



## Studio Handbook 2021-2022

[www.valleydance.org](http://www.valleydance.org)

## **Welcome to Valley Dance Academy!**

Our studio is a close knit family of dancers and parents. We strive to treat one another with respect and understanding, with inclusion at the center of all we do. Every child is welcome to dance with us!

Please register at [www.valleydance.org](http://www.valleydance.org) in our parent portal to join classes, set up billing and receive studio updates.

### ***Tuition***

Class tuition is posted on the 1st day of every month and autopay drafts on the 5th.

Sibling discounts and multiple class discounts automatically apply! Save \$10 per month for each additional class or student.

All accounts must have a card on file to join our studio. If your balance is more than 30 days past due, your dancer will not be allowed to participate in class. Students must have a zero balance to participate in any studio performances.

### ***Drop off and Pick up***

Dancers should be dropped off no more than 5 minutes before class and picked up no more than 5 minutes after. If late pickups are a recurring problem a child care fee will be added to your account.

### ***Lobby rules***

Due to COVID, our lobby is closed to all observers.

Dancers should utilize lockers and keep the lobby tidy. Please do not bring extra things to the studio. If your dancer takes multiple classes and needs to bring food, please send snacks that are not messy. Only water may be consumed during class, absolutely no eating or sticky sports drinks during class.

Negative talk or gossiping will not be tolerated whatsoever. Our studio strives to provide the best dance education possible, that is done most effectively when teachers don't have to monitor what people are discussing.

### ***Dress code***

All dancers should have tights and shoes that match their individual skin tone. We are happy to help you order dancewear if needed.

## Ballet

Hair must be in a high ballet bun (no bun makers). A solid colored leotard is required for ballet class, along with skin tone tights and ballet slippers. Wrap skirts and snug fitting warm up tops are welcome.

## Acrobatics

Hair must be in a low side bun or tight french braids. Hair cannot be loose or hang down low, as dancers can easily pull out their own hair when upside down.

A leotard and tights or leggings is required for all acrobatics classes.

## All other styles

Hair must be up and off of the face. Pony tail, braid or bun is acceptable.

Dancers can wear any athletic clothing that is free of zippers or embellishments that could damage the floors or cut their skin while dancing.

## ***Dropping classes***

If you need to drop a class for any reason you can do so in the parent portal. You can also email [info@valleydance.org](mailto:info@valleydance.org) 14 days before the 1st day of the month to avoid tuition charges.

*If parent or dancer behavior becomes disruptive or disrespectful you may be expelled from our studio. Please treat all dancers, staff and other parents with respect and kindness.*

## ***Choreography***

VDA owns all choreography as intellectual property. Please do not perform our dances at outside events without asking your teacher first. (We love to come support you at school talent shows, etc.)

Teachers post videos on Instagram (@VDA\_Salem) so dancers can practice at home. Please encourage your dancer to practice a little every day so they can remember the steps in class.

## ***Recital***

All dancers will perform in recital unless parents specify otherwise. Performing is so important to dancers! Being on stage builds confidence, artistry, technique and more. Experiencing performing for an audience is a crucial stepping stone for all dancers.

A recital fee of \$100 is charged in March each year. This covers our sets, props and tickets to the recital. The fee ensures that every student is able to get tickets before they sell out. We sell any remaining tickets in the studio up to the day before dress rehearsal.

***Summer performance is scheduled for August 20th, 2021.  
Winter and spring recital dates TBA.***

### ***Recital Solos***

Dancers level 2+ are all eligible for a recital solo, though spaces are limited. Soloists work one on one with teachers to learn a dance specifically made to challenge them and help them improve faster.

Soloists must be dedicated, have excellent attendance and a desire to perform alone. Sign ups for solos are in December every year. If your dancer wants a summer solo, weekly private lessons are available by request.

### ***Competition Team***

Dancers level 2+ are welcome to join us for competition season! Information for the upcoming season is available in July every summer.

### ***Need support?***

Teachers are here to help support our studio family both in dance and out. If your dancer is struggling with confidence, choreography or anything else please let us know. We are happy to accommodate different learning styles, disabilities or anything that makes class more accessible to our dancers.

Please email us with any concerns or requests. If your student is having a hard time making friends or feeling excluded we always want to know right away! We can help get your dancer a studio buddy to make them feel at home in class.

Welcome to VDA, we are so glad you're here!