



CDPA STUDIO HANDBOOK

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CDPA DIRECTOR

DR. KATHRYN WHITE AUSTIN

B.F.A. Dance Performance

M.A. Dance and Theatre

PhD, Comparative Studies, Fine & Performing Arts

Certified in Autism Movement Therapy

Registered Dance Educator: NRDE

2005-06 Outstanding Dance Educator (NDEO)

2018 OCSA Teacher of the Year

Member Affiliations:

- National Dance Education Organization, Past Board of Directors
- Florida Dance Education Organization
- British Association of Teachers of Dancing, Fellow
- ScotDance USA (Federation of United States Teachers & Adjudicators)
- Florida Dance Association
- Dance and the Child International – USA, Board of Directors
- International Association of Dance Medicine & Science
- Society of Dance History Scholars
- NHSDA Sponsor: CDPA Chapters
- Take Stock in Children: Past Mentor

CDPA PHILOSOPHY and MISSION STATEMENT

The Centre for Dance & the Performing Arts is founded on its owner's dedication and commitment to the artistic, scientific, intellectual, entertainment, and recreational value of arts education, specifically through Dance. At CDPA, we feel it is essential to combine the tradition, discipline, and creativity of dance studies, with the delight and intrigue of performance. We are committed to the physical and mental education of the body—the proper and efficient approach to movement; which challenges, but does not exceed the physical limitations of the individual. At CDPA, we believe in the study of dance and the performing arts as an essential element in the education and development of children and young adults.

The Centre for Dance & the Performing Arts is a full service dance education facility dedicated to serving the children, youth and parents of West Orange and Lake Counties.

CDPA was founded in 1990 by "Three Cousins" and continues to operate as a FAMILY of movers, ...a community within a community that supports creativity and expression through exposure to dance, visual arts, arts education and positive life experiences.

Special Benefits of Dance

Physical:

Physiological benefits such as increased flexibility, improved circulation, general improvement of body composition and muscle development, better posture, balance, and coordination.

Intellectual:

Enhancement of neurological functions, enrichment of the learning environment, and access to a variety of human intelligences and learning styles.

Emotional:

Development of self-confidence and self-esteem in a supportive and enjoyable environment, resulting in better management and resolution of stress, anxiety, and depression.

Social:

Improved sensitivity, understanding, appreciation, and consideration of others both for their similarities and their differences.

All of these benefits are accessible to all people regardless of race, creed, age, sex, or disability. Dance is open to every human being and can be rewarding at any level.

Choosing a School and Comparison Shopping

There is NO State or National CERTIFICATION or LICENSING procedure for Dance Studio teachers or owners. ***In choosing a dance school, you must be confident in the credentials of its director and the curriculum outline.*** A school without a curriculum cannot properly prepare a student in a logical and safe progression suited to the students' abilities and range of motion. Improper dance training can result in LIFE LONG physical damage to the body! At CDPA, you can rest assured that your child is safe at the hands of any CDPA staff member and that the curriculum is designed to meet the needs and abilities of the student based on **age, level and individual assessment**. CDPA is the only school in Central Florida directed by a **Registered Dance Educator**. All teachers are not for all people and you and your child are entitled to a satisfactory experience. At CDPA, we are confident in the quality, appropriateness, safety, and correctness of our instruction and operations policies.

Supplementary Class/Simultaneous Enrollment between CDPA and other Studios

We realize that a particular circumstance may arise where supplementary training is desired that CDPA does not offer. Where the situation is deemed appropriate to the skill and maturity level of the student by the director, allowances may be made. This method protects all concerned. In all cases the directors of both studios should be fully aware of this dual enrollment situation PRIOR to the first class being taken. This is also true for those students enrolling at CDPA for supplemental training.

Experimenting with varied teaching styles and techniques is appropriate at the advanced to professional level but it is ill-advised in a young dancer's training. Taking a variety of classes in a variety of teaching environments requires a mature level of dance intellect to know how and when to apply specific expectations or nuances of the techniques. Otherwise the body can become confused and unsteady. This is a time when injuries most likely occur. Competitive dance training is contraindicated to the work we do at CDPA. If we cannot monitor your child's physical developmental training, then we can also not take responsibility for injuries incurred. In certain cases, students may be advised to train elsewhere.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Dance Education Organization (NDEO)

Our CDPA Director is actively involved at many levels of dance education but is particularly sought out in regards to the National implementation of dance education standards and teacher training. All CDPA parents are encouraged to visit www.ndeo.org to become familiar with what our CDPA director is involved with outside of the studio life and our community. Dr. Austin served on the Board for nine years as Director of Periodicals and Publications and has returned to the Board after 8 years of service on the Board of Dance and the Child International-USA. She is currently on the Policy review board.

NDEO advances dance education centered in the arts. We are the voice of representation for the field in legislatures, schools of dance, PreK-12 schools, and institutions of higher education throughout the country. As a non-profit organization, NDEO is dedicated to promoting standards of excellence in dance education through the development of quality education in the art of dance through professional development, service and leadership. We hold public discussions, sponsor institutes, workshops, conferences and programs. We develop guidelines, promote standards, and design curricula. NDEO has forged alliances with approximately 150 federal and state agencies and arts associations in support of dance arts education. The Journal of Dance Education (JODE), our official quarterly publication, is included with full membership. The Student Advantage Program encourages future professionals to take responsibility in current national issues in order to build a greater tomorrow.

Through the NDEO, CDPA established the first Florida Studio Chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts in December of 2005. Middle School and High School students may seek eligibility for induction into this nationally recognized organization through participation in CDPA classes, performances, workshops and community service. See the director for more information.

Dr. Austin is active in the State Affiliate organization, the FDEO as a speaker and teacher each fall at the conference gathering. Additionally, she teaches at the Dance and the Child International-USA gatherings every three years in the U.S. She has served on the faculty of the Florida Dance Festival, the Young Performer's Workshop, the School of Scottish Arts and is a full time dance educator in Osceola County. At the Osceola County School for the Arts, Austin serves as the department lead for all Arts areas and the district lead for the dance faculty throughout the county. Dr. Austin was OCSA's Teacher of the Year for 2017-18 and was nominated for Arts Teacher of the Year for the county.

As part of the CDPA curriculum, Dr. Austin teaches traditional Scottish Highland Dance and is a Fellow by Exam in the British Association of Teachers of Dancing. She is also certified at the Member level for Scottish National Dances and serves on the Professional Development Board for FUSTA. She is a co-organizer of the Central Florida Open Championship and Premiership along with Lisa Backovsky, who is also a certified Highland instructor at CDPA. Dr. Austin is part of the organizational team for the 2021 US National Championships of Highland Dance to be hosted in Florida.

About The School

Ownership

The Centre for Dance & the Performing Arts is just one division, along with Geared to Dance, of the parent corporation, Three Cousins Plus, Inc. The two facilities are owned and operated by Kathryn White Austin. The “cousins” are Emily Yarosz (former partner) and Andrea H. White (Ms. Kathryn’s mom and Emily’s first cousin). Andrea White served as a supporter and mentor to the businesses until her death in 2019.

Director

Dr. Kathryn Austin (Ms Kathryn or Dr K at CDPA) holds a BFA in Dance from FSU, an MA in Dance from the University of Hawaii-Manoa, and is an RDE or Registered Dance Educator. Her PhD is in Comparative Studies in the Fine and Performing Arts with research in K12 dance education in the State of Florida. She is a certified Fellow of the British Association of Teachers of Dancing for Scottish Highland Dance and is a member of ScotDanceUSA where she serves on the Professional Development Committee as well as the Choreography Committee. Dr. Austin is highly visible and active in many dance organizations statewide and nationally in the capacities of educator, scholar, speaker, writer, advocate, and choreographer. Dr. Austin has an extensive performing and teaching background as well as choreographic and editorial credits on a local, state and national level. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Winter Garden, where she volunteers in the nursery, serves as liturgist and teaches Middle School Sunday School. Dr. Austin served on the Consultation committee for the rewriting of the UMC Social Principals world-wide and continues to be involved in the voice of the United Methodist church is current topics. Dr. Austin has served of the dance faculties at Stetson, University of Hawaii-Manoa, Florida Atlantic University, University of Central Florida and currently, Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Faculty

Faculty members are experienced in their own right and trained in the specific curriculum established by CDPA Director. Instructors meet periodically to evaluate their classes, upgrade curriculum and prepare for performances. In addition to their training the faculty has received recognition for their abilities in the form of scholarships, guest appearances, competitions, talent shows, musical theater performances and concert performances. Faculty biographies are also available on our website.

Assistants and the Student Teacher Program

Assistants are assigned to each teacher for the majority of classes from Creative Movement through level I. These dancers have had many years of dance training and we are confident in their abilities to share that information with younger students learning foundation dance skills. These assistants serve as a familiar face when a substitute teacher is conducting class, or as a class leader if the instructor is called out of class momentarily. In addition, these young people are being trained for future teaching positions with CDPA. Student Teachers at CDPA have had at least 2 years teacher assistant training in addition to 5 to 10 years of dance study. This program is an essential and very special element of CDPA’s overall curriculum, providing valuable experience for our young adults, consistency in the training techniques of younger students, and cost effectiveness for the customer.

Class Descriptions

On the following page you will find an overview of the basic elements of our staple classes at CDPA. This is in no way a full and complete description of what is offered in the course of one year's study in a class nor the benefits of continued training in dance at CDPA. Watch for supplementary classes and short sessions of children and adult classes offered periodically such as Vocal Performance, Musical Theatre, Movement for Sports, Yoga, Jazzercise, Adult Stretch, Art, Lebed Method, Belly Dance, Djembe Drumming, Theatrical Sign Language, etc. To request or to offer a special class please email us through the website.

The **Foundations Curriculum** is designed to introduce dance in an exciting, but disciplined environment and to begin the process of training the young student's body. Thinking skills and logic are a primary focus in order to build "smart movers" for quick advancement in later years. Each level explores a progressive curriculum outline focusing on the use of the body in relation to the physical laws of motion using time, space, energy flow, gravity and sequencing as boundaries. Movement games and songs are important elements in encouraging openness, confidence and creativity.

Our **Progressive Curriculum** is offered for those students intending to maintain the serious study of dance throughout their school years. Those students interested in taking only one class per week or supplementing other sports or cheerleading commitments should seek enrollment in our recreational or teen level classes.

FOUNDATIONS CURRICULUM

222s (or TuTu Twos): This half-hour movement class gives kids a great opportunity to enhance their developmental skills and coordination while experimenting with separation time from family and siblings. The class is FREE and limited space is available.

PreDance I (formerly Creative Movement) ages 3/4

Intro to movement skills, class organization, independence, socialization, ballet vocabulary, gentle stretching, movement games, songs, and tumbling.

PreDance II (formerly Creative Movement/Tap) ages 4/5

Continuation of above, movements across the floor, elevation, tumbling and rhythm skills through tap.

Foundations I (formerly Pre-Ballet/Tap) ages 5/6

Beginning skills exercises, use of arms, muscle orientation, basic stretching, build on basic tap vocabulary and 3 sound skills.

Foundations II (formerly Ballet/Tap) ages 6/8

Intro to Ballet Barre, center floor skills, focus on balance, change of direction skills. Second half of this combination class is devoted to basic skills in preparation for Level I Jazz/Tap class.

Tumbling Tartan Tykes (ages 4 to 7)

Intro to skills of tumbling including flexibility balance and control in general movement tasks, floor tumbling and the Introduction of Primary skills in Scottish Highland Dancing.

PROGRESSIVE CURRICULUM

From age 7 or 8, class times need to be lengthened to provide ample time for all necessary skills and experiences. Age assignments should be used only as a guideline. Placement may vary by necessity, skill level or other factors at the discretion of the Director and the teacher assigned to the class.

Classical Ballet

Progressive Ballet skills based on Classical training styles. Pointe is at the discretion of the Director and not appropriate until age 12 or up. The pointe/repertory class is by audition only.

Jazz and Tap

Beg Adv- Beg skills based on American Musical Theatre styles. As our students advance, we expose them to a variety of tap styles and jazz styles appropriate to their level of performance. Our focus at CDPA is primarily classical jazz style, lyrical jazz and rhythm tap. Physical expression, expanded knowledge of the vocabulary of each style and fluidity of movement is a primary focus.

Modern/Choreography

Contemporary dance technique based on the styles of various pioneers of modern dance. Skill development in improvisation, emotional performance, and choreographic design. Strong ballet or jazz background recommended but not necessary for level I students.

Scottish Highland

Traditional dance form of Scotland. Builds stamina, strength and commitment. Simultaneous enrollment in ballet is strongly encouraged. Competition is optional but encouraged.

RECREATIONAL CLASSES

Any student coming to dance later in life or returning to dance after a significant absence should consider recreational level classes. Additionally, if dance is not the primary extra-curricular focus of the student then we strongly suggest the classes below for overall continuity for all involved. Here is just an example of what may be offered in this area.

Jazz/Acrobatics or JrJazzPop (ages 7 and up) Beg/Int jazz and acrobatics for DANCE. This class is focused on introductory jazz skills, popular dance styles and footwork and general acrobatic skills that can be incorporated in dance performance. As students advance, they may begin to learn skills to enhance their potential for aerial tricks and cheerleading try outs. CDPA does not incorporate the sexual content of music nor movements most often associated with the "hiphop" genre of dance. Instead, we focus on the unique elements of the style such as alternative rhythms and body isolations, quickness of movement and direction changes.

Cheer Dance (ages 5 and up) Basic dance and tumbling skills as they relate to the ever-changing requirements of today's cheer leaders. Flexibility, "line work" and style will be the overall focus as well as maintaining skills on the off-season times and working on dance coordination for competitive cheering. This class is not always on the schedule but if you or group of dancers are interested, please inquire.

Creating Dances (ages 7 and up) An opportunity to explore movement vocabulary, and to work in solo and group settings to collaborate on dance pieces appropriate for performance. Academic and creative prompts are given to inspire movement and develop composition skills and collaborative thinking.

CDPA Operations Policies

Registration

Registration is held in July and August for the “dance year” and a separate registration is held in May/June for Summer Dance. There is a NON-REFUNDABLE registration fee of \$35.00 due at the time of FALL registration to hold the class spot and offset the administrative costs of processing that student. There are no discounts available on administrative fees.

Class Fees

Class fees are due **the first DAY**, not CLASS, of each month. After the **5th** of the month and a **late fee of \$25.00** will be added. **NSF fees** will be charged for any returned check at a rate equal to the bank fees plus a \$25 in house fee. Consistent delinquent payments or accounts over 30 days may result in the suspension of that student’s participation in class. No students will participate in the recital until all fees, late fees, NSF charges, damage charges, and costume money is received and clear. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please call the office. We do not want to deny any child an opportunity to dance if a viable solution is available.

Discounts are provided for multiple class enrollment and family enrollment for the 2nd, 3rd and/or 4th siblings. **Semester payments are NON-REFUNDABLE.** Private lessons, Ensemble workshops, and some Saturday or Drop By classes may not be included in the discount program. Alternative fee structures will be brought to your attention when applicable. Class fees are based on 4-week months. Class fees DO NOT include dancewear, shoes, costume costs, costume accessories, damage charges, recital fees or recital tickets. These are additional costs to the parent. See current fee schedule for details. Online payments are made through JackRabbit. When checks are submitted, they should be made payable CDPA. Dancewear payments go to GEARED TO DANCE.

Enrollment in dance, like day care, is a commitment and our schedule and budget are based on your child’s spot being secured for the dance YEAR.

Fee obligations are for the year, but made payable in a monthly format.

Missed Classes and Refunds

There are NO PRO-RATED FEES for classes missed. There will be NO REFUNDS for classes missed. Semester payments are NON-REFUNDABLE. Once you register for the year and have reserved your place in a space limited class, you are obligated to see through the financial commitment of the full term. If a teacher cancels a class for an emergency, then the class will be made up at a later date or the student may attend another class on the schedule as a make-up class.

No Food or Drink

No food is allowed inside the studio (unless cleared with teacher). Not only is this a cleaning problem, but the smells of some foods can irritate fellow students or distract a child who is very hungry. Drinks in containers that cannot be closed to avoid spilling are not allowed in the studio.

There are to be no soft drinks in the studio!

WATER IS THE PREFERRED BEVERAGE FOR DANCE.

Any damages caused by ignorance of this policy are the responsibility of the child and that child’s parents.

Limit Discussion

Questions and discussions are encouraged. But unnecessary talking is prohibited as well as loud or obnoxious talking or screaming. Discussion that involves topics outside of dance should be limited and rude comments to fellow classmates will result in removal from class. As a matter of tradition and respect, students will address their teacher as Miss _____ (ie. Ms Kathryn or Miss Cheyanne)

Complete the Class

Class will be dismissed by the teacher. If class started late, it may run late. If a student needs to be excused for any reason during class, they must ask the permission of the teacher. No child will be released from class on their own accord. For early dismissal, the parent must make arrangements prior and come to the door to retrieve the child. This is a matter of safety.

Withdrawals

The Director of CDPA should be notified immediately if a child must withdraw from a class. Until such time, the space will be held for the student and the charges invoked to the parents. Any fees in arrears will also be assessed. A payment schedule may be arranged for families with financial hardship. Once a student has quit twice in the middle of a semester for reasons other than illness or hardship, the parents should not consider returning to CDPA. It is not conducive with our philosophy to participate when quitting is becoming a habit. We recommend the parents' stern commitment to completion. If it becomes evident that a student will not be returning to CDPA after a break or for the coming dance year, we ask that out of respect to the director that information be provided directly to Ms Kathryn prior to becoming public discussion amongst students and parents.

Outside of Class

Proper respect for the director, staff, studio, curriculum, fellow students and facility is EXPECTED of all CDPA students, parents, and siblings, on or off-site. When participating in a CDPA event, performance, out-of-town excursion, or when wearing the CDPA logo, general deportment and behavior is as important as your ability to dance! This includes SOCIAL MEDIA! Dr. K reserves the right to hold CDPA students accountable for social media behaviors that reflect negatively on the school and her connection to the student. Our director takes the reputation of our students very seriously.

Communication with Director

Parents needing to speak to the CDPA Director or staff should EMAIL the director and give the nature of the need as well as the best time to return the call. Remember we are not open during the day and Dr. K may not be immediately available by phone during the day except in emergency situations. If your need is urgent, then text her at 321 960 5916.

Rewards& Reprimands

Foundations students are generally rewarded for good behavior and participation with a sticker or hand stamp at the end of class. These rewards are not GIVEN, they must be EARNED. Yes, even a 3 year old can understand this process! Older students may receive a reprimand slip home if they are in dress code violation or can not maintain self-control. These are FRIENDLY reminders of our expectations and a GENTLE way of letting the parents know what is going on!

CDPA Protocol and Classroom Etiquette

Arrive on Time

Children under 7 should be accompanied by an adult. Small children should be taken to the bathroom prior to class. All children should enter and leave at the LOBBY entrance of the Studio. Young children must wait on the parent or other authorized pick up person to enter the building before exiting. In the interest of the child's safety, students arriving more than 15 minutes into class may be asked to observe only. If you are running late, please text Dr K at 321-960-5916. This will ease the child's nerves as well as allow us to make special arrangements as needed.

Be Prepared

Students should arrive dressed for class and with all hair accessories and extra shoes in a small dance bag. Students' names should be on every item, especially, dance shoes, dance bags and book bags. Students who are not adequately prepared, or late to class due to lack of preparation, may be asked to observe.

Hygiene

Proper hygiene is essential in all aspects of life. It is very hard to approach a child or parent about lack of cleanliness or body odor. However, in a dance studio where activities induce sweat and children are sharing space, odors can become a terrible distraction and an embarrassment. Please be sure all dance wear is laundered after each wearing, hair should be clean and pulled back properly, feet should be washed after school, and deodorant should be a consideration for students age 7 & up. **NO PERFUME** prior to class as this may aggravate allergies of teachers and other students.

Dress Code (ALL DANCE PURCHASES ARE EXPECTED TO BE MADE THROUGH GEARED TO DANCE)

Please read the Dress Code insert thoroughly and know the proper requirements for your child's dance studies at CDPA. We expect our students' adherence to the Dress Code set forth by this studio, which is congruent with the historical development of dance, traditional arts studies, and national standards in dance education, the National Registry's Code of Ethics, and professional protocol. For this reason, we provide a retail dance wear store, **Geared to Dance** which stocks those brands that are **ACCEPTABLE** for the proper and modest dress for dance studies at CDPA. **Off-brands of body wear and shoes are UNACCEPTABLE.** Students who do not feel confident in their "look," are not able to concentrate during class. Ill-fitted shoes cause blisters, calluses and pain that limit participation. Ill-cut body wear may be too revealing and cause constant pulling/tugging at the garment. A cover-up should be worn entering and leaving the studio. Do not wear dance shoes outside of class. If you have specific needs or wishes, we are happy to special order or direct you to another supplier.

Hair

Hair must be in a bun for ballet class or any class that involves ballet. Otherwise hair should be pulled back away from the face and secured; French braid preferred, **NO PONYTAILS.** Bangs should be pinned or a headband worn.

Class Size

A minimum of 6 students is required to hold a Foundations class open. Other classes are held open at the discretion of the Director. However, before a class is **CLOSED** the parents will be notified and advised of other class possibilities. Class size is determined by the age and level of the students

Observation and Video Taping

Parents MAY NOT sit in the classroom or VIDEO a class unless special arrangements have been made. Please keep all lobby conversation to a minimum and avoid use of the business telephone for unnecessary conversations. Younger siblings should be taken for a walk or drive during class time.

Newsletter

A CDPA newsletter, **FootWork FoRuM**, is only published periodically. We are moving to more of a web presence for information. Please watch the website and FB pages for current information. We are working to be sure to provide all important communication, special event information, etc. is provided online!

Holidays

CDPA observes the following as **holidays**: Labor Day Monday, the entire week of Thanksgiving break, Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Monday, Memorial Day Monday and July 4th. Christmas Holiday break and spring break coincide with the Orange County school calendar. Unless specified there ARE classes on Columbus Day, Halloween, Veterans Day, President's Day, and St. Patrick's Day. If you have a Monday class, you are encouraged to determine a good make up class on another day of the week for those missed classes.

Evaluations

A year-end evaluation (not every year) may be provided for students as well as suggestions for the summer and next fall enrollment. Any evaluations are intended as a positive assessment tool for the student, teacher and parent in noting achievement, progress and areas needing additional work. Each child is assessed as an individual. Teachers are always available for verbal conferences as requested.

Birthday Parties and Other Invitations

Friends will be made at CDPA that will last a lifetime. Be mindful of the students in your child's class when it comes to birthday parties and other special invitations. If you would like to invite a dance friend somewhere but the entire class is not being considered, please use discretion.

Performance Opportunities

Holiday Showing: Open classes will be held during the last two to three weeks of classes in December before the holiday break. Parents, siblings, and other family members are invited to join the class for an informal session on class curriculum and to see the Holiday dance learned during the fall.

CDPA Performing Ensemble: Each spring auditions are held for students ages 9 & up, with at least 3 years of dance experience who would like to join the CDPA Performing Ensemble. This youth performance group does many festival performances, and special events such as their annual production of, *In His Name... We Dance*. The Ensemble spends many hours per week in class and rehearsal as well as participation in the CDPA Student Assistant Program and weekend performances. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to be eligible to perform. To have this group perform for your special function, group event or church, contact Dr. K at dancecdpa@gmail.com

CDPA Scottish Highland Dancers: Students enrolled in the Scottish Highland Dance classes and actively competing are often asked to perform at school events, festivals, and special events around Orlando. Competition students travel frequently throughout the Southeast from September to May. Contact Ms. Kathryn for more information on bringing the group to your school or organizational function.

Garden Kids: CDPA is NOT A COMPETITION SCHOOL and we do not host a competition team. We do have a variety of performance opportunities. Ask how your child can be a member of Garden Kids—a community-based performance outreach group. (this group has not be restarted since COVID. Watch for 2023-24)

Other Opportunities: CDPA encourages attendance at dance festivals and master classes and has taken students to the Florida Dance Festival, Florida Dance on Tour, FDEO conference, Pensacola Junior College Dance Workshop, the North American Conference of the BATD, Dance and the Child International-USA and other workshops locally and throughout the state. CDPA students have participated in summer programs at Bates Dance Festival, Oklahoma City University, FSU, Florida Dance Festival, Next Generation Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, American Dance Festival, Rockettes Summer Workshop, Universal Ballet Academy, Central Florida Ballet, Jr. Magic Dancers, Ms Dancer International Pageant, Florida Dances Showcase, Orlando Ballet, Kick for K.A.R.E., Civic Theatre of Central Florida, Girl Scouts USA Wider Opportunities Program, Orlando Repertory Theatre, school plays and various theatrical performance opportunities. Former students of CDPA have continued their dance training at Duke, Troy State, University of South Florida, Florida State University, Barnard College, Elon, the Laban Center and University of Colorado. Others have danced professionally at Disney World, Sea World, Cross and Sword, and with various cruise lines and production companies and appeared in TV movies and commercials.

ANNUAL SHOWCASE PRODUCTION

The spring recital or **SHOWCASE** is generally held the 1st or 2nd weekend following the Memorial Day holiday. This is the student's chance to demonstrate the year's accomplishments and to gain a sense of completion. The SHOWCASES are divided for audience and performer comfort based on the number of students enrolled. Students and parents are encouraged to attend all shows. **There is a mandatory recital fee of \$50 per student to participate.** *This is to offset the rental of the facility, technical crew, lighting equipment, etc. See your current fee schedule for the deadline.*

Costumes: A **\$50.00 per costume, NON-REFUNDABLE deposit** is due by the date on your current fee schedule to secure the order. The total price of the costume is payable even if the student withdraws. Costumes are not a wholesale item and have little mark-up beyond shipping and handling charges. Typically, costumes range from \$50 (ages 3 to 6) to \$85 per costume; we strive to make our choices economical for the parents. The due date for the Costume Balance is also posted on your current fee schedule and will be given in the monthly newsletters. Costumes will arrive in March/April. All accessories are the responsibility of the parent. New tights are required for the recital performance and shoes may need to be painted to match the costume. Instructions will be given at the time of costume selection.

Rehearsals: Studio rehearsals are held the week prior to the recital and are mandatory. Plan ahead for this important rehearsal week! A rehearsal schedule will be provided well in advance.

Hair and Make-Up: Specific instructions will be posted or given by the teacher for hair and make-up; however, general make-up guidelines will be established by the director of CDPA. Parents and older students are responsible for the application of make-up and the fixing of hair. **NO PARENTS** are allowed in the backstage area (unless assigned a work station), so practice is the **KEY!**

Photography/ Videography

An arrangement with an area photographer will be made to obtain a special offer for CDPA students.

CDPA DRESS CODE POLICIES

At CDPA, we are committed to the traditions established in the field of dance and upheld nationally and internationally. Adherence to dress code teaches respect for the discipline and its history, respect for self and authority, attention to detail, proper care of the body, preparation for study, and a serious attitude which can only encourage professionalism in all walks of life. Dance garments are specifically designed according to the needs of the discipline to provide comfort, ease in moving. Modesty and clarity of body lines is the key. Dancewear found in discount stores does not always meet professional standards. GEARED TO DANCE carries a variety of styles appropriate for dance studies or will order exactly what you need.

- Purchase all Dancewear at **Geared to Dance** to ensure proper fit, professional quality and dress code adherence. If there is an item you need that we do not carry, we will order it. Your loyalty to this part of our business makes it possible for us to be available for your convenience. Geared to Dance is not a profit center, it is a service to our students. We ask for your support!
- All students should have bag specifically for dance class and marked with the student's name and phone number. Unmarked Lost and Found items will be disposed of after three months.
- All shoes should be in good repair and a comfortable fit. Proper laces should be kept with jazz and tap shoes. Ballet shoes should have elastic across the instep of the foot and pointe shoes should have elastic and ribbons sewn, not pinned. NOTE FOR BALLET SLIPPERS: the Adjustment cord is not to be worn permanently in a bow. It is used to adjust the fit and then it should be knotted and cut.
- Dancewear should be clean, tidy freshly laundered and mended.
- Tights MUST be worn for class for modesty and proper care of the muscles of the legs. Tights with holes or runs are not appropriate. Pantyhose are NOT permissible.
- It should never be assumed that an optional item may be worn in class. These items are at the teacher's discretion and the student should be prepared to dance with or without them.
- Leotard should not have excessive adornments such as feathers, glitter, sequins, pictures, etc. Attached skirts are discouraged.
- Jewelry should not be worn to dance class. This is a safety hazard and a distraction.
- Cell phones should be turned on silent and left in the student's bag during class.
- Panties should not be worn under leotard and tights. Bras and bra tops should not be excessively visible. Select a leotard that suits your own personal undergarment needs.
- Hair must remain off of the face during class. Hair that is very short should be clipped off of the face and gelled when necessary. Please do not use decorative or fancy hair adornments for dance class.
- When back to back classes have different dress codes always refer to the most stringent class code or ballet where appropriate. Always have appropriate shoes for class.
- In issues of feminine hygiene, consider protection that is conducive to movement and dress code. Do not expect to be allowed to dress differently to accommodate your condition. All dancers should be keenly attentive to issues of body odor and grooming!