

Enchanted
DANCE ACADEMY
WINCHESTER, MA

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2024-2025

enchanteddanceacademy.com

781-439-2708

enchanteddanceacademy@gmail.com



ABOUT US

Enchanted Dance Academy strives to instill a love for learning, movement, and artistry through an inclusive, nurturing, and body-neutral dance education.

With an emphasis on inclusivity, commitment, technical training, creativity, enjoyment, and teamwork, we are dedicated to building an organization that provides students of all ages with a well-rounded dance education for recreational and/or professional ambitions.

The staff of Enchanted Dance Academy strives to lead by example. We treat every student with respect and believe in the potential of all. We push students to approach class with a growth mindset and we encourage dancers to take risks with integrity and passion. Our dancers grow into humble and disciplined artists who perform from their heart.

Our classes are dancer-focused. We meet our students where they're at while pushing them to step outside of their comfort zone in order to grow as dancers. We treat every student equally, regardless of experience level or hours spent at the studio each week. We welcome new students with open arms and expect that all of our dancers do the same!

Our classes are structured by age and grade level. Our staff is equipped and prepared to lead classes with inevitable level variance among each age group. We individualize instruction when necessary to ensure that every dancer is challenged appropriately and given the tools to grow.



our studio values

and how they show up in our classes



INCLUSION



**RESPECT &
COLLABORATION**



GROWTH



ARTISTRY



**BODY NEUTRALITY
& APPRECIATION**



our studio values

INCLUSION

All types of learners are welcomed and given equitable opportunities to grow and progress.

How does it show up at EDA?

- A variety of learning styles among dancers is both present and considered in all of our classes.
- Instructors employ varied teaching methods (and often take a student-centered approach) to make dance more enjoyable for all dancers and learners!

RESPECT & COLLABORATION

All members of the EDA community are expected to treat each other with respect.

How does it show up at EDA?

- Equal respect for diversity of race, gender, sexuality, religion, or ability level among dancers & staff.
- Respect for different ideas, perspectives, and learning styles.
- Clear communication when collaborating to ensure that all voices are heard.
- Support for peers & classmates regardless of their experience level or performance.
- Trust in EDA instructors, their knowledge, and their commitment to every dancer's education.

GROWTH

We celebrate personal, artistic, and technical growth among dancers and staff members.

How does it show up at EDA?

- Dancers approach class with a growth mindset, open to new ideas and challenges. Dancers and staff members step outside of comfort zones.
- Goal-setting is realistic and individualized. Progress toward goals is valued higher than tangible achievement.
- Instructors and peers support dancers while working toward goals and celebrate them equally when progress is made.
- Supportive and positive language is used in class.
- Instructors research, collaborate, and implement feedback to grow as teaching artists.

ARTISTRY

We celebrate dance as an art form and show appreciation for its history. We strive to help dancers find an artistic voice through movement.

How does it show up at EDA?

- Instructors are informed about each dance genre's history and origin and are able to give accurate context to content in their classes.
- Instructors create thoughtful choreography that pushes students to grow as performers.
- Dancers are taught how to add expression and intention to their movement. They're encouraged to take risks!
- Improvisation (older students) and free-dance (younger students) are used periodically in class as tools to foster creativity and skills in dance composition.
- Older dancers reflect (through group discussion, journal entries, and peer collaboration) to deepen their understanding of dance artistry.

BODY NEUTRALITY & APPRECIATION

All bodies are dancer bodies. Body size/shape/appearance does not influence or reflect dance ability, skill, or value. Bodies allow us to engage in movement no matter their size/shape.

How does it show up at EDA?

- Instructors speak neutrally about their own bodies in front of dancers and do not comment on the size or shape of students. They encourage dancers to show their bodies respect and appreciation. Conversations among dancers about disordered eating or changes to weight are handled with redirection and/or reframing statements from staff members.
- Staff members validate and offer support for any dancers who may be struggling with body image perception. We offer dress code flexibility, especially in our middle school/high school classes, to provide dancers with dancewear options that promote both emotional safety and productivity in class.
- Instructors teach dancers about the benefit of conditioning exercises used in class. We emphasize that the desired outcome of dance training is *not* to change the appearance or size of our body, but rather to give our body the tools it needs to help us dance.
- Height & body size are *not* used as determining factors in choreography placement or in stage formations.
- Costume measurements and selection are handled carefully and respectfully (detailed information about our approach to this is available with our recital information).

CODE OF CONDUCT

Our studio is a safe zone where everyone is accepted.
Unkind behavior will not be tolerated.

Following our code of conduct is imperative for a productive and cohesive environment.

Following this code is a requirement for every dancer who wishes to be a part of
Enchanted Dance Academy.

PLEASE NOTE:

EDA staff members value every dancer equally. Every dancer belongs at our studio, regardless of how long they have been with us. We expect that our dancers understand this and act accordingly in and outside of class.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Dancers will approach class with an open mind and growth mindset for the benefit of progressing their individual understanding of dance.
- Dancers will trust their teachers with both their OWN level placement AND that of their classmates. Class/level placement of other students is not allowed and will not be discussed.
- Dancers will support ALL of their classmates (regardless of friendship status) while at the studio, at studio events (competitions and recital), and via social media/text messages outside of the studio.
- Every effort should be made to use kind words & body language when communicating with fellow dancers or EDA staff members.

NOT TOLERATED:

- Negative talk of classmates (including text messages and social media) in or outside of the studio. Profanity and the use of swear words are not prohibited in the studio or at studio events.
- Cell phone use in class (including texting, Snapchat, or unauthorized video).
- Disrespect towards teachers or other students at EDA.
- Negative body language (whispering, eye rolling, etc.)
- Directing classmates / providing instruction unless in a leadership role and asked to do so by a staff member.
- A competitive attitude or intention within the ensemble, especially involving solos, duets, trios, and small groups within each company level.

If the code of conduct is broken, a conversation with EDA staff members and adults at home may be necessary. Potential consequences include the loss of performance privileges, or in extreme circumstances, dismissal from the studio. It is imperative that we follow through with this code of conduct to uphold a safe, inclusive, positive, and nurturing environment at Enchanted Dance Academy.

DRESS CODE

COLOR-COORDINATED LEVELS HELP ALL OF OUR STAFF MEMBERS EASILY IDENTIFY WHICH CLASS A DANCER BELONGS IN. A VARIETY OF STYLE, FABRIC, TEXTURE, AND BRANDS ARE WELCOME AS LONG AS THEY FIT THE DESCRIPTION. AT EDA, WE VALUE DANCERS' COMFORT AND STRIVE TO FOSTER A BALANCED BODY IMAGE. DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT IF YOU FEEL YOUR DANCER MAY BENEFIT FROM DRESS CODE ADJUSTMENT

PRE-K

Option 1: Pink leotard, pink or skin-colored tights, optional pink skirt

Option 2: Black, pink, or white plain tee-shirt/tank top, black athletic pants or shorts

MINI 1

Option 1: Lavender leotard, skin-colored tights (ballet/tap) / Lavender leotard, black leggings (hip-hop & acro)

Option 2: Black, lavender, or white plain tee-shirt/tank top, black athletic pants or shorts

MINI 2

Option 1: Maroon leotard, skin-colored stirrup tights, optional skirt (ballet, tap, & jazz) / Maroon leotard, black leggings (hip-hop & acro)

Option 2: Maroon plain tee-shirt/tank top, black athletic pants or shorts

PETITE / JUNIOR / SENIOR

Top: Solid-colored (black preferred) athletic tank, leotard, or tee-shirt. EDA logowear is okay!

Bottom: Black leggings, dance/yoga jogger pants, bike shorts, or athletic shorts. Optional skin-colored stirrup tights (required for recital).

*NOTE: warmup clothes (dance jackets, sweatshirts, long sleeve shirts, etc.) are welcomed as long as they are black/solid colored and designed for dance! .

SHOES

PRE-K

pink or black ballet shoes (no ties)

black tap shoes (ages 3 & 4 only)

BALLET

pink or skin-colored canvas or leather ballet shoes

TAP

black tap shoes (ties for ages 9+)

JAZZ/MUSICAL THEATRE

skin-colored slip-on jazz shoes

HIP-HOP

plain black sneakers (NO street shoes please)

LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY

half-sole pirouette shoes

MODERN/ACROBATICS

bare feet



WHY IS A DRESS CODE IMPORTANT?

While we aim for our dress code at EDA to be flexible & inclusive, it is still beneficial for dancers to have clothing they set aside specifically for dance class each week. The options we welcome help dancers move effectively and feel prepared for a productive class!

TUITION INFORMATION

Tuition is a full-season cost divided into ten equal installments. Enrolling in a class is a commitment to our entire season, September-June.

When is tuition due?

The standard calendar we follow to collect tuition is as follows:

1st Installment + Reg Fee: Registration

2nd, 3rd, + 4th Installments: October 1

5th, 6th, + 7th Installments: January 1

8th, 9th, + 10th Installments: April 1

This is how you will be billed unless you specify a different preference (see below).

Other payment options:

monthly installment plan (billed on the first of each month for one installment), pay in full up front (receive 10% off).

Where do I pay?

We collect tuition payments online. They are not automatic. You can pay through your parent portal on our studio software, DanceStudio-Pro. A direct link to log in to your parent portal is available on our website. We also accept payments via check (payable to Enchanted Dance Academy).

Tuition Installment Rates (10 installments per season)

hourly amount = weekly class hours

UNDER 3 HRS WEEKLY

.50 HR.....	\$60
.75 HR.....	\$70
1 HR.....	\$75
1.25 HR.....	\$94
1.5 HR.....	\$135
1.75 HR.....	\$145
2 HR.....	\$150
2.25 HR.....	\$155
2.5 HR.....	\$160
2.75 HR.....	\$170

3-5 HRS WEEKLY

3 HR.....	\$180
3.25 HR.....	\$193
3.5 HR.....	\$210
3.75 HR.....	\$225
4 HR.....	\$235
4.25 HR.....	\$245
4.50 HR.....	\$250
4.75 HR.....	\$255

5+ HRS WEEKLY

5 HR.....	\$275
5.25 HR.....	\$280
5.5 HR.....	\$295
5.75 HR.....	\$310
6 HR.....	\$320
6.25 HR.....	\$330
6.5 HR.....	\$340
6.75 HR.....	\$345
7+ HR (UNLIMITED).....	\$350



EDA FACULTY & STAFF



Lindsey McGovern

Owner/Director

Lindsey is the owner and director of Enchanted Dance Academy and teaches many of our weekly classes. She is a dancer, choreographer, and dance teaching artist originally from Reading, MA. She received her BS in dance / sport & movement science from Salem State University in 2015, and will receive a Master of Arts in Dance Teaching Artistry from Wayne State University in May 2025. Body-neutral dance pedagogy and dancers' body image perception define the focus of her Master's Thesis research. Lindsey has years of experience teaching both dance and theatre for all ages; she continues to work for Five Star Theatre Program each summer as the Dance Education Specialist and for Coolidge Middle School as the annual musical choreographer (both in Reading, MA). Additionally, Lindsey performs modern dance both as a freelance artist & with her modern dance collaboration, Vitality Dance Project. Lindsey teaches dance with empathy and compassion, placing important value on the individual connections she forms with each of Enchanted's students.



Laura McGovern

Administration & Retail, Instructor

Laura works for EDA as both an instructor and with studio administration. Our little ones love her in the Pre-K and Mini 1 levels as she brings her long-time dance and childcare experience to our weekly classes! Laura also helps our dancers get set up with everything they need for dance class--check out our retail shop in the front of our 33 East Street location, where you can purchase dance attire and shoes to prepare for class. You can coordinate an appointment with her to try on clothing/shoes by email. Laura works with Lindsey to manage studio communications, so you may hear back from her when you reach out to us via phone or email!

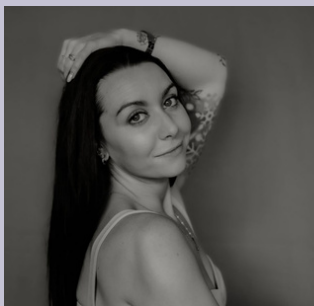
You also may hear from Erin McGovern, one of our studio's administrators who also works occasionally in our lobby!



Erin Doherty

Director of Inclusion & Instructor

Erin is our Director of Inclusion as well as one of our instructors at EDA! She helps us to ensure that all of our dancers are seen, understood, and set up for success in class. Erin graduated from Hofstra University in 2018 with a degree in dance education and then from Stonehill College with a Master's Degree in Inclusive Education focused in Diversity and Equity. Erin is a full-time public school dance teacher for the Curly School in Jamaica Plain. She has presented her research on ableism and democratic dance education twice at the National Dance Education Organization's annual conference (2022, 2023) and will return to the conference this year as a co-presenter with EDA Owner/Director, Lindsey!



Kelsey Blanchette

Instructor

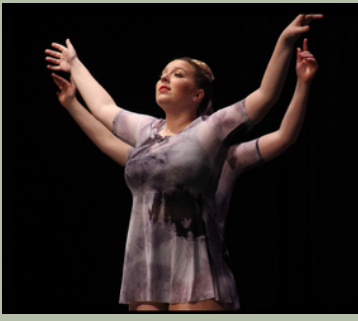
Kelsey will be returning to EDA for her 8th year as one of our instructors! She graduated from Salem State University in 2017 with degrees in both dance and communications. She is passionate about modern dance choreography, performance, and general dance education; she also works for Bosoma School of Dance in Hamilton & Georgetown, MA. Kelsey dances for Bosoma Dance Company and is the co-founder of Vitality Dance Project. Kelsey brings EDA's older students expertise in ballet and works with Lindsey as a co-director of our Senior Advanced Company program.



Caitlin Beckman

Instructor

Caitlin Beckman has worked as an instructor at EDA for several years; she is also a theatre and music educator, director, and performer. After graduating from Wagner College with a BA in Theatre Performance & Speech, she was an Entertainment Cast Member at Walt Disney World Resort (2013-2016), directed and choreographed educational and community theatre, and performed with the American Repertory Theater and community theaters in the North Shore area. Caitlin was the founding theatre teacher at KIPP Academy Lynn Middle School from 2017-2024, where she directed and choreographed the annual school musical. She is currently the theatre education coordinator at Five Star Theatre Program and the music teacher at Killam Elementary in Reading.



Emily Cooper

Instructor

Emily is one of our Enchanted Dance Academy alumni and is returning for her 4th year as an EDA instructor! She is adored by our students, most especially our younger dancers. Emily has a nurturing, compassionate, and engaging teaching style that captivates and inspires our students. She is currently studying early childhood education and works as a student teacher in a preschool class. We are so lucky to have her back with us this season!



Jessica Greenbaum

Instructor

Jessica Greenbaum started her career as a competitive dancer at North Shore Dance Academy in Danvers, MA. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Human Services with a minor in Psychology from Fitchburg State University in 2017 and has recently completed a Master of Education in Special Education from Salem State University. Jessica has taught a variety of genres, levels, and ages at Academy of Dance Arts in Leominster, MA and Boire Dance Academy in Nashua, NH. Currently, Jessica is a Special Education Teacher at Reading Memorial High School and she also works as an instructor for North Reading School of Ballet. Her goal is to inspire and guide the next generation of dancers to embrace themselves as well as share her passion for dance.



Jasmine Senn

Instructor

Jasmine is dancer, choreographer, and performer of the arts. Jasmine graduated with honors from Salem State University in 2019 with a major in dance and business administration where she was also a member of Repertory Dance Theatre and the Salem Dance Ensemble. Jasmine most recently went on tour across the country with Turn It Up Dance Challenge as the company's Show Director. Jasmine strives to be a part of a community that provides programs that will help develop self-esteem, confidence, and respect to themselves as well as others.

Meghan McLyman

Instructor

Meghan is a professor of dance and the dance program coordinator at Salem State University. The University recognized her passion for teaching with the 2017 Distinguished Teaching Award, and in 2018, she received an Arts Learning Distinguished Teaching and Arts Advocacy Award. She is also a recipient of a 2020 Whiting Fellowship which supported her research at ImPulsTanz in Vienna, Austria. She has presented at conferences for the National Dance Education Organization, American College Dance Association, Somatic Dance Conference, and with TEDxSalemStateUniversity. Meghan holds degrees from Point Park University, American University, and Hollins University, is a Certified Evans Teacher under Bill Evans, and a Moving For Life Certified Teacher under Martha Eddy. She serves on the board of the Massachusetts Dance Education Organization. Meghan is the co-director of Accumulation Dance and co-teacher of Moving to Connect in collaboration with Kristen Duffy Young. Find their work on Instagram at [accumulation.danceand](https://www.instagram.com/accumulation.danceand) at [moving_to_connect](https://www.instagram.com/moving_to_connect).



Sophie Leveille

Instructor

Sophie is a graduate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. During her time at school she was a member of the UMass Dance Company, was part of multiple student thesis concerts, as well as the faculty work and dance film with the National Endowment of the Arts, Convergence, directed by Dr. Aston McCullough. After graduation she began teaching dance at local studios and joined the adult collective ensemble through Pantos Project Dance in Waltham, MA. This season she will join the Pantos Project Dance company as an apprentice. She is so excited to begin her first year teaching at Enchanted Dance Academy!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

My dancer has more experience than other dancers in their class and they do well with older students. Shouldn't they be in a different level?

Our classes at EDA are structured based on age/grade-level, though we make occasional exceptions if instructors feel that a different class may work better for your dancer. Our instructors are all thoroughly trained and well-equipped to accommodate slight level variance among class groups, as this is expected. We value each dancer's individual experience and ensure that all dancers are appropriately challenged in our classes. We appreciate your trust in our expertise to make class recommendations that will set up your dancer for success.

How does the tuition structure work? Am I paying a fixed rate per month?

Our season runs from September 11 to June 15. Our weekly classes are priced based on a full-season rate for the total number of classes which is then divided into 10 equal installments.

Can I un-enroll my dancer part-way through the season?

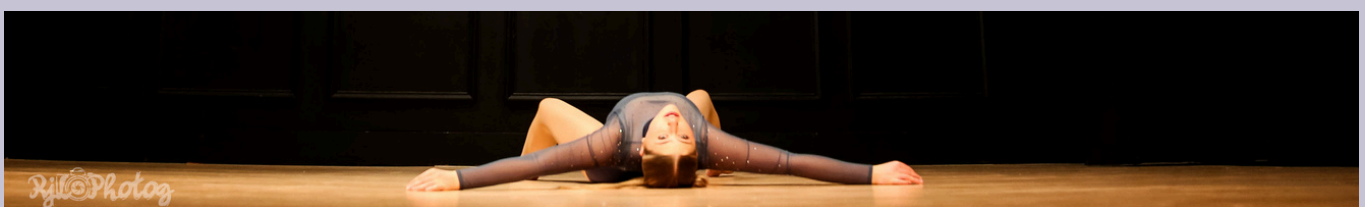
Dancers who enroll in our season classes are expected to commit to and attend class through the end of the season, and our class curriculum is designed for a September - June timeline. We have a flexible attendance policy that allows dancers to engage in other activities alongside dance, but dropping from a class partway through the season due to schedule changes or convenience disrupts our class cohesion and overall program structure. We cannot refund tuition or fees if you choose to withdraw from a class mid-season.

My child is injured. How should they proceed?

If your dancer has a mild injury and is instructed to rest, they may elect to come to class and observe. If the injury requires rest for longer than 2 weeks, we kindly ask that you bring us a doctor's note so that we can remain looped in to the situation to help support your dancer's healing. Dancers enrolled in our company program should be prepared for a conversation about injury treatment and how it will affect participation in the remainder of the season.

Class was cancelled due to inclement weather. Is there a make-up?

We build "extra" classes into our season calendar to account for the possibility of cancellation due to weather or studio emergencies. These classes are not accounted for in your total season cost. If class cancellations exceed the number of built in classes, you will receive a make-up option.



2024-2025 SEASON CALENDAR

These dates are subject to change. Any changes made to this calendar will be communicated via email.

Monday, September 9th	Pre-K Classes Begin
Monday, September 16th	Mini 1 - Senior Level Classes Begin
Monday, October 14th	Studio Closed (Holiday)
Thursday, October 31st	Studio Closed (Halloween)
Wednesday, Nov 27th - Saturday, Nov 30th	Studio Closed (Thanksgiving)
Monday, Dec 23rd - Saturday, Jan 4th	Studio Closed (Winter Break)
Monday, Feb 17th - Saturday, Feb 22nd	Studio Closed (February Break)
Monday, April 21st - Saturday, April 25th	Studio Closed (April Break)
Tuesday, June 3rd	All classes end
Thursday, June 5th	Dress Rehearsal (may exclude Pre-K)
Saturday, June 7th	Recital Day (all levels)

ANNUAL RECITAL:

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH:
Recital Day for all levels

THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH:
Dress rehearsal (Pre-K levels may be excluded)

LOCATION:

**Reading Memorial High School
Performing Arts Center
62 Oakland Road, Reading MA**

