



Reign Dance Theater

UNDERSTANDING YOUR INVOLVEMENT

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Reign Dance Theater is committed to classical ballet training in a positive family-friendly atmosphere that promotes modesty and moral purity.

DRESS CODE

Students should arrive in appropriate ballet attire prepared to begin class on time.

GIRLS: Short-sleeve black leotard, pink ballet tights, pink ballet slippers, knee-length ballet skirt, and hair pulled back in a bun. (Teens/Adults add a black T-shirt over leotard for modesty in combined classes.) During dress rehearsals nude/tan leotard are required to wear under costumes.

GUYS: Long dark sport shorts or pants, dark T-shirts, and black ballet slippers.

For those in need of attire, a group ballet order will be made in the fall and again before performance in the spring for your convenience.

FOOD / MEALS / ALLERGIES

Students should have a light meal or snack (with low sugar content) prior to class, and bring a water bottle with them. NO other beverages are allowed. Please be aware that students may need extra water, calories, protein, and calcium to progress well, and bananas may help with muscle soreness. For long rehearsal days students should bring a snack. For the healthy well-being of our staff and students with allergies and asthma, we ask that all students, parents, and guests please keep our facility environment fragrance-free, smoke-free, and pet-free, as well as peanuts, peas, and oranges-free. Please inform staff if your student has other allergy concerns.

ATTENTIVENESS

Students must maintain focus during classes for proper training to take place; therefore, students who are unable to focus and continually disrupt their class may be asked to postpone their involvement.

PRODUCTION REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

For those in our Production Track, *Reign Dance Theater* also combines the discipline of ballet training with the excitement and opportunity for performance in quality theatrical productions which integrate the art of dance with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

CHOREOGRAPHY

A portion of most classes beginning late fall will include the combining of steps and motions learned into choreography that will build into performance pieces by spring. All students will be assigned to at least 3 dances. This allows all students, even beginners, to build extra strength, grace, and teamwork during their technique training in a way that brings joy and purpose to their discipling and helps bring the heart of God to those attending the spring performance.

SCHEDULE

Please read the full season schedule and all information, place all dates on your calendar, NOTIFY IMMEDIATELY of any unavoidable schedule conflicts. Missed classes or rehearsals will affect placement of students in dances.

TRAINING

Class training will include a blend of Russian, Italian, French, and Dutch styles of classical ballet. Please be aware that students may remain at a level for several years as muscles develop and strengthen. Parents play an important role in encouraging their students through this process as progress often seems slow when a student is anxious to fly through the air. That day will come, but only if they can be patient to build a good foundation for it. Ballet is a very technical art and requires a lot of focus and repetition for proper understanding, muscle use, and development. Dancing around the house is one thing - doing ballet correctly and safely is another - and it takes time.

CLASS OBSERVATION

Parents who would like to observe one of their student(s)' classes may arrange to do so on approval of the director, as long as they respect that privilege and do not talk or visit with their student or other parents in the classroom during class time.

BEFORE & AFTER CLASS

Parents are responsible for their student(s) both before and after their scheduled class/rehearsal times. Students may only leave their classroom if approved by a staff member, may use the restrooms if supervised, may be in the gym area to eat or wait for parents, and may do memory work - only if an adult is present. No one is allowed to be anywhere else in the church building (this applies to all family members as well.) Please honor our Lord and *The Mills Church* by respecting all property and boundaries.

SICK DAYS

Please be considerate of other families and keep sick students and other children home when ill.

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

If classes must be cancelled due to severe weather conditions in the Minnetonka area you will receive notification via email.

COSTUMING

While most ballets require students to purchase costumes, we own and provide all costuming for our performance without that added expense for our students. We are committed to modesty and excellence in all costuming.

VOLUNTEERS

Parent volunteers are needed for all rehearsals as facility monitors, fabric cutting, sewing, serging, serving, ironing, craft projects, props, *Posture for Life*™ student verse reciting, performance promotional teams, production set-up and tear-down, dressing room assistants, etc. If you have interests and abilities in any of these areas please contact Karen Travis with your availability. Thank you.

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Updates, schedules, and other information will be communicated throughout the year via email to your e-mail addresses on file.

PROMOTION

All families are asked to help share the blessing of this high quality God-honoring spring production by promoting it with your family, friends, co-workers, churches, and schools. Promotional materials will be provided.

FINANCIALS

REGISTRATION

\$50 Registration Fee due by student's first class.
Registration Closes: October 1st.

TUITION

Due 1st week of each month. Payments can be made online, by check, or by credit card. Checks should be made payable to: Reign Dance Theater. All payments are due regardless of late registrations, missed classes, or early departures. Make up classes may be taken, as approved by the director, and must be completed during the current registered period.

PRODUCTION FEE

\$100 Production Fee for those in the Production Track is due JANUARY 15th.

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP FUND

The *Reign Dance Theater* Student Sponsorship Fund program is available for those suffering financial difficulties. Applications are available upon request.

DONATIONS

Reign Dance Theater is a Minnesota non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status from the IRS. Donations made above and beyond tuition, fees, and purchases are much appreciated and will be received as tax-deductible charitable gifts. Please help support Reign Dance Theater's "Student Sponsorship Fund", "Staff Support", and "Building Fund" to support Christian values continuing in the arts. Gifts can be made online or by check.

POINTE

Students invited by the director who have passed *Reign Dance Theater's* Pre-pointe Evaluation and passed all pre-requisites can begin pointe work. They must also have earned the *Posture for Life™* silver medal award and must maintain memory work through at least Level V for each successive pointe year.

CONSIDERATION FOR POINTE

- Please be aware that some students may have physical limitations that prevent them from being recommended for pointe.
- Pointe work is not required to remain in our program.
- Ballet students often look forward excitedly to beginning pointe work and can become emotionally overwhelmed by the delay during pre-pointe training. Please encourage their patience and strength development during this critical phase.
- At *Reign Dance Theater* a student is not recommended for pointe work until they've passed their major adolescent growth change even if other requirements have been met. We only receive one body and one set of feet for life, and we desire to protect and preserve them for God's best in all of life. No ballet career will be harmed by delaying pointe work during this growth change, but it can be permanently damaged by beginning too soon. We are not willing to risk that for our students. Extra pre-pointe training will only serve to increase the ease, strength, and beauty of pointe work when it is begun.
- Pointe is really hard work and is like learning to dance all over again. Students are required to be taking 3 classes per week, do a daily strengthening/stretching routine, and invest in pointe shoes (generally an additional \$60-\$80 at least twice per year).

POSTURE FOR LIFE™

Posture for Life™ is an important part of our training in character development at *Reign Dance Theater* and we appreciate your help and encouragement as students work through this program. We believe true beauty, strength, and success in life come from a heart that is clean and pure before God and obedient to His Word. This begins with knowing His Word!

PROGRAM LEVELS

Posture for Life™ includes verse sheets based on ballet themes and then numerous entire books of the Bible. We use the 1984 NIV translation.

Level I: Positions
Level II: Walks & Runs
Level III: Turns
Level IV: Core Strength
Level V: Leaps & Lifts
Level VI: Dressing Room
Level VII: Pointe & Passages
Level VIII: Reverence
Level IX: Pas de Deux
Level X: Review & Rewards
Level XI: Book of James
Level XII: Book of 1 Peter
Level XIII: Book of 2 Peter
Level XIV: Book of John
and beyond...

REPETITION

Every time a student proceeds to a new level (sheet or book), all previous sheets/books must be repeated.
EXAMPLE: Recite sheet 1 > sheet 1, 2 > sheet 1, 2, 3 > etc.
BOOK EXAMPLE: Recite James 1 > James 1, 2 > James 1, 2, 3 > etc. Memorization resets for the next season after Awards Night. When you have passed Level XI: Book of James, the next year you do not need to do the repetition steps of the first ten sheets, but can just recite sheet 1-10 and move onto the Book of James.

RECITATION

Verses may generally be said before or after class times and during rehearsals to a staff member or approved adult. When reciting a verse say the reference (i.e. Philippians 2:14-16a) before and after the verse. An entire sheet does not have to be recited all at once.

AWARDS

Recognition and awards for memory work are presented at the Cast Party & Awards Night in May.

PRAYER

Reign Dance Theater encourages all parents and families to be involved together in prayer that God would use every part of this opportunity to touch lives with His love and glory.

Thank you for your interest and involvement.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
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