



DANCEWORKS

WAXAHACHIE

2023-2024 HANDBOOK



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Welcome to Danceworks! We are thrilled you have chosen to be a part of our family. Danceworks was founded in 2000 by Jennifer Stevens, who began a legacy of love for people and of dance that we strive to continue each day. It is our pleasure to serve you, and we look forward to another wonderful dance season!

OUR MISSION

"To use the gift of dance to bring light to the world."

OUR VISION

"Training dancers on the outside; inspiring leaders on the inside."

SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATION



Our primary channels of communication this year will be the Danceworks App and email. Be sure to download our app to receive immediate push notifications from Danceworks, view your account, and more!



Danceworks App

To download, scan the QR code at right or visit <https://danceworksstudio.app.link/7amOPsjHlrb>



CONTACT US



Call: (214) 463-5555

Text: (214) 949-8479

For quick questions, we are just a text away!



Email:

Tuition/Payment Questions: billing@danceworkswax.net

General Questions: frontdesk@danceworkswax.net

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Instagram

@danceworkswax



Facebook

Danceworks of Waxahachie



YouTube

Danceworks Studio

<https://www.youtube.com/@danceworkswax>

FAITH

As a business, Danceworks operates and aims toward a higher standard when it comes to loving and serving each other and our families. We aim to treat each other the way we want to be treated. We aim to give forgiveness. We aim to have honest communication, even when that means having hard conversations at times. We aim to offer content, choreography, and costuming that is clean and modest. Our commitment to faith means that we love, welcome, and respect staff, students, and families from all different backgrounds and faiths. We strive for and encourage a diverse community, realizing that we are more alike than different.

From our owner, Julie, "My Christian faith influences everything I do. My aim is to always live, love, and serve like Christ. I will undoubtedly fail sometimes and need your forgiveness! My overarching goal, the reason I get out of bed each morning, and the reason I bought the studio is to reach people with the gospel of Jesus. I'm happy to share more with you one on one."

FAMILY

At Danceworks, we place a strong emphasis on relationships. Our goal is to make our studio an inclusive and welcoming environment for clients and staff alike. We want every student and parent that comes through our door to feel welcome. We want to encourage friendships between students, especially for new students. We strive to always consider what is best for the families of our students and staff when we make decisions. Specifically for our staff, we foster a family culture by hosting social events, retreats and workshops, regular staff meetings, and encouraging open communication with our owner and director.

COMMUNITY

We strive to make Danceworks a useful and integral part of our community. We believe that opportunities to serve others not only helps members of our community, but helps us develop character. We seek to build relationships with other people and businesses so that we can lift each other up. In the same manner, we value the community within our studio. We strive to build meaningful relationships between our students, families, and staff so that we can lift each other up.

PERSONAL EXCELLENCE

At Danceworks, we hold ourselves and our students to a high standard. We expect both teachers and students to be on time and prepared for class, to follow proper class etiquette, maintain discipline, and follow proper dress code. Furthermore, our teachers are committed to adhering to the class syllabus and emphasizing proper dance technique, while also committing to creativity, adaptability, problem-solving, and critical thinking in their teaching. We recognize that each individual has a unique way that they learn, and therefore, our teachers strive to teach according to a variety of learning styles in the classroom. Lastly, Danceworks seeks to provide opportunities for staff development, such as dance conventions and workshops.

LEADERSHIP

We believe that learning dance in a positive environment instills many of the skills and character traits that any great leader or well-rounded individual must possess. From the skills attained through classroom interaction, like listening, observing, and gracefully accepting corrections, to the direct effects that dancing has on the brain, like improving neuroplasticity, the brain's ability to form new neural connections in order to change and adapt, the ways that dancing can benefit the dancer's character are numerous.

Because Danceworks values character development and leadership, we go beyond dance instruction to instill these traits in our students. We give our students opportunities to apply leadership skills, such as taking on a mentorship role, working as an intern, or getting involved in Movers and Shakers Dance Company.

IMPORTANT DATES



DAYS OFF

Mon	Sept. 4	Labor Day
Mon	Oct. 9	Columbus Day (Fair Day)
Tue	Oct. 31	Halloween
Mon-Sat	Nov. 20-25	Thanksgiving Break
Tue	Nov. 28	Waxahachie Christmas Parade
Mon-Sat	Dec. 11-Jan. 6	Christmas Break
Mon	Jan. 15	MLK Day
Mon	Feb. 19	Presidents Day
Mon-Sat	March 11-16	Spring Break
Fri-Mon	March 29-Apr. 1	Good Friday, Easter Break
Mon	May 27	Memorial Day

Makeup Policy: For one-day closings (e.g. Monday holidays, Halloween), students are encouraged to make up their missed class(es) by attending one class (per missed class) of any level within their age range during the week of the holiday.

EVENTS

Sat	Aug. 5	Open House
Mon-Sat	Aug. 14-19	First Week of Classes
Sat	Oct. 21	Bring a Friend Event
Mon-Sat	Nov. 13-18	Parent Observation Week
Sun	Dec. 10	The Nutcracker Tea Performance
Mon-Sat	March 18-23	Parent Observation Week
Tue, Thurs	May 28, 30	Recital Rehearsal
Sat	June 1	Annual Recital

Tip: Download the Danceworks App for quick access to our most up-to-date calendar. You can also view the calendar on our website (see previous pages).

2023-24 TUITION RATES

30 minute class (ex: 5:00-5:30pm)
\$60 per month

45 minute class (ex: 5:00-5:45pm)
\$62 per month

1 hour class (ex: 5:00-6:00pm)
\$65 per month

1.5 hour class (ex: 5:00-6:30pm)
\$75 per month

*The more classes you take,
the steeper the discounts!*

NUMBER OF CLASSES ENROLLED IN	MULTI-CLASS DISCOUNT
1 class	(full price)
2-4 classes	15% off
5+ classes	50% off

DETAILS

Tuition is due on the 1st day of each month starting with August. There are 36 weeks of class, divided into 9 monthly payments (see next page for specifics). We offer auto-draft billing by default for your convenience. If your account is over 2 months past due, you will be asked to pay your account in full before having your child return to class.

Multi-class Discount: for students taking more than one class (see chart above)

Multi-student Discount: 5% discount for multiple students in the same household

Private Lessons: \$50 per 30 minutes of class time (example: a single one-hour class session will cost \$100)

OTHER FEES

Registration Fee: \$40 fee per family due at time of registration

Recital Costume Fee: \$70 per costume, due 11/1; one costume fee per class**

Recital Fee: \$90 fee per family, due 4/1**

**applies only to students and classes that participate in the annual recital

TUITION PAYMENT DUE DATES

There are 9 total tuition payments throughout the fall-spring dance season. Each payment covers exactly 4 weeks of tuition for a total of 36 weeks of class. Full-week closings, like Thanksgiving Break or Spring Break, are prorated, so we do not charge tuition for those weeks. The following table shows which 4 weeks each payment covers.

#	Due Date	4 Weeks of Class Covered
1	August 1	August 14 - September 8
2	September 1	September 11 - October 6
3	October 1	October 9 - November 3
4	November 1	November 6 - December 8 (skips Thanksgiving Break)
-	(December 1)	No tuition payment due (woohoo!)
5	January 2	January 8 - February 2 (skips Christmas Break)
6	February 1	February 5 - March 1
7	March 1	March 4 - April 5 (skips Spring Break)
8	April 2	April 8 - May 3
9	May 1	May 6 - May 31

STUDENT DRESS CODE



Dancewear and shoes are available through Nimbly, our online dancewear storefront. Students are required to have the shoes and tights listed on Nimbly for the annual recital; other retailers and brands are acceptable as long as they closely resemble the ones on Nimbly. Go to www.shopnimbly.com/danceworkswax or scan the QR code to the right to access Nimbly.



2-7 YEARS OLD

SHOES

Dance With Me: Any comfortable shoes (ballet shoes suggested)

Creative Movement: Pink ballet shoes

Ballet: Pink ballet shoes (canvas preferred)

Tap: Black tap shoes with velcro or elastic strap

Acro: Tan jazz shoes

Bitty Bop: Tennis shoes with clean soles (free of dirt/debris)

ATTIRE

Ballet/Tap: solid color leotard, pink or tan footed tights (both pink and tan tights are required for the recital), and optional ballet skirt (any color) over your leotard; no tutus or non-dance skirts allowed

Acro/Bitty Bop: solid color leotard, tan footed tights, and optional leggings or dance shorts over your tights and leotard

Creative Movement: solid color leotard, pink footed tights, optional ballet skirt (any color) over your leotard; no tutus or non-dance skirts allowed

Dance with Me: solid color leotard and footed tights or any comfortable clothing (like leggings/shorts and a t-shirt)

HAIR

Hair must be pulled back out of the student's face in a ponytail or a bun

PLEASE LABEL ALL DANCE ATTIRE AND SHOES WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME.

STUDENT DRESS CODE



LEVEL A-C, LEVEL 1-4

SHOES

Ballet: Pink split-sole ballet shoes (canvas preferred)

Tap: Black lace-up tap shoes

Jazz & Musical Theatre: Tan split-sole jazz shoes

Hip Hop: Tennis shoes with clean soles (free of dirt/debris)

Contemporary: Barefoot

ATTIRE

Level A Ballet/Tap/Jazz Combo: solid color leotard, pink or tan convertible tights (both pink and tan tights are required for the recital), optional ballet skirt in any color (for ballet only), dance shorts (for tap/jazz only), or leggings (for tap/jazz only) over your tights and leotard

Level B & Up Ballet, Pre-pointe, Pointe: pink ballet convertible tights and a black leotard required; optional ballet skirt (any color) over your leotard

Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Musical Theatre: solid color leotard with pink, tan, or black convertible tights; optional dance shorts or leggings over your tights and leotard

Hip Hop: solid color leotard with pink or tan tights; optional shorts, sweatpants, leggings, and/or t-shirt over your leotard and tights (no bare legs)

HAIR

Ballet, Pre-pointe, Pointe: hair must be secured in a ballet-style bun

All Other Classes: hair must be pulled back out of the student's face in a ponytail or a bun

ADULTS

There is no required dress code for adults, but we offer these suggestions:

ATTIRE

Wear comfortable clothing (e.g. workout leggings and a t-shirt or tank top)

SHOES

Ballet: Ballet shoes

Tap: Tap Shoes

Barre: Socks with Grip or Bare Feet

Hip Hop: Tennis shoes with clean soles

LEVELS



Danceworks' levels are designed to ensure that each student can find a class that perfectly fits their needs. Students are placed in particular levels based on both age and experience.

Below is a list of what classes we offer for each level. For students ages 8-18 years old, please consult with us on what level will be the best fit for your child before you enroll.*

2-3 YEARS OLD

Dance With Me

3-4 YEARS OLD

Creative Movement

4-5 YEARS OLD

Creative Movement

5-6 YEARS OLD

Ballet/Tap Combo, Acro/Bitty Bop Combo

6-7 YEARS OLD

Ballet/Tap Combo, Acro/Bitty Bop Combo

LEVELS A, B, C (8-11 YEARS OLD)

Ballet/Tap/Jazz Combo, Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Intro to Contemporary

LEVELS 1, 2, 3, 4 (12-18 YEARS OLD)

Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Pre-Pointe, Pointe, Intro to Ballet

Note: Students in higher levels may take lower level classes for additional technique during the week.

ADULT

Ballet, Barre, Tap, Hip Hop

**Levels are thoughtfully assigned by our teaching faculty with your dancer's very best in mind. Please consult the studio prior to registering if your dancer has not received a level assignment for the year.*

ATTENDANCE

In order to gain full benefit of the class, regular attendance is a must. If a dancer has 6 or more absences from a class, he/she may be ineligible to participate in the end-of-semester performance/recital. This decision will be determined by the Instructor and Studio Director. Being prompt to class is also extremely important. If your dancer is late, he/she may miss the warm up that can help prevent injury. If a student is 15 minutes late or more to class, he/she may be asked to sit and observe class or wait until the next class to enter.

DRESS

Dancers must come to class in the appropriate attire and hairstyle specified in the dress code. He/She may be asked to observe class if they are not adhering to the dress code. Teachers cannot correct students if they cannot see their body alignment or feet, or if the student cannot execute a movement due to inappropriate attire. Repeated dress code violations may result in contacting parents. Note: We are no longer offering shoes to temporarily borrow due to hygiene and logistics reasons.

CELL PHONES & DEVICES

Students are not allowed to check their cell phones or other devices during class unless he/she has been given permission from the instructor to contact a parent/caregiver. A student's cell phone may be placed in "jail" at the front desk and returned to the student after class if policy not followed. If a student's smart watch becomes an obvious distraction for the student, he/she may be asked to remove their watch for the rest of class.

FOOD & DRINKS

Students may not bring any food or drink into the studio rooms except for water. Chewing gum is not permitted during class.

BATHROOM USAGE

Students of all ages should use the restroom prior to class time in order to minimize disruptions during class. **If your child needs assistance undressing/dressing, please remain in the lobby during class so that you may assist your child should they need to use the restroom.** Our staff is permitted to escort children to the restroom and assist them with washing their hands, but they will not accompany a child in the stall. This is for the protection of both students and staff.

BEHAVIOR

Our classes must be a positive learning environment; therefore, if a student does not follow the rules or is disrespectful to the instructor, we reserve the right to remove him/her from class.