



Pre Pro Handbook

Mission Statement

“The mission of *Wexford Dance Academy* is to train young individuals to become exceptional dancers dedicated to the art of dance. The *WDA* experience demands commitment to excellence over time and provides the dancer with the tools to be successful and excel in all of life’s endeavors. *WDA* dancers are role models and inspire and influence others to become their best.

We value the principles of hard work, dedication, responsibility, respect, and cooperation in an atmosphere where dancers, while working as a team, are given the opportunity to reach their highest potential.”

Expectations for Pre Pro Dancers

- Attend all scheduled classes
- Arrive early to class to allow sufficient warm up and stretching
- Inform Liz or Beth via email or writing of anticipated conflicts 2 weeks in advance
- Inform Liz or Beth of reasons for unscheduled absences or conflicts
- Keep up to date by checking the information wall daily since changes may be needed

Make up Class

- When a class is missed, a lower level class should be attended
- Please inform Liz or Beth so we ensure adequate space

Weather

- Weather cancellations are posted on our website, facebook, and twitter. Please use your best judgment regarding road safety.

Tardiness

- If a student is more than 10 minutes late to class they will be asked to observe until a proper time arrives for them to join the class. Unforeseen traffic and weather issues are exceptions.

Dress Code

- Dancers must be in dress code leotard and pink tights unless otherwise arranged by the studio or instructor. Those not prepared will be required to watch class.
- Summer classes require pink tights. Dress code leotard not required.
- Hair should be pulled back in a neat, tidy bun.
- Short hair must also be pulled back off the face.
- Hair ornaments should be kept to a minimum.

Tuition & Fees

- At registration the first and last payment and registration fees are due or you may pay the entire tuition with a 5% discount
- Tuition for the summer program is due in full with registration at the posted date
- Payments after deadlines are subject to late fees
- No adjustment is made for temporary illness or injury
- Extended, year long issues should be discussed with the owners

Studio Etiquette

- Professional behavior must be observed while not in the studio so that observers may appreciate class and dancers in studio are not disrupted
- Dance bags and personal items should be kept against the wall or on a wall hook
- Respect the studio and the equipment
- How you present yourself is a direct reflection of the studio. This is particularly true when interacting with other members of the dance profession. Teachers and guests should be treated with respect. Using social media to "friend" or contact teachers is not permitted. Teachers value their privacy and all interactions should be strictly professional. Be aware that teachers who violate this policy are subject to dismissal.

Summer Program

- Pre Pro dancers must attend *WDA's* summer program for 2 weeks, preferably 3. One week if attending a 5 week summer program. Dancers, like professional athletes, must remain in condition to continue to progress

and to avoid injury. Continued training aids in injury prevention, health, and overall well-being.

- Private classes should be arranged to assist students in taking needed audition photos or completing a video audition. Since these items represent the only exposure for the student, and are studied by a trained eye, care must be taken to submit the proper requirements.

Additional Privileges

- Pre Pro dancers are given the opportunity to learn from those in the highest levels of dance. Well respected national and international teachers are invited to *WDA* to train our dancers. These master classes and experiences are mandatory for our Pre Pro dancers.
- Pre Pro dancers are required to dance in the Holiday & Spring Performances
- Additional opportunities outside of class such as enrichment trips, performances, and travel may be offered to those who are able to attend.
- Students are able to sign out DVD's or books from our extensive collection.

Casting and Rehearsals

- The Holiday and Spring Performances are true theater performances and not merely recitals. As with any professional company casting decisions are based on what will produce the best performance. Casting will vary between performances. Our teachers are experienced and understand the roles of the corps, soloist, and featured dancers. Questions regarding casting decisions will only be discussed if a private meeting is requested.
- Pre Pro dancers are expected to attend all rehearsals

Costumes

- Costumes are the property of *WDA*. This allows us to keep the overall cost of the performance down.
- Once a costume is received, dancers must care for it and return it in the exact condition in which it was received or a fee will be charged for repair or replacement.
- At times a cost may be incurred for a personalized costume or specialized work from a professional.

Lost & Found

- We donate to good will every two weeks. Please check for lost items.