



# DANCE ACADEMY

## NEU WIXOM DANCE COMPANY INTENSIVE DANCER PROGRAM

### A Guide for Students and Parents

#### About This Handbook

SINCE 2006, our school has been a leader in dance education. We believe that our success comes as a result of providing solid training and quality service, along with an underlying belief in the strength of our organization. We have created this handbook to offer our students and their parents a clear understanding of their commitments and responsibility to the Intensive Dancer Program and the academy.

➤ Dates and/or expenses listed in this handbook are subject to change.

#### **Key contact information for Neu Wixom Dance Academy:**

1561 N. Wixom Rd.

(248) 313-0326

[www.wixomdance.com](http://www.wixomdance.com)

Neu Wixom Dance Academy on Facebook

Owner - Gina Thomson

[gina@wixomdance.com](mailto:gina@wixomdance.com)

Neu Wixom Company Directors/Choreographers- Kelley Young and Amanda Milligan

[kelly@wixomdance.com](mailto:kelly@wixomdance.com) and /or [amandam@wixomdance.com](mailto:amandam@wixomdance.com)

Neu Wixom Company Choreographers- Daena Polk [daena@wixomdance.com](mailto:daena@wixomdance.com), Julie Bielawski

[Julie@wixomdance.com](mailto:Julie@wixomdance.com), and Eliska Mayer [eliska@wixomdance.com](mailto:eliska@wixomdance.com).

#### **Key event dates for Neu Wixom Dance Company:**

Start of classes: Wednesday September 7, 2011

Mandatory Master Jazz/Neu Crew Class: Weekend of October 14-16, \$20 dancer/ per class

Mandatory Master Tap Class: Fall, TBD \$20 dancer

Mandatory Company Rehearsal: Saturday, March 3

Competition #1: “Rainbow Connection” Friday, March 9 through Sunday March 11-  
Waterford Mott High School

Mandatory Company Rehearsal: Saturday, April 14

Competition #2: “Bravo” Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 22- Walled Lake Western  
High School (optional for solos, duos, and group performances-all members of your group must  
agree to participate)

Competition #3: “Energy” Saturday, April 28 and Sunday, April 29- Waterford Mott High  
School

Founder’s Day Performance: Sunday, May 20

Walled Lake Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 28

NWDA Dress Rehearsal: Friday, June 15

NWDA Recital: Saturday, June 16 (Neu Wixom Dance Company members will be performing in  
both shows, matinee and evening)

Additional Summer Performances: TBD (expect 1-4)

### **Neu Wixom Dance Academy Closure Dates:**

Classes begin September 7

No classes (Thanksgiving Break) November 23-26

Classes resume November 28

No classes (Christmas Break) December 23-Jan 1

Classes resume Jan 2

No classes (Mid-Winter Break) Feb 20-25

Classes resume Feb 27

No classes (Spring Break) April 2-7

Classes resume April 9

No class (Memorial Day) May 28 (all Company members are required to be in the Parade)

Last day of classes June 12

## **FOR OUR DANCERS**

Congratulations! You have been accepted into the Neu Wixom Dance Company Intensive  
Dancer Program. The first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to  
your classes, rehearsals, and performances. Strong technique is a key ingredient and class is  
where you develop that technique. Come to each class prepared to learn and without personal  
distractions. Class time is your chance to focus on yourself, so try to leave your concerns or  
worries at the studio door. True progress is made when you look at each class, rehearsal, or

performance as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your technique, and make the most of every class.

The Intensive Dancer program is a privilege that dancers and their parents must appreciate and respect. Participation in the program is restricted to dancers who are ready to make achieving their personal best a priority. There will be times when classes, rehearsals, or performances will be scheduled when your non-dance friends or family may be headed to the mall or the movies.

We encourage dancers to be as dedicated to their academic studies as they are to their dance training. If your participation in this program affects your grades or the expectations and goals set by your parents, we cannot allow you to continue in the program.

Reasons why this program might not be a good fit for you:

- You're involved in extracurricular activities that could interfere with your class, rehearsal, or performance commitments.
- You're doing it because you want to keep up with your friends, but you are not passionate about dance or the commitment.
- You're doing it because your parent(s) want you to.
- You're primarily focused on winning awards.
- You're not fully committed to attending all classes and rehearsals.

## **Program Benefits**

Only a small percentage of the dancers in our Intensive Program will move on to professional dance careers; therefore, the program focuses on educating young people to strive for their personal best in anything they want to accomplish. We achieve our goals for the program by offering young people the chance to:

- gain a sense of balance in life by managing their commitments to both dance and academics;
- participate in a physical activity that enhances understanding of the value of a healthy body;
- develop a sense of confidence when speaking or making a presentation in a public setting, which is also a great benefit in college or job interviews;
- work with mentors who are focused on the students' success inside and outside of the classroom;
- enjoy friendships that could last a lifetime and a sense of belonging to an extended family of fellow dancers, teachers, and parents;
- discover the results of hard work and determination; and
- develop a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts.

In addition, making a commitment to the policies set forth in this handbook teaches our young people that there are boundaries that must be respected in order to succeed in the program.

## **FOR THE PARENTS: “WE’RE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

We believe that children’s success depends on the support of their parents or guardians. Because your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference, we encourage you to be a part of your child’s dance education.

Our programs rely on a positive atmosphere and educational experience for our instructors and students and their parents. Cooperation between all parents is expected. Showing respect—for other parents, the students, and the instructors—makes an important impression on the children. You are a role model for your child about how to interact with others in a professional setting.

Your child’s presence at all classes is imperative. The spirit of teamwork and the lesson of dedication are a big part of our studio’s educational process.

Parents and teachers may look at a child’s learning from different perspectives. However, we believe they share a common goal: to ensure that every child receives the best possible training, both physically and mentally. Mutual respect among our teachers and our students’ parents provides the children with the ultimate care and education.

### **Understanding Dance Education**

As a parent, you play an important role in supporting your child financially, but your emotional support is of equal—and perhaps even greater—value. Encourage your child to be the best that he or she can be regardless of what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form and children need to be allowed to achieve at a pace that’s comfortable. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the exact same training. It’s important to encourage children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments.

Dance education encompasses far more than technique and the steps your children learn. We believe the discipline of dance training gives young people a better understanding of commitment through learning, experiencing the spirit of teamwork, and discovering what they can accomplish through hard work. Our goal is to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of our students, teaching them the skills needed for a successful life, whether or not they stay involved in dance.

➤ You play an important role in supporting your child financially, but your emotional support is of equal—and perhaps even greater—value.

## **Dos and Don'ts**

Some parents may compare their child's progress or class placement to another child's. Watch for this behavior in your children as well and encourage them to focus instead on their own accomplishments.

Looking to other students for inspiration is good; however, making negative comparisons distracts children from focusing on becoming stronger dancers. In addition, speaking negatively about your child's teachers, fellow students, or other parents in front of your child—or other students—could result in problems far beyond your original concerns. Often children will imitate a parent's behavior with other adults or authority figures.

Children learn important lessons from their teachers and parents, acquiring behavior patterns through their example. Our studio's instructors take that responsibility seriously. It's our philosophy to encourage our students to feel, think, and act respectfully toward their peers, the adults in their lives, and themselves.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's dance education (such as progress or class placement), please discuss them with your child's teacher or the director. Talking only to other parents can lead to misinformation and confusion. Please contact the front desk or email the teacher directly to set up an appointment.

If you do request a conference, please listen carefully to what your child's teachers have to say. They spend a significant amount of time with your child and offer expertise in the field of dance education.

## **Class or Choreography Placement**

The studio instructors meet regularly to discuss the students' progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every child.

Placement decisions are derived from many years of teaching experience. Often a child is placed in a particular group or class where he or she will feel confident, in order to promote the development of self-esteem. Some dancers who are placed in a higher level become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with dancers who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex.

The owner, directors and/or instructors are available to discuss class and choreography placement with parents and dancers. Please feel free to request an appointment with the office and a meeting will be scheduled. It is our policy to meet with each student and his or her parents at the same time unless otherwise specified.

We ask that parents refrain from discussing class placement issues with other parents or questioning the instructors between classes.

➤ Class placement of students is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex.

## **Classes**

All dancers are expected to attend their regularly scheduled classes in addition to all rehearsals and performances. No more than four class days per season may be missed (2 personal, 2 sick days). Any team member with poor attendance will be dismissed from the program.

Dancers will receive a class schedule in September. The program may include ballet, tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop and breakdance; some are recital classes, some are technique. Team members may also be expected to participate in additional classes, including master classes. There will be an additional nominal charge for some master classes.

All dancers must show respect for their teachers at all times. Inappropriate behavior could result in dismissal from the program.

## **Rehearsals**

All rehearsals are dedicated to choreography or “cleaning” the choreography. A dancer who misses a rehearsal holds back the progress of the entire group. Repeating the choreography from a previous session for those who were absent takes up valuable rehearsal time, which could result in a performance that is not up to par. When we clean choreography, we may also change it. Dancers who miss a cleaning session may not be properly prepared for an upcoming performance and could end up disappointing themselves, their team, or the academy.

An important lesson taught through our Intensive Dancer Program is the value of teamwork. Dancers who miss a rehearsal because of a non-emergency circumstance are letting their fellow dancers and teachers down in many ways. We expect parents to nurture the values that dance education teaches; therefore, you should never encourage your child to let the group down.

If parents have a conflict that prevents them from taking their children to a scheduled rehearsal, we will be more than happy to arrange transportation with other parents from the same group. Our goal is to help all children make their commitments.

➤ Dancers: True progress is made when you look at each class, rehearsal, or performance as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do.

## Rehearsal Schedules and Information

Rehearsals are an important part of the commitment to the Intensive Program. All dancers are expected to work hard and arrive early enough to warm up.

GROUP	MANDATORY REHEARSAL #1	MANDATORY REHEARSAL #2
Petite Jazz	Saturday, March 3	Saturday, April 14
Intermediate Jazz	Saturday, March 3	Saturday, April 14
Junior Jazz	Saturday, March 3	Saturday, April 14
Junior Tap	Saturday, March 3	Saturday, April 14
Senior Traditional	Saturday, March 3	Saturday, April 14
Neu Crew	Saturday, March 3	Saturday, April 14

Additional rehearsals may be scheduled at the discretion of the teacher/choreographer. All dancers are required to participate.

Intensive Program dancers may not miss any rehearsal during the season. A season starts in September and ends after Recital in June. There will be no exceptions to this rule. Dancers who need to be excused are required to notify the studio 24 hours before the scheduled rehearsal. Any dancer excused from a rehearsal is responsible for learning any missed choreography before arriving for the next class/performance.

All Intensive Program dancers must attend rehearsals in proper dance attire and appropriate shoes. Proper dance attire for the girls includes: black leotards, specified tights, and tight fitting, solid black shorts. Female team members are also required to wear their hair pulled back or in a bun for all ballet classes and a ponytail for all other classes/rehearsals.

➤ **We expect all dancers to be on their best behavior during rehearsals and work as team players at all times.**

## Respect

Respect for the studio and its teachers/choreographers is essential.

The teachers/choreographers selected to work with our Intensive Program dancers are among the finest and most experienced available. They are selected because of their professionalism and knowledge of what is technically and emotionally right for the dancers.

Guidelines for behavior:

- Leave any personal negativity at the door when entering the studio.
- Arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of every class or rehearsal.
- Proper dancewear and shoes are a must in every class and rehearsal.

- Choreography must never be questioned. Neu Wixom Dance Academy prides itself on being age appropriate in our choreography, music choice, and costume selection. Everything must be approved through the studio owner.
- Please do not approach teachers/choreographers about issues in between classes. Contact with teachers/choreographers can be made through the provided e-mails.
- Finish every class or choreography session with a thank-you to the teacher or choreographer.
- When wearing your Company jacket or other apparel to non-dance events, be sure that the activities and your behavior reflect positively on you and the studio.

### **Appreciate the Critique**

Listen to each correction given, whether it's directed to you or another dancer. A correction is an honor; it shows you how much a teacher cares about your progress as a dancer. Always say thank you when a teacher or choreographer offers you constructive criticism. Nothing can stop those students who apply themselves in every class and appreciate their teachers' knowledge and experience.

## **FOR DANCERS AND PARENTS**

### **Image**

The children and parents involved in the Intensive Dancer program participate in many outside activities, all of which reflect Neu Wixom Dance Academy's philosophy.

Please keep the following in mind:

- We never speak negatively about teachers, dancers, or parents from other schools.
- We never create conflict with the directors or judges of events in which we participate.
- The studio owner and company directors handle all communication with the directors of our outside activities.
- No parent or dancer may call or question the directors of any event. If you have a concern, please contact Miss Kelley or Miss Amanda.
- Dancers and parents should be properly dressed for all events. Do not arrive at or leave any event in your dancewear; always wear a cover-up.
- Go out there and show the audience how much you love to dance!

## Dress Code Requirements

**\*Hair needs to be pulled up for ALL of the classes listed below.**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
Ballet	Black sweatpants (or tights for ages 10 and up), white T-shirt, black ballet shoes.	Solid Light Pink leotard (Level I), Solid Light Blue leotard (Level II), Solid Black leotard (Level III), Any Solid color/style leotard (Level IV), pink tights, pink ballet shoes. (Pink pointe shoes may be required.)
Jazz	Black sweatpants or tights, white T-shirt, black jazz shoes.	Solid Black leotard, dark tan or caramel tights, solid black jazz shorts or capris, tan jazz shoes.
Tap	Black sweatpants, white T-shirt, black tap shoes.	Solid Black leotard, black, dark tan or caramel tights, Solid black jazz shorts, capris, or jazz pants, black tap shoes.
Hip-hop	Comfortable shorts/capris/jazz pants, tight fitting t-shirt or tank top.	Comfortable shorts/capris/jazz pants, tight fitting t-shirt or tank top.
Breakdance	Sweats (no shorts), T-shirts (no tank tops) must be fitted or tucked in, wrist sweatbands, head spin hat, bandana. NO street shoes!	Sweats or yoga pants (no shorts), T-shirts (no tank tops) must be fitted or tucked in, wrist sweatbands, head spin hat, bandana. NO street shoes!
Lyrical	Black sweatpants or tights, white T-shirt.	Solid Black leotard, dark tan or caramel tights (footless), black skirt or jazz shorts.
Modern	Black sweatpants or tights, white T-shirt.	Solid Black leotard, dark tan or caramel tights (footless), jazz shorts.

## Additional Shoe Requirements

All Intensive Dancer program participants must have the following shoes:

- Bloch pink ballet shoe #205 for preschool through Level III
- Bloch Canvas pink ballet shoe (fitted to foot) Level IV
- Bloch tan jazz boot #499 for class
- Bloch (color to be specified before competition) jazz boot #495
- Bloch black tie tap shoe #388
- Capezio “Rock It” black hip hop shoe #DS-24
- Breakdance- Gym shoes that will not leave marks on the floor (no street shoes, dance shoes are not good for breakdancing.)
- Lyrical- Foot thong Bloch 675 (color-base)
- Modern- bare feet

Additional shoe styles may be required; please check with the front desk.

➤ Intensive program dancers are required to wear appropriate shoes for all classes and rehearsals. Make sure shoes are clean and polished for each performance.

## Tuition and Other Expenses

Part of the commitment to the Intensive Dancer program is being current with all accounts related to participation.

In an effort to offer all young people the opportunity to experience the Intensive Dancer program, we offer a large tuition discount.

Full monthly tuition is due by 1st of each month. We will accept cash, checks, or credit card payments for tuition. Please write your child’s name in the memo portion of the check. If you pay with cash, please ask for a receipt.

Please note: tuition is based on the season regardless of how many weeks are in a given month. Tuition payments average out to ten monthly payments. Tuition includes all regular classes, choreography, and rehearsals.

<b>Level</b>	<b>Tuition</b> (due the 1st of each month)
Petite Jazz	\$110/month
Intermediate Jazz	\$120/month
Junior Tap	\$120/month
Neu Crew	\$120/month
Junior Jazz	\$165/month
Senior Traditional	\$220/month

Based on teacher recommendations, Intensive program dancers will have the opportunity to participate in additional choreography that could include the following.

Solos	\$35 half hour
Duo	\$20 per dancer, half hour
Trio	\$15 per dancer, half hour

Dancers who participate in extra choreography may need to attend rehearsals on additional days not included in their normal program schedule. We do our best to work with the dancers and their parents when scheduling extra choreography sessions.

All extra choreography will be performed in competitions.

Depending on the performance venue, length of time allotted, or theme of non-competitive performances, we cannot guarantee that all extra choreography will be presented in public performances.

### **Entry Fees for 2011/2012 Competitions**

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Solo</b>	<b>Duo</b>	<b>Small Group</b>	<b>Large Group</b>
Rainbow Connection	\$90	\$60 (\$120 total)	\$38	\$38
Bravo	\$89	\$49.50 (\$99 total)	\$36	\$36
Energy	\$85	\$47 (\$94 total)	\$34	\$32

➤ **Entry fees are due to the front desk by no later than the first week in January.**

### **Costumes**

Costume payments are the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Intensive dancers may compete in ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop/breakdance, and/or modern; Costumes are required for all recital and choreography classes. The typical cost of a costume is around \$75 (including performance tights). However, with competition costumes there may be extra costs involved for rhinestoning, etc.

A deposit of \$50 per costume will be due by November 2011 ; costume balances due are charged by March/April. If you prefer a weekly or an annual payment plan, please check with the front desk.

We will accept cash, checks, or credit card (Visa or Mastercard only) for costume deposits by November and costume balances by March/April. Please write your child's name in the memo portion of the check. If you pay with cash, please ask for a receipt.

## **Additional Admission Charges**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Admission</b>	<b>Detail</b>
12/10/11 Nutcracker Performance (optional)	\$15 ticket	No admission without a ticket
6/16/12 NWDA Recital	\$12 pre-pay/ticket \$15 @ door/ticket	No admission without a ticket

## **Summer Program**

The Summer Intensive Program is a mandatory activity for all Intensive dancers. Neu Wixom dance Academy instructors, along with Master and Guest teachers, will offer 6 week session classes throughout July and August. Classes will take place at the studio.

\*Class days and times to be determined

## **The Competition Experience**

For dedicated dancers, the satisfaction of an excellent performance is all the motivation they need to work harder to continue improving. Don't judge how you feel about your performance by the size of the trophy or the color of the medal.

## **The Focus Is Not Simply on Competition**

It is our goal to instill in our students a passion for performing rather than merely the desire to win awards. Toward that end, Intensive dancers have performance opportunities other than competitions. They perform at community events and take part in other performance opportunities. We believe the lessons learned through community performances are as valuable as the competition experience.

Our solid reputation for quality reflects our attitude toward competition and our goal to develop in each student a genuine respect for dance as an art form. We consider students' participation in competitions not merely part of their dance training; it's also an important part of how we influence their growth as people. With the right focus, the experience gained in competition can be an excellent source of self-confidence. If the dancers feel good about a performance and understand that they become better each time they go onstage, they are truly growing through the competition experience. Hitting that stage and doing the best they can is what it's all about; whether they win—or which award they win—is secondary.

Through participation in competitions, we hope to instill in our students an appreciation for other dancers and studios. We are not out to beat anyone; instead, we hope to motivate both students and instructors by exposing them to the highest caliber of talent available. Only then can we produce the best dancers and teachers possible. For us, competition is an education!

➤ We believe the lessons learned through community performances are just as valuable as the competition experience.

## **General Performance and Competition Policies**

Performances and competitions are your opportunity to show the world the results of your dedication and hard work. Here's what you can do to make the most of this opportunity.

- Arrive at competitions at least two hours before the scheduled time unless otherwise advised by your teachers. For other performances, times will be announced.
- Be sure you are properly warmed up to prevent injury.
- Present yourself in a professional manner, with costumes pressed, shoes cleaned, and all accessories accounted for.
- Treat competitors and teachers from other studios with respect.
- Treat the directors and staff of the competition with respect.
- Keep your area of the dressing rooms clean and never bring food or drink where it is prohibited.
- Wear your Company warm ups to all competition events and during the award presentations.

## **Competition Scheduling**

When planning a competition weekend, be prepared for performances on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Once a schedule is prepared you may find that you do not have to attend the entire weekend, but you must be prepared to do so. There are no exceptions.

Approximately two weeks prior to the event, the competition company will supply our academy with an itinerary. Schedules will be emailed to all dancers and their parents as soon as they are received.

We pride ourselves on being an organized, professional academy and we do not request changes to the dance competition schedule (except in the case of emergencies).

## **Competition Critiques**

At many of the competition events, the studios receive performance critiques from the judges. These critiques are the property of the studio and will be played for the dancers during rehearsal or class time. Solos/duos will hear their critiques during their rehearsal sessions.

## **Award Presentations**

When presented with an award, always show professionalism by thanking the person who presents you with the award. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated.

## **Audience Etiquette**

Enthusiastic applause is encouraged; however, it is never appropriate to scream or yell out names at a competition event or in any other performance venue.

When in an auditorium, remain seated whenever dancers are performing onstage.

## **Independent Entries**

No dancer may compete in any competition as an independent entry without the permission of the studio owner.

## **Policy on Solos**

It has always been our philosophy to instill a spirit of teamwork among the dancers in the program. A competitive atmosphere is counterproductive to what we want to accomplish in our classrooms or among the dancers.

Together . . .

- we are stronger;
- we learn from each other;
- we share our successes.

Dancing a solo can be wonderful and motivational experience, but it can also be devastating. We have seen dancers who lack confidence attempt their first solo only to end up running offstage. Instead of exhilaration and pride, they experience humiliation and embarrassment. In some cases, these disappointed dancers question whether they want to continue to dance. Is it worth risking all that for a solo?

Solos are limited to dancers who are technically ready and who possess the drive to put in the extra time needed to perfect their performance. Most soloists will be recommended or asked to audition by the Neu Wixom teachers.

## **Know When You're Ready**

Take a close, honest look at yourself and your dancing. You're ready to perform a solo when:

- you have made a serious commitment to yourself and to dance;
- you're willing to work on your own to spend extra time on your solo;
- you are willing to take your solo apart count by count and make sure you know what needs to happen technically (where your arms are on every count, what the best lines are, and so on);
- you are willing to rehearse your solo full-out all the time in order to build stamina;
- you are technically ready;
- you realize that your obligation to your fellow dancers is priority; and
- you are aware that solo rehearsal time will never interfere with group rehearsals, classes, or performances.

You're not ready to solo when:

- you want to do a solo because your friend is doing one;
- you want to do a solo because your parents want you to do it; or
- you do not have the time to make the commitment.

## **Music for Solos**

Put that CD down! You are not going to use the most popular song of the year for your solo, no matter how much you love it and are dying to dance to it! Everyone will be using that song, and you don't want to be the ninth dancer performing to it.

You will work with your teacher/choreographer to determine the right music for your performance. Together you will look for something different that is not often performed at a competition and that suits your personality.

## **Costume Common Sense**

- ✓ Always have a second pair of tights available.
- ✓ Place costumes in a garment bag for travel.
- ✓ Carry hats in a hatbox or container to prevent them from damage.
- ✓ Hang and press costumes before each performance.
- ✓ Place your name in all costumes and shoes.
- ✓ Remove all costumes from their garment bags immediately following the competition to be sure that they are not wrinkled for the next event.
- ✓ Check seams, trim, headpieces, etc. for repairs that must be made prior to the next competition.

## **POLICIES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

## General Policies

- Parents and students should never interrupt a class in session.
- Only water is allowed in the studios. No food, drinks (other than water), or gum.
- No cell phones or computers may be used during class time. (This means no emailing, Internet use, or text messaging.)
- Watch what you say in the lobby area, a space intended for the comfort of our students' parents and families. At no time should anyone utilize this area to commiserate or gossip with others about their dissatisfaction with the studio, its staff or choreographers, or other students and their families. **Gossiping, at any level, will not be tolerated.**
- Never speak negatively about teachers, students, or parents from other studios.
- All students must show respect for their teachers at all times. Inappropriate behavior could result in dismissal from the studio.

## Termination of Enrollment

In certain circumstances, when it is in the best interest of one or more students, it may be necessary for the studio owner or director to terminate a student's enrollment. Every effort will be made to correct a problematic situation before terminating enrollment. Reasons for termination of enrollment include the following:

- Disruptive or dangerous behavior by students or their parents
- Abuse of other children, staff, or property
- Inability of Neu Wixom Dance Academy to meet the child's needs
- Excessive absences/tardies
- Outstanding bills or balance

If an Intensive dancer is dismissed or leaves the program, an understudy will replace him or her. The student leaving the team is expected to turn in all costumes to the front desk; they will be returned to the student after the last performance of the season.

## Class Visitors

Safety issues and legal responsibilities make it impossible for us to allow students to bring visitors into the classroom. Students should not invite siblings, other relatives, or friends to their classes with the exception of special events such as "Bring a Friend Week" and in-school performances.

## Staying Informed

We work hard to make the dance experience organized and fun. Keeping you informed is one of our primary goals. Please read all e-mails and other studio information.

Newsletters and important updates are emailed to you and posted on the Neu Wixom Dance Academy website and Facebook page.

If you have any questions regarding the information distributed, we encourage you to contact the office at (248) 313-0326 between the hours of 1:00-7:00 Mon-Thurs, 4:30-7:00 Fridays, and 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturdays.

We answer email on a daily basis, except on weekends. Feel free to email questions to the office at [gina@wixomdance.com](mailto:gina@wixomdance.com)

### **Website ([www.wixomdance.com](http://www.wixomdance.com))**

We are constantly updating our website. News, important parent and student information, contact information, and more are available online 24 hours a day.

### **Facebook Page (Neu Wixom Dance Academy)**

“Like” the Neu Wixom Dance Academy page on Facebook to receive updates on academy events. Please invite your family and friends to “like” the academy.

Please do not post questions on the academy’s Facebook page. Instead, please email them directly to [kelley@wixomdance.com](mailto:kelley@wixomdance.com) or [amandam@wixomdance.com](mailto:amandam@wixomdance.com) .

## **A Final Note**

WELCOME TO THE NEU WIXOM DANCE COMPANY INTENSIVE DANCER  
PROGRAM!

We look forward to an exciting, rewarding season!