

The Valdez Dance Company

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2023-2024 season at The Valdez Dance Company. The teaching staff is very excited to be working with you and your children. As the VDC enters its 10th season, we reflect on the many students that have walked through our doors. Whether you are a new or returning student, we thank you for being a part of the VDC family and look forward to the numerous memories we will create together.

Enclosed please find information explaining our email mailing list, our tuition and payment guidelines, and our studio policies.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at any time. You can call (907) 835-4837 or email valdezdance@gmail.com

“There are shortcuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them.” – Vicki Baum

Many thanks,

Tracy Gilson
Studio Director

Contact Us Anytime

We believe that an open line of communication between the dance teacher and the parents is essential to a successful dance experience. Our teachers will email the class periodically to update the parents on the progress of the class and any other pertinent class information. The studio will also email everyone regularly with all studio news, recital information, and information regarding new programs, special events, and contests/special offers. So, please check your email regularly! We encourage you to contact our office or your child's teacher with any questions that arise throughout the year.

Jaimie Gilson Office Admin (907) 835-4837
valdezdance@gmail.com

Studio Policies

- We follow the School District with vacations and inclement weather closings; However we do not follow the **in-service days- there will be dance class on those days.**
- There is no discount or refund for missed classes, unless for medical.
- All studio accounts have one primary account holder. This is the account holder that registers and signs the registration form. This account holder will be the one considered financially responsible for the account.

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- Students should wait until the teacher is present before entering the classroom, unless directed otherwise. All students should exit the classroom at the end of class. Younger students whose parents have not yet arrived for pickup should wait with one of our office staff members.
- Any student with an overdue balance of more than 90 days will not be allowed into class until payment in full is received or payment arrangements have been made.
- Costume orders can only be picked up once the account is paid in full with no balance remaining.

Keep Informed Through E-Mail, Texts, Social Media

A majority of the information we send you will be sent through our email mailing list. Email helps us efficiently keep everyone up to date on news and events at the VDC. We chose email to cut back on paper and envelope usage and to help the planet! Please make sure we have your correct email address on file. We also use text if there are quick reminders, or cancellations due to weather, or a sick teacher. The Facebook page is used as well. If you do not receive a certain email, all of our emails are available within your portal. Just click on the messages tab.

Online Account Portal

The VDC is proud to offer an online solution for parents and account holders to access all of their account information online. This service allows users to process payments for charges, enter and modify contact information, and register for select classes from the comfort of their home - 24 hours a day.

If you've already logged in to our customer portal, just visit our website, click the "Parent Portal" tab. If you don't remember your password, you can have your password emailed to you by clicking "Forgot Password?"

Tuition and Payments

- Registration Fee - \$35 (non-refundable) (\$10 each additional family member, or additional class thereafter)
- The studio calendar and tuition rate is designed to give 30 classes over a Seven-month period from (August for Company) October to May; otherwise, preschool rates of \$45, single class rates of \$50-\$55 per hour long class will apply, \$65 for 1.5+.
- All Lessons are paid for in advance, due the 1st of each month. You will not receive a bill prior to the due date of tuition, unless you request this. Late notices will be emailed to all past due accounts. There will be a \$5 added charge for any account not paid in full by the 10th. This charge will continue to be added each month it remains late.
- There will be no refunds or deductions for lessons missed. This includes long holidays.

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- Costumes are a requirement for our dance classes- these are purchased at the end of January/February and you'll see a charge for these. Most costumes are between \$50.00 and \$100.00.
- Recital Fee - \$55 (non-refundable) (\$10 each additional family member)
- We accept Cash, Check, Visa, or MasterCard. There will be a \$25 returned check charge for all checks returned from the bank.

Dance Shoes and Dancewear

We have a new site called Nimbly- this is our online store. When you need to create an account, all orders will be shipped to the studio. www.shopnimbly.com/vdc

Ballet shoes should be worn snug, with ties tucked in at all times. Ballet is the only class that requires a pink leotard and pink tights, (skirts are optional). All other classes require regular dance attire and can be worn in any color. Hair should be up and away from the face. A Ballet bun is preferred for Ballet classes. Girl's tap shoes must be secured with elastic or tap shoe ties. Please discard ribbons. No street clothes, necklaces, bracelets, & large earrings should be brought or worn to class.

Costumes

All dance classes will have 1 or more costumes for our recital in May. Dance costumes will be ordered after the holiday break, by February. The estimated cost for costumes is between \$50-\$100, we try to keep this cost as low as possible. Your account will be billed when they are ordered, and must be paid in full before receiving your costume. There will be no refunds for costumes.

Annual Recital Production

Our Annual Dance Recital is part of the student's dance education. Our recital is May 18, 2023 and each student will be required to attend classes regularly, attend rehearsals associated with the recital, and pay for any costume(s) needed for their number. There is an annual recital fee of \$55 per student.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Costume Order Deadline: Feb 1, 2024

Dress Rehearsal(s): May 17, 2024

Performance(s): May 18, 2024

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Workshops

The VDC is proud to offer workshops throughout the season!

Workshops are a great supplement to dancers' weekly education in class, by learning additional choreography, trying different styles, and enhancing their movement vocabulary.

Keep a lookout for future workshops!

Thank you for taking the time to read this handbook! We wish you a very wonderful dance season with us!

Meet the staff of the VDC:

Ms. Tracy Gilson- Studio Director/Owner/Teacher

Ms. Jaimie Gilson- Studio Office Admin

Ms. Gianna Giusti- Theater Instructor

Miss. Jacyn Tapp- Jazz/Contemporary, Musical Theater and Jazz/Tap Teacher

Miss. Morgan Hamilton- Ballet/Tap Teacher

Miss. Hannah Gilson- Company and Jazz/Acro Teacher

Miss. Jovi Arciniega- Company, Teen Contemporary and Jazz/Hip Hop Teacher

Miss. Kinleigh Day- Acro/Jazz Teacher

Ms. Morgan Melton- Tumbling, Acro and Company Teacher

Miss. Myla Ramos- 3rd Year Assistant

Miss. Whitney Major- 3rd Year Assistant

Miss. Sophia Neahr- 3rd Year Assistant

Miss. Avery Franklin- 2nd Year Assistant

Miss. Josie Arciniega- 2nd Year Assistant

Miss. Peyton Branshaw- 2nd Year Assistant

Miss. Claire Sutton- 1st Year Assistant

Mr. Mitchell Nylund- 1st Year Assistant

Mr. Sam Tapp- 1st Year Assistant

Ms. Sarah Tapp-Assistant

Ms. Maggie Nylund- Assistant

Miss Caelyn Wise- Assistant

Miss. Madeline Hall- Assistant