

Generation Dance Company

2023-2024

Handbook

Season 13

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God"

- 1 Corinthians 10:31

Generation Dance Company, LLC

Studio Location: 102 North Main Street, Columbiana, OH 44408

Office Location: 4149 Canfield Rd., Canfield, OH 44406

Phone/Text (Text preferred): 330-519-8537 (general), 330-951-3842 (payment)

Email: (best form of communication) generationdance@zoominternet.net . For payment concerns contact J.P. at walkeripone@yahoo.com

Website: GenerationDanceCompany.com

Owners: J.P. & Kimberly Walker

Facebook & Instagram: Generation Dance Company (please “like” for news and updates)

Instructors: Kimberly Walker: 330-519-8537 (generationdance@zoominternet.net), Amy Bordonaro: 330-402-4804 (ptlmycupoverflows@aol.com), Michala Sakotas: msakotas@icloud.com: 330-949-7536, Maya Hoffman: 330-501-2757, Katrina Brothers: katrinabrothers@gmail.com: 330-303-5470, Hannah Desko: hannahdesko@gmail.com: 484-447-9010, Student Teachers: Hannah Cole, Claire Sweeney

Generation Dance Company Overview

Generation Dance Company (GDC) is a Christian Dance School designed to help young dancers develop their dance technique, grow in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and bless others with the gift of dance. GDC is a non-competitive dance studio that functions to bring God glory with our talent and love for the art of dance.

Class Prices

1 Class - \$48 ▪ 2 Classes - \$78 ▪ 3 Classes \$98 ▪ 4 Classes \$118

PRICES ARE BASED PER FAMILY, PER MONTH. CLASSES ARE HELD ONE TIME PER WEEK.

A SECOND/THIRD CHILD = A SECOND/THIRD CLASS

PRICES ARE BASED ON 9 MONTH SEASON TUITION RATE.

FULL TUITION PAID UPFRONT RECEIVES A 5% DISCOUNT:

1 Class: \$410, 2 Classes: \$667, 3 Classes: \$840, 4 Classes: \$1,009

GDC 2023-2024 Season Calendar

July 17, 2023	Registration Begins (Continues until classes are full up to Jan.)
September 18	First Day of Classes
October 31	No Tuesday classes held
November 13-16	Watch Week
November 21	Costume payments DUE
November 22-23	Thanksgiving - No Classes
December 20-Jan 2	Christmas Break - No Classes
January 3, 2024	Classes Resume
January 15	MLK Jr. Day - Classes Held
February 14	Valentine's Day-Classes Held
February 19	Presidents' Day - NO Classes Held
April 1-April 5	Easter/Spring Break - No Classes
May 11?	Possible Picture Day (Saturday)
May 27-30	Memorial Day/Recital Week- No Classes
May 31/June 1	Recital - (Typically the weekend after Memorial Day)

GDC Policies & Procedures

Weekly Email Communication

In order to keep families up to date with information, an email will be sent out weekly with all that is going on at the studio including our weekly verse. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING THE WEEKLY EMAIL, we want to be able to make sure you know all that is going on in the studio! Please be sure to also “Like” our Facebook page for additional information.

Dates, Times, and Holidays

The 2023-2024 dance season will run from September 18, 2023 –May 2024. The year-end recital will include all registered dancers at GDC. Please see our GDC 2023-2024 Season Calendar for our observances of holidays, etc.

Tuition/Fees

- **Registration** – There is a one-time annual non-refundable registration fee of \$30.00 per family for returning students, and \$35.00 per family for new students.
- **Tuition** – First payment is due the first week of class (September 18-September 21, 2023.) Monthly payment is due on or before the first week of each month. Tuition is non prorated based on a 9 month season and will not be reimbursed for days off for holidays. Missed classes cannot be made up, unless it is approved by the instructor. A payment is considered late if it is not received by the 15th of the month. Please let JP Walker know at walkeripone@yahoo.com if there are ANY issues regarding payment. A late fee of \$10 will be charged if payment is not received by the 15th and no contact has been made. Monthly statements will not be emailed unless an account is past due. Cash, Check, and Credit (if requested) is accepted.
- **Costume Fee - \$65** per child/per class/per costume. ***Costume payment is due November 21, 2023 and can be paid ANYTIME prior to November 21, 2023.*** Parents with children in multiple classes, we know this can add up and you are welcome to pay in increments or add on to tuition prior to November 21. There will be very specific rules/guidelines given regarding costumes once they are distributed. Parents who do not adhere to the costume guidelines will be responsible for any additional fees that may be necessary. Costumes will not be passed out unless all outstanding balances are paid.
- **Tights** – Parents are responsible for purchasing the proper style & color tights for the recital.
- **Recital Tickets** – Parents/Families will be responsible for purchasing tickets to see their dancer perform. Tickets run around \$15. **If your child is in an advanced class, enrolled in more than one class, or have multiple children enrolled, there is a possibility your child(ren) will perform in more than one recital show.** Tickets will be available to purchase in the month of May. Please be sure to check your emails for all ticket information at this time.
- **Returned Checks** – All returned checks will incur a \$35 fee.
- **Dancewear/Shoes** – Parents are responsible for providing proper attire & dance shoes for class and recital.
- **Injury/Sickness**– If your child sustains an injury or illness during the dance season and will miss at least a month of class, one month free tuition will be granted. However, any additional time off will need to be paid in full to maintain in good standing.
- **Vacation/Sports/Etc.** – If your child misses a month of class for vacation or sports, tuition must be paid in full to preserve your child's place in class and maintain good standing.

Dress Policy

Dancers are expected to follow the attire requirements for each class. Most of the requirements for clothing and shoes are for the benefit of the dancer to help improve technique, flexibility, etc. However, **at GDC, modesty is a high priority**. We desire our young girls to wear appropriate clothing that would cover them completely (without midriffs exposed) when moving on the floor or upside down. Dancers do not have to wear any "high-end" clothing, however the instructors at GDC believe a dancer should "dress for success" in dance. Dressing properly is a discipline each dancer should develop to improve their ability in dance. Parents of dancers not complying with the dress code on a regular basis will be contacted. ***CLOTHING WITH GLITTER IS NOT PERMITTED IN CLASS***

Recital

There will be a year-end recital, however the date is yet to be determined. We typically try to hold our recital the week after Memorial Day. Dancers are expected to attend the recital. Families will be informed of the show dates ASAP. **WE KINDLY ASK THAT YOU PLAN YOUR VACATION AROUND THE RECITAL DATES.** Please be aware that our recital may have one or two shows. Dancers may be required to attend one show or both.

Class Expectations

All dancers are expected to follow the class routine and structure to the best of their ability. As a practice, we want to honor God by giving Him our best. While having fun will be part of the dancing process, learning technique will require hard work and dedication.

1. Listen and obey the instructor.
2. Try your best.
3. Encourage your fellow dancers.
4. If someone is having trouble, try to help them.
5. Practice love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Discipline

Discipline is an opportunity to teach a child how to make choices that are pleasing to God. However, any repeated behavior that does not comply with the class expectations will be addressed privately with the dancer and parent.

Class Procedures

1. Come dressed for class. Restrooms are available for changing only when necessary.
2. Use restroom before class. *Using the restroom during class is for emergencies only.*
3. Parents may wait in the waiting room or drop off their child and return at the end of class. Please pick up your child from class on time.
4. Please be mindful of the instructor's time. Need to let the instructor know something quick? No problem. Need to discuss something at length? Please call, email, or schedule an appointment.

Studio Rules

- Please keep studio as clean as possible.
- No running throughout the studio.
- NO STREET SHOES inside the dance rooms, with the exception of Watch Week.
- MIRRORS ARE NOT TO BE TOUCHED AT ANY TIME. Mirrors in Room 2 are especially fragile. Please, please, please do not allow your children to touch them.
- No climbing on stacked mats, barres, or other apparatus.

Health

You are the best judge of your child's health and we trust you will not bring a sick child to class. However, if in the opinion your child is sick, we will call you or ask you to come and pick-up your child.

Hair & Lice Policy

It is our greatest desire to keep our studio as clean as possible and to avoid the spread of lice. **ALL DANCER'S HAIR MUST BE PULLED BACK FOR EVERY CLASS**. As the winter months approach, it is the responsibility of the parent to check your child regularly for lice. Dancers should not touch one another's hair or put heads together during class. If a lice case is reported, we will inform the class members of the reported case.

Attendance

It is very important to attend class on a regular basis. Poor attendance not only slows down the progression for your child, but also for the others in your child's class. If your child does have to miss class, please send your child's teacher a quick text/email to let her know. Teachers will be taking attendance at each class.

Inclement Weather Policy

If at any time it is necessary to cancel lessons due to bad weather, there will be a notice posted on our facebook page as well as an email sent out. You may also call 330-519-8537 for an updated voicemail if you do not have access to the web. Notice will be posted by 2:30pm regarding the cancelation of evening classes. If one or two classes are missed due to inclement weather, class will not be made up nor tuition reimbursed. If three or more classes are missed, make-ups will be provided.

Tobacco, Smokeless Tobacco, Vape Free Policy

Tobacco, smokeless tobacco, & vape products are not permitted in our studio, in the parking lot surrounding our studio, or at any event GDC represents. GDC reserves the right to refuse services to any parent or family member who does not comply.

Parent Observation – Watch Week

During Watch Week, parents & family members are invited into the last 10 minutes of class. This is designed for parents to see what your dancer is learning in class. Please check our GDC Season Calendar for specific dates.

Private Lessons & Recital Solos

Private lessons – Available for all styles of dance and open to all enrolled students based on teacher availability. Private lessons are \$75 for 6 half hour lessons or \$100 for 10 half hour lessons. For home schooled children, lessons can possibly be scheduled during the school day.

Recital Solos – Recital solos or duets are also by private lesson and cost \$75 total, plus the amount for the costume. Recital solos for this year will be determined by audition. Auditions will be held in Jan/Feb.

Prayer/Devotion & Offering

At the beginning of class, we will have a short devotion and prayer covering the needs of the group. Each week we will talk about the verse of the week that centers around our yearly theme. There will also be a "GDC Offering" jar located in the classroom each week. If you or your child feels led, have them drop in a few coins/dollars that will add up to buy something for a need within (or beyond) the dance company. It could be for a student in need of help with tuition or for any cause that God leads us to help. It's a way for the dancers to give of themselves to help continue the call of serving others.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS & ATTIRE

"COMPANY"- Company classes are by determined by audition. We strongly recommend that the dancers who are placed in the Senior, Junior, Cadet & Mini Companies register for the styles and classes as determined by audition results. These classes have been placed all on the same day for each age level so that technique can improve in all areas of dance. All dancers in Company classes are required to have regular attendance. Registration for Company classes is only open to those who have auditioned. *ALL COMPANY DANCERS MUST WEAR A LEOTARD TO CLASS*

TUMBLING – A strong focus on strength and skills. Tumbling students will use mats on stage for their recital performance.

Attire – Leotard/Biketard/Unitard is required. Shorts/leggings/tights are to be worn with leotard (not necessary with biketard/unitard). No shoes needed.

TUMBLING 1/2 – (4 yrs & up) Students will learn basic tumbling skills as well as skills that will focus on improving balance, flexibility, and strength. Skills of focus include: Rolls, Cartwheel, Somersault, Forward pike roll, Pre-Roundoff, Gallops, Bridge, Donkey kick, L handstand, Skipping.

TUMBLING 2/3 – Designed for students with one-two years of tumbling experience. Students at this level should be able to demonstrate the skills listed for Tumbling 1/2. Skills of focus for this class include: Pre-Splits 6 inches, Beat handstand, Bridge with kick/jump, Straddle roll, Cartwheel with correct finish, Round Off, Handstand facing the wall for 10 seconds, V-sit for 20 seconds, Plank for 30 seconds, Down the wall backbend, Teddy Bear stand. Students moving on from this level will need to demonstrate cartwheels on both sides and a round off.

TUMBLING 4/5– Designed for students with at least 3-4 years tumbling experience. Students at this level should be able to demonstrate a cartwheel on both sides as well as a round off. Skills of focus include: Pre-Splits 4 inches, Bridge with kicks (right and left), **Backbend without a spot**, Bridge kickover with stacked mat, Dive cartwheel, Handstand to forward roll, One-handed cartwheel, Backward roll, V-sit for 30 seconds, Plank Hold for 40 seconds, Tuck headstand, Bridge with straight arms and legs, Dive roll, Front Limber, Kickover. Students moving on from this level will need to demonstrate a backbend.

TUMBLING 6/7 -Students should be able to demonstrate skills listed from Levels 4/5, particularly the kickover. Skills of focus: Front walkover, Back walkover, Front Handspring, Standing Back Handspring, Side aerial, Splits 2 inches, Push-ups (10), Superman Hold (30 seconds), Wall-Sit (40 seconds), Back Arabian, Dive Front walkover, Valdez, Back roll to Handstand.

MASTER & JUNIOR TUMBLING– Students signing up for this class must have completed at LEAST one year of more of Tumbling or Acro. Designed for students 12 & up with Tumbling experience.

*ADVANCED TUMBLING– Students at this level should be able to perform a back handspring and/or aerial.

ACRO

Acro (Acrobatics) combines tumbling and dance elements and has a strong emphasis on limbering and flexibility. Dancers signing up for Acro need to be aware that mats will NOT be used onstage for their recital performance. Skills of focus will not be limited to what is listed below, however skills will be taught and mastered in a progressive

format to ensure the dancer has the proper strength, flexibility, and balance to move on to the next skill. Dancers are required to take at least one year of Tumbling BEFORE Acro. Students who have not had experience in Tumbling or Acro previously will not be admitted to an acro class. It is also STRONGLY recommended for any acro student to take another form of dance (such as ballet, lyrical, or jazz) in addition to Acro.

Attire – Leotard/Biketard and tights are required. No shoes needed. Students are not permitted to attend acro class without a leotard or biketard.

Intermediate Acro– Students signing up for this class must have completed at LEAST one year of more of Tumbling or Acro. Strongly advised to take with ballet, lyrical, or jazz. Skills of focus include: Half scorpion balance for 10 seconds, Bridge kicks (right and left), Bridge prances, Splits (2 inches), 25 upper body lifts, Handstand balance (5 seconds), Heel stretch hold (5 seconds), One hand cartwheel (right and left), Handstand to chest roll, Elbow stand hold (5 seconds), Straddle press handstand, Arabian, Dive cartwheel, Round off, Jete, Chaine jete, Single pirouette, Front Walkover, Back Walkover. Mats will not be used onstage.

*Advanced Acro – Students in this class should be at least able to demonstrate most skills listed in Junior/Cadet Acro/Tumbling and Tumbling 6/7. Must also show a high level of flexibility and confidence. Students in this class must be able to have good stage presence and the ability to learn very quickly. Bonus skills such as aerials, back handsprings, scorpions, and/or exceptional flexibility may qualify a student in this class. Strongly advised to take with ballet, lyrical, or jazz AND DESIGNED TO TAKE WITH ADVANCED TUMBLING. Regular attendance is required. *Acceptance Required*

BALLET

Attire: All ballet students are required to attend class in a leotard and tights. Hair must be up and secured away from face. Ballet skirts are permitted. Leather ballet shoes, (preferably pink) are required.

Beginner Ballet (4-6yr): Dancers will begin to explore the art of ballet through basic technique and creative movement. Classes are a fun environment designed for the younger dancer. Must be 4 years of age.

Intermediate Ballet (7-11yr): An uplifting approach to teach the student proper technique discipline, strength, flexibility and confidence. Dancers will also be taught proper ballet barre technique. Dancers should be at least 7 years old with prior ballet experience.

Intermediate – Advanced Ballet (9 & up): Students need to have prior dance experience. Technical skills needed to attend the class include splits, pirouettes, piques, jumps and leaps. Proper execution of barre work as well as technical skills will be implemented. Dancers need to have an understanding in the execution and performance of ballet.

Master Ballet/Lyrical (13&up): Building on prior dance experience and designed for dancers 13 & up. Technical skills needed to attend the class include splits, pirouettes, piques, jumps and leaps. Proper execution of barre work as well as technical skills will be implemented. Dancers need to have an understanding in the execution and performance of ballet.

*Senior Company Ballet-Dancers must have 3+ years experience and approved by the teachers by audition. A disciplined focus on core strength and flexibility will be implemented. Technical training for pointe at the barre and floor work will be taught. Pointe shoe approval is required by the teacher. Basic requirements for pointe include but

are not limited to: 1) 13 years of age, 3+ years of ballet experience, and prior demonstration. Acceptance is required.

*Mini, Cadet, Junior, Senior Company Ballet: Audition & acceptance required. A serious and disciplined technical ballet class. Dancers need to be structured in their technical study and execution of barre and floor skills and be able to pick up choreography quickly. Skills studied will include splits, jumps, jete's, battemattes, double pirouettes, double piques and fouettes. Dancers must show performance ability and confidence in front of an audience. Additional fees may be required. Regular attendance is required.

LYRICAL

Attire: All lyrical students are required to attend class in a leotard and tights. Hair must be up and secured away from face. Skirts/shorts are permitted. Half sole or other lyrical shoes required.

Intermediate/Advanced Lyrical: (8-12yrs.). Students must have completed one year of ballet. Students will further study and engage the combination of ballet and jazz technique. A disciplined, technical approach to skills and lyrical interpretation will be implemented. Core strength and overall flexibility will be a strong focus. Splits, extensions, leaps and turns will be included in technique training.

Master Ballet/Lyrical (13&up): For dancers with 3+ years prior lyrical and/or ballet experience. Technical requirements include all technique required for lyrical III including full splits, leaps, double pirouettes and extensions. In addition, a strong understanding of lyrical interpretation is required. A disciplined focus on core strength and flexibility will be implemented.

*Mini, Cadet, Junior, Senior Company Lyrical : Students in this class should be able to show a high level of confidence in technique for each age level. Students must be able to interpret music effectively through movement and stage presence. Dancers may performing at different places around the community. Parents signing their child up for this class need to be aware of possible additional fees. Regular attendance is required. *Acceptance Required*

TAP ***Attire: Leotard with leggings, capris, or shorts. *BLOCH OR CAPEZIO TAP SHOES ARE REQUIRED*.***

Beginner Tap (4-7yr)- Students will learn the basic skills of tap dancing. They will learn how to work with various rhythms as well working together with their classmates. Some areas of focus include: toe taps, flaps, shuffles, brush steps, drawbacks, Cincinnati's.

Intermediate Tap (8&up) – This class is designed for students who have completed at least 2 years of Tap I (unless permitted by teacher) and should be able to successfully complete the tasks of Tap I. Students in this level will work more on their rhythms with one another as well as syncopation. Students will begin to build more on the skills of Beginner Tap and be able to do them at a higher speed. Some areas of focus include: pull backs, pick ups, wings, buffalos, and time steps.

Junior Tap/Hip Hop – This class is open to Junior Company Students as well as those recommended by a GDC Teacher. ****PLEASE NOTE: Two Costume payments will be required for this class****

Master Tap/Hip Hop – For students 14 & up with 4 or more years of Tap and complete successfully the skills for Intermediate Tap. Acceptance required. ****PLEASE NOTE: Two costume payments will be required for this class****

*Senior Company Tap/Hip Hop – For students 14 & up who have completed one year of Master Hip Hop/Tap or selected by audition. **PLEASE NOTE: Two Costume payments will be required for this class.**

HIP-HOP *Attire: Leotard & tights along with jazz pants, capris, or shorts. Jazz shoes or black dance sneakers are required.*

Beginner/Intermediate Hip Hop (4-8yr)- Students will learn the basic skills needed in hip hop dancing as well as learning to find their own style. This class is designed to get the students moving throughout the entire class and to learn basic hip hop movements. Some areas of focus include: splits, straddles, heel stretches, skips while using various rhythms.

Intermediate Hip Hop-Advanced Hip Hop (8&up)– This class is for students who have completed one year of Hip Hop and should be able to complete most of the tasks listed for Beginner Hip Hop. In this class, students will build off what was taught in Beginner Hip Hop as well as learning new various skills. Areas of focus include: toe touches, heel stretches both right and left, planks, leaps, basic break dancing, and isolations.

Junior Hip Hop/Tap – This class is open to Junior Company students as well as those recommended by a GDC teacher. . **PLEASE NOTE: Two costume payments will be required for this class.**

Master Hip Hop/Tap – Acceptance Required. 13 years & up. **PLEASE NOTE: Two costume payments will be required for this class.**

*Senior Company Hip Hop/Tap – For students 14 & up who have completed at least one year of Master Hip Hop/Tap. **PLEASE NOTE: Two costume payments will be required for this class.**

JAZZ *Attire: Leotard & tights along with jazz pants, capris, or shorts. Jazz shoes or half-soles are required.*

Intermediate Jazz– This class is designed for dancers 7 yrs & up with prior experience in ballet, lyrical, and/or hip hop. Students in this class will focus on strength, flexibility, and technique. Areas of focus include: total body movement, isolated movement, and interpretation of music. Skills of focus include jumps, leaps, & turns. Skills of focus include jumps, leaps, and turns

*Mini, Cadet, Junior, Senior Company Jazz– Accepted by audition only. Skills required vary by age group/level. Overall total body movement and ability to interpret music is also required. Dancers may be performing at different places around the community. Parents signing their child up for this class need to be aware of possible additional fees. Regular attendance required. *Acceptance Required*

TINY TOTS

Introducing the world of dance through creative movement, songs, and techniques that will build a foundation for dance training. Must be at least 3 years of age by and potty-trained. Class is 35 minutes in length.

Attire Ballet & Tap: Leotard and tights. Short dance skirt or shorts are permitted. Full tutus are not permitted. Leather ballet shoes & tap shoes: CAPEZIO & BLOCH brands permitted ONLY.

