



Studio Handbook 2026-2027

Welcome to the 2026-2027 Dance Year

We have an exciting dance year planned for you. This booklet is filled with information covering the entire dance year. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to someone in the office at your earliest convenience.

We request that you keep all communications for the year as you receive them from our office. You will receive monthly newsletters, via email, to keep you aware of important studio news, dates, deadlines and more! All this information will also be posted on Remind 101 and Facebook (OnStage Dance Studio). We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding any of our policies or procedures at any time.

We are committed to providing the best experience possible for our dancers and their families. The waiting room is available for the convenience of our students and their families. Keep in mind the waiting room is for waiting, reading, positive/polite conversation, homework, and children playing with toys or games brought from home. We ask that you please respect the activities of others and the classes in session. Please only water or tightly covered drinks! Please pick up your surrounding area upon leaving. Your courtesy will be greatly appreciated.

We request that you arrive at the studio with adequate time to prepare for class, parking, changing, restroom, etc. Parking in front of the Hair Salon and Pharmacy are for their patronage only! Parents, for your children's safety, students must wait for their ride inside the dance studio. Please call whenever you are delayed for class pickup.

Note: For the safety and supervision of all students, dancers should not be dropped off at the studio more than 15 minutes before their scheduled class time. Please respect this policy, as our office staff is often attending to important tasks and can not monitor early arrivals.

In the case of inclement weather, we DO NOT follow the cancellations of the Lockport City School District. If we close due to unsafe weather conditions, we will notify all of our OnStage Family by sending notifications on all the following venues: Remind 101, the OnStage Dance Studio Facebook page, our answering machine, and Channel 4 News. We do not refund or prorate tuition due to inclement weather closings as we will make up the class time! Make-up class schedules will be handed out in class, released on Remind 101, and posted on our Facebook Page!

We genuinely value your feedback and are here to support you every step of the way. Should you wish to discuss your dance goals or any financial concerns privately, please reach out to schedule a meeting via email. We are happy to collaborate with you to ensure that your dance year will be one of pleasure and growth. Let's work together to make this dance year both enjoyable and fulfilling. The entire faculty and staff wish you a fantastic year of dance!



OnStage Dance Studio

Code of Ethics



OnStage Mission Statement:

OnStage is devoted to providing dancers of all ages an encouraging educational environment. We strive to deliver the highest quality of dance training while nurturing each student's individuality and unique gift of talent and creativity.

Values:

- Integrity -*** To conduct oneself with integrity through honesty, courtesy, respect, and consideration for your fellow dance members and faculty. This includes a willingness to be held accountable for the manner in which you participate in all activities.
- Leadership -*** To be given the privilege of setting an example, serving the people you are leading, and being an inspiration to others in the Dance Studio Community.
- Responsibility -*** To adhere to the policies and procedures of the studio and company, to comply with the schedule and requests of the faculty, and to be a person that others can count on.
- Professionalism -*** To respect the dance profession and uphold our values and standards of conduct in a way that characterizes the highest qualities of dance professionals. This includes respecting your teachers, supporting, and encouraging each other, to not gossip, maintain social media etiquette and be able to voice opinion to a company director and teachers about your concern, and to recognize yourself as a role model at all times.
- Character -*** To be a person who represents personal integrity, leadership, responsibility and professionalism in classes, outside activities, and events, and in all interactions with peers and authority figures.



OnStage Studio Policies



Please note the following guidelines regarding all students, parents, and classes:

1. We request that students carefully observe our dress code outlined in this booklet. This includes the proper shoes for each class. No footwear worn outside is permitted to be worn during class.
2. Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is vital to a dancer's progress and the success of the group. While occasional absences are understandable, chronic absences in a season may result in removal from recital sections, dismissal from class, or exclusion from performances. These decisions are made by the instructor and studio director to ensure dancer safety and performance readiness. We appreciate your support in maintaining a committed and consistent learning environment.
3. Students 12 and under need to be accompanied by an adult to and from the studio.
4. All students are encouraged not to leave the room once class has begun. Please allow for appropriate restroom use prior to class. Very young children will be treated sensitively as the need arises.
5. There is a NO CELL PHONE and SMART WATCH policy inside the dance studio. Students will be asked to put their cell phones and smart watches with their belongings and on silent. We encourage parents to contact the studio if they need to communicate with their dancer during class time.
6. *Practice courtesy and respect.* Students are not to be socializing in a disruptive manner during class. Students are expected to show respect to their peers and OnStage Staff. Disruptive students will be given a verbal warning. If the disruption continues, our staff will fill out a behavior form and turn it in to the studio director who will then contact parents. You will be advised if we feel any student is not well adjusted to the classroom environment for any reason over time.

7. There is zero tolerance for bullying; students who participate in bullying will be asked to leave the dance room and parents will be notified. Student(s) may be suspended for continued bullying and or other behavior that is not contributing to a positive classroom environment for all.
8. Students, Social Media, and Cellphone Use: Students who post inappropriate content, including photos, videos, and/or are bullying other students will be subject to disciplinary action. We recommend reviewing social media etiquette with your dancer.
9. During class if a student complains of being ill, or sustains an injury and cannot participate, the instructor will send them to the office where the parents will be notified if not on the premises.
10. Only students with a pre-existing sickness/injury are allowed to observe class. The parents must notify the office if a student is to observe class.
11. No one else is allowed to sit and watch during regular class time without prior approval. Classes rotate every other week to Studio A, which has a viewing window for parents to observe.

Dance class is educational and fun, however, an important part of class work is developing an attitude of discipline and respect for teachers and fellow students. We trust that following our classroom etiquette will provide an environment whereby classes at OnStage will be a pleasure for all concerned. We make every effort to have all children feel safe and cared for in a loving and inspiring learning environment.

Registration / Tuition / Costume / Payment Instructions

Registration: An annual registration fee of \$35.00 per dancer (\$30.00 for Early Registration held May through Recital Week, \$40.00 for Late Registration) is due upon registering, which is valid only for the dance season it is paid, regardless of the child attending every session. Families with more than one dancer, you pay for the first two dancers and each additional dancer is only \$10.00! Registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Tuition: Tuition is due monthly September through May. Missed classes for illness, other activities or personal reasons may not be deducted from tuition. Our tuition rates are based on a dance year that runs September through May/June with payment for the year distributed evenly over 9 months regardless of the classes per month. All payments are due on the first of each calendar month and late after the 10th. OnStage patrons who would like to pay the year's tuition in full will receive a 5% discount! (This discount applies to tuition only and does not apply to any other payments or fees.) . **There is a \$10.00 late fee for tuition paid after the 10th of the month.** The quality of our facility and faculty depends upon a system of mutual respect and cooperation. We understand that anyone may make a late payment from time to time, but please be respectful of our late fee policy and when applicable, graciously include your late fee in your next payment. If accounts are 30 days past due students will be unable to participate in class. Any account left unpaid, after the final payment is due, will result in your child being unable to dance in the recital. *Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!*

Costume and Tights: In addition to monthly tuition payments, there is a fee of \$75.00 for each recital costume, (one per class unless otherwise specified) and a tights charge of \$10.00. If you owe less than \$200 for costumes, they must be paid in full by October 17th. If fees total more than \$200, half is due by October 17th, and the remaining balance is due no later than November 14th. Unless otherwise indicated, costume fees do NOT include accessories such as earrings, bracelets, chokers, tights, gloves and hair pieces. This also does not include the price of dance shoes. We will be unable to order any costumes that have not been paid for. There is a late fee for costume orders not paid on time of \$10.00 monthly. Costumes will be held by the office until any outstanding balances are brought to date. OnStage Dance Studio will take care of the steaming and minor alterations of costumes. If any costume requires major alterations, parents will be responsible for the additional costs. Costume fees are non-refundable and after November 14th will be a required payment even if the class is dropped.

General Payment Information: OnStage Dance Studio accepts payments by cash, check, and credit card. Please note: There are convenience fees associated with paying by card. There is a staffed reception desk located in our waiting area to make payments for your convenience! If you are in a hurry, we also have a payment drop box located in the studio! Receipts will be emailed for every payment made.

Please Note:

Our students are in our database alphabetically by their last name. For us to properly credit your account, the following details will be important for us to know each time you make a payment.

When making a payment by check, please include the following information in the memo of your check:

If making a cash payment, please enclose in envelopes provided with the following information:

1. Student(s) First & Last Name. (Very important!!)

2. State what you are paying for: Monthly Tuition (State the month), Dance Supplies (Shoes, Leotard etc.), Costume, Recital Fee etc

☆ **General Information** ☆

Adding/Dropping Classes: If you want to change your class style, add, or drop a class, we must receive written notification via email. Once we have written notification, we can update your account. For withdrawal situations, once we have received written notification future tuition charges will cease. You will be responsible to make payment for services rendered and all costume payments if the class withdrawal is after the costume due date.

Billing and Statements: You WILL NOT be receiving a monthly bill/statement from our office for your monthly tuition unless your account is past due. If at any time you would like a printed statement of your account, you may request one. Any account that becomes more than 60 days past due will result in the dancer not being able to participate in class. Monthly statements will be handed out at the end of classes for balances 60 days past due.

Returned Checks: All checks returned by the bank for any reason will be charged a \$30.00 service fee.

Receipt Of Payment: Receipts will be emailed for every payment made. If payments are made using the payment drop box located in the waiting room, receipts will be emailed when the payment is processed. If you would like a paper copy, please request a copy from our office staff via email.

Parent/ Studio Correspondence: We ask that you keep all correspondences and questions pertaining to the dance year between the Studio's Contact Venues. This includes the studio's email (onstage.dance@yahoo.com), Remind 101 or call the studio (716.439.1967). Please do not contact OnStage Staff on their personal cell phones or Facebook Pages. We appreciate your attention to this.

☆ **OnStage Recital/Rehearsal Information** ☆

Recital: All students perform in our Annual Recital held in June. (Date: TBD) Baby and Me and Tots classes perform during ONE of our shows unless otherwise indicated by studio director. All other classes perform TWICE. Some classes will perform in all shows at the discretion of the studio director.

Recital Fee: A Recital fee of \$35.00 (per dancer) will be posted to your account February 1st and is due April 1st. Recital Fee is non-refundable. This fee helps cover the costs of the theatre rental, professional lighting and other expenses associated with the cost of running our shows.

Recital Tickets: Please note that tickets for our event will go on sale at a later determined date. To ensure equitable access for all dance families, we will implement a limit on the number of tickets available for purchase during our initial sales phase. Any additional tickets left over will be available for purchase at a later date (TBD) to accommodate those who require more.

Recital T Shirt/Program Book Advertisements: We will offer the purchase of Recital T Shirt that coordinates with our recital theme and the purchase of program book advertisements at a later determined date! These are not mandatory purchases and optional for all our OnStage Family.

Rehearsal: The week prior to recital weekend will be our Mandatory Rehearsal Week. Any dancer who misses dress rehearsal will NOT be able to perform in Recital. Please note that rehearsal times may not be your designated class times. A schedule will be provided at a later date. (Note: Rehearsals may start at 4 pm.)



OnStage Dress Code



A neat and tidy appearance sets an attitude of attentiveness and respect for students, teacher, and the art of dance. Teachers must be able to see the dancer's body outline clearly in order to make proper corrections on posture, alignment, etc. It is also for the dancer's safety!

Below are six general dress code rules for all classes: Look at specific classes for specific dress codes!

- Hair must be properly secured and tied up off the face and neck for all styles of dance.
- Jewelry must not be loose or dangling.
- Gum chewing is not allowed due to danger of choking.
- No loose-fitting pants, blue jeans, oversized sweatshirts/hoodies.
- No bare legs, tights are highly recommended to keep muscles warm and to protect skin.
- Proper shoes for each dance class are required!

CURRICULUM/CLASSES OFFERED, REQUIREMENTS & DRESS CODES

Class descriptions can be found on our website www.onstage-stars.com!

Baby & Me: (30 Minutes)

Requirements: Walking- Age 3

Tots Classes: Ages 2-5 (1 Hour)

Requirements: Age 2 turning 3 by November. Potty Trained.

Girls: Attire: Any color leotard and tights, dance skirts are allowed.
Shoes: Pink leather Ballet Shoes & Tap Shoes.

Boys: Attire: Any solid color T-shirt and black dance pants/shorts or sweatpants.
Shoes: Black leather Ballet Shoes & Tap Shoes.

NO BARE LEGS and LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP – Ponytails are allowed.

Jazz & Tap: Ages 5 & Up (1.5 Hours)

Girls: Attire: Any color leotard and footless or transitional tights. Jazz pants/shorts or dance skirts are allowed.
Shoes: Jazz Shoes and Tap shoes.

Boys: Attire: Any color T-shirt and dance pants or sweatpants.
Shoes: Jazz Shoes and Tap shoes.

NO BARE LEGS and LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP – Ponytails are allowed.

Ballet: Ages 5 & Up (45 Minutes-1 Hour)

Pointe: Age 13 & Up (30-45 Minutes)

Requirements: 6 Years of Ballet. Must be currently enrolled in Ballet and Technique. Instructor Approval Required. Note from doctor needed for participation.

Beginner: Attire: Black or pink leotard, pink tights. Short dance skirts are permitted.
Shoes: Pink leather/canvas ballet shoes.

Intermediate-Advance: Attire: Black leotard, pink tights. Short dance skirts are permitted.
Shoes: Pink leather/canvas ballet shoes. (Pink Pointe shoes for Pointe class.)

Boys: Attire: Black tights or dance pants, black or white solid color T-shirt.
Shoes: Black leather or canvas Ballet slippers.

**NO BARE LEGS and LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP!
Hair in Bun Preferred!**

Technique: Ages 10 & Up (30 Minutes – 45 Minutes)

Requirements: Must be in 5th Grade.

Modern/Contemporary: Ages 10 & Up (45 Minutes- 1 Hour) (At discretion of Instructor)

Requirements: Must be in 5th Grade. Current 3 years of consecutive Ballet. Enrolled in Ballet and Technique.

Lyrical: 14 & Up (45 Minutes-1 Hour) (At discretion of Instructor)

Requirements: Must be in 9th Grade. 4 consecutive, current years of ballet and jazz. Enrolled in Ballet, Jazz and Technique.

Girls: Attire: Any primarily solid color leotard and footless or transitional tights. Jazz pants/shorts or dance skirts are allowed.
Shoes: Turners (Also called Pirouette Shoes / Lyrical Half Soles).

Boys: Attire: Black tights or dance pants, black or white solid color T-shirt.
Shoes: Tiger Paws or Turners (Also called Pirouette Shoes / Lyrical Half Soles).

NO BARE LEGS and LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP – Ponytails are allowed.

Hip Hop: Ages 5 & Up (45 Minutes-1 Hour)

Everyone: **Attire:** Unlike other classes, any clothes that are loose and comfortable to move in are acceptable for this class.
Shoes: Sneakers (Shoes are to be designated for class only and not worn outside.)

***LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP – Ponytails are allowed.**

Cheer Dance: Ages 7 & Up (1 Hour)

Everyone: **Attire:** Any fitness or dance attire. Also allowed: T shirts, cotton shorts. Pants may be worn in colder weather.
Shoes: Sneakers (Shoes are to be designated for class only and not worn outside.)

***LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP – Ponytails are allowed.**

Acro : Ages 5 & Up (45 Minutes-1 Hour)

Required Skills:

Intro To Acro: No required Skills

Acro 1: Forward Roll, Flamingo, Handstand (Wall Hold 3 Seconds)

Acro 2: Solid Handstand (Feet together for 3 seconds), cartwheel and unassisted bridge from floor)

Acro 3: Solid Handstand (Feet together for 5 seconds), back walk-over, or bridge to kick over, cartwheel, round off)

Everyone: **Attire:** Any gymnastic leotard or dance leotard. Avoid loose articles of clothing for tumbling instruction!
Shoes: Barefoot/Tiger Paws

***LONG HAIR MUST BE SECURELY TIED UP – Ponytails are allowed.**



Important Dates: (All Dates Subject To Change)



September 10th, 2026: Dance Resumes

October 31st, 2026: No Dance

November 25th-November 29th, 2026: Thanksgiving Break

December 23rd, 2026 - January 2nd, 2027 : Winter Break

February Break 2027: TBD (Make Ups for Cancelled Classes Generally Held This Week Tentatively 15th-19th)

March 26th-April 1st, 2027 Spring Break

Picture Day: April 30th, May 1st & 2nd 2027

Recital 2027: TBD (Tentatively June 4th and 5th)