



STUDIO  
**HANDBOOK**

[www.dancers-only.net](http://www.dancers-only.net)

4728 Sandford Street | Metairie, LA | 504-304-4589 | [customerservice@dancers-only.net](mailto:customerservice@dancers-only.net)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR APPROACH .....	1
STUDIO POLICIES .....	2
CLASS DESCRIPTIONS.....	4
DRESS CODE.....	7
REGISTRATION & TUITION .....	8
COSTUME INFORMATION.....	10
REVUE INFORMATION .....	11
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION .....	13



Our goal is to instill a sense of confidence and achievement in each of our students. Dance is our passion, and we want to share it with you!

*Lindsey Labit Esquerre*

*Owner & Artistic Director | Competition Team Director*

# OUR APPROACH

Established in 2007 by Lindsey Labit Esquerré, Dancers Only delivers exceptional dance education for students aged 2 to 18, catering to all levels of experience. Located in the heart of Metairie, our premier performing arts studio is dedicated to fostering a friendly and structured learning environment. Our expansive 3,800-square-foot facility features a welcoming lobby and three generously sized dance studios, each outfitted with state-of-the-art sprung flooring to ensure optimal safety and performance.

## WHAT WE OFFER OUR DANCERS:

- Beginner to advanced levels for students ages 2 to 18.
- A friendly, organized and structured dance environment.
- A professional staff of accredited dance teachers, who have college degrees in Dance and Performing Arts, and/or degrees in Childhood Education.
- Observation windows so parents can discreetly view their children in class.
- Small class sizes, along with Teacher Assistants, to ensure more individualized attention.
- 8 different styles of dance classes, to provide a well-rounded dance education.
- Competition Team opportunities for dancers aspiring to take their dance education to a higher level.
- A degreed faculty who attends various conventions across the U.S. to bring you the latest methods, trends, and techniques in the dance community.



# STUDIO POLICIES

## STANDARD DANCE STUDIO RULES

- Proper dance attire is to be worn at all times. See Dress Code Section. You will not be allowed in class if you do not come dressed properly. No Exceptions!
- No Food, Drink (except water) or Gum is allowed in the dance studios at any time.
- All dance bags, street clothes, street shoes, etc. are to remain in the proper area at all times. Only proper dance shoes allowed on the studio floors.
- Parents, please make sure your child uses the bathroom prior to or after class, not during.

## DISCIPLINE

- All students and parents are expected to follow all studio rules and be courteous and respectful to all members of the faculty & staff as well as each other at all times.
- Continual disobedience from any student will result in a warning, followed by a parent/teacher conference. Should this procedure not correct the problem, the student will be dismissed from the school. The same rules pertain to parents who do not conduct themselves in a civil manner.
- Positive reinforcement is important to our studio philosophy; therefore, students who express positive behavior on a weekly basis will be rewarded.
- Dancers Only, LLC is a privately owned dance studio & reserves the right to refuse admittance to anyone.

## ATTENDANCE/TARDINESS

- Attendance is essential in order for your child to progress at the same level as their class. No refunds will be given for missed classes.
- Excessive Tardiness will not be tolerated! It is disruptive to the class and is unfair to your child. Part of a good dance education is learning to be prompt. NOTE: Perfect Attendance will be lost if you are tardy more than 3 times in a dance season regardless if you attended every class.
- If a student misses 4 or more consecutive classes, a reinstatement fee of \$15 will be applied to return to class. Dancing is a team effort and we rely on each other to be here.
- Please contact the studio if you know your child will be absent. We also ask that you contact the studio immediately if your child contracts a contagious ailment such as chickenpox, measles, lice, etc. We need to inform other parents of the possibility of contact as soon as possible.



# STUDIO POLICIES

## STUDIO PROCEDURES

- Instructors determine class placement based on experience, age and ability. Subject to change anytime during 1st month of classes if instructor feels a child has been placed incorrectly. Proper notification and discussion with parents will take place before any changes are made.
- **It is essential that you stay informed as an active member of our Dance Studio.** Our studio prides itself on providing our parents and students several forms of communication well in advance of events throughout the year. It is up to you to be proactive and read all Texts/Emails/Newsletters or paper documents sent home. When in doubt reference our website and you should find what you are looking for!
- **“Watch Week”** will take place the last week of each month! We close the window the rest of the month to ensure the student’s undivided attention during class. (Although exciting and useful for parents, the observation windows are a distraction for the children).
- No parents will be allowed in the studio during classes. Please escort your children to the studio door and allow the teachers and assistants to guide them into class.
- **Illness or Injury:** If a student complains of being ill or sustains an injury during class and cannot participate, the instructor will send them to the office and the parents will be contacted immediately.
- Only students with a doctor’s note for a pre-existing sickness/injury are allowed to observe class without participating.
- If a child withdraws from a class, proper notification is required. Please contact our office personnel regarding this matter.
- **Inclement Weather:** You will be notified by automated text, phone call or email in advance if class is cancelled, otherwise assume we are still having class.
- **ONLINE POSTING** of any Dancers Only video footage or professional photographs is strictly prohibited unless approved by the studio owner.
- You are not allowed to use the Dancers Only name or logo on any pictures, advertisements, apparel, etc. without permission from the studio owner. Strictly Enforced.
- Dancers Only, LLC will be closed all Major Holiday’s. This includes: Labor Day, Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s, Mardi Gras, and Easter Weekend. Please stay informed of our monthly calendar so you will be aware of dates we are open and closed.
- Last, but not least, I require each child to have fun and get the most out of every dance class they take here at the studio!



# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Dancers Only offers a wide variety of dance genres, allowing every student the opportunity to enjoy a well-rounded performing arts education. Please view the different class descriptions below.

## **PRE-SCHOOL I & II - TAP & BALLET** (Ages 2-4)

---

Pre-School I and II are introductory ballet and tap combination classes for our youngest dancers. The emphasis at this age and level is on creative movement, learning basic elements of dance and developing coordination skills in a structured, nurturing and fun environment.

## **KINDER COMBO - TAP & BALLET** (Ages 5-6)

---

Pre-School I and II are introductory ballet and tap combination classes for our youngest dancers. The emphasis at this age and level is on creative movement, learning basic elements of dance and developing coordination skills in a structured, nurturing and fun environment.

## **BEGINNER COMBO - TAP & JAZZ** (Ages 6-7)

---

Beginner Combo is a tap and jazz class for beginner dancers who are a little bit older. It is the next step up from our kinder class and introduces jazz to our dancers in combination with continuing with tap technique.

## **TAP TECHNIQUE** (Ages 7+)

---

Tap classes are offered to ages 7 and up. Level placement is determined by your age and dance experience. The students will learn tap steps, technique and terminology as well as learning choreography.

## **JAZZ TECHNIQUE** (Ages 7+)

---

Jazz classes are offered to ages 7 and up. Level placement is determined by your age and dance experience. The students will learn jazz steps, technique and terminology as well as



# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

## **BALLET TECHNIQUE / PERFORMANCE BALLET** (Ages 6+)

---

Ballet is a classical form of expressive dance characterized by grace and precision of movement as well as elaborate formal gestures, steps and poses. Ballet is the foundation subject for all other forms of dance and is designed to develop a dancer's strength, technique & flexibility. This class will consist of barre work, center floor, across-the-floor progressions and choreography.

## **LYRICAL** (Ages 6+) *Ballet Required*

---

Lyrical is a highly technical and expressive style of dance that fuses ballet technique with jazz and contemporary movement to interpret the lyrics of the music. This is an elective class that will focus on technique, flexibility, improvisation and choreography. Ballet background is recommended.

## **CONTEMPORARY** (Ages 9+) *Ballet, Jazz or Lyrical Required*

---

Contemporary is an expressive style of dance that combines technical elements of modern, jazz, lyrical and classical ballet. Characterized by its versatility and improvisation, it can be performed to any style of music. Allows dancers to push new boundaries and create new ways of moving the body. This is an elective class for the advanced dancer and will focus on technique, flexibility, improvisation and choreography. Ballet background is recommended.

## **HIP-HOP** (Ages 6+)

---

Hip-hop dance refers to street dance styles primarily performed to hip-hop music. Often distinguished by its "freestyle" nature it also includes a wide range of styles including breaking, locking, and popping. This is an elective class that will focus on learning the different hip-hop styles as well as choreographed and freestyle movement.



# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

## **ACRO / FLEXIBILITY** (Ages 4+)

---

Acro dance is a style of dance that combines classical dance technique with precision acrobatic elements. It blends dance and acrobatics, and its use of acrobatics in a dance context. Acro is an elective class for young beginners and will focus on basic floor gymnastic skills, strength and conditioning, coordination, stretch, and balance.

We have (3) Acrobatic Arts Certified Dance instructors on faculty, including, owner, Lindsey Labit Esquerré. Lindsey is also a Module 1 Certified Flexibility Instructor.



## **TECHNIQUE / STRENGTH / CONDITIONING** (Ages 6+)

---

This class promotes the strengthening of the dancer's core, balance, agility and stamina in order to execute various technical elements needed to become an advanced level dancer.

## **DOCC - COMPANY CLASSES** (DOCC Memebers Only - Ages 5+)

---

This is our competitive level tap, jazz and technique classes taught at a more accelerated rate in order for the team to remain successful in the competitive environment. You must be a member of the competition team to be placed in this set of classes.





# DRESS CODES

## PRE-SCHOOL COMBO

Solid Pink Leotard · Pink Footed Tights  
 Pink Ballet Shoes · Tan Tap Shoes  
 Hair secured in bun or ponytail.  
 No ribbon ties! Tap shoes must be snap-on,  
 Velcro, buckle, or elastic.  
 Skirts are allowed but must be attached  
 to the leotard. **NO TUTUS!**

## KINDER COMBO

Black Leotards ONLY · Light Tan Footed Tights  
 Tan Tap Shoes (Mary-Jane style) · Pink Ballet Shoes  
 Hair secured in bun or ponytail. **NO TUTUS!**

## BEGINNER COMBO

Black Leotards ONLY · Light Tan Footed Tights  
 Tan Tap Shoes (Mary-Jane style)  
 Tan split-sole slip-on jazz shoe (Bloch Neo-flex)  
 Hair secured in bun or ponytail. **NO TUTUS!**

## TAP TECHNIQUE

Black Leotards Only · Black Booty Shorts Only  
 Tan Footed tights · Tan Tap Shoes (lace-up style)  
 Hair secure in a ponytail.

## JAZZ TECHNIQUE

Black Leotards Only · Black Booty Shorts Only  
 Tan Footed tights  
 Tan split-sole slip-on jazz shoe (Bloch Neo-flex)  
 Hair secure in a ponytail.

## BALLET

Solid Black Leotards · Ballet Pink Footed Tights  
 Pink Ballet Shoes  
 Level I & II — leather split sole  
 Level III — canvas split sole  
 Black ballet skirt optional  
**HAIR MUST BE IN A BUN - NO EXCEPTIONS!**

## LYRICAL

Solid-colored Leotards, Sports Bra,  
 or Fitted Crop Tops  
 Booty shorts or leggings acceptable  
 Tights are optional (stirrup or footless only)  
 Tan leather half-sole shoes

## CONTEMPORARY

Solid-colored Leotards/Sports Bra/Fitted Crop Tops  
 Booty shorts or leggings acceptable  
 Tights are optional (stirrup or footless only)  
 No Shoes

## HIP-HOP

Freedom of choice Dancewear  
 (comfortable dancewear/exercise clothes preferred)  
 Please no play clothes or school uniforms!  
 Athletic shoes

## ACRO/FLEXIBILITY

Leotard or sports bra worn with either leggings, bik-  
 er shorts or footless tights. No shoes.  
 \*\*\*No leotards by themselves without a legging/biker  
 short over it OR you may wear footless stockings.

## TECHNIQUE/STRENGTH/CONDITION

This class promotes the strengthening of the dancer's core, balance, agility and stamina in order to execute various technical elements needed to become an advanced level dancer.



# REGISTRATION & TUITION POLICIES

Registration can be done in-person or online. Current students, do not need to re-register. Please login to submit your renewal fee.

## REGISTRATION FEE

---

\$25 registration fee per student; families pay \$25 for first child and an additional \$10 for each sibling.

Once registered, we will send you a link to create a parent portal with us! First month's tuition is due the first week of classes. Online Registration will only prompt you to pay the Registration Fee. Please contact us for your tuition total or see our tuition chart below.

## TUITION POLICIES

---

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE** - Tuition is based on a 9 month dance season (September – May).

Tuition remains the same each month regardless of holidays or absences.

**DUE DATE** - Tuition is due the 1st week of each month if paying monthly.

**LATE FEE** - A \$5 late fee will be assessed if tuition is not received by the 10th of the month, and \$10 if not received by the 20th.

**CURRENT TUITION** - Tuition rates are shown below. Please contact us with questions. Our rates are based on the individual and the amount of hours of class you take each week. Family discounts may apply for siblings enrolled.

**INVOICING** - Dancers Only does not mail monthly bills. Please set-up and access your account through our Parent Portal system to view your balance anytime. It is your responsibility to make all payments on time.

**FORMS OF PAYMENT** - Dancers Only accepts Cash, Check, Credit/Debit (in person or online) or Money Order.

**INSUFFICIENT FUNDS** - A \$20 NSF fee will be charged on any returned check. Payments must be resolved immediately with cash or debit card only once you are notified by the studio.

**DISCOUNTS** - Dancers Only offers a 10% discount for any student who pays the year in full.

(See Tuition Rates on next page.)



# TUITION RATES

Hours/Week	Monthly	Yearly
.45	\$50	\$450
1.0	\$55	\$495
1.5	\$67	\$603
2	\$80	\$720
2.5	\$95	\$855
3	\$105	\$945
3.5	\$115	\$1,035
4	\$125	\$1,125
4.5	\$135	\$1,215
5	\$145	\$1,305
5.5	\$155	\$1,395
6.0+	\$165	\$1,485



# COSTUME INFORMATION

All classes that participate in our annual Revue will be required to purchase a costume for each routine they will perform. All Pre-School I & Elective classes will perform 1 routine, all combo classes will perform 2 routines.

**Students will be measured during class for their costumes in NOVEMBER.**

## COSTUME DEPOSIT: DUE OCTOBER 1ST

- Pre-School I, II, Kinder: \$35
- Beginner Combo, Electives Level I & II: \$40
- Electives Level III+: \$40

## COSTUME BALANCE: - DUE DECEMBER 1ST

- Pre-School I, II, Kinder: \$35
  - Beginner Combo, Electives Level I & II: \$40
  - Electives Level III+: \$45
- 
- You will not receive costume money back if your child decides to drop a class or not return to the studio once costumes are purchased.
  - Costumes and sizes will be determined by instructor. Costumes fall into size ranges, they are not customized to each student's body measurements. Any alterations needed, if any, will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
  - Costumes are ordered at the beginning of December and should arrive no later than March. Your costumes will not be ordered unless all fees are paid!
  - We try to keep costs reasonable when selecting costumes; however we cannot control the costume distributors from raising their prices. We will uphold the fees set forth above (NOTE: The older you are, the more material you need, therefore, the more expensive the costumes run).



# REVUE INFORMATION

The annual Dance Revue is held each year in June. See Calendar for date.

- Participation in the Revue is Mandatory if a child plans to take class an entire Dance Season with us as well as to receive their year of achievement credit.
- Each family will be required to pay a Revue Fee. This fee covers the expenses associated with producing a wonderful revue experience for you and your children. Production costs include the following: rental of the auditorium, music and sound personnel, scenery and lighting, all awards presented to the students, dancers revue t-shirt & covers your invitations/tickets since we do not charge for admittance.

## REVUE FEE:

- **\$125.00 – one child**
  - **\$225.00 – two children**
  - **\$295.00 – three or more children**
- We also offer the option to factor your revue fee into your monthly tuition. Please let us know if you are interested in this option.
  - Each student will be provided with a set number of invitations and reserved seat savers based on our enrollment and auditorium size. (TBD at a later date)
  - RECITAL THEME T-SHIRTS will be available for purchase for family members. (Dancers t-shirt is include in the revue fee as stated above.)
  - A professional videographer is hired to produce a Revue DVD for us every year. Order forms will be given out 2 weeks prior to the revue. DVD price will be included on the order form. These orders will be due no later than the day of our Auditorium Stage Rehearsal.



# REVUE BOOK/PICTURES

A professional photography is contracted out each year to take Individual and group pictures for our annual Revue book. This takes place late March or early April each year. Info regarding picture dates, times, and price information will be given out in the ad program packet.

## AD PROGRAM

- Each year the studio hosts an Ad contest for the revue program. Each student strives to sell as many ads as they can to family, friends and businesses within an 8-week time frame. These ads will appear in the revue program along with their dance photographs.
- The student that sells the most ads each year, minimum of \$3000 in ads, will be contest winner and will appear on the front cover of the revue program.
- All students that would like to receive a free picture slot in the recital book will be required to sell a minimum of \$100 in ads, otherwise you will be required to pay for your picture slot in the revue book.
- Detailed information regarding this contest will be given out in packet form in January.

(Selling ads is not mandatory; however it is recommended if you would like to see your child's picture make it into the revue program. Remember, selling ads to others eliminates an out of pocket expense for you.)



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## DANCE CREDITS

- 1st Year – Trophy - presented at Awards Day
- 5th Year – Medal - presented on stage during award ceremony night of revue
- 10th & 15th Year – Plaque – presented on stage during award ceremony night of revue
- All years not mentioned above will be awarded a year of achievement Ribbon during the last week of classes.
- 11+ Years - will receive a small plaque of achievement at Awards Day

## TEACHER GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

\*presented on stage with an escort during award ceremony the night of revue\*

### Requirements:

- Graduating Seniors Only: who have completed 10 or more years of dance are eligible for the Dancers Only Teacher Graduate Program. You must be a class demonstrator for at least 3 years at the studio (2 consecutive years leading up to graduation), pass a dance terminology & demonstration exam, and choreograph 1 piece to be performed in the revue.
- If interested in earning this honor, please see the office for more information.

## DANCERS ONLY COMPETITION COMPANY

DANCERS ONLY Studio & Instruction would like to present your children with the opportunity to take their dance education to a higher level through our Competitive Team. In order to audition for the team, you must be 5+ years of age by the audition date. Once you make the team, you must be enrolled in the proper Competition Preparatory Curriculum.

This schedule requires a full commitment on the student and parent's part. There will be mandatory rehearsal times as well as financial obligations associated with joining this team. Auditioning does not guarantee you will make the team. We do bring in a panel of judges from outside our studio and decisions are based on several factors including: age, experience, maturity, personality and ability to learn material quickly.

**Please ask for an Information Packet if your child is  
interested in auditioning for our team!**

