



# Guardian/Student Handbook

## 2020-2021



### 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.

***We look forward to seeing you in class!***



## 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 in the studio at all times.
6. Clean up after yourself and keep the studio clean.
7. Cell phones off and out of sight at all times!
8. HAVE FUN!!!



# Guardian Information

**Dancer Intake Form & Participation Waivers:** Please complete the Dancer Intake Form and sign our Participation Waiver at your first class. You can access both forms here: [www.innovationartsconnection.com/intake-form](http://www.innovationartsconnection.com/intake-form)

**Attendance:** Please make your best effort to arrive 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. 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. Dancers under 6 years old will be excused to their guardian to go to the bathroom. It is the guardian's responsibility to take their child to the bathroom. Dancers 7+ will be excused to the bathroom on their own.

**Dismissal:** In order to ensure the safety of all dancers, teachers will be following strict dismissal guidelines. Dancers under 9 years old will be dismissed at the dance studio door only when their parent or guardian is present in the lobby. They will not be allowed to walk to the parking lot on their own. Please let your teacher know if someone other than yourself is picking up your child. Dancers 9+ will be dismissed as a class and allowed to leave the building on their own. Teachers will not leave the building until all dancers have been picked up. Please be on time to pick up your child.

**Illness/Injuries:** If your child is sick, we ask that you keep them home from dance as to not spread germs to other dancers. If they have tested positive for Covid-19 or been in contact with Covid-19, they will need to wait 14 days to attend class after their diagnosis or exposure. If your child is injured we encourage them to observe class if possible.

**Masks:** Masks are required to be worn by all dancers and dance staff during class regardless of vaccine status. Please check with your park district about specific mask policies for the rest of your family.

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

**Dress Code:** Hair must be secured 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. No street shoes please.

\*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](mailto:lora@innovationartsconnection.com)

**Family Observation Weeks:** Families will be expected to stay in the lobby during class, except for Discover Dance with Me classes. Families will be invited into class during the last 15-20 minutes of Family Observation Week. Feel free to take pictures and videos during these classes. See your Welcome Email for specific dates. Note: due to Covid-19 policies only 2 family members will be allowed to attend in person. Everyone must wear a mask in the dance studio. If policies change and non-dancers are not allowed in the classroom, this portion of class will be recorded and posted to your park district's Band App. Please see the Welcome Email for Band App links.

**Production Fees (WINTER/SPRING PARK STUDIO CLASSES ONLY):** In order to participate in the Spring Dance production, Production Fees must be received on time. Payment Plans are available. There are no added Production Fees for the Fall Park Studio classes.

**Dress Rehearsals & Performances (WINTER/SPRING PARK STUDIO CLASSES ONLY):** All dancers in the Park Studio Track are expected to attend all Dress Rehearsals and Performances. You will receive a Performance Packet with more information in February when the events are closer. The spring production will be sometime in May or June.

**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](mailto:lora@innovationartsconnection.com). You can also find information about IAC programs on Instagram and Facebook [@innovationartsconnection](https://www.instagram.com/innovationartsconnection) or on our website [www.innovationartsconnection.com](http://www.innovationartsconnection.com)



# Important Dates:

Fall Begins: 9/20

Family Observation/Halloween Week: 10/25-10/29

Seasonal Session F2 Begins: 11/1

Bring a Friend Week: 11/15-11/19

Thanksgiving Break No Class: 11/22-11/26

In-Class Holiday Showcase/Family Observation: 12/13-12/17

Winter Break No Class: 12/18-1/9

2021 Classes Begin: 1/10

Family Observation: 3/14-3/18

Seasonal Session W2 Begins: 4/4

Spring Break: 3/21-4/1

Family Observation: 5/23-5/27

Spring Production: TBA



For more information on IAC please visit [www.innovationartsconnection.com](http://www.innovationartsconnection.com) or contact:  
Lora, IAC Director [lora@innovationartsconnection.com](mailto:lora@innovationartsconnection.com)

For more information on your participating park district please visit:

**Medinah Park District:**

[www.medinahparkdistrict.org](http://www.medinahparkdistrict.org)

**Park District of La Grange:**

[www.pdlg.org](http://www.pdlg.org)

**West Chicago Park District:**

[www.we-goparks.org](http://www.we-goparks.org)

**Bloomington Park District:**

[www.bloomingtonparks.org](http://www.bloomingtonparks.org)

**Burr Ridge Park District:**

[www.brparks.org](http://www.brparks.org)

Clarendon Hills Park District:  
[www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org](http://www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org)



Find IAC on Instagram & Facebook:  
***@innovationartsconnection***

Or visit our website for information on special events, class schedules, educator bios and much more at:

**[www.innovationartsconnection.com](http://www.innovationartsconnection.com)**