

**BEN LOMOND COMMUNITY CENTER
CHILDREN'S DANCE PROGRAM**

2009-2010

**Guidelines for Dance Participants and Parents,
from the BLCC Instructors and Staff.**

This Packet includes information on:

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- **Dance Attire**
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PLACEMENT

The instructors place the students into the class that is appropriate to each individual's level of strength and ability. This is determined by age and the number of years of dance training a student has acquired. All new students with previous dance training may be asked to try several classes before being placed into the proper class. Students will continuously be monitored and moved into a different level if needed.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance to all classes is very important to your child's progress as well as the class as a whole. The students have 30 classes (15 hours) to learn dance, technique, rhythm, turns, grace, poise, flexibility, control, balance, and routines. Make-up classes **are not** held for student absences. With excessive absences, the instructors cannot guarantee the student will participate in the annual recital, as all students must be prepared to perform.

DANCE ATTIRE

Girls

- Leotards, tights, unitards, or bik-a-tards are required
- Pink ballet shoes (no SATIN slippers)
- Black patent tap shoes for pre-tap and Tap 1, tan dolly tap shoe for Tap 2, 3, 4, 5, Intermediate Tap, Petite Co. & Intermediate Co., black flat tap oxford for Junior Tap, Teen Tap, Advanced Tap, Junior Co. and Senior Co.
- Black jazz oxfords
- No loose clothing over the leotards and tights
- Hair should be up and off of the face

Boys

- Black dance pants or sweat pants
- T-shirt
- Black jazz oxfords, ballet shoes, and tap shoes

***Spotlight Dance shirts and bags will be available for purchase.**

POLICIES

Unattended Children

Children must remain upstairs on the benches while waiting for their ride home. Children 10 and older may wait downstairs in the lobby of Ben Lomond Community Center. Please instruct your enrolled child not to wait outside. Prince William County Park Authority staff and instructors do not assume responsibility of unattended children before and after their scheduled class time.

Ben Lomond Community Center

- Gum chewing is NOT permitted in dance class
- Parents and non-dance students may **NOT** wait in classrooms. You may wait in the first floor lobby of Ben Lomond Community Center.
- Do not approach the instructors with questions during class time. Call 703-361-7126 or leave a message at the front desk. Your call will be returned!
- For safety, park in designated spaces only. **NO PARKING IS PERMITTED IN FIRE LANES - TOWING WILL BE ENFORCED.**
- Do not bring food and beverages into dance rooms. Be careful not to spill drinks in lobby and hallways.

Watch Days

Parents may watch the students the first week of class in September, November, February and April. Parents, relatives, and friends of the enrolled student **may not** be in the rooms under any circumstances other than watch day.

Inclement Weather

We follow the Prince William County School System for weather-related closings. For Saturday classes, call Ben Lomond Community Center at 703-361-7126 if unsure of weather cancellations. A message will be on the recorder by 8:00 a.m. (Make-Up classes will be scheduled as appropriate for classes that are canceled.)

Scheduled Breaks

Classes will not be held on the following dates:

Nov. 11, Nov. 24-28, Dec. 22-Jan. 2, Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar. 29-Apr. 5

RECITAL INFORMATION

Every year an annual recital is held at the end of the dance year at a local high school, usually the weekend before or after the celebrated Memorial Day. The recital is to be a positive experience for the students, and the instructors feel that performing before an audience adds to the students total dance training

Students who participate in the recital are required to purchase a costume for each class they take. We order pre-made costumes and try to keep the cost under \$45 (some costumes for the older students are higher). A deposit of \$30 per costume will be due in December, with the balance due in April 1st. To ensure delivery by May, we will be ordering costumes in January.

SPOTLIGHT DANCE COMPANY

As well as the Spotlight Dancer program, there is a Spotlight Dance Company. The Dance Company is for the students who are more serious about their dancing and who love to perform. Dance Company members are selected through audition and are students between the ages of 9 and 18 with five or more years of dance experience in ballet, tap and jazz. Auditions are held after the recital for the following year of dance. The Spotlight Dance Company also does fund raising during the year to support their extra dance activities (conventions, performances, etc.). Please support them!

