



2025 – 2026

## **Welcome to Dancin' Plus Studio**

Welcome! We love bringing dance into your life and we appreciate you making Dancin' Plus Studio your dance home. Our studio philosophy is to provide our students with a positive, enthusiastic and creative atmosphere. We are dedicated to teaching our students more than fancy footwork. Our approach has us watching our dancers' efforts in class, their confidence and self-discipline SOAR! That spells success on and off the dance floor.

We are a dance studio run in a professional manner with professional dance studio standards. Our studio handbook helps you become familiar with dance studio guidelines and policies that help to keep us all on our toes. Thank you for taking the time to read everything in this packet. It will help the season run as smoothly as possible.

We will email any important notices or reminders. We will also be utilizing the Remind app. By reading all the information you are sure to stay up to date on studio happenings! Please be sure to keep us updated on your current email so you don't miss a beat!

### **Studio Location – 101 West 1<sup>st</sup> Street Fairmont, MN 56031**

You will find Dancin' Plus on the corner of West 1<sup>st</sup> street and Downtown Plaza. Please use the door facing 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

### **Mailing Address – Dancin' Plus Studio**

310 S Hampton St.

Fairmont, MN 56031

## **Phone – 507 236 1721**

If we are away from the phone, leave your name and number and we will return your call ASAP. Calls received on weekends will be returned the following week.

## **Website – [dancinplus.com](http://dancinplus.com)**

Visit us! It's like having an "all things dance assistant" at your fingertips! Everything you need to know, you can find here!

## **Facebook – Dancin' Plus**

Follow us so you don't miss a beat.

Our social media will share pictures from class and have current information posted! It is not monitored daily, so for quick communication please email the studio or give us a call!

## **Email- [dancinplusstudio@gmail.com](mailto:dancinplusstudio@gmail.com)**

We love hearing from you! This is the quickest form of communication.

## **Payment Details**

Tuition includes classes and costumes for the May dance recital. For your convenience, tuition is payable in six (6) payments. **Payments are due no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month in: September, October, November, December, January and February.** Payment reminders are posted in the studio newsletters. Payment can be made online at [dancinplus.com](http://dancinplus.com), dropped off at class time in the secured mailbox located in the studio lobby or mailed to Dancin' Plus Studio 310 S Hampton St. Fairmont, MN 56031

There is a \$35.00 NSF fee for returned checks.

Payments made after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month will result in a late fee of \$20

Thank you for paying promptly. It is appreciated.

## **When you arrive for class**

We appreciate it when dancers make every effort to arrive at class on time but please do not arrive more than 5 minutes before the start of class so as not to disrupt the class in session.

Unless you are the first class of the day, a class will be in session when you arrive. Please come into the studio quietly. Dancers should put on their ballet slippers unless specified differently.

Use cubbies and coat hooks for dance bags and coats. Please leave street shoes on the floor and not in the cubbies. Thank you!

If your dancer needs a bathroom break, before class is the best time to sneak into the bathroom. This way no class time is missed!

### **How you should arrive to class**

Dancers should be dressed in proper dancewear when they arrive as we do not have changing rooms. Wear cover ups during cooler weather and simply layer dance clothes beneath. No Sweatshirts or heavy coats allowed onto the dance floor. Once we get dancing, we warm up quickly! Hair **MUST** be pulled up and out of dancer's face. Be ready to dance!

### **Dress code policy**

Dancin' Plus follows attire requirements and the dress code must be followed—with the exception of special activities. Dancers need to be uniform and have the proper tools to be successful. Dancers' tools are their clothing, shoes and bodies, if the body is restricted by large, baggy clothing it makes it difficult to be successful.



#### What a dancer should wear:

- Leotard (any color)
- Proper shoes- including the style and color required for class
  - Tights
- Hair pulled back and out of the face
- Skirts, shorts or leggings (optional, most dancers do!)
  - T-shirt or form fitted long sleeves (optional)
  - Form-fitted activity jacket (optional)



#### What is **not** allowed:

- Baggy clothing – it's important for instructors to see the body movements to help dancers improve.
- Sweatshirts or hoodies.
- Pants – when pants are too long, they become a safety concern to our dancers. Baggy pants also don't allow the instructors to see the dancer's legs.
- Jewelry – broken jewelry can become very dangerous to our dancers – especially ones in pointe shoes. Jewelry can also be a distraction in class, even watches

### **Thank you for being respectful!**

The dance studio is a phone free zone. Ringing phones and conversations by waiting students and parents become disruptive for the dancers taking class. Students need to leave their cell phones in their dance bags so they can focus on class. Thank you so much for remembering the studio is a classroom and for being courteous to the instructors and students.

### **Picking up from class**

The area outside the studio is a very busy place.

To keep our dancers and others safe:

Please, be sure to come into the studio to get your young dancers. Our motto is "wait inside for your ride".

Please, take time to legally park during drop off and pick up times. Please do not double park and block in others.

Please, no dropping off or picking up students at the intersection at the stop sign on our corner.

Please, do not stop in the road and have dancers hop out of the car and run through the traffic.

**Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students safe and helping us to try to eliminate the many complaints we receive each year about dance family parking issues.**

### **Class absences**

We do not offer refunds when a student misses class. We do not schedule make up classes when students need to miss class. We understand that a dancer may be sick and occasionally will miss class. We take that into consideration when we set our prices for the season. If you have a sick child, we know you are busy, so we do not require you to call with absences. Please schedule dentist appointments, play dates, etc. for times other than dance class time. Good attendance is important and is a dancer's responsibility!

### **Dance class schedule**

Because classes meet only once a week and we want to fit as many classes into the season as we can, breaks from school are not always breaks in our dance class schedule.

Our dancers come from many different school districts with different schedules, and it would be impossible to take a day off from dance when each school has a day off for MEA, school conferences and other school breaks.

If you follow our class schedule, you are sure not to miss dance class. You will receive a schedule in your enrollment packet. You can also keep an eye on our studio newsletters, website and Facebook page for reminders about our schedule.

### **Winter weather closures**

To keep it simple for you, in the event of snowy weather, dance classes will be canceled if Fairmont Public Schools are canceled for the day or dismissed early. Once a school cancellation is announced, we will post it on our website, Facebook page and send out a remind message. If the weather turns "bad" AFTER dance classes begin for the evening, the studio will remain open for those who can make it. We will ALWAYS post snow day cancellations. Each class has two snow days built into the schedule. For classes with more than two snow days, we will reschedule.

### **Helpful reminders**

- **No food, candy or gum in the studio**
- **Covered water bottles are allowed**
- **Dance bags and dance shoes need to be labeled with dancer's first and last name**
- **Hair must be worn up and pulled away from the face**
- **No jewelry**
- **Only dance shoes on the dance floor**
- **Take a restroom break BEFORE class**
- **Only bring necessities in dance bags**
- **Dancin' Plus is not responsible for misplaced items**

### **A sneak peek**

We do want to encourage you to sneak a peek at your dancer from time to time at the end of class, for just a few minutes. We ask that you do it quietly and without distraction. Please do not stay for the entire class, it shortens your dancer's attention span and is disruptive to other dancers in class. We want your dancers to get the most out of their classes and we know you do too. Please be assured, if your child is having any difficulty in class, we will be sure to let you know.

## **Awards**

We love to honor our dancers! It is customary within dance studios to acknowledge five, ten and fifteen year dancers. These are dancers that have taken classes at Dancin' Plus for that amount of consecutive dance seasons. First year pointe dancers receive a special pin to commemorate beginning this style of dance. In addition, each dancer taking part in the season receives an award to celebrate their year in dance.

## **Cast list T-shirts**

Our dancers always look forward to the dance production cast list T-shirts. The front of the shirt shows our production theme in full color and the back has a cast list of all our performers. They make great souvenirs! We take orders for cast list T-Shirts in November.

## **Zero-tolerance for aggressive behavior**

Dancin' Plus has a zero-tolerance policy for foul language, disrespectful language, yelling and any other aggressive behavior in the studio, dress rehearsal and at dance recital. Aggressive behaviors towards the owners, instructors, volunteers, performance staff, dancers and families are not tolerated. Violating this policy will result in immediate termination of contract, no future enrollment and no refund of classes already taken.

## **Dress rehearsal policy**

Dress rehearsal is on the Friday before the dance recital weekend. It is required to attend! If you are not at dress rehearsal you will not be allowed to perform in the recital. Dress rehearsal is our only opportunity to be on the stage before performing. It's important dancers know their places and get a feel for the spacing. You should arrive to dress rehearsal as if it is a show day. This includes being dressed in costume, having dance shoes, hair pieces, make-up and hair done. This is your chance to make any adjustments needed before the show!

## **Dance Production**

We want our students to have the magical experience of being in the spotlight of a fully costumed, staged production in a real theater. It is their time to shine! Because we know everyone has full, busy schedules, so that you can plan to participate, our production dates are announced well in advance. Participation is optional. If you plan to take part in production weekend, your dancer will need to attend dress rehearsal and dance in their scheduled performances. If you plan to opt out, please let us know as soon as possible. Show choreography involving groups/ formations and partner work is designed for the number of dancers in the group. Each dancer plays an important part in the choreography looking the way it should.

We will order costumes in late November. If you opt out, we can refund your costume costs **ONLY** if costumes have not been ordered.

Parents have the opportunity to get in on the backstage fun as VIVs... **V**ery **I**mportant **V**olunteers. Watch for the sign up sheet in the studio in early April.

Ticket sales help to cover the costs involved with Fairmont Junior Senior High School- Cardinal Center for Performing Arts rental, sound and lights and other recital expenses. We offer a convenient and easy to use online ticket box office that makes purchasing tickets so simple!

The April studio newsletter will “tip toe” you through everything you need to know to have a smooth sailing recital weekend.

### **Thank you**

Thank you for taking the time to familiarize yourself with our studio handbook. As our studio grows so does the amount of administrative duties. Our policies are designed to keep the administrative part of the studio as simple as possible, allowing us to keep costs down for you, while running the studio in the quality manner you deserve. Having dance families that are familiar with our policies keep our studio running smoothly and allows us to spend time doing what we love to do -plan class activities and teach the art of dance!

**We are so excited to begin the 2025- 2026 dance season!**