



**STAGE DOOR**  
SCHOOL OF DANCE

**SDSDCREW®**

**2023-2024**

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# STAGE DOOR

## SCHOOL OF DANCE

## About this Handbook

For more than four decades, Stage Door School of Dance (SDSD) has been a leader in dance education. We believe our success comes as a result of providing solid training and quality service in an **inclusive** environment. We have created this handbook to offer our SDSD Crew students and their parents a clear understanding of their commitments and responsibility to the SDSD Crew program.

## Key contact information for Stage Door School of Dance

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Patchogue, NY 11772

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# For Our Dancers

***Congratulations and Welcome to SDDS's Crew Program!*** We hope you embrace this exciting new opportunity at SDDS! Please read all the information below very carefully in order to fully understand the components and policies of the Crew Program!

Stage Door School of Dance is proud of the SDDS Crew Program, an open-enrollment dance team program for ALL dancers ages 5-17. No audition required.

*Dancers who CHOOSE to participate will be placed in a dance team by age. Each team will participate in 2 local dance competitions annually.*

## **SDDS Crew Lines consist of:**

- ✓ **Liberty Crew Jazz:** Ages 5-7
- ✓ **Carnegie Crew Jazz:** Ages 8-10
- ✓ **Rockefeller Crew Jazz:** Ages 11-13
- ✓ **Empire Crew Jazz:** Ages 14-17
- ✓ **Liberty Crew Hip Hop:** Ages 5-7
- ✓ **Carnegie/Rockefeller Crew Hip Hop:** Ages 8-15
- ✓ **Liberty/Carnegie Crew Tap:** Ages 5-10
- ✓ **Rockefeller/Empire Crew Tap:** Ages 11-17

### **Liberty, Carnegie, Rockefeller, Empire Jazz Crew Requirements (3 class total)**

- ✓ Your age "Jazz Crew"
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice

### **Liberty, Carnegie/Rockefeller Hip Hop Crew Requirements (3 class total)**

- ✓ Your age "Hip Hop Crew" class
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice

### **Liberty/Carnegie, Rockefeller/Empire Tap Crew Requirements (3 class total)**

- ✓ Your age "Tap Crew" class
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice

## **SDDS Crew Exclusives:**

- ✓ 4th of July Parade
- ✓ Adjudication Panel Day
- ✓ SDDS Faculty and Special Professional Industry Guest Workshops
- ✓ End of dance season celebration

### **Two Crew Classes, Requirements (4 classes total):**

- ✓ Your age "Jazz Crew", "Hip Hop Crew", or "Tap Crew"
- ✓ Your age "Jazz Crew", "Hip Hop Crew", or "Tap Crew"
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice

### **Three Crew Classes, Requirements (5 classes total)**

- ✓ Your age "Jazz Crew", "Hip Hop Crew", or "Tap Crew"
- ✓ Your age "Jazz Crew", "Hip Hop Crew", or "Tap Crew"
- ✓ Your age "Jazz Crew", "Hip Hop Crew", or "Tap Crew"
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice
- ✓ A recital-performing class of your choice

## Program Benefits

Only a small percentage of the dancers from our studio will move on to professional dance careers; therefore, **the SDSD Crew 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 their understanding of the value of a healthy body.
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Develop a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts.

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

- ✓ You're involved in NUMEROUS 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 NOR the commitment.
- ✓ You're primarily focused on winning awards.
- ✓ You're not fully committed to attending all classes and rehearsals.

## **For the Parents: “We’re in This Together”**

We believe that children’s success depends on the support of their parents or guardians. Your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference and 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 faculty, students, and parents. Cooperation between all parents is expected. Showing respect for other parents, the students, and the faculty makes an **important impression on the children**. You are a role model for your child. We must work together to teach them how to interact with others and conduct themselves in a professional setting.

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

Parents and teachers may look at a child’s learning process 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.**

Stage Door School of Dance may allow dancers to join our team program at any point in the season. All decisions made are done for the best interest of the student and program. Each decision will be made on an individual basis by the Director.

## Attendance Policy

All dancers are expected to attend their regularly scheduled classes in addition to any scheduled weekend rehearsals.

There will be **1 Mandatory 2-hour** rehearsal for their competition dance on one weekend outside of class time.

Every student will be permitted **5 Excused Absences** for their Crew Competition Classes. At the 5th absence, you and your child will receive an email. If a 6th class is missed your child will be on **Attendance Probation for that specific class**, you will receive a phone call from the Director. If a 7th class is missed, your child will be **dismissed from the SDDS Crew Program regardless of the time of year. There will be no refunds for Rehearsal Fees, Competition Fees, or Costumes.** Please use your absences wisely anticipating mandatory school & family functions.

If the student is sitting the class out, late, or leaving early, this will count as **HALF AN ABSENCE (.5)** unless accompanied by a doctor's note, for a more serious illness or injury. If a student is injured for an extended amount of time, accompanied by a doctor's note, their status in that class will be up to the discretion of the SDDS instructor. In certain situations, when a student has missed weeks of class at a time, even if they are observing they may fall behind in their choreography and technical responsibilities. It is at the instructor's discretion if they believe the student will be able to catch up. At that point, the instructor has the authority to take them out of sections of the dance or replace them entirely.

## Zoom

If a dancer is away or not feeling well, they are allowed to take class via Zoom. Please note this will count as a **HALF AN ABSENCE (.5)**.

## Image/Dress Code

Image is important to us here at Stage Door School of Dance and should be to you as well. If you look good, then you feel good, and perform better in class; this is proven. *Please encourage your dancer to be dressed appropriately in all dance classes.*

CLASS	ATTIRE	TIGHTS & SHOES	HAIR
Jazz, Tap	<p><b>Girls:</b> Black leotard; Tan tights; Black fitted shorts are optional.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> White T-shirt, Black Pants or Shorts</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> Tan Jazz shoes; Tan Tap shoes.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Black Jazz Shoes, Black Tap Shoes <i>(Competition Shoes may be a different color, which is given in October)</i></p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> In a Slick Bun.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Slicked &amp; out of face.</p>
Ballet	<p><b>Girl:</b> Black leotard; Pink Tights</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> White T-shirt, Black Pants or Shorts</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> Pink Ballet shoes</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Black Ballet Shoes</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> In a Slick Bun.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Slicked &amp; out of face.</p>
Modern, Lyrical, Contemporary, Musical Theater, Stretch, Acro	<p><b>Girls:</b> Black or Colored Leotard; Tan or Pink Tights; Black or Colored/Printed Shorts</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> White T-shirt, Black Pants or Shorts</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> Tan Jazz shoes or Bare feet</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Black Jazz Shoes or Bare feet <i>(Teacher will let you know)</i></p>	In a Slick Ponytail or Bun.
Hip Hop, Urban Movement, Strength & Conditioning	<p><b>Girls:</b> Black Leotard; Tan tights; Can wear t-shirts of appropriate length; capri-length pants; Black or colored shorts</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Any color T-Shirt/Pants/Shorts</p>	<p>Sneakers. <i>(Please bring a pair that has not been worn outside.)</i></p>	In a Slick Ponytail.
Jazz, Tap	<p>Girls: Black leotard; Tan tights; Black fitted shorts are optional.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> White T-shirt, Black Pants or Shorts</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> Tan Jazz shoes; Tan Tap shoes.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Black Jazz Shoes, Black Tap Shoes <i>(Competition Shoes may be a different color, which is given in October)</i></p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> In a Slick Bun.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Slicked &amp; out of face.</p>
Ballet	<p><b>Girls:</b> Black leotard; Pink Tights</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> White T-shirt, Black Pants or Shorts</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> Pink Ballet shoes</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Black Ballet Shoes</p>	<p><b>Girls:</b> In a Slick Bun.</p> <p><b>Boys:</b> Slicked &amp; out of face.</p>

**IMPORTANT:** The use of the Stage Door School of Dance logo and brand name (including the initials SDSD and Crew Program Line Names –) are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** for use on any attire, gift, merchandise, or designs without the written permission of Stage Door School of Dance and the Director, Branding and Communications.

**SDSD Crew Dancers will have a NEW Jacket this 2023-2024 season! There will be a fitting with Ms. Tara, Director of Merchandise, in October.**

## 4th of July Parade

We are excited to invite our SDSL Crew to perform in the Patchogue 4th of July Parade alongside our SDSL Elite Company! This is another exciting performance opportunity granted to all our students who participate in the SDSL Crew! Each dancer will wear their Recital T-Shirt, white shorts and white sneakers.

There will be **two 2-hour** rehearsals for the 4th of July Parade.

## Parade Performance

Meet on Main Street in Patchogue (Time & Meeting location TBD)

## Financial Expectations

### JUNE

SDSD Annual Recital (aka #BestShowEver)

### JULY

Summer Dance Classes  
Summer classes begin.

SDSD Crew Summer Package	
Hours of Class Per Week	Investment
3 hours	\$270.00
4 hours	\$360.00
5 hours	\$450.00

### AUGUST

2023-2024 Class Registration

SDSD Crew Fall / Winter / Spring Package	
Hours of Class Per Week	Investment
3 hours	\$195.00
3.5 hours	\$228.00
4 hours	\$260.00
4.5 hours	\$293.00
5 hours	\$310.00
5.5 hours	\$341.00
6 hours	\$372.00

*Minimum required for SDSL Crew: 3 hours*

### SEPTEMBER

2023-2024 Dance Classes

Fall/Winter/Spring classes begin.

Tuition payments will be due on the 5th of each month.

Registration closes September 30th for ALL CREW classes.

### OCTOBER

Costumes Posted to Accounts

Due in November

Crew Welcome Meeting

SDSD Crew 2023-2024	
Service	Investment
Administrative/Directors Fee	\$50.00
<b>Total Mandatory Investment</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>

*Due: October 13*

SDSD Crew Large Group Competition 2023-2024	
Competition Fees - Per Dance	Investment
Competition Entry Fee	\$150.00
Rehearsal Fee	\$40.00
Panel Fee	\$20.00
<b>Total Investment</b>	<b>\$210.00</b>

*\*\*\* Post in October  
\*\*\*Per dance. Total of 2 competitions.  
Due in full: January 31, 2024*

SDSD Crew Jacket Measurements

Make an appointment with Ms. Tara in the SDSL Styles Store, to be measured for your Crew Jacket (\$110), Crew Joggers (\$50), and Crew Shorts (\$30) You may also purchase our performance makeup kit & earrings if needed.

### NOVEMBER

Costume Payment Due

### DECEMBER

Happy Holidays!

### JANUARY

Competition Payment Due January 31, 2024

### FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL

Competition Prep and Competition Season

### MAY

Recital Tickets Go On-Sale

### JUNE

SDSD Annual Recital (aka #BestShowEver)

## Other Financial Notes

Part of the commitment to the SDSL Crew Program is being current with your SDSL account. If you have advance knowledge of a financial concern regarding your SDSL account, you must communicate that concern to management. Additionally, all accounts must be **paid in full** prior to the purchase of any tickets to the annual recital; a code will not be given if your account is not up to date. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this please contact Cori at [sdsdfinance@stagedoordancer.com](mailto:sdsdfinance@stagedoordancer.com).



## **Adjudication Panel @ SDSA: Competition Dress Rehearsal**

Every year Ms. Mary brings out a "panel" viewing all of SDSA's Large Group Competition Routines. We've found this to be very helpful and inspiring for our young dancers to meet REAL WORKING DANCERS and to hear their feedback, which is always very useful at this stage of the game!! Each parent is invited to be in the room when their dancer is dancing, as the Panel will give your dancer's choreography amazing feedback and insight into their dancing.

## **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. We believe the lessons learned through community performances and services are as valuable, if not MORE, than the competition experience.

Our solid reputation for quality reflects our attitude toward competition and our goal is 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. Trophies and the pressure of "winning" become secondary. Being given the opportunity to perform is priceless.

Through participation in competitions, we hope to instill in our students an appreciation for other dancers and schools. We are not out to beat anyone; instead, we hope to motivate both students and faculty 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 and inspires and drives us all to be greater artists.

## Policy for Optional Private Lessons

This program is open to all SDSD students (Recreational & Company Level). To schedule a private lesson, you must email our admin staff at [admin@stagedoordancer.com](mailto:admin@stagedoordancer.com). Please allow some time for coordinating schedules for booking privates. Privates are NOT considered to be officially scheduled until the full DEBIT/CREDIT CARD payment is submitted. There will not be any private sessions scheduled prior to receiving payment, as the time and effort put in for these sessions must be equally shared between teachers and dancers. All cancellations must be made 48 hours in advance to receive a credit on your account for paid fees. All your favorite teachers will be involved in this program! This is a great opportunity for students to make improvements in specific classes since they are receiving private lessons. We believe the student's performance quality; work ethic and technique will improve drastically from this experience. You choose the teacher for your private lesson and get ready to see FAST AND POSITIVE results!

## Solo Opportunity for Graduating Seniors in our Crew Program

We are offering our Graduating Senior Dancers in our Crew Program the opportunity to perform a solo at 4 competitions, the 2 that your large groups are competing in and also 2 with our Elite Company & Select Program. Over the years our SDSD Elite Company and our SDSD Select Program have had the opportunity to participate in additional performance pieces outside of their class routines. These additional routines are only performed at our local Dance Competitions. This Program allows dancers to learn choreography, improve their technique, and have extra performance opportunities! You will pick a genre of choice: Tap, Jazz, Modern, Lyrical, Contemporary, or Hip Hop. Whichever genre you choose, it is required that you are enrolled in this class for the Full Dance Year. Please email Ms. Stephanie at [recreational@stagedoordancer.com](mailto:recreational@stagedoordancer.com) to receive the link to see the requirements of a SDSD Solo. If you are interested, I will send you the Small Group Financials Brochure. After reviewing this brochure and you are interested in continuing with a solo, please submit your request no later than **October 20, 2023**.

### You're ready to work on a Solo piece when:

- ✓ You are already up to date with your regular tuition payments for your monthly tuition.
- ✓ You have made a serious commitment to yourself and to dance.
- ✓ You understand the extra costs of rehearsal time with your teacher and costumes needed.
- ✓ You're willing to work on your own to spend extra time on your dance.
- ✓ You are willing to take your piece 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 piece full-out all the time in order to build stamina.
- ✓ You are aware that the time needed for your piece will never interfere with group rehearsals, regular classes, or performances.

### You're not ready to commit to a group piece when:

- ✓ You do not have the time to make the commitment.
- ✓ You do not have the funds required for this optional program.

## Studio Bookings / Rehearsal Space

The studio is available to individual dancers and groups of dancers to rent for rehearsal time. Rehearsal space bookings and Private Lesson bookings can be scheduled through admin by emailing: [manager@stagedoordancer.com](mailto:manager@stagedoordancer.com)

## Student and Parent Use of Social Media

We encourage all Select Program Students & Parents to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Threads, and Tik Tok, as well as download the SDSD Mobile App (in order to stay current in last minute changes, news, and updates, in addition to really fun content. This policy is intended to provide SDSD students and parents with guidelines to eliminate any confusion concerning the use of social media.

- ✓ We encourage **POSITIVITY** when utilizing social media regarding SDSD. If you are excited about the dance season, parade, recital, competition, convention, etc. feel free to post!
- ✓ You **DO NOT** have permission to reveal any information that compromises SDSD. By that we mean you are forbidden to share personal information about the director, other students, SDSD families, or anything that is proprietary and/or confidential to them or SDSD.
- ✓ Students and parents should neither claim nor imply that they are speaking on behalf of SDSD.
- ✓ Never post anything that could compromise the self-esteem of students who attend SDSD.
- ✓ Please do not post negative comments about school activities such as competitions, conventions, and performances or about the directors of those events.
- ✓ Parents / Students are **NOT PERMITTED** to take or post photos / videos taken during class, backstage at recital, or while our communications team is in the process of filming / taking photos unless explicitly given permission by the Director, Branding and Communications.
- ✓ Parents / Students **ARE PERMITTED** to take photos / videos in the lobby, in-studio during their private studio time, in-studio during Parent Observation Week, or in-studio during Dress Rehearsal Week. When doing so, we ask that you please tag Stage Door School of Dance within your post, or with in the post's location geo tag.

## Recital

Your dancer will be performing in 2-3 performances depending on which classes they are taking. We do our best to only have you in two of the performances, but if a dancer is taking additional recreational recital-performing classes or dancing outside of your Crew classes, we cannot always guarantee 2 recitals.

## Summer Commitments: *Intensive & Performances*

Our Five-Week summer intensive is mandatory for all SDSD Crew Program members in order to hold your status for the following dance season. While we understand that the summer is a time for vacations and spending time with your family, as a dancer it is not a time to fall behind on your dance technique. Use the summer to focus on your technique and push yourself prior to the new dance season! You will be required to attend 1 hour per week (any class you choose) for the 5 weeks.

**Monday, July 8– Saturday, August 10, 2024:** Summer Classes

## Staying Informed

We are working hard to make your dance experience organized and fun this year. Keeping you informed is one of our primary goals. Please read all newsletters and other school information on our website. Both parents and students should check their email regularly for up-to-date information regarding company events.

- ✓ **Website:** [stagedoordancer.com](http://stagedoordancer.com)
- ✓ **#SDSDstrong Blog:** [stagedoordancer.com/news](http://stagedoordancer.com/news)
- ✓ **Studio Calendar:** [stagedoordancer.com/studio-calendar](http://stagedoordancer.com/studio-calendar)
- ✓ **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stagedoordancer](http://www.facebook.com/stagedoordancer)
- ✓ **Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/stagedoordancer/](http://www.instagram.com/stagedoordancer/)
- ✓ **TikTok:** [www.tiktok.com/@stagedoordancerny](http://www.tiktok.com/@stagedoordancerny)
- ✓ **YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/c/StageDoorSchoolofDance](http://www.youtube.com/c/StageDoorSchoolofDance)
- ✓ **SDSD Mobile App:** [www.stagedoordancer.com/sdsd-mobile-app/](http://www.stagedoordancer.com/sdsd-mobile-app/)

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

**Thank you for being a part of the SDSD Crew Program!**

# DATE SHEET



# STAGE DOOR SCHOOL OF DANCE

## SDSD CREW DATE SHEET 2023-2024

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>What</b>
Thursday, September 7, 2023	ALL DAY	First Day of SDSD Classes
Monday, October 2, 2023	7:00pm	SDSD Crew Welcome Meeting
Sunday, January 7, 2024	10:00am-12:00pm	Liberty/Carnegie Crew Tap Mandatory Rehearsal
	12:15pm-2:15pm	Rockefeller/Empire Crew Tap Mandatory Rehearsal
	2:30pm-4:30pm	Liberty Crew Jazz Mandatory Rehearsal
Monday, January 15, 2024	10:00am-12:00pm	Rockefeller Crew Jazz Mandatory Rehearsal
	12:15pm-2:15pm	Liberty Crew Hip Hop Mandatory Rehearsal
		Empire Crew Jazz Mandatory Rehearsal
	4:45pm-6:45pm	Carnegie/Rockefeller Crew Hip Hop
Sunday, January 21, 2024	2:30pm-4:30pm	Carnegie Crew Jazz Mandatory Competition Rehearsal
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024	2:00pm-8:00pm	Graduating Senior Solo Competition Dress Rehearsal
Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024	10:00am-4:00pm	Graduating Senior Solo Competition Dress Rehearsal
Saturday, March 2, 2024	3:00pm-6:00pm:	Panel Day, Large Group Dress Rehearsal, All Crew Dances
Friday, March 22-Sunday March 24, 2024	TBD	Competition: Long Island
Friday, May 3-Sunday, May 5, 2024	TBD	Competition: Long Island
Friday, May 10, 2024	8:00pm-9:00pm	All Crews End of Year Party
Thursday, June 27, 2024	6:00pm-8:00pm	4th of July Parade Rehearsal #1
Tuesday, July 2, 2024	6:00pm-8:00pm	4th of July Parade Rehearsal #2
Thursday, July 4th, 2024	TBD	4th of July Parade (time TBD-morning)
Monday, July 8–Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024	TBD	Summer Classes
<b>STUDIO CLOSURES</b>		
Monday, September 25, 2023		Yom Kippur
Monday, October 9, 2023		Indigenous Peoples Day
Tuesday, October 31, 2023		Halloween
Tuesday, November 21-Sunday November 26		Thanksgiving Break
Wednesday, December 20-Monday, January 1, 2024		Winter Break
Monday, January 15, 2024		Martin Luther King Day
Thursday, January 25, 2024		SDSD Administration Day Studio Closed
Monday, February 19-Sunday, February 25, 2024		Mid-Winter Break
Tuesday, March 26-Sunday, March 31, 2024		Easter Recess
Friday, April 19-Sunday, April 28, 2024		Spring Break
Wednesday, May 22-Monday May 27, 2024		Memorial Day Break
<b>*Should you have any questions regarding any of the dates or events listed above please contact the Director, SDSD Crew Program Ms. Stephanie Vertichio-Brennan at recreational@stagedoordancer.com.</b>		