



Guardian/Student Handbook: Virtual Dance Classes 2021-2022



Our Philosophy

Innovation Arts Connection, LLC partners with local park districts and community centers to provide progressive, community-based dance programs with a studio feel. We provide dance instruction to students of all ages, levels, and abilities. Our unique curriculum focuses on core techniques and concepts needed to build a strong artist, and stresses the importance of positive attitude, diversity, leadership and hard work. Our educators have an extensive background in dance and education. Our curriculum is consistent at each location, but our schedule and events are designed to serve each individual community.

In our classes, students will develop grace, rhythm, coordination, creativity, and confidence. Innovation Arts Connection provides a fun, safe, inclusive and structured environment and is designed to equip each student with the proper attitude and experience to excel in their future endeavors in the arts, school, and life. We focus on meeting the needs of the communities we serve by structuring our programs to honor family values, philanthropy and

acceptance. In our community, all are welcome! We work to make sure all of our dancers and their families feel like they are part of a second home.

Our NEW virtual classes bring everything you love about IAC to the safety and comfort of your home!

We look forward to seeing you online!



Studio Rules

1. Respect your teacher. Respect your peers. Respect yourself.
2. Be on time & ready for class.
3. Bring water to class. No gum or food.
4. Wear appropriate attire to class...Dress like a dancer!
5. Stay engaged and focused during class.
6. Cell phones off and out of sight at all times!
7. HAVE FUN!!!



Rules and Expectations

Dancer Intake Form & Participation Waivers: Please complete the Dancer Intake Form and sign our Participation Waiver before your first class. Please follow the links below to complete these forms.

[Dancer Intake Form](#)

[Participation Waiver](#)

Bullying: Innovation Arts Connection and its teachers and staff members strive to make the studio a safe and healthy environment for all students. We have an obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance. IAC has a zero-tolerance policy for bullying of any kind. A student shall not harass or intimidate another student through words or actions. This includes physical violence, verbal abuse (teasing, name-calling, etc.), social isolation, and cyberbullying. All students and parents/guardians will be asked to sign an anti-bullying contract. Any student who violates this contract will be subject to serious consequences.

IAC also expects teachers, staff, and students to immediately report incidents of bullying to a trusted teacher or staff member. Each complaint of bullying will be investigated and resolved promptly.

Inclusivity: At Innovation Arts Connection, we are committed to diversity, equality, and justice. Our program is inclusive of all students regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender, socioeconomic status, religion, belief systems, language, abilities or learning styles. Our educators are trained to create flexible learning environments where all students feel safe and supported.

IAC envisions a world where respect for self and others is expressed through movement. We aspire to deliver equitable and culturally responsive programs that make dance accessible to all. It is our goal to lead by example and actively implement change, while bridging cultures, reaching diverse communities, and celebrating everyone through dance.

Attendance: Please make your best effort to arrive 5-10 minutes early to all dance classes. Arriving late is disruptive to the class and doesn't allow dancers to properly warm-up. Dancer missed classes cannot be made up and are non-refundable, however we will record class and can send you the recording upon request. Please do your best to attend every class. Consistency is important at any level.

Bathrooms: Please remind your child to use the bathroom before class begins so that they don't miss any part of class. If you need to use the bathroom during class raise your hand and ask your teacher just like in person class.

Guardian Supervision: An adult guardian should stay near a participating child during all virtual classes for their safety.

Illness/Injuries: If your child is sick or injured we encourage them to observe class if possible.

Make-Up Classes: In the event of a class cancellation you will be notified by email as early as possible. Every effort will be made to make-up classes cancelled if an instructor needs to cancel.

Technology: Internet access is required for virtual classes. Make sure you have access to a computer, tablet, or phone. Please select the full screen option on your device for easier viewing. You may also need to adjust your device's volume.

Dress Code: *All dress code options for virtual class are highly recommended but not required.* Hair must be secure off the face. No jewelry, jeans, street shoes or clothing with inappropriate language or pictures are allowed in any class. All dancers are expected to wear a leotard with tights or comfortable form-fitted athletic clothing.

Ballet - skin toned ballet shoes

Tap - black tap shoes

Hip-Hop - black hip hop Sneakers or black jazz shoes

Jazz - black jazz shoes

Musical Theatre - black jazz shoes

Discover Dance Classes - Any dance outfit that is comfortable for movement without causing distraction or harm to the child. Ballet shoes or bare feet. NO SOCKS! Guardians please wear comfortable clothing as well.

*Shoes & apparel can be purchased on the IAC **Nimbly**

(<https://www.shopnimbly.com/innovationartsconnection>) or the IAC Dance Shoe Resale. All gently used shoes and apparel are \$5. Email Ms. Lora with resale show requests: lora@innovationartsconnection.com

Email Correspondence: Important program information is communicated via email. If you are not receiving emails from IAC including the monthly newsletter please contact Lora at lora@innovationartsconnection.com. You can also find information about IAC programs on Instagram and Facebook @innovationartsconnection or on our website www.innovationartsconnection.com

Tips for Virtual Participation

For all classes:

1. Please limit background noise, distractions and interruptions like dogs, other siblings, TV, etc.
2. It is not required but highly encouraged that you wear dance attire. Replicating as much of the normal dance experience as possible is key. Make sure that your

footwear is safe for your space. Proper dance shoes for your class are highly encouraged, however if your floors do not allow for dance shoes please go bare feet.

3. Clear a clean space prior to class for easier participation.
4. An adult guardian should stay close by a participating child for their safety. Discover Dance Families classes are designed for guardian participation.
5. Limit the number of kids participating on one device/screen to a maximum of 2.
6. Remember safety first. Please modify when needed and tailor classes to your child's needs and abilities.

For Live Zoom Classes:

1. Please let your dance educator control your microphone. Just like school, raise your hand when you want to be unmuted.
2. Please make sure your video is on and the educator can see most of the dancer's body so that we can give corrections.
3. Pin the teacher's video stream by right-clicking their feed for clearer viewing or clicking on "Speaker View" in the top right corner.
4. Change your screen name to your child's first name and last initial (i.e. Sarah A.).
5. Enter the class 5 minutes early for pre-class chats and preparation. Dancers who join more than 5 minutes late to class will not be allowed in due to safety and distraction reasons. We do not offer make-ups for missed classes, so please make sure to set a reminder on your phone for class.
6. Stay for the entire class. Your child may miss something important or fun.
7. If the quality of your video or sound is bad, you may need to leave the meeting and log back in. Additionally, if your educator is having tech issues and disappears, stay in the meeting or log back in using the same link.

Final Reminder...Don't expect perfection! Do your best. Our goal is to move, stay active, have fun and KEEP DANCING!!!



For more information please contact:

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Find IAC on Instagram & Facebook:

@innovationartsconnection

Or visit our website:

www.innovationartsconnection.com