



# The Next Step School of Dance

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*COME FOR CLASS, STAY FOR COMMUNITY!*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Next Step School of Dance for the 2025/2026 season! We are thrilled to have you and your child as part of our dance family. Our dedicated team of instructors and staff are excited to embark on this new journey with you, and we look forward to a year filled with growth, creativity, and fun.

## Season Highlights:

- **Class Offerings:** We provide a variety of dance styles including ballet, jazz, hip-hop, contemporary, tap, and more. Detailed class schedules and descriptions are available on our website.
- **Performance Opportunities:** Students will have the chance to showcase their talents in our annual recital and other community events throughout the year.
- **Pop Up Events:** We are excited to offer special pop up events throughout the season. Keep an eye on our announcements for more details.

## Important Dates:

- **First Day of Classes:** September 5th, 2025
- **Annual Recital:** June 6th, 2026 (Tentative)

*\*Please refer to our Studio Calendar for Holiday Breaks*

**Communication:** We believe that clear communication is key to a successful dance season. Please ensure that we have your current email address and phone number on file. Important updates and announcements will be shared via email, our website, and social media channels. Additionally, our office is always open to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have.

**Uniforms and Supplies:** Students are required to wear appropriate dance attire for each class. A detailed list of required uniforms and supplies is available on our website and at the front desk. Please ensure that your child is prepared for their classes to ensure a safe and productive learning environment. All First Steps Dance Academy Leotards are purchased directly at the studio. Teen Students may purchase a leotard through the studio or elsewhere. All shoes and tights may be purchased through us, or another party.

**Tuition and Fees:** Tuition fees are due on the first of each month, with a late fee after the tenth of each month. We offer several payment options for your convenience, including online payments through our website. This includes cash, credit cards (3.5% surcharge), as well as

checks and EFT (online checking, avoid any fees!). Our tuition is based on a 34 week class structure that is spread out over 10 installments/10 months. Since months vary from 3-5 weeks, we have found 10 equal installments is the most efficient method for our families. Please refer to our tuition policy for more information on payment plans, discounts, and late fees in our handbook.

**Health and Safety:** The health and safety of our students and staff are our top priorities. We will continue to adhere to all recommended health guidelines and protocols. If your child is sick, please stay home. Makeup classes are available!

### **Front Desk**

Your requests and questions are important to us. While we strive to have our front desk fully attended, if you need to make an in-person payment, have a question or need to see someone, there is always someone in the studio. We will always be available to you, and your child, we are just navigating a new procedure for customer service.

- Artistic Director: [missjulia@thenextstep-dance.com](mailto:missjulia@thenextstep-dance.com)
- Dance Company Director: [nssdcompany@gmail.com](mailto:nssdcompany@gmail.com)
- Office Manager: [thenextstepdance@verizon.net](mailto:thenextstepdance@verizon.net)

We are committed to providing a nurturing and inspiring environment where your child can develop their dance skills and build lifelong friendships. Thank you for entrusting us with your child's dance education. We look forward to a fantastic season ahead!

Warm regards,

*Julie Schirm*

Julie Schirm  
Owner/Artistic Director