avenue **does not** follow Southgate Public Schools' closures for snow/cold weather days and will only cancel classes due to extreme weather or power outages. The studio will send an email and post to the BAND app to inform families of class cancellations. If a class day is canceled twice in the same month, each dancer in those classes will receive a Dance Avenue Summer Dance Program voucher for a free class.

## **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**

If a Dance Avenue Instructor cannot attend class a qualified and professionally trained Instructor will substitute. Dance Avenue will not cancel class due to an Instructor's absence and ensures your child will receive the same quality instruction.

## **DANCEAVENUEINC.COM**

Please check the Dance Avenue website often for the most up-to-date studio events. The Event Calendar page is continually updated and should be referenced for all studio Holiday closings, events, activities, rehearsals, etc.

## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS**

A Newsletter will be emailed at the beginning of each month. Please be sure to add [danceavenueinc@gmail.com](mailto:danceavenueinc@gmail.com) to your email contact addresses. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to keep informed on all important events & dates.

## **BAND APP**

We encourage all our dancers and parents to download the BAND app and request to join the Dance Avenue group.

## **FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, YOUTUBE, TIKTOK**

Please like or follow us on social media to stay caught up on the latest studio happenings.

**Facebook.com/DanceAvenueInc**

**Instagram/dance\_avenue\_inc/**

**YouTube.com/Dance Avenue Inc**

**TikTok/danceavenueinc**

## **Wi-Fi INTERNET ACCESS**

Dance Avenue offers free Wi-Fi internet access while on the premises. For the wireless internet passcode, please inquire at the studio office.

## **DANCE AVENUE BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

Celebrate your child's Birthday at Dance Avenue! Package deals are available! For more information, please contact the studio office.

## **LOST & FOUND**

The Lost and Found Bin is in the vending area of the studio and items will be held for a minimum of 30 days before being donated. To avoid lost or misplaced items, please label belongings, especially dance shoes. Dance Avenue cannot be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

## **DANCER DROP-OFF & PICK-UP**

We request that parents and other family member's drop off their children no earlier than 15 minutes prior to class start time. Please be prompt when picking up children and notify the studio in the event of a late pick-up.

## **DISCLAIMERS**

- Dance, like any physical sport, is a potentially risky activity. Injuries, whether minor or major, are always a possibility. Dance Avenue Inc., its Instructors and other staff members, will not be held responsible for illness or injuries sustained by any student or family during dance classes, competitions, performances, or any other studio-related function. I am fully aware of the risks involved, and I consent to have my child participate in the programs offered by Dance Avenue Inc. I, my executors, or other representatives hold Dance Avenue Inc. harmless, waive and release all rights and claims for damages that I or my child may have against Dance Avenue Inc. or its representatives, whether paid or volunteer.
- I understand that tuition payments are non-refundable and due from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of each month; if paid after the due date a \$15.00 Late Fee will be added to my monthly tuition. Furthermore, I understand that tuition is paid for a 10-month season (Sept-June) and must be paid regardless of absences or studio closings and that my tuition fees will remain the same monthly regardless of a short (2-3 weeks) or a long (5 week) month.

- I understand that a \$5.00 per class fee will be added to my April tuition to cover the cost of having my dancer appear in the Recital Program and that if I choose to opt out, I must inform a Dance Avenue office manager before April tuition is paid.
- I understand that Recital costume payments are non-refundable & non-transferable and WILL NOT be ordered if payment is not made by the due dates.
- I understand the Dance Avenue Attendance Policy and if my child is absent more than five (5) times, she/he may not be allowed to perform in the annual Recital.
- I understand Dance Avenue reserves the right to refuse service and/or admission to anyone, at any time, and for any reason.
- I will not hold Dance Avenue responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.
- I will respect the guidance of the professionally trained Dance Avenue Instructors and Studio Director for my child's class level placement.
- I consent to the release of my child's photo/video possibly appearing on Dance Avenue's website or advertisements for studio promotion purposes.
- I have read, understand, and agree to adhere to ALL guidelines as stated within the Dance Avenue Policies booklet.

## **Dance Avenue: Family Oriented, Artistically Motivated!**

### ***CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF DANCE EXCELLENCE!***

Four-Time Winner of the Association of Dance Conventions & Competitions (ADCC) Studio Excellence Award

Voted TOP TWO Dance Studios in the Detroit Area (2014) Vote 4 The Best – Click On Detroit

Voted TOP FOUR Dance Studios in the Detroit Area (2023) Vote 4 The Best – Click On Detroit

Most Versatile Studio Award (Adrenaline)

National Finals Studio Spirit Award Winner (Dupree)

Marjorie Perry Spirit Award in Recognition of our Contributions to Dance (Dance Makers Inc.)

Dedication to Creativity Studio Award (StarQuest)

Studio Spirit Award (Applause)

Community Standout Award (DEViate)

Proud to have hosted singing sensation Gladys Knight & ballroom star Tristan MacManus for Season 13's *Dancing With The Stars* and also workout wonder Richard Simmons in Season 3 of *Extreme Weight Loss*.

***DANCE AVENUE – 14270 EUREKA RD – SOUTHGATE, MI 48195 – (734) 759-3102***

**DanceAvenueInc.com**

**DanceAvenueInc@gmail.com**