

How a dancer conducts his or her self during class is as important as the content of the lesson. Classroom etiquette is one of the strongest traditions in classical ballet. Having gracious manners and paying attention to the details greatly enhances a dancer's discipline and shows respect to the teachers and other dancers. Parents are expected to follow and reinforce the following:

- **Children must be accompanied when entering or leaving the studio. No exceptions.**
- **Please, No Street Shoes on the Studio Floor.** Dance shoes are for dance but street shoes can damage the floor. And remember, don't ruin your dance shoes by wearing them outside!
- **No Food, Drink, or Gum or Cell phones in class.** Water bottles are allowed the studio. Light snacks & other beverages are limited to the lobby, to be eaten when you are not in class. Please dispose of your garbage properly.
- **Please arrive early and prepared (in your class level's dress code, with hair in a proper bun) to begin class on time** – meaning: in the studio, at the barre (or mat) when your appointed class is to begin – not just arriving, in the lobby chatting, or deciding to do hair. Being in the building is not the same as being on time for class.
- **Observing Classes** Parents may observe on their child's **first scheduled class of the month only.** All other observations must be scheduled in advance. It is important for each student's concentration to be able to work without interruption, or interaction outside of the classroom. Class time is a great time to make a coffee run!
- **Quiet Please** — Please enter and leave the studio quietly. If you are entering the studio while a class is in progress please wait for the music to finish before re- joining class. If you are tardy please also wait for your teacher to give you permission and placement in class. Polite questions from students relevant to the material being presented in class are always encouraged, but breaking concentration by talking to each other during class or interjecting your individual contributions is very disruptive. Class is neither a social hour nor conversation pit.
- **If you are sick, please do not attend class.** We want you well, but please don't share what you have! **If you are injured, you should still attend class.** Observe, take notes, and participate as best you can. You will absorb and gain much more by being a part of class than staying home and you won't miss out on any important material covered in classes.
- **Excessive trips to the restroom or for water are not tolerated.** It is a major distraction to the class. Please use the restroom before class. There is usually a break during class for water & the restroom. If the need arises outside of the break, please find the least disruptive time.
- **Respect**—Treat yourself, your teacher, and other dancers with respect. Everyone learns at their own pace and should be given encouragement and respect for their knowledge and ability.
- **Body Language**—Attentiveness is important. Leaning on the barre, standing in a lazy position, or staring off in another direction while your teacher is speaking gives the impression that the student is disinterested and is not respecting the information being given. Sitting, plopping down, or just laying on the floor (little ones, of course excepted!) or walking away is extremely disrespectful and you will be excused from class.
- **Listening skills and general behavior** - All students are expected to behave appropriately to their age levels. We expect the younger ones to be challenging – that's their job in learning the world. But as with students that should have better developed skills, we do need to resolve disruptions and will always work with the families to find a way to positive focus the student's behaviors and not taking all the attention away from the rest of the class.
- **Corrections**—Keep a notebook. Try your best to apply the corrections given. And remember, your teacher has more knowledge than you do, therefore, it is disrespectful to argue. It is best to take the correction with a gracious "thank you" and move on rather than argue if you disagree.
- **Remember Why You Are In Class**—Your teacher assumes you are here because you love to dance and are eager to learn!
- **Most of all, remember to have fun!**