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## 2009-2010 STUDIO HANDBOOK

### *Our School Philosophy*

*At Deas Island Dance we provide students with quality dance training in a professional, nurturing and caring manner. We encourage respect, courtesy, self-esteem, and self-discipline within our dancers. Our classes focus on technical mastery as well as artistic and performance qualities. We strive for a positive environment in which students are part of the studio family. Every dancer will have an enjoyable experience and sense of accomplishment at having done his or her best.*

## School Calendar at a Glance

More dates to follow in monthly newsletters

### **Summer Intensives**

August 24-28 and August 31-September 4

### **Fall Registration**

Thursday August 20 2-6pm

Tuesday September 1 2-6pm

Wednesday September 9 4-8pm

### **Fees Due For Preregistered Families (including all postdated cheques)**

Wednesday September 9

### **First day of Class**

Monday September 14

### **Thanksgiving Monday - Studio Closed**

Monday October 12

### **Last Day for Course Changes**

Saturday October 30

### **Open House for Studio Families**

Late Fall

### **Last Regular Classes before Christmas Break**

Saturday December 19

### **Studio Reopens**

Monday January 4

### **DID Show Theme Announced**

Early January

### **Dance Festivals**

February to May

### **Spring Break**

DID Closes Sunday March 7

DID Reopens Monday March 22

### **Easter Break**

DID Closed April 2-5

### **Costume Balance Due**

Mid April

### **Disneyland Travel Group**

Spring Disney Dates TBA

### **Photo Day/Ticket Sales**

Early May

### **Dress Rehearsal Date**

Saturday May 29 Full Day at Genesis Theatre

### **Year end show at Genesis Theatre**

Wednesday June 2 Evening (to be confirmed)

Friday June 4 Evening confirmed

Saturday June 5 Matinee and Evening confirmed

Sunday June 6 Matinee confirmed

### **Advanced Registration**

Mid-Late June

## DEAS ISLAND DANCE – DANCE DISCIPLINES

**Story Book Ballet** - A creative introduction to the world of dance for preschoolers. Basic steps will be introduced using storyline, song and rhythmic movement. Using seasonal and imaginative themes, story book ballet offers an enjoyable program tailored to suit this age group.

**Ballet - Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D.)** The classical ballet grades, which include free movement work and character dance, are designed to promote proper body alignment and include developmentally appropriate exercises. Ballet technique is the backbone for many other dance forms

**Jazz and Lyrical Jazz** - Jazz and Lyrical classes typically include warm-up, stretch, steps across the floor, jazz technique and choreography to popular music. Jazz class will contain faster, funkier style movement where as lyrical is typically a softer, more flowing style of jazz.

**Hip Hop** - A funky dance class filled with the latest popular moves. Hip hop class challenges both coordination, memory and physical fitness..

**Adult Programs:** Adult programs will take place in 10 week sessions including fall, winter and spring.

**“Let’s Dance”** is a movement class specifically designed to encourage students with developmental needs to believe in their potential and uniqueness through the art of dance.

**Tap** - Flap shuffle ball change... learn to use a new instrument - your feet! Tap is an energetic class and a great dance form for the beginner or the accomplished dancer!

**Move and Groove:** A mix of jazz, hip hop and creative movement for boys and girls aged 4-6.

**Musical Theatre:** Musical Theatre is a form of dance which includes acting, song with jazz based choreography. This class will benefit the students’ expression and performance both in class and on stage.

**Modern/Contemporary** - Modern is a free, expressive style of dance. Modern technique makes use of release of body weight into and out of the floor, flexibility of the limbs and spine, and expression of the joy of movement.

### Helpful Dance Related Websites:

**Deas Island Dance**     [www.deasislanddance.com](http://www.deasislanddance.com)     Studio Website designed by Shannon Ogborn

To catch up on studio news you are able to find information on our website by following these steps:

1- go to [www.deasislanddance.com](http://www.deasislanddance.com)

2- click on **news**

3 - click on **studio blog**

[www.radcanada.org](http://www.radcanada.org)     Royal Academy of Dance Canada information

[www.radacadabra.org](http://www.radacadabra.org)     RAD Children’s Club Website     A website for the younger students!

[www.balletbc.com](http://www.balletbc.com)     Ballet BC

[www.vancouverballetsociety.org](http://www.vancouverballetsociety.org)     Vancouver Ballet Society     Info on ballet master classes/auditions

[www.dancediscount.com](http://www.dancediscount.com)     Limbers Dance Discount     Dance Wear and Accessories

[www.thedanceshop.ca](http://www.thedanceshop.ca)     The Dance Shop     Dance Wear and Accessories

### Dance wear is available at the following locations...

[Buttercups](#) 4877 Delta Street, Ladner (604-946-3997) Consignment Dance Shoes & New Jr. Ballet Wear

[Limbers Dance Discount](#) Kerrisdale (604-264-0009) or Hwy 10 (1-800-665-7709)

[The Dance Shop](#) Broadway near Oak Street, Vancouver (604-733-6116)

## School Highlights

### Year End Performance Tentative Dates:

**Dress Rehearsal May 29**

**Show Dates June 2-6**

Deas Island Dance year end performances are a full production with costumes, scenery, lighting and storyline. The show has become an annual community event and the students eagerly await each January to discover the show's theme.

Studio families receive a full show newsletter which details photo and ticket sales, costume, hair and accessories info, volunteer positions, and rehearsals and show days. Because the show is a full scale production, we ask that each studio family have one member volunteer for one of the shows or rehearsals. Examples of the volunteer positions include painting scenery, childcare, ushering and ticket taking.

We announce the show theme in January and begin choreography for each class in the springtime. As the routines are a team effort it is imperative that students keep an excellent attendance record to participate in the show.

Ballet and Modern costumes are typically made by a school seamstress, and Jazz, Tap and Hip Hop costumes are usually ordered or store bought. Students pay a \$20 per costume deposit on November 1st and then are billed the remainder in the spring.

The show is a great highlight of the year and students, staff and parents all work together to put on a terrific production!

### Festivals and Competitions

Festival/Competition work is optional at the studio. Please consult Miss Lesley to see if your child is ready for festival. Although competition is part of the festivals, the focus is on improvement of the student's technique and stage presence and the opportunity to perform new choreography. The experience of festival instills confidence in both the students' dancing and their personality.

Rehearsals for festivals are additional to regular classes. Festival rehearsals will begin in the summer and local festival performances run from February to May.

Deas Island competes in such festivals as the Surrey Festival of Dance, Peak Invitational, Pac West, Dream Team and Dance Power.

As a variety of dance styles will be explored, festival offers an excellent opportunity for young dancers who wish to expand their performance and choreographic experiences.

Students compete in solo, duo, trio or group categories. Please contact the office if you require a festival entry newsletter.

## Royal Academy of Dance

### Ballet Presentations and Examinations

With over 13,000 members' spread across 79 countries, The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is one of the largest and most influential dance education and training organizations in the world. RAD Membership supports the advancement of dance and includes professional dancers, students, teachers, benefactors and friends. Established in 1920, to improve standards and re-invigorate dance training initially within the UK, the Academy helps and encourages its teachers to perfect their teaching skills and pass on this knowledge to their students. The examination syllabus is taught to more than a quarter of a million students worldwide.

Students who are studying RAD Ballet at Deas Island Dance will be notified if they are ready for entry in to the RAD exams and presentations. The examinations sessions take place either in the fall or spring and students aged 6 and up may be eligible for enrollment.

### RAD Credits towards Graduation

Students may receive arts credits towards their high school diploma if they have successfully completed the following R.A.D. ballet examinations. Once reaching high school, Ballet students should take copies of your exam reports to your school councilor who should ensure your extra credits show on your high school transcript.

URAD 11A (2 CREDITS) = RAD GRD 4 / 5 **OR** GRADE 6

URAD 11B (4 CREDITS) = RAD INTERMEDIATE

URAD 12A (2 CREDITS) = RAD GRADES 7 **AND** 8  
**OR** INTERMEDIATE FOUNDATION

URAD 12B (4 CREDITS)= RAD ADVANCED ONE

See page 74 of the Ministry of Education pdf brochure: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/courseinfo/cid.pdf>

### Performance, Travel, Volunteerism

Past fieldtrips for Deas Island Dance students have included performances and workshops at Disneyland in Anaheim, classes at The Edge Performing Arts in L.A. Senior students also attended the Royal Academy's international ballet competition, the Genee Awards in London, England. Students and parents also enjoy local fieldtrips to professional dance performances at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

Performance opportunities for students have taken place in the form of Coffee Concerts, Charity fundraisers, Festivals and Competitions, Seniors Centres and Christmas performances. Students of Deas Island also have opportunities to volunteer in such positions as propmakers, scenery assistants, classroom student teachers and assistants to junior students on stage at the year end. The mentorship and volunteer aspect that the students bring to the studio make an impact on the climate of the entire school. We appreciate the energy and commitment of all our yearly volunteers many of whom continue to return for the years after graduation.

## Fee Policies -

The rates are divided per discipline 1) Ballet 2) Modern 3) Jazz/Lyrical Jazz 4) Hip Hop 5) Tap  
Please inquire to the office if you need a current schedule for classes.

- \* A **5% discount** is given to students taking more than one dance discipline (ballet, jazz, tap, ...) and a minimum of 3 hours per week.
- \* A **3% family discount** is given to families with 2 or more members enrolled in full year programs (siblings/parents)
- \* A **10% professional discount** is given to students taking seven or more weekly technique classes one hour or more.
- \* A **\$10.00 discount per family** is given if the entire family's fees are paid in full in September.

### **Instalment Plans(three methods are available):**

- (A) Monthly postdated cheques dated 1st of each month(Sept/June are lumped together in September)
- (B) 3 postdated instalments Sept. 1st, Dec. 1st and March 1st
- (C) Full year paid in Sept. 1st

An **administration fee** of \$15.00 per family is required upon registration. This fee is non-refundable.

**Costume Deposit:** Parents are responsible for covering all costume costs for festival and the year end show.  
A deposit of \$20.00 per student/per technique is due at registration (post dated for November 1st).  
The balance of the costume costs will be due in the spring.

**NSF Fee:** A \$25.00 fee will be charged for each NSF cheque.

**Income Tax Receipts:** You will receive a receipt by December 31st which will list your classes for the year and may be used for the Child Fitness Credit. If you require additional copies of your receipt you will be charged a \$15.00 service fee.

**Notice of Cancellation:** Cancellation will not be accepted after November 1st without a doctor's letter.  
One months notice is required if a student withdraws before November 1st. Non- attendance is not considered a withdrawal. The withdrawal date is considered the date when the parent informs the school administrator, Caroline Birch, by phone or in person.

**Method of Payment** We accept postdated cheques or cash payment only. Sorry - we do not accept credit or debit cards.

## Registration Instructions (Please read before coming to registration)

**Postdated Cheques:** If you are paying by postdated cheques use the following dates. To avoid rewriting cheques, please wait for an invoice from the office which will show correct fee amounts including discounts, administration fee and GST.

## See your invoice for cheque amounts

**Monthly Payments :** **Attach total of 10 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice**  
-9 cheques for fees dated Sept. 1st through to May 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

or

**Trimester Payments:** **Attach total of 4 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice**  
-3 cheques for fees date Sept. 1st, Dec. 1st, Mar. 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

or

**Full Payment:** **Attach total of 2 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice**  
-1 for fees dated Sept. 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

### **Pre-registered students – Cheques are due by September 9th**

Pre-registered students do not need to wait in line at registration. Students who pre-registered back in June simply drop off their cheques and signed invoice at registration. **If you are unable to make it in to registration please put invoice and cheques in to the mail.**

- Do you have enough cheques for your desired method of payment?
- Are the dates on your cheques correct? Please check that the year is correct (especially Jan-May)
- Have you attached the signed invoice?

**All class fees, costume deposits and signed invoice must be to the office by the first day of class in order for a student to begin classes. Thank you for making sure your payments are in order.**

# General Studio Information

## **Absenteeism and Punctuality**

- We ask that when students walk in to their class they are on time and ready to go! Warm up is an integral part of class.
- In order for students to achieve consistent improvement, regular attendance is essential. The building of necessary memory and muscle aptitude and strength requires excellent attendance. If students are unable to dance due to illness or injury we encourage students to watch class so they will not fall behind. If a student has to miss a class please phone the office and leave a message.

## **Allergies**

- Some staff and students have strong allergies. Please do not wear strong perfumes or hair sprays to class. Also, Miss Lesley is highly allergic to horse dander. If you have been riding or near horses please make sure you shower and remove all horse clothes before attending the studio. Thank you!

## **Food/Water Bottles**

- Please no food or drink in the studio lobby or classrooms. Students may have snacks in the kitchen area only. Students are encouraged to bring water to class. Family members are asked to refrain from eating and drinking in the lobby - sorry this includes coffee.

## **Student Placement**

- We will do our best at registration to fit students in to the best class for them. Appropriate levels of classes are determined with the student's best interest in mind. Placement will depend on age, ability and experience. All placements are reviewed for appropriateness, and students may be moved, even after the term has commenced.

## **Class Cancellation**

- Every effort is made to hold all classes at their regularly scheduled time. On a few occasions classes may be cancelled for statutory holidays, ballet exams or festival dates. Students are encouraged to attend an appropriate make-up class for a cancelled class.

## **The Change Area/ Lost and Found**

- Students are asked to keep the change area tidy. Please put all bags on the shelves, hang up coats and put shoes under the bench. As food is permitted in the change room, please clean up any food stuffs. A broom is available for crumbs.
- Names should be clearly printed on all dancewear, particularly shoes. Please do not leave valuables in the changeroom. Deas Island Dance is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Lockers are available for a nominal yearly rental – please see the office.

## **Open House**

- Studio family and friends are invited to observe their child's classes during the observation weeks. Specific dates will be announced in newsletters, on the website and posted on the bulletin board.

## **Communication**

- Through out the year students will receive regular emails to keep studio families up to date with festival, exams, show news and general studio details. Information will also be posted on the bulletin board. If you have any questions throughout the year please contact DID's administrator, **Caroline Birch**. As office hours vary throughout the year, the best way to contact Caroline is by leaving a message on the **office phone**. Please do not ask teachers questions between classes as it delays classes.

## **Student Teacher Apprenticeship**

- This program is offered to give students experience teaching younger dancers and we aim to develop leadership qualities as well as technical knowledge. We hope that this opportunity will give students confidence and skills for future goals in dance or any path they choose. The applicant must be twelve years old as of this year and must be enrolled in at least two ballet classes per week.

## **Hair and Jewellery**

- Hair for jazz, hip hop and tap should be up off the neck in a pony tail, bun or braided. Please remove all watches, rings, necklaces etc.
- Hair for ballet and modern class should be done in a classical ballet bun. Students are encouraged to learn to do their own hair and to pay attention to the right technique of doing a proper ballet bun.



- 1) Wet hair thoroughly with spray bottle or light gel. (Please use non perfumed products).
- 2) Comb into a smooth pony using a strong elastic.
- 3) Twist the pony tail into a circle to make a flattish cinnamon bun like shape. Make the bun flatish rather than pokey! If hair is thicker split the pony tail into two pieces and then twist around elastic.
- 4) Place a hair net over the bun to contain the pieces, double or tripling the hair net.
- 5) Sew the bun into place using strong hair pins. There is a technique to sewing the bobby pins in - so ask from a demo from one of the teachers if you are unclear.
- 6) Clip any loose bangs in to place with flat hair clips...and voila!!!
- 7) Spray any wispy hairs flat.
- 8) Scrunchies may be used for Storybook Ballet, Pre Primary and Primary only.

# Deas Island Dance - Dress Code and Shoe Requirements

## **BALLET - GIRLS ATTIRE**

### **Story book ballet, Pre Primary and Primary**

- Short Sleeve Pink Leotard (Mondor Brand)
  - Seamless ballet pink tights and full sole leather ballet slipper
  - Mondor Pink Skirt \*\*If you have an old studio skirt you may wear it for one more year.
- We are gradually changing to the Mondor skirts as our old fabric is not available.

### **R.A.D. Grade One**

- Cranberry Ainsliewear Leotard (available at Limbers by mid September)
- Seamless ballet pink tights, (convertable with hole in bottom)
- Full sole leather ballet slipper
- Character Shoe, Low Heel
- Character Skirt (available late September from the studio - see below)
- Bring a small (approx 7x7 inch) Handkerchief for character each week**

### **R.A.D. Grade Two**

- Cranberry Ainsliewear Leotard (available at Limbers by mid September - students may wear last year's mulberry until they need a new leotard)
- Seamless ballet pink tights, (convertable with hole in bottom)
- Full sole leather ballet slipper
- Character Shoe, Low Heel
- Character Skirt (available late September from the studio - see below)
- Bring a small pillow for character dance each week no bigger than 10'x10'**

### **R.A.D. Grade Three**

- Capezio Red Leotard (from Jolly Holiday). If you need a new one please contact the office for instructions.
- Seamless ballet pink tights (convertable with hole in bottom of foot)
- Full sole leather ballet slipper
- Character Shoe, High Heel
- Character Skirt (available late September from the studio - see below)

### **R.A.D. Four - Five**

- Black Ainsliewear (available at Limbers) -
- Seamless ballet pink tights, (convertable with hole in bottom of foot)
- Full sole leather ballet slipper
- Character Shoe, High Heel
- Character Skirt (available late September from the studio - see below)

### **R.A.D. Intermediate Foundation - Advanced 2**

- Plain Black Leotard - PLAIN STRAPS may be tank or spaghetti strap but please keep it a simple design not a criss cross or extra straps. For exam time you may need an additional leotard.
- Seamless ballet pink tights (convertable with hole in bottom of foot)
- Intermediate Foundation: Full Sole leather Ballet Slippers (Bloch), Pointe Shoes
- Intermediate- Advanced 2: Broken down Pointe shoes, Pointe Shoes

### **R.A.D. Royal Academy of Dance Higher Grades 6-8**

- For class a Black Leotard - PLAIN STRAPS may be tank or spaghetti strap but please keep it a simple design, not a criss cross or extra straps. Please make sure if you are wearing a bra that straps are hidden.
- Seamless ballet pink tights (convertable with hole in bottom of foot)
- Leather full sole or split sole for grade 6-8 (Split sole tends to show the arch of the foot better)
- Character Shoe (High heel)
- Character Skirt (available late September from the studio - see below)

### **\*\* BALLET STUDENTS GRADES 5 AND UPWARDS TAKING 3 OR MORE CLASSES**

For Students taking 3 plus ballet classes a week a second body suit will be needed. Students may wear a leotard color of their choice. This may be the students own color choice. It may be tank or spaghetti strap but please keep it a simple design, **PLAIN STRAPS ONLY**. The teachers will advise when they can wear the 2nd leotard.

**\*\*Grade One upwards ballet girls:** Consider your leotard like a bathing suit. You do not need to wear anything but your tights underneath. If you are wearing a bra make sure that straps are hidden. Bras are meant to be undergarments.

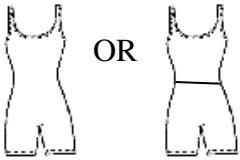
**\*\*CHARACTER SKIRTS:** will be tried on in class in September. If you need a skirt or a new size we will notify you whether we have a preowned skirt for you to purchase or if you will need a new skirt made to measure. Character skirts remain at the studio and once you no longer need the use of one, we will sell the skirt for you. Please note the character skirts are specific to our studio. Please do not buy elsewhere.

For Jazz, Lyrical, Tap and Modern we ask that your garments are plain dancewear without distracting writing or stripes. We often use basic garments such as jazz pants, shorts or unitards as a base for costumes in the year end show so please make sure your garment is classroom and stage worthy.

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## **MUSICAL THEATRE/JAZZ/LYRICAL - (Hair Ballet Bun or Slicked Back Neat Pony Tail)**

### **Junior**



- Either a black bike length unitard (as shown in the drawing to the left)  
**or** plain ballet leotard with plain black bike short (this is preferred if a student has back to back classes so they may just slip on jazz shorts without visiting the changeroom)
- Black Socks and Black Jazz Shoes (Pull on preferred if student is in back to back classes)

### **Teen / Advanced**

- Black Jazz Pant OR Black Jazz Capris - absolutely plain no stripes or writing
- Plain solid color lycra leotard/fitted lycra top -
- Black Leather Jazz Shoe (pull ons preferred)

**NO T SHIRTS, SWEATS OR TANK TOPS - ONLY LYCRA DANCEWEAR**

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## **TAP - (Hair Ballet Bun or Slicked Back Neat Pony Tail)**

### **Junior Tap**

- Either a black bike length unitard **or** black bike shorts and leotard from ballet class (same as Junior Jazz drawing above)
- Black Tap Shoes Black Oxfords (suggested Capezio Maryjane or Bloch Annie's- both come with non slip rubber sole and the taps already on)
- Black Socks

### **Intermediate/ Advanced Tap**

- Black Jazz Pant - absolutely plain no stripes or writing
  - Plain solid color lycra leotard/fitted lycra top
  - Black Oxford Tap shoe (please ask at registration if you are unsure)
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## **HIP HOP - (Hair Slicked Back Neat Pony Tail)**

- Comfortable Athletic Wear (e.g. tear aways and T-shirt) Please no Jeans or Street Clothes.
  - HIP HOP SHOES MUST BE EITHER:
    - White soled, non marking runners dedicated for use only at the studio (outdoor shoes are not permitted)
    - or hip hop runners available from dance stores
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## **MODERN - (Hair Ballet Bun)**

### **Junior Modern**

- Either a black bike length unitard **or** black bike shorts and ballet leotard (same as Junior Jazz drawing above)
- bare feet

### **Intermediate and Senior Modern**

- Either 1) Black Bike Shorts or 2) Black fitted capris 3) Black knee length tights
- Black or solid color leotard
- bare feet

**Please no jazz pants or baggy pants for modern**

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## **Boys Attire - Ballet**

- White fitted short sleeve T -shirt
- White ballet shoes (canvas or leather) and white ankle socks (thin - not thick like sport socks)
- Black Dance Shorts or Black Leggings

## **Boys Attire - Move and Groove, Jazz, Tap**

- White or Black fitted short sleeve T -shirt
- Black Jazz Oxfords
- Black Dance Shorts (or Jazz Pant for boys aged 10 and up)

