



STAGE DOOR
SCHOOL OF DANCE

SDSD *Elite Company*

2024-2025



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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 company students and their parents / guardians a clear understanding of their commitments and responsibility to the Elite Dance Company.

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For Our Dancers

Congratulations! You have been accepted into the Elite Dance Company. 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 more successful 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.

Being a SDSA Elite Company Member is a privilege that dancers and their families must appreciate and respect. Participation in the program is exclusive **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, movies, or the beach and an SDSA Elite Company member must be ready to select Company requirements as a priority. We also encourage dancers to be as dedicated to their academic studies as they are to their dance training. Our teachers and staff are equally committed and passionate in teaching you everything they know about their love... DANCE!

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Program Benefits

Program Benefits

Only a small percentage of the dancers in our Elite Dance Company 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 their 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/guardians;
- ✓ Discover the results of hard work and determination; and
- ✓ 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 & Guardians:

“We’re in This Together”

We believe that a dancer’s success depends on the support of their parents/guardians. Your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference and we encourage you to be a part of your dancer’s dance education.

Our programs rely on a positive atmosphere and educational experiences for our faculty, students, and families. Cooperation between all parties is expected. Showing respect for others makes an **important impression on the dancers**. You are a role model for your dancer and so many others. We must work together to teach them how to interact with others and conduct themselves in a professional setting.

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

Dancers learn important lessons from their teachers, acquiring behavior patterns through their example. Our school’s faculty takes that responsibility seriously. **It’s our philosophy to encourage our students to feel, think, and act respectfully toward their peers, their teachers, the office staff, and most importantly themselves.**

Your dancer’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/guardians and teachers may look at a dancer’s learning process from different perspectives. However, we believe they share a common goal: to ensure that every dancer receives the best possible training, both physically and mentally.

It is important that our parents/guardians feel supported through this experience. Throughout the year, they will be offered guidance and encouragement in how to best support their dancer through a series of workshops. It is highly recommended that parents/guardians attend these workshops to gain the best possible experience as members of the Elite Program.

Understanding Dance Education

As a parent/guardian, you play an important role in supporting your dancer. Encourage your dancer to be the best that they can be regardless of what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form and dancers 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 dancers to **focus on themselves**, give their all, and celebrate their personal accomplishments.

Our goal at SDSD is to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of your dancers. We strive to teach them the skills necessary to enjoy a happy, disciplined, passionate, and successful life, whether or not they stay involved in dance.

The school faculty meets regularly to discuss the student's progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every dancer.

Placement decisions are derived from many years of teaching experience. Often a dancer is placed in a particular group or class where they will feel confident, to promote the development of self-esteem. Some dancers who are placed in a higher level when they are not technically ready 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, therefore, please **TRUST** the teachers in their decisions regarding dance placement.

The school faculty may allow dancers to join our Elite Company Program at any point in the season. All decisions made are done with the best interest of the student and the program in mind. Requirements are structured based on the time of year they join. Some of these students may or may not be permitted to participate in small groups. All large group dances and groups are up to the staff's discretion. Each decision will be made on an individual basis.

Trust your choreographer's vision and please refrain from judging dances in early processes and bringing forth your concerns. We only hire the best of the best and it's an important value of the studio to trust the artistic vision brought forth by the choreographer.

In order for our Elite Program to remain the best in the industry and evolve with the world around us, changes in the program are necessary. When decisions are made regarding line placements, choreography visions, dancer's placements in formations, program processes and protocols, and all other potential decisions that are made from year to year, they are extremely thoughtful and informed. It is important to have an open perspective and mind to all decisions made by the SDSD staff. If after 48 hours or more, you have a question or concern regarding a decision, please contact the Elite Director via email.

Attendance Policy for Classes and Competition Rehearsals

All dancers are expected to attend their regularly scheduled classes in addition to all rehearsals and performances. Every student will be permitted **4 Unexcused absences for each class during the entire Dance Season**. Upon the 4th absence, the primary guardian and dancer will receive an email from the director of the program which will serve as their official warning. If a 5th class is missed the dancer will be on **Attendance Probation for that specific class**. At this time, the director of the program will call to communicate the attendance probation status. If a 6th class is missed your dancer will be **dismissed from their Company Status in that specific class regardless of the time of year**. Please use your absences wisely, anticipating mandatory school functions.

If the student is sitting out of class due to tiredness, cramps, headache, etc... 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 SDS Elite Staff. In certain situations, when a student misses 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 staff'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.

All students should arrive at least 10 minutes early for class, so they are dressed and prepared to begin as soon as their teacher invites them into the room. To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, and to be late counts as **HALF AN ABSENCE (.5)**. Parents/guardians, please make your best effort to deliver your dancer to class on time. It is they who are penalized.

If a dancer will miss a mandatory weekend rehearsal due to an **EXTREME CONFLICT** they **MUST** notify their teacher and program director immediately. Dancers will be required to schedule and pay for a one-hour private lesson in order to learn the choreography that they miss. A private lesson will never replace the power of being present in a group rehearsal. It is important to know that when a dancer misses a mandatory group rehearsal the choreographer may remove or not place a dancer in certain sections of a dance. This is at the discretion of each choreographer.

Regarding Parade Rehearsals, if a dancer has an **EXTREME CONFLICT** with a **MANDATORY** company parade rehearsal, they will not be permitted to participate in the parade. We expect that all dancers will participate in both parades and each parade rehearsal as these are mandatory events for our company dancers.

Zoom

If a dancer is away or not feeling well but they are able to take class via Zoom, we highly encourage them to do so! However, please note this will count as HALF AN ABSENCE (.5). If a dancer is observing on zoom, this will count as an absence.

If a dancer becomes sick with Covid then these extreme cases will be an exception to the rule, these will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Probation Status

Dancers are placed on probation for several different reasons. Some have elements in their dancing that need more attention. This could be based on the previous dance season, class performance or audition. The teachers see the potential and ability in the dancer and want to support their growth toward being the best dancer they can be. The required private lessons will address the specific improvements necessary. Probation status will continue until the elite teachers decide the desired progress has been made.

Elite Company Requirements

Elite Company requirements include participating in the following dance classes; Ballet Repertoire, Ballet Technique, Tap, Jazz, Leap & Turn and 1 Competitive Elective Class (Lyrical, Modern, or Hip Hop). Additional elective dance classes include Acro, Lyrical, Modern, Hip Hop, Stretch, Strength & Conditioning, Pre-Pointe, Elite Pointe & BDC/Steps Choreo Class (ROY Levels Only) and additional electives that may become available. Please note that electives aren't guaranteed to be in the dancers' show.

It is an honor to be part of the Elite Company. You have worked on your technique, expressed a desire to challenge yourself more and grow as a competitive dancer; thus, auditioned and have been invited to a company line. For this reason, Elite dancers take Elite level classes. We are fortunate to be able to offer all genres in the Elite Program and therefore do not permit Elite dancers to take select, crew, or recreational classes.

As a company member you will be required to perform in ALL competitions, conventions, parades, and additional outside performance opportunities that occur throughout the school year. **If the dancer is unable or unwilling to carry out these requirements, then he/she will be asked to forfeit their position in the Elite Dance Company.**

If work or life conflicts arise that prevent a grown-up from getting their dancer to scheduled rehearsals, classes, performances, etc... please inform the studio and program director as soon as possible so we can help connect you with other elite families who may be able to arrange carpools. We will certainly do our best to help you out but cannot guarantee that we will be able to solve each and every transportation issue. Our goal is to help all dancers make it to their commitments.

Respect

Respect for the studio, staff, teachers and any guest artists or choreographers invited to the studio is essential.

The teachers and choreographers selected to work with our Elite Company dancers are among the finest and most experienced in the field. They are selected because of their professionalism and knowledge of what is technically and emotionally right for the dancers.

Guidelines for Behavior:

- ✓ Enter the dance studio free of personal issues. Allow yourself to forget troubles while in class.
- ✓ Arrive at least 10 minutes before the start of every class or rehearsal.
- ✓ Arrive in the required dress code; dancewear, shoes, and hair for every class and rehearsal.
- ✓ Accept choreography without question.
- ✓ When reaching out to SDSD Teachers, Staff, Choreographers use the studio phone number or elite emails at the start of the handbook.
- ✓ Finish every class or choreography session with a thank-you to the teacher or choreographer.
- ✓ When wearing your school jacket or other apparel to non-dance events, be sure that the activities and your behavior reflect positively on you and SDSD.

Appreciate the Critique from Your Teacher

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.

Rehearsal Schedules and Information

Please consider the two weeks (including weekends) prior to each Dance Competition as blackout periods, a.k.a. THE ZERO CONFLICT ZONE. You will receive a Rehearsal Schedule for the entire year with this handbook. It is great for the entire family to have access to the Company Calendar. Please print it and display it on the fridge or load the dates into a shared digital family calendar.

To the students: *Please be responsible for YOUR OWN schedule. If you participate in other activities make sure they do not conflict with mandatory company events. If they do conflict, please make a decision as to which activities you wish to give up, dance may be the answer and if so please know that we will be sad but we will understand and respect your mature decision. Be realistic with yourself! Also, take note of your own absences. Plan accordingly if you need to schedule a make-up lesson when you know you will miss a class. You are an elite level dancer, and we expect you to handle your responsibilities as such.*

To the parents/guardians: *Please help us teach your dancer the responsibility of time management. This is a priceless skill that they will take with them well beyond their years at Stage Door.*

Why make up weekend rehearsals, when I can learn in my next class or from a friend?

All rehearsals are dedicated to choreography or “cleaning” the choreography by the choreographer themselves. 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 fellow Elite Company Members, and the team.

An important lesson taught through our Elite Company program is the value of teamwork. Dancers who miss a rehearsal because of a non-emergency circumstance are letting their fellow dancers down in many ways.

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. *Let's do this together!*

| Class | Boys | Girls |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Ballet and Pointe | Black sweatpants or dance pants, white T-shirt, black ballet shoes. | Black leotard, pink tights (wrapped around their feet), pink ballet shoes. (Pink pointe shoes may be required.) No shorts permitted. Hair in a slick bun. <i>(Red & Orange Line dancers ONLY are permitted to wear Ballet Skirts after the Barre.)</i> |
| Jazz and Leap & Turn | Black sweatpants or dance pants, white T-shirt, black jazz shoes. | Black leotard; tan tights; tan or black jazz shoes. Jazz fitted shorts are optional. Hair in a slick bun. <i>(Red & Orange Line dancers ONLY are permitted to wear colored leotards and hair slicked back off the neck and face in the style of your choice.)</i> |
| Tap | Black sweatpants or dance pants, white T-shirt, black tap shoes. | Black leotard; tan tights; black shorts, tan or black tap shoes. Hair in a slick bun. <i>(Red & Orange Line dancers ONLY are permitted to wear colored leotards and hair slicked back off the neck and face in the style of your choice.)</i> |
| Modern, Lyrical, and Hip Hop | Any dance clothes that do not interfere with your dancing, that makes you look and feel good! Enjoy this freedom of artistic expression, by being thoughtful and appropriate in your dress for these elective classes. | Any dance clothes and hair style that does not interfere with your dancing, that makes you look and feel good! Shoes are at the discretion of the teacher. Enjoy this freedom of artistic expression, by being thoughtful and appropriate in your dress for these elective classes. |

The Competition Experience

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

SDSD Competition List vs. Recital List

All Company Classes, with the exception of Acro, Ballet Technique, Ballet Repertoire, Leap & Turn and Point will be competing at competition. Ballet Repertoire and Pointe will perform at the Dance Recital. Pointe will perform in one recital and it may not be in a specific color line show.

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. The Elite Dance Company takes part in NUMEROUS performances in the community. 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 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.

General Performance Policies

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

- ✓ Arrive at performances in FULL hair and makeup at specified call time.
- ✓ Be sure you are properly warmed up.
- ✓ Present yourself in a professional manner, with costumes labeled & steamed, shoes cleaned, and all accessories labeled and accounted for.
- ✓ At competitions, treat competitors and teachers from other schools with respect.
- ✓ At competitions, 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 SDSD warm-ups to all performances, competition events and during the award presentations at competitions with jackets zipped.
- ✓ If you decide to make your own t-shirts or any attire to be worn at competitions, they cannot have "Stage Door School of Dance", "SDSD" or our studio logo anywhere on the clothing.

Dancewear for Performances

Make sure shoes and tights are clean and polished for each performance.

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. We strongly encourage all SDSD dancers and family members to sit together in the same section. As a group we are supportive and powerful.

Policy for Optional Private Lessons

This program is open to all SDSA students. To schedule a private lesson, you must email manager@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. All of your favorite teachers will be involved in this program! This is a great opportunity for dancers to make improvements in specific classes since they are receiving private lessons. We believe the dancer's performance quality, work ethic and technique will improve drastically from this experience.

Private Lesson Policies

- ✓ **Cancellation Notice**
 - **24-Hour Cancellation Notice:** To cancel a scheduled private lesson without penalty, please notify us at least 24 hours in advance. Cancellations made less than 24 hours before the scheduled lesson will incur the full fee.
- ✓ **Account Status**
 - **Account Up to Date:** To participate in private lessons, your account must be up to date. All outstanding balances must be paid before scheduling additional lessons.
 - **Hourly Rate:** The cost of a private lesson is \$85 per hour.
 - **Half-Hour Rate:** The cost of a private lesson is \$55 per half hour.

Know When You're Ready for Optional/Additional Programs

Take a close, honest look at yourself and your dancing. You're ready to work on a solo/duet/trio or small group 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 cost of rehearsal time with your choreographer and the additional costume fees;
- ✓ 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 technically ready;
- ✓ You realize that your obligation to your fellow dancers is priority; and
- ✓ 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 solo/duet/trio or group piece when:

- ✓ You want to do a solo because your friend is doing one;
- ✓ 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 by emailing manager@stagedoordancer.com.

Guest Artist Workshops/Conventions Outside the Studio

Red, Orange and Yellow Level Elite Company dancers are welcomed to attend Guest Artist Classes and Conventions hosted by venues outside Stage Door School of Dance as an independent entry. Extra classes and conventions outside of the studio should be sought when all in-studio opportunities are already being explored. These extracurricular dance experiences are meant to enhance your training as a Stage Door dancer. If you plan to attend additional dance experiences like this, please inform the Elite Company Director ahead of time, and share your experiences post-event.

Within our SDSA Elite Dance Company, we have a multitude of different dancers with varying professional performance aspirations. For example, we have had dancers explore outside professional opportunities such as: Dance & Musical Theatre Intensives across the Country, participation at local theaters, additional Dance Conventions, Dance Team Clinics, etc. If necessary, the dancer may be required to do makeup classes and/or private lessons to offset their missed SDSA training time and commitment, up to the discretion of the Director.

Summer Commitments: *Intensive, Auditions, & Performances*

Our Five-Week summer intensive is MANDATORY for all SDSA Elite Company members. While we understand that the summer is a time for vacations and spending time with your family, as a company member it is not a time to fall behind on your dance technique. Use the summer to focus on your technique and push yourself. You will be required to attend at least 4 weeks of the company core classes (Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Leap & Turn and Strength & Conditioning) per week. Only one week's worth of absences will be permitted. If you do not complete the minimum hours required for dance over the summer, you will be moved to an inactive company dancer status for the season. In addition to the mandatory intensive, you have the opportunity to participate in the Fourth of July Parade, Bellport Day Performance, and the Bellport Dock Show. **Only one absence from our summer performances will be permitted out of our 3-4 annual summer events and will only be permitted for an EXTREME conflict that is communicated at least one month prior to the performance.** However, they will be permitted to re-audition the following

year. Rehearsals for summer performances will occur prior to the performance on that same day.

Fundraising & Employment Opportunities

Fundraising is an optional opportunity for elite families to raise funds to offset elite expenses. If you are interested in volunteering to help facilitate these fundraisers, please join our fundraising committee overseen by Ms Chrissy. All proceeds from fundraising can be applied to accounts for tuition, competition fees, and costumes.

It should be noted that Stage Door School of Dance branding which includes the use of our logo, brand name (including acronym), hashtags, company line names (iterations of) are not permitted to be used digitally, or in print for any fundraising or otherwise without written permission of SDDS Director, Branding and Communications.

In addition, there will be employment opportunities for Elite Company Members to work SDDS events. Job opportunities will be offered throughout the year via email on a seniority/first come first serve basis such as Birthday Parties, Holiday Parties, etc..

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 “Bestie Week” and in-school performances like Grown-Up Observation Week. If you have family who wish to view class, please have them do so via the monitors in the lobby.

General Policies and Information

General STUDIO Policies

- ✓ Only water is allowed in the dance studios. No food, drinks, or gum. Food is allowed in the lobby area, store and homework nook ONLY. Please clean up after yourselves after you are finished eating.
- ✓ Treat the studio as your beautiful safe-haven and HOME... only with love and respect.
- ✓ Cell phones must be silenced or turned OFF during all classes, rehearsals and performances.
- ✓ Students and parents/guardians are restricted from contacting teachers by phone, email, text messages, or any social media website etc. All communication with teachers must occur through Ms. Jessica via email at company@stagedoordancer.com. For questions regarding company payments please email sdsdfinance@stagedoordancer.com.
- ✓ Watch what you say in the lobby area, a space intended for the comfort of our students', parents/guardians, and families. At no time should anyone utilize this area to commiserate with others about their dissatisfaction with the school, its faculty or choreographers, or other students and their families.
- ✓ If anyone has a question, concern, or complaint, please email the program director to schedule a meeting. These concerns will not be addressed in a group forum and anonymous emails will not be responded to. We are more than happy to meet with you privately, in person to give you the attention you deserve. If you wish to request a meeting, it must be scheduled ahead of time.
- ✓ Never speak negatively about teachers, students, or parents/guardians from other schools.
- ✓ All students must always show respect for their teachers. Inappropriate behavior could result in dismissal from the SDSD Elite Dance Company.

Student and Parent Use of Social Media

We encourage All Company Students & parents/guardians to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, 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/guardians with guidelines to eliminate any confusion concerning the use of social media. Please also join our Elite Company Facebook group as well!

- ✓ We encourage **POSITIVITY** when utilizing social media regarding SDSD. If you are excited about the dance season, parade, recital, competition, convention, etc. feel free encouraged to speak to your positive experiences at Stage Door openly on your personal social platforms. We will just ask that you please adhere to filming / photography requirements below.
 - Parents / Guardians / Students **ARE PERMITTED** to take photos / videos
 - in the lobby
 - in-studio during their private studio time / post class time / private lesson
 - in-studio during Grown-Up Observation Week
 - in-studio during Dress Rehearsal Week
 - Backstage During Recital
 - **INCLUDING:** Footage taken from the backstage wings or in any common areas for dancer's backstage. This also includes footage and photography taken by families from the recital theater house during dress rehearsal performances only.
 - **EXCLUDING:** This excludes photos and videos taken in the dressing rooms 30 minutes prior to a performance, during a performance, and 30 minutes post a performance. This rule is to protect the space, privacy, and safety of all SDSD Elite Company dancers who must be provided the opportunity to change their costumes, prepare for their performances, and change out of their costumes in a secure space.
 - **When doing so:**
 - Please tag Stage Door School of Dance within your post, the comments, or within the post's location geotag.
 - Please consider the privacy and safety of your fellow SDSD Elite dancers and families before tagging their personal handles in any of your posts or in the comment section of any Stage Door School of Dance post.
- Parents / Guardians / Students are **NOT PERMITTED** to take or post photos / videos
 - in-studio during regularly scheduled class times
 - of any other students faces during their regularly scheduled class times, and outside of the permitted parameters above.
 - while our communications team is in the process of filming / taking photos unless explicitly given permission.

- ✓ 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/guardians 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.

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/guardians and students should check their email regularly for up-to-date information regarding company events.

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

We are constantly updating our website. New, important parent/guardian and dancer information, and more...are available online 24 hours a day.

[View the SDSD Elite Company Calendar by clicking >>> here.](#)