

Dear Families,

I am so excited to welcome you to the Culture Shock dance family, and I'm honored to have you join us as we enter our 22nd dance season.

Please read over this email in its entirety. There is a lot of important information, and I want to make sure you feel ready and comfortable moving into the new dance season.

Our 2023-24 dance season will begin the day after Labor Day! Tuesday, September 5th.
In the entire dance season, there are a total of

35 Mondays

35 Tuesdays

35 Wednesdays

35 Thursdays

35 Fridays

Should we have to cancel classes due to inclement weather, instructor illness, emergency, etc. We will plan to make classes up during Spreck Break, or the first Monday-Wednesday of June.

Holiday Breaks

Thanksgiving: Tuesday 11/21- Friday 11/24 (resume classes on Monday 11/27)

Christmas: Wednesday 12/20- Tuesday 1/2 (resume classes on Wednesday 1/3)

Spring Break: Monday 4/1-Friday 4/5 (resume classes on Monday 4/8)

Memorial Day: Monday 5/27

Culture Shock will have classes during ALL OTHER HOLIDAYS.

Last Day of Dance: Monday 6/3

A Studio Calendar with the list of all important dates and events will be released the first week of August

TUITION and COSTUMES

The 2023/24 tuition is per style of dance and is due the first week of each month.

Any tuition not paid by the 10th of each month will incur a non-refundable late payment fee of \$20 PER CLASS.

Tuition is as follows:

- 1 Class per week- \$50/month
- 2 Classes per week- \$90/month
- 3 Classes per week- \$126/month
- 4 Classes per week- \$152/month
- 5 Classes per week- \$180/month
- 6 Classes per week- \$198/month
- 7 Classes per week- \$210/month
- 8 Classes per week- \$224/month
- 9 Classes per week- \$234/month
- 10 Classes per week- \$250/month

Additional classes per week- Additional \$10/per month

(For example: if you sign up for Ballet, tuition is \$50/month. If you sign up for Ballet and Tap, tuition is \$90/month)

- There is an annual, non refundable, \$20 fee per registered student, due upon registration.
- For competitors, you will see two \$20 fees, one for annual registration, and one for competition registration.
- There is a \$5 music fee per student that will be included with the costume/competition charges. This fee helps to cover music purchases, editing, and licensing fees.

*****PLEASE NOTE*****

The tuition scale above reflects tuition ONLY, not including music, costume or competition fees.

Costume and Competition Pricing

We have two options to offer our families for payment:

1. Spread out the cost for costumes and competition throughout the first three months of the dance season. One third due by 10/1, one third due by 11/1, and one third due by 12/1. This would be in addition to the monthly tuition. If you would like to do the payment plan for costume/competition fees, please email Diane at the front desk:
CSPACFrontDesk@gmail.com
2. Pay for your costume and/or competition fees in one lump sum, due by October 1st.

Competition

This is by invitation only. If you are invited, you have already been notified upon receiving your dance schedules, or the teachers have talked about it in the first week of class.

We do our best to estimate the costume costs, prior to purchasing them. Please understand that costume company's prices have gone up substantially, but we do our best to keep it at or around the pricing listed below. The cost might end up slightly different when you receive the actual bills, so there will be a month in the beginning of the new year where that difference will be reflected.

Approximate costume fees:

Recreational students: \$70 per costume, \$14-\$16 for tights

Competitive students: \$80 per costume, \$14-\$16 for tights

Boys Costumes: \$40-\$50 per costume (boys costumes are typically less expensive, so this price may vary depending on what the costume will be)

Polynesian Classes

Polynesian costumes are all hand-sewn and handmade. We order the supplies from Hawaii and then we assemble them. You will have more information coming to you in a separate email about this. Due to the cost of the supplies and intricacy and detail of costumes, the cost will be higher. Each class will be participating in two dance routines (Hawaiian and Tahitian), so there will be two costumes. Costumes average around \$75-\$100 for Hawaiian, and \$100-\$150 for Tahitian depending on the age and level. Since we won't have the exact pricing for the costumes until closer to the beginning of January, we will average the cost of both costumes to be \$200.

This can be paid in full or in thirds, as listed above in the costume pricing section. If your costume ends up less than that amount, you will receive a credit to your account that can go towards tuition. If you owe more, you will receive a final bill that will be due within that month. (We try our best to keep the cost no more than \$250 total)

Senior Competitive classes will be more, due to having more than 2 routines. More information will be emailed to our Polynesian classes within the next two weeks. We have in house seamstresses who are happy to sew the costumes if you are unable, at an added charge.

Expected Dance Attire

Here at Culture Shock, we have a dress code. Although not as strict as other dance studios, we do full expect all students to abide by our dress codes.

To give our students time to purchase needed items, we give until October 1 for all students to be in the proper attire and footwear.

Dress code is as below:

Culture Shock PAC 2023-24 Dance Season Dress Code

Below is the dress code for dance classes. If you are in need of any of these items, you can find them on www.discountdance.com

Use code 26970 for 10% off your first purchase, keep using code as the studio gets credit each time you shop!

Copy and paste the link below in your web browser to locate some ideas we created for you! Shoes are also in this link

<https://www.discountdance.com/search/teacherid:26970?tp=26970&teacherSearch=26970>

Creative Movement

Comfortable activewear attire. Clothing that they can move around in and not be distracted by. No dress clothing, skirts, jeans, or anything that may inhibit free movement. Leotard and tights are also permitted. Hair should be up and out of the face. Sneakers with socks, or ballet slippers are permitted.

Martial Arts/Yoga/Irish Step

Athletic attire. Clothing that is not baggy, and that will stay in place with movement.

Hair up and out of the face. For martial arts, the instructor will provide a link to purchase the uniform shortly after the course begins. For Irish Step, the instructor will provide a link to purchase shoes shortly after the course begins.

Ballet/Pointe/Technique

Recreational Students- any color leotard, any color tights, hair in ponytail or bun, pink ballet slippers

Competitive Students- black leotard, pink tights, hair in bun, pink ballet slippers

*Optional- Ballet skirt, leg warmers, Ballet wrap top

Jazz/Contemporary/Acro

Any color leotard/form fitting athletic top, any color tights, hair in ponytail, gore boots (jazz), foot undeez (contemporary), bare feet (acro)

Form fitting booty shorts/bicycle shorts/leggings/yoga pants over top

Hip Hop/Tap

Any color leotard/form fitting athletic top, form fitting leggings/yoga pants/track pants (pants must be high waisted, covering the belly button if wearing a crop top), hair in ponytail, hip hop sneakers (any color/style/brand but must support the ankle and be worn ONLY for class), black tap shoes

Polynesian

Any color leotard/ form fitting athletic top, form fitting legging/yoga pants/track pants (pants must be high waisted, covering the belly button if wearing a crop top), hair in ponytail, sarong for around the hips, bare feet

All proper attire must be worn to every single class. Students will be asked to sit out and parents will be notified if they aren't in proper attire/shoes after 10/2/23

General attire notes

Hair must always be up and out of the face. Competition Ballet classes are required to wear their hair in a bun. No gum chewing allowed. No food or drinks (besides water bottles) allowed in the classroom. No loose jewelry. Cell phones/tablets are NOT allowed in the classroom.

It is important that all students come dressed appropriately for class. First and foremost, it helps the instructor to see the students' alignment and ensure proper technique and movement. We can help prevent injuries when we can see the students' lines. Second, students generally dance better and feel more "the part" when dressed appropriately. Third, this teaches discipline and to follow the same rules that everyone else must follow. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

If a student is sick/on vacation/unable to attend a class:

Please ALWAYS report an absence for your student ahead of time. A parent/guardian MUST report the absence, not the student. We will not record the absence as excused if it is not emailed to us at CSPACFrontDesk@gmail.com

If a student is absent for more than 2 weeks in a row, a phone call will be made the parent/guardian.

Student Placement/Evaluation Period

We do our very best to place students in the appropriate classes, and to also provide individualized instruction so that every student is feeling challenged and comfortable in the class they're in. We currently have either recreational, or competitive classes. Not all students who want to compete are ready. If your student wants to compete, they will need to make sure we know so that we can help to give them correction, tips, and challenges for them to work on bringing themselves to that level.

All students are closely evaluated during the first two months of classes, as we might notice some needing to be moved up or down, in level, or even age.

We do this to ensure the best learning experience not only for the class as a whole, but for each individual student. Students wanting to compete must show it all year long, and work hard. They must work well with their current class and exude a teamwork like attitude. They must respect their dance instructors, and have great attendance.

Competition Team

We currently have competition classes for ages 9-18. Our competition classes are labeled as: Petite, Junior, Senior, Elite, Excel. Students in these classes are chosen by the director. It is by invitation only. We look at many different factors, some of which is explained in the above paragraph. Competition students are held to a higher standard. Attendance must be near perfect, tuition and costumes must be paid on time, positive and friendly attitudes from students and parents are expected, and we always expect a hard work ethic. Competition should be taken seriously. We will be providing information on competition practices and competition dates in the month of August.

Dance Rehearsal/Recital

There will be one Spring Recital Showcase Weekend for Polynesian, and one for Dance.

Recital Dates are:

Polynesian: Saturday 5/18 (2 shows)

Dance: 6/7, 6/8, 6/9 (more information to come!)
Rehearsals and Recitals will all be held at The Miller Center of Reading (across from
RACC)

Fundraisers

We understand that dance expenses can add up! We do everything we can to keep our prices in line, or even lower than dance studios in our area. Costs are rising in all areas including costume companies, rent and utilities, licensing fees, venue rentals, competition events, etc.

To help offset these costs for you, we offer fundraisers all throughout the dance season! We make sure these fundraisers are practical, and easy. We encourage everyone to do as many fundraisers as possible. The credits you receive can be applied towards costumes, competitions, tuition, and merchandise.

PLEASE NOTE: Fundraiser credits CANNOT be used towards recital tickets as tickets are purchased directly through The Miller Center. They also CANNOT be give to you as cash, they will remain in your account as a credit. If you do not use all of your credit, it will remain in your account to be used at a future date.

All of this information will be added to our website, so you can refer back to it any time.

www.cultureshockpac.com

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions you may have.

For any account/billing/fundraising information: CSPACFrontDesk@gmail.com

For any questions regarding student placement/competition/instructor questions:

Info@cultureshockpac.com

Front Desk Hours: Monday through Friday 5-7pm