

2023-2024



# STATESVILLE DANCE HANDBOOK

531 N GREENBRIAR ROAD,

STATESVILLE, NC 28625

(704) 380-3012

[INFO@STATESVILLEDANCE.COM](mailto:INFO@STATESVILLEDANCE.COM)

[STATESVILLEDANCE.COM](http://STATESVILLEDANCE.COM)

# WELCOME



Greetings! We are excited that you have chosen to be part of the exciting Statesville Dance and Performing Arts family!

Whether your passion is ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical or hip hop dancing, you will find a class that exceeds your expectations. We have instruction for all ages and skill levels beginning at 2 years old through adult. We also offer competitive dance training for students ready to take their skills to the next level.

We take pride in providing a nurturing atmosphere to enable students to reach their fullest potential and build self-esteem while experiencing the true joy of dance. We believe that in building self-esteem we can help build strong, confident people who will excel in everyday life. Our hope is to provide an opportunity for creativity, exploration, personal expression and growth while maintaining a positive environment.

We hope this handbook answers any questions you may have about the upcoming season. We look forward to having you as a part of our Statesville Dance family!

LAURA HANSON  
**Studio Director**

## CONTENTS

- 1 Staff**
- 2 About Us**
- 3 Classes**
- 4 Preschool Parents**
- 5 Calendar**
- 6 Fee Structure**
- 7 Uniform**
- 8 Recital Fees**
- 9 Terms and Conditions**
- 10 Photography & Video Release**

# STAFF



## **LAURA HANSON**

BA (HONS) DEGREE IN DANCE AND ARTS MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL DANCE DIPLOMA IN CLASSICAL BALLET AND CONTEMPORARY  
TRAINED AT ROYAL BALLET & ELMHURST SCHOOL FOR DANCE IN LONDON, UK  
ACROBATIC ARTS® CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR  
EXTENSIVE DANCE CAREER IN PRODUCTIONS WORLDWIDE  
12 YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **DANCE INSTRUCTOR**

AMANDA WIKE

BA IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

AFAA CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER

ACROBATIC ARTS® CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR

11 YEARS DANCE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **DANCE INSTRUCTOR**

ALLY CAPEHART

ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN BUSINESS

COMPETITIVE DANCER FOR 8 YEARS

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# STAFF



**STUDIO ASSISTANT**

CHARLIE DREW ROBINSON  
BS IN PUBLIC HEALTH  
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
COMPETITIVE DANCER FOR 13 YEARS

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**STUDIO ASSISTANT**

ABBY FREELAND  
MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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**DRAMA INSTRUCTOR**

KIMBERLY HICKS  
BA IN THEATER ARTS K-12  
10 YEARS IN TEACHING AT  
NORTHVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

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**PIANO INSTRUCTOR**

ANNA GARRELTS  
MASTERS DEGREE IN MUSIC  
EDUCATION  
PERFORMED WITH ARMENIAN  
BAND  
25 YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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# ABOUT US

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We began as a dance program at the YMCA. Laura Hanson and Amanda Wike opened the studio for summer dance camps in June 2020 and Statesville Dance was born!



Statesville Dance welcomed Ms. Ally Capehart as an instructor in 2021. The studio continues to grow and was recently voted Best Dance Studio in Iredell County.



We take pride in being a part of our local community and perform at many events such as Pumpkin Festival, Balloon Festival and the Statesville Christmas Parade.

Being a performing arts studio, we offer piano, singing and drama lessons as well as dance. We also host Birthday parties and special events such as Parents Night Out and a Car Show.



We strive to have excellent communication with our dance families and build a friendly, positive environment in and around the dance studio.

# CLASSES

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## Class Placement

Through years of training and teaching, we have learned that class placement has many facets. As a result, our studio faculty meets regularly to discuss students' progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every child.

We consider placing a child in a particular group or class where he or she will feel confident, in order to promote the development of self-esteem. Some students who are placed in higher levels become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with students who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex. We want our students to succeed in dance and life!

**RISING STARS PROGRAM -- All classes perform in year end recital.**

## **Twinkle Toes (Ages 2.5-3)**

Designed for our very young dancers, our Creative Movement Dance class is a great introduction into movement and music. For many students, this is the first time being away from Mom and Dad and this 30 minute class is a great way to start. Dancers explore stretches, sound, rhythms and locomotor movement as well as other life skills such as listening, taking turns and following directions.



# CLASSES

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**RISING STARS PROGRAM -- All classes perform in year end recital.**

## **Rising Stars 3, 4 & 5**

Combining Ballet, Jazz, Tap and Creative Movement, this one-hour class develops your child's coordination as well as helps them gain an understanding of basic dance concepts and terminology. This broad introduction into dance creates much excitement and prepares them for many future dance genres.

## **Hippity Hip Hop (Ages 5-7)**

This high-energy hip-hop class incorporates a variety of old and new urban dance styles. The dancing represents body movements that go with the beat and rhythm of hip-hop music. Hip hop dancing is very dynamic and helps dancers improve their flexibility, develop body balance, and coordination.

## **Preschool Acrobatic Arts (Ages 4-7)**

The AcroDance Preschool Program is designed to introduce physical literacy, coordination, creative movement and basic acrobatic skills to students aged three to five years. This program includes lesson plans, music, and teaching props to take this early childhood dance program to a new level!



# CLASSES

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**SHINING STARS PROGRAM -- All classes perform in year end recital.**

- *Please contact us for appropriate class placement level.*

## Ballet

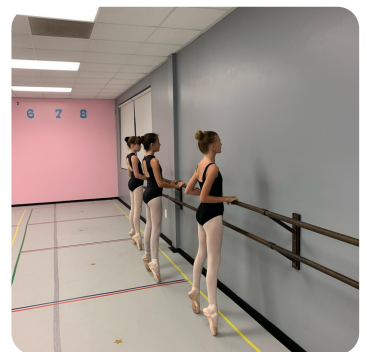
Ballet dance is the foundation of all dance and its techniques are needed to be proficient in all other styles of dance. Ballet classes help with posture, balance, flexibility, self-discipline and self-confidence.

## Hip Hop

Hip Hop is a high energy class that includes street dancing, breaking, popping and locking. Class encourages students to step outside the box by bringing their own individual style and personality to the movements.

## Lyrical

Lyrical is the fusion of different dance styles (Ballet, Modern, Jazz etc.) stressing versatility and expression. This class focusses on self-expression, special awareness and body movement. Ballet class or previous ballet training is highly recommended.





# CLASSES

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**SHINING STARS PROGRAM -- All classes perform in year end recital.**

- *Please contact us for appropriate class placement level.*

## **Combination Class**

This one-hour dance class dives into the fundamentals of ballet, jazz and tap technique. Starting with a ballet warm up and stretches, moving into basic jazz steps across the floor and combinations and ending with rhythm and sounds for tap. For recital combination students will perform two dances- Jazz and Tap.

## **Musical Theater (Ages 8 & Up)**

Students learn choreography from selected Broadway musicals. With a little bit of group singing, some drama and a lot of dance we will experiment with a variety of dance styles along with acting and developing character. It's the kind of drama parents have no issues with developing!



# CLASSES

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**ACROBATIC ARTS® -- All classes perform in year end recital.**

Acrobatic Dance, or acro as it is commonly referred to by dancers and dance professionals, is the beautiful fusion of classic dance technique and the precision and athleticism of acrobatic elements. Often defined by unique choreography, acro dancers seamlessly blend musicality, emotional expression, line and extension with acrobatic movements in a dance context.

Acrobatic Arts starts at the very beginning, teaching students what they need to know about proper placement and technique so they will have the building blocks to progress safely and quickly from one level to the next. Acrobatic Arts is a foundational program for Acro Dance taught over 12 levels in progression: with each level building on the previous level's requirements. Theory classes including anatomy and choreography as well as practical classes in spotting ensure that Acrobatic Arts Certified Teachers understand how to properly introduce skills with excellent technique in a safe and fun environment. The material taught is based in true acro, preparing students to perform skills on a hard stage as part of a complete dance routine package, in 5 skill areas: Flexibility, Strength, Limbering, Balancing and Tumbling.

The syllabus contains 12 levels with well thought out progressions that take students and teachers from the very beginning to advanced levels. We love how well rounded and progressive this program is and are looking forward to watching our students grow even more in their dance education.

Join us for Acro Dance (Ages 6 and up) or Acro Dance Preschool (Ages 3-5). All placement levels are determined by instructors.

# PRESCHOOL PARENTS

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Our purpose is to provide the highest-quality preschool education in a secure, nurturing, and stimulating environment. Statesville Dance serves the physical, emotional, and intellectual needs of the preschool students. We meet these goals with our age-appropriate curriculum and ongoing communication with parents.

The first few weeks of classes serve as an introductory phase to help students become comfortable with the overall dance experience, the classroom, their teacher, and their classmates. From the beginning, we focus on your child's coordination, listening skills, musical awareness, and developing imagination. We accomplish this through age-appropriate music and song, simple stretching exercises, dance basics, and games in an environment of creativity. Preschool dance is about helping children learn to tap into their imaginations and express themselves creatively, not necessarily about learning steps (although they will be introduced to basic technique). Just because your child doesn't pirouette around the house or look like a budding ballerina right away doesn't mean important skills are not being learned.

## Separation from the Parent

The process of separating from the parent as the child attends dance class is an important accomplishment of preschool children. As children mature, they begin to identify themselves as independent personalities. In separating from you, your child is learning important life skills such as:

- developing interest in the activities of the dance class
- feeling comfortable with other children in the class
- understanding that his/her parent will come back and pick him/her up as well as all parents return to pick up their kids

# PRESCHOOL PARENTS

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It is important to know that many young children explore the limits of attending dance class and say they don't want to go. This may occur anytime, but it is usually short-lived. Here are some suggestions that may help you handle the situation:

- Emphasize what the child is doing at the dance class rather than what you do while he or she is in class.
- Avoid prolonged good-byes.
- Ask the teacher or assistant for help in separation. We expect the crying and we will patiently work your dancer through her/his difficult moments. Tears are usually short lived and quickly turn to a smiling face.

## Timing is Everything -- It May Not Be the Right Time

If your child cries or does not want to take class, don't panic. If we push children and create more stress than they are already experiencing, they may perceive dance class as a bad experience. That kind of negativity could make them apprehensive about dance for a long time, which isn't good for anyone involved. Never force your child into the classroom. If your child stops attending class within the first month, the registration fee will be credited to the following year. We encourage you to have your child try again next year. We recommend that children be encouraged to practice at home but don't force them to do so. Repetition is one of the key elements for success with preschool dance students; the more they practice, the more confident they will feel. Practicing with your child allows you to join in the dance experience.

# CALENDAR

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August 14	First Day of classes for the 2023/2024 Dance Year
September 4	CLOSED for Labor Day Weekend
September 11-16	Statesville Dance Spirit Week
October 2-7	Breast Cancer Awareness Week - PINK Week
October 24-30	Halloween Costume Week
October 31	CLOSED for Halloween
November 13-18	Fun Bun Week
November 22-26	CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday
November 27-Dec 15	Toy Drive for Fifth Street Ministries
December 11-16	Red and Green Week
December 20-Jan 2	CLOSED for Winter Break

- Calendar subject to change at any time. Parent/Guardians will be notified of a calendar change via email & social media posts.



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# CALENDAR

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January 3	Classes Resume
January 8-13	Wacky Hair Week
February 12-17	Valentine's Themed Week "LOVE Week"
March 11-16	GREEN Week! Happy St. Patrick's Week!
March 22-23.	Recital Picture Days
March 29-April 7	CLOSED for Spring Break
April 8-13th	Wear Your Spring Colors Week!
May 1	Registration for returning students opens
May 18	4th Annual Dance Recitals

- Calendar subject to change at any time. Parent/Guardians will be notified of a calendar change via email & social media posts.



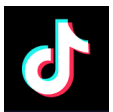
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# TUITION FEE STRUCTURE

Tuition for recreational lessons at Statesville Dance is an annual fee, which is divided up into monthly installments. This fee is determined by the number of hours a student takes per week. Tuition is based on number of lessons for the month of August through May. Most months have four lessons, some months have three and other months, five. Tuition always remains the same for each month. If a student has absences, the tuition rate remains the same.

Once your payment is set up, before classes begin, there's nothing to do each month. Statesville Dance will automatically debit your checking /savings account or debit/credit card on file the 15th of each month. The first month is due at registration which covers August and payment on August 15th will cover September. This continues monthly on the 15th with the last payment on April 15th.

# TUITION FEE STRUCTURE

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## Annual Registration Fee

A non-refundable registration fee of \$35 per dancer is due at registration to hold your dancers place. For families, the fee is \$35 for the first student and \$15 for each additional student. This fee is non-refundable and paid annually.

**Competition Teams Only:** *You will be notified of Tuition & Fees through acceptance packages after Competition Team Auditions.*

## Monthly Tuition

Students first month's tuition is also due at registration. Tuition is billed automatically on the 15th of each month. A \$25 late payment fee will be charged if payment is returned or late.

Hrs/Week.	Tuition/Month
30-45 Mins	\$60
1 Hr	\$63
1.5 Hr	\$95
2 Hr	\$100
2.5 Hr	\$115
3 Hr	\$130
3.5 Hr	\$145
4 Hr	\$160
4.5 Hr	\$175
5 Hr	\$190
5.5 Hr	\$205
6 Hr	\$220
6.5 Hr	\$235
7 Hr	\$255 (Max)

## Discount

5% sibling discount offered.



# UNIFORM

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## General Dress Code:

Hair: Girl's hair should be pulled off the face for all classes. For Ballet classes hair should be in a bun.

Jewelry: All jewelry including necklaces, bracelets, smart watches, rings, and angel bracelets should be removed before entering the studio. Stud earrings are allowed.

Personal belongings: Please label ALL personal belongings, especially dance shoes (on the inside, not visible) with first and last name.

All shoes and dance uniforms are available to purchase at the Statesville Dance Store.

## RISING STARS PROGRAM

### Twinkle Toes

Solid Pink Ballet Dress, pink ballet tights, pink ballet shoes.

### Rising Stars 3

Solid Lilac Ballet Dress, pink ballet tights, pink ballet shoes, black tap shoes.

### Rising Stars 4

Solid Blue Ballet Dress, pink ballet tights, pink ballet shoes, black tap shoes.

### Rising Stars 5

Solid Turquoise Ballet Dress, pink ballet tights, pink ballet shoes, black tap shoes

### Hippity Hip Hop

Comfortable dance clothing, clean sneakers

### Preschool Acrobatic Arts

Hot Pink Biketard. Boys- black or white t-shirt, sweatpants. No shoes



# UNIFORM

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## SHINING STARS PROGRAM

### Ballet I

Black Ballet Dress, pink ballet tights, pink ballet shoes.

### Ballet II

Classic Tank Teal Leotard, pink tights and pink ballet shoes.

### Ballet III

Classic Tank Navy Leotard, pink ballet tights and pink ballet shoes.

Boys- solid white t-shirt, black tights or shorts or sweatpants, and black ballet shoes.

### Ballet IV

Black leotard of choice, pink tights and pink ballet shoes. Skirt optional.

### Lyrical

Black leotard, black leggings, footless tights or jazz pants and Foot Undies

Boys- Comfortable dance attire, no shoes.

### Hip Hop

Comfortable athletic wear. Designate a pair of sneakers to wear only for dance class that are clean and free of dirt and debris. This helps protect our studio floors. You may change into these inside the studio. No boots, sandals, flip-flop, crocs or jeans.

### Combination Classes

Girls- Black leggings, any Statesville Dance shirt or tank top, tan jazz and tan tap shoes.

Boys- Statesville Dance t-shirt and black pants, black jazz and black tap shoes.

### Musical Theater

Girls - Black dance wear, leotard and leggings or tank top and leggings -- tan jazz shoes.

Dress Code Boys: Black sweatpants, Black t-shirt and black jazz shoes

### Acrobatic Arts

Level I - Grape Biketard    Level II - Teal Biketard

Acrobatic Arts Level III & Up- Black Biketard or Black leotard and shorts

Boys- solid black t-shirt, black sweatpants



# RECITAL FEES

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## **Costume Fees** *(Competition Teams, see note regarding fees on page 16)*

All students participating in the end of year Dance recital will need to purchase a costume for each class that they participate. Costume fees are due no later than **OCTOBER 2nd 2023**. **All costume fees are non-refundable**. Costumes will not be ordered without payment. If a child decides to forgo participating in dance, there are **NO REFUNDS, NO RETURNS, NO EXCEPTIONS, NON-NEGOTIABLE**. Statesville Dance will hand out costumes once they are ready, during class time. Costume fees and accounts must be up to date before costume is given to a student.

- ALL COSTUMES - \$85 per class
- \$35 fee for Shoes for all Hip Hop Classes. Hip Hop Boys will be required to purchase their own black sneakers for recital.

All classes are required to purchase the correct dance shoes through Statesville Dance store.

## **Recital Fees**

On March 15th 2024 a Dance Recital Fee will be automatically drafted from your account. This covers the cost of the auditorium, trophy and recital t-shirt. This fee is non-refundable and non-negotiable. \$45 per student.



# TERMS & CONDITIONS

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- Tuition fees are drafted on the 15th of every month for the following month. For example, September 15th will cover for October tuition. Last draft is April 15th.
- Fees paid late will incur late payment charge of \$25
- Accounts that are in arrears past the 1st of each month, will unfortunately result in Dance being withheld until the account is brought up to date. If fees remain unpaid then the student will be considered unenrolled.
- Students wishing to discontinue a class must give 3-weeks notice IN WRITING to the Studio Owner via email to [info@statesvilledance.com](mailto:info@statesvilledance.com). A 3-week's written notice is required from the parent/guardian and is required to not be charged the next full month's tuition. Any remaining balance will be settled at the time of withdrawal. The card on file will be charged for the remaining balance.
- Tuition and registration fees are non-refundable and non-transferable. Notification to withdraw from a class must be received in writing. Cancellation is not confirmed until you receive an email or call back from us. If student is dismissed from the studio for any reason, tuition is non-refundable.
- In case of inclement weather, Statesville Dance will generally follow the decision of the Iredell Statesville Schools system. There will be information regarding inclement weather via Facebook, Instagram and Email. No refunds for cancelled classes.
- Students are expected to commit fully to all classes. Statesville Dance has an extremely packed calendar and repeated absences from lessons is not accepted. Choreography is adversely impacted by absences. Therefore, other students are negatively impacted by other's absences.
- Students who are unable to attend class due to sickness or other legitimate reasons should email Statesville Dance as soon as possible. Please leave your child home with fever, viruses, and such. There are no refunds for missed classes. Makeup classes can be offered when available.
- If a student misses 4 classes in a row without contacting Statesville Dance, they will be removed from the register and should they wish to return, will have to re-join the waiting list.

# TERMS & CONDITIONS

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- Statesville Dance does not carry or provide any medical insurance for its dancers. Dancers must be covered by their family medical insurance. Statesville Dance is not responsible for any injuries that have or may occur due to participation. If injuries occur, it is understood that the dancer's family insurance is the only form of coverage.
- Students must wear the correct uniform and required hair style to classes at ALL times.
- Students are expected to work to their full potential at all times during class.
- Statesville Dance is committed to providing a safe, caring and respectful environment for all students and strictly enforces a prohibition against bullying, including cyber bullying. Bullying can take many forms and can occur in any setting. Bullying can include, but is not limited to, name calling or threatening, social alienation, spreading rumors and physical aggression. Any student demonstrating any types of bullying behavior will be immediately dismissed from Statesville Dance without refund.
- No chewing gum is allowed in class.
- No food or drink, except water, is allowed in the studio.
- We understand that some students will carry cell phones to class. Please ensure they turn their phone onto silent during class times and keep them safe in their bags. Statesville Dance is not responsible for any lost items.
- Statesville Dance cannot accept responsibility for any valuables brought on to the premises.
- Our Staff and Teachers have the right to be treated with respect at all times and we reserve the right to ask any student or parent to leave the premises if they are abusive either verbally or physically either towards staff, students or parents.
- Statesville Dance reserves the right to dismiss any student from our programs for any negative behavior inappropriate or unbecoming of a Statesville Dance representative.
- Parents agree to give our studio a valid email address and read these emails for information.

# PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO RELEASE

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I grant permission to Statesville Dance and its employees to use photographs and video taken of my child below for use in publications including but not limited to brochures, newsletters, and magazines, and to use the photographs on display boards, and to use photographs in electronic versions of the same publication or on websites, social media, or other electronic forms or media, and to offer them for use or distribution in other non-studio publications, electronic or otherwise, without notification to me or any other person.

I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photographs or printed or electronic matter that may be in conjunction with them now or in the future, whether that use is known to me or unknown, and I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising from or related to the use of the photograph, and I waive all such rights on behalf of the minor named below. I hereby agree on behalf of the minor named below, to release, defend and hold harmless Statesville Dance and its employees, including any firm publishing and/or distributing the finished product in whole or in part, whether on paper or via electronic media, from and against any claims, damages or liability arising from or related to use of the photographs or videos, including but not limited to any misuse, distortion, blurring, alteration, optical illusion or use in composite form, either intentionally or otherwise that may occur or be produced in taking, processing, reduction or production of the finished product, its publication or distribution.

I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor child named below. I have read this release before signing below and I fully understand the contents, meaning and impact of this release. I understand that I am free to address any specific questions regarding this release by submitting those questions in writing prior to signing, and I agree my failure to do so will be interpreted as free and knowledgeable acceptance of the terms of this release.

**Auto signature was completed during  
registration showing your acceptance to all  
Statesville Dance terms and conditions,  
policies and releases.**



# WELCOME

## TO THE

# STATESVILLE

# DANCE FAMILY

