

Style Descriptions

We have a broad offering of class options at our studio. I hope you are as excited about the opportunities available as we are. We have listed style descriptions below to help you when deciding which classes will fit your dancer best.

CORE KICK CLASSES: Core Kick classes are the basis of our program. These classes meet 30 to 60 minutes per week. The base of the class is precision kick, which continues to be a very competitive and popular style of dance for high school dance teams throughout the state. Core kick classes for dancers in 4th grade and up will compete during the season.

JAZZ CLASSES: These classes will focus on technique and jazz skills. Dancers will also learn a jazz style routine. Technique, skill progression, flexibility, strength building, and expression will be focus areas of this class. Dancers must also be enrolled in a kick class as a prerequisite for jazz classes. Jazz dance developed alongside jazz music in New Orleans in the early 1900s... Jazz has evolved over time and has many different forms. Jazz uses the base of ballet technique but also doing movements in a more parallel position as opposed to doing everything turned-out like you do in ballet. Jazz classes will compete for dancers 4th grade and older.

LYRICAL CLASSES: Lyrical dance is a style of dance created by merging ballet and jazz. Lyrical dancing is performed to inspire movements that express strong emotions the choreographer feels from the lyrics or feeling in the chosen song. Because lyrical dancing focuses on the expression of strong emotion, the style concentrates more on individual approach and expressiveness than the precision of the dancer's movements. The emergent lyrical style has a relatively recent history and a genesis based on the coming together of ballet with rock/folk/pop/alternative music and a variety of jazz styles and modern dance. Dancer, teacher, and choreographer Suzi Taylor, who holds regular classes at Steps on Broadway in NYC is considered by many to be an early mother of lyrical dance, having emphasized a unique brand of musicality and expressiveness which influenced many future teachers and choreographers. We also sometimes incorporate contemporary music into our lyrical classes. Dancers must also be enrolled in a kick class as a prerequisite for lyrical.

HIP HOP: This is the fun and fast-growing style of dance. It is very popular at our studio and tends to be a "favorite" among our dancers! Hip-hop dance refers to street dance styles primarily performed to hip-hop music or that have evolved as part of hip-hop culture. It includes a wide range of styles primarily breaking, locking, and popping which were created in the 1970s and made popular by dance crews in the United States. Hip Hop classes will compete for dancers 2nd grade and older.

POM CLASSES: This class will focus on basic POM motions and choreography. This would be a great class for dancers looking to build their skills for the High School Dance Team as well as develop strength in POM motions needed for Cheer/Spirit Squads (tumbling will not be taught in this class). The class focuses on sharp arm movements, execution of choreographic visuals and dance team/cheer skills. Dancers will learn fundamentals of Pom positions, performance skills and pushes dancers to expand on their high energy, entertainment skills. Pom classes will compete for 4th grade and older.

Why are Core Kick or Ballet classes a requirement for Jazz & Lyrical Classes? Our Core classes by definition are the fundamentals. It is in the core classes that the students learn the basics that will be required to move further in our other class offerings. Our jazz & lyrical classes are the next step. We expect the dancers who take these classes to already have an understanding of the basics. We do not want these classes to be a repeat of the fundamentals but rather a continuation for dancers who wish to take their dancing to the next level. By making the core classes a requirement, it assures the dancers in these classes are dedicated as they have made a commitment to additional studiotime. This allows the instructors the ability to move along at a more rapid pace, knowing that what they are teaching is being reinforced in classes offered at least one other hour per week. The increase in dance time, allows the dancer to further their flexibility and strength that is necessary to master more difficult skills.