



ASCEND DANCE STUDIOS



Welcome to Season 10!

We welcome our returning students and new students to Season 10 at Ascend Studios! We can't wait to kick off an amazing 10th anniversary year full of opportunities for exploration and growth. Our plan is to help our students fall in love with dance each year, with more opportunities & more experiences every season.

At Ascend we are eager to build a relationship with all of our students and families that will last. Our hope is to inspire a community of families and young artists who are eager to develop technique, artistry, a love for learning, discipline in their art form, and a positive attitude. It is our belief that those skills, & many others are instilled during dance training and will serve each of us well in many areas both in and outside of the studio. Our mission is to develop our five core values in every student while maintaining an artistic, educational, professional, positive, beneficial, exciting, and fulfilling atmosphere!

In providing dance education for many years I understand the importance of organization and communication. This handbook contains much of the information you will need to plan appropriately for the upcoming season. Please take time to read this carefully and keep this information accessible for the rest of the year as it will be useful for you and your family to reference.

Thank you for choosing Ascend Studios for your dance education. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our knowledge and our passion for this art form with you/your students!

For the love of dance!

"Miss" Jessie & the team at Ascend Studios

Artistry.

Discipline.

Technique.

Positivity.

Love of Learning



Why Ascend Studios is the right choice for dance education

- Everything we do is “for the love of dance!”
- Age-appropriate, high-quality music, costumes, and choreography
- Caring, Professional, Knowledgeable, and FUN instructors
- Staff that are not just passionate about dance, but hold multiple degrees and certifications, & consider their own education ongoing
- Extensive and entertaining curriculum in a fun and inviting atmosphere!
- Create memories and friendships that will last a lifetime
- Learn the value of hard work, discipline, and respect, in addition to technique
- Sub-floating floors that help provide cushion and prevent injury
- Ballet Barres, mats, and many props for fun and creative movement in class
- Easy and convenient payment via autopay & the DanceStudioPro app
- Convenient, consistent & accessible ways to communicate & stay up to date
- Full-length mirrors to see body alignment and technique
- Both recreational & academic level classes
- Placement by both age AND ability so that each student finds the right fit!
- State-of-the-art sound systems
- Clean facility including waiting areas & dressing rooms!
- Dancewear available at the studio, no shipping, quality dancewear, low prices!



With a Bachelors Degree in Ballet Pedagogy from OU, & several certifications in movement programs for dancers, students and special needs, Jessie Dolezel, the owner and creative force behind Ascend Studios, knows what it takes. Jessie brings her experience & passion for dance into every classroom. Her fierce belief in the benefits of dance for every person is woven through everything from curriculums to events & choreography.

As a mother, wife & business owner, Jessie knows the struggles of families & parents & makes ease of communication, enrollment, pick-up & drop-off a part of what Ascend is known for.

She is excited to spend Season 10 sharing her passion with students of all ages & abilities!

'Miss" Jessie Dolezel

The important stuff: TUITION & MEMBERSHIP & COST

Membership

Our Annual Membership fee comes with a lot of perks! Membership fee payment is how you reserve a space in a class during open enrollment (similar to a registration fee). In addition, our members receive early enrollment access, and membership pricing on special events!

Membership covers an entire family for one season (Aug 2023 - June 2024) is \$55.00 & due at registration.

Tuition:

- Our Season tuition fee is broken down into 9 installments. Tuition is calculated for the full season a student receives instruction, and paid in monthly installments. Therefore, you will pay the same tuition installment each month during the season, regardless of how many class days reside within that month.
- Tuition is \$68.00 monthly installment September - May for each class meeting 1x per week,
- Tuition is \$125.00 for classes that meet 2x per week.
- TUITION IS ALWAYS DUE BY THE 10th OF EACH MONTH, & is posted to student accounts on the 1st of each month.
- Additional Class Discounts are available: Members receive 10% off their second class/student, 15% off the third class/student, & 20% off the 4th or more classes/students.
- Drop in class fee is: \$18 per class

Production Costs

- Production fees are non-refundable, regardless of participation/withdrawal from a class.
- Our basic production fees are \$199 per student & \$85 for each additional costume (for each additional class)
- Production Fees are posted to accounts & due in October & November. Unpaid production fees may result in your student's costumes being delayed or unavailable.
- We hold DoubleGood online fundraisers each season in late September & October so that students can apply these funds to their accounts to help offset the costs of production! We are one of the only studios in the area that provides a fundraiser to be applied/available to the whole student body at Ascend!

Paying Tuition / Tuition Policies

- Upon registration, each family registers in our Auto-Pay system.
- Auto-pay will charge the card on file for the balance due on the account on the 10th of each month, Sep - May.
- A \$10 late fee applies to all unpaid accounts on the 25th monthly, returned check/declined card fee is \$35.
- Reminder texts & emails will go out via our system to accounts with a balance remaining, on the 15th & 18th.
- Each family is required to have a card on file in our system, even if they pay in full or do cash pay.
- It is the responsibility of each family/parent to update their auto-pay information when/if it changes during the season in order not to be charged a late fee for unpaid balances due to a card failure.
- Advance cash pay for the semester receives an additional 5% discount when paid by September 30th 2023.
- Advance cash pay for the entire season receives an additional 10% discount when paid by September 30th 2023.
- Online payments can always be made through your Parent Portal or the DanceStudioPRO app.
- Tuition is due for all classes until formal written withdrawal is made.
- Please Note: We do not pro-rate tuition for classes missed. Instead, we ask your student to please make up the class in person, or use our online resources for additional class times.

NEW

FAQ

What happens if there is bad weather?

If there happens to be inclement weather that affects our class schedule you will be notified via email & text & the studio will post information in our parent group on Facebook as well as our main public page. Please make sure you keep up-to-date contact information in your customer portal account as this is essential to you getting information from us in a timely manner. Be sure to like, subscribe and follow our main Facebook page, and search and request to join our parent group on Facebook. Just search 'Ascend Studios Parent Group' and request to join.

In the event of severe weather of any kind (including but not limited to Ice, Snow, Sleet, Tornado, or other severe storm threat) Ascend Studios will make the best decision possible for our students & staff concerning our class schedule. This may include cancellations. We will not make-up classes missed for a severe weather event so long as the class only loses one class period to the cancellations. Additional cancellations will mean make-up classes may be scheduled at a future date, subject to director's discretion. In any severe weather case, please do what you feel is safe for your family. You can always make up a class missed!

What if I miss a class?

If a class is missed, you have the option to make it up in another class of the same type. However, there are limits to this system especially during production season (Jan-May). Sometimes classes missed simply cannot be made up, so attendance is important! Please contact us to make up a class and we can help make sure you take the right class for your make-up lesson if available. Classes that are missed must be made up within the current semester.

We need to withdraw from a class - what do we do?

Things happen, and sometimes classes just don't work out. We understand! *An official withdrawal form must be completed for us to process a withdrawal and stop payment on your student account.* Please contact the office for the online form link. Please note: withdrawals take 14 days to process. In order to avoid a tuition payment, we must be notified 14 days prior to payment date. Tuition is due until withdrawal is fully processed.

We need to change classes/add classes

We have a form for this as well! Stop by the office and let us know, and we can take care of it for you. Please note class changes will affect production planning. For this reason, class changes for students participating in production incur a fee of \$25 on or after October 15th & \$50 on or after November 15th.

Our Lobby and Waiting Room Policies

While we do offer limited seating and viewing windows in our lobby, we encourage parents who can consider dropping off and picking up most of the time. During various times our lobby has been closed and the benefits observed included less distracted students, less noise to contend with both in the classroom & in our offices, & less mess. We are conveniently located just a few short blocks from Regional Park and the Midwest City Library which are perfect spaces for a quick playtime for younger siblings. While in the lobby please be mindful of loud noises and voices. Help us maintain a clean environment for everyone by making sure the space you use is clean when you leave it.

Our yard area is available for outdoor play and activities during nice weather. Parents, be advised children should be supervised *at all times* and outside play is undertaken at your own risk. Traffic is close by and poses a threat. Please stay aware when outside with young children!

A Positive Atmosphere / When Problems Arise

It is vitally important to us that our studio spaces are a positive, accepting place. Please remember that any discussion of students, teachers, parents & classes should remain positive and encouraging at all times. Especially in our open public spaces! If there is an issue that needs to be addressed it should be brought to the director (Miss Jessie) privately first. Please let our office know you would like to schedule an appointment. We are always open and available to discuss things with you. Communication is key to a successful year for all of us, and we thank you for bringing any concerns to our attention so that we can address them as necessary. We really appreciate the chance to learn about any issue firsthand and to address an issue or fix a problem. So please, come talk to us!

What shoes and apparel are required for each class?

Required dance wear and dance shoes must be worn to all classes. Failure to wear required dancewear to class could result in students being asked to sit out of the class - this is for their safety! *Students are not permitted to wear jeans or shoes worn on the street or outdoors to any dance class.*

For safety reasons, students are asked not to wear jewelry and long hair should be tied back and out of the face. Also, no gum or candy in the studio.

Our Dress Code information is also on the website. Click FAQ and 'What should I wear to class?' or see the QR code below to access our dress code information for Season 10.

Why the dress code?

Tights and leotards not only allow instructors to view the students' body more easily, but they also makes correction more efficient and the student safer, as poor placement and lack of correction often lead to injury, but they also provide support for muscles & ligaments.

Jewelry has the potential to break, fly off or cause injury so no jewelry please, especially watches.

While skirts are allowed (both attached and un-attached) we encourage our dancers NOT to use this option often, as 1) we can see their alignment better without & 2) auditions and more are done in leotard and tights only & our students need to be comfortable and accustomed to this attire.

Specific leotard colors are a tradition for classical ballet schools. They allow a teacher to quickly see if students are in the correct class and create a uniform appearance in the classroom, allowing for efficient, professional, instruction. Currently, we have a "black & pink" dress code in place for ballet classes, & other requirements for various styles.

Please see our office, or the FAQ section on our website for more information on Dress Code & what to wear to classes, or view our full dress code & all requirements here:



Is there a performance? When? What about costumes?

Yes. We host an annual production in the Spring! This year's shows will take place on **SATURDAY JUNE 1st 2024**. Please see the section 'Annual Production' in this handbook for more information on production!

What if we are sick?

Parents, we all know that sick children are no fun. Please commit with us to keeping our students as healthy as possible. That means not coming to class when you've been ill or feel ill & making sure to wash hands or at least use a sanitizer before & after classes. Young children who have had a fever within 24 hours, or have the icky green running nose, persistent cough, etc that signals infection should stay home & make-up their class at a later date.

How do we order shoes/dancewear?

All shoes and apparel can be purchased in-house, and all purchases support Ascend Studios! Our in-stock items are available for trying on and purchasing during all our regular class times. Items not in stock can be conveniently sized & ordered and then picked up at the studio. You can also purchase dance wear through your parent portal online! The order comes to us, we can fill the order from in-stock items or get them in for you and you simply pick up at the studio!

Photos & Videos

Our waiver includes a photo/video release form. If you have updates to this form or would like to make changes to your preferences please let us know. If you prefer NOT to have photos/videos posted of your student on our website or social media platforms please contact us.

Parents, we understand wanting to snap a quick photo or video of your student during classes. We ask that you please do not share those photos or videos publicly if they include other classmates without first asking about it. You can ask the classroom instructor if anyone in the class has opted out of photos/videos and they will know. Thank you for respecting your fellow student's privacy!

Why the five core values? What do they mean?

Our five core values are what set us apart as a studio. Our values drive all of our decisions. We believe in teaching a love for learning through dance. We believe a positive attitude is necessary for learning. We believe in the artistry of dance, not just the athleticism. We believe that good technique takes priority, and is the foundation for everything else. We believe in the discipline that dance training encourages and that students can carry that into other areas of their lives to their benefit.

Can we watch classes?

Yes, we set aside several times each season for parents to observe classes. Please remember that watching / viewing class is a privilege! Come to observe & be engaged in classtime with your students!

- Parent Watch Week happens each season in the fall. It is a time for parents to observe classes & sometimes enjoy special treats or giveaways!. This is a way for us to spread the love of dance to your whole family and to thank you for being a part of what makes Ascend Studios special!
- Our Christmas Open House week is another time that we invite parents into our classrooms to observe & take part in our learning, while our students present special short holiday themed numbers!
- In May each season we offer a second Parent Watch Week, where parents preview our production numbers in costume, get all of our information on our annual production, receive student progress reports & more!

Often times, parents are invited to join us briefly throughout the year to see new choreography, accomplishments or share a special moment with us in class. This is always at the teacher's discretion. Please remember to respect the Instructor & the studio space at all times which includes being quiet & avoiding conversation & also keeping our spaces clean & neat. Instructors have spent years developing curriculum and teaching philosophies that determine why we do what we do.

***NEW* Phone & Device Policy**

Ascend Studios is implementing this policy to encourage focus & eliminate distractions. All students with phones, watches, or other electronic devices will be asked to place them in a box at the front of the studio at the start of their class time. This will eliminate students excusing themselves to use the bathroom and using that time to check phones or be distracted by messages, apple watch notifications distracting students & teachers assistants during class times, & more. We believe it is beneficial for our dancers to fully unplug for class time & focus. Parents, thank you for contacting the office - not your student's phones/devices for any emergencies while they are in class.

Arrival & Dismissal Policies

- All students should enter through our front doors & proceed to their designated classrooms.
- Please minimize the items your student brings into the studio - only bring the necessities! (This is usually just shoes & a water bottle). Make sure what they bring is marked with their name or initials, especially shoes!
- Students with more than one class in a row can take items with them to their first class & this will eliminate the need to go back & forth to a very busy & full dressing room! (ex: water bottle, shoes for their second class, bike shorts for second class) Crowding is an issue. Please help us minimize this!
- The majority of our classes are 55 minutes in length & dismiss at 0:55 or 0:25, depending on the day.
- Classes in STUDIO A & STUDIO B will dismiss out their respective back doors & into the back (south) parking lot area. Parents should queue near the parking cones at those back doors for pick up.
- If a student is NOT picked up promptly, they will be sent to the front office & you will need to pick up from the front. Our Instructors have a 3-minute window to dismiss students & then get to their next class. If you aren't waiting at dismissal time, you will likely miss that window & need to pick up at the front!
- In the event of rain/sleet/snow, we will move to pick up & drop off under the portico for ALL classes & students to protect them from the elements.
- For classes later than 8pm & with teen drivers we will dismiss & let them exit either through the front lobby / drive-through or out the back door.
- PARENTS: please inform your student & anyone else picking up or dropping off of the above policies, & know which door to pick up your student from after class!
- Don't know which classroom your student is in? Check your class confirmation email or view their class schedule in your parent portal or DSP parent portal app!
- Should you need to pick up your student from class EARLY - please check in at the front desk and ask our staff to fetch them from class for you. Thank you!
- Should you be more than 15 minutes late to pick up a student our office will begin calling your contacts to notify them that you have a student awaiting pickup. This is why having more than one parent/guardian listed on accounts is important!

Pick up & Drop Off Etiquette

- Parents; treat this like a school pick up or drop off line!
- Do not park in the drive-through lane & exit your vehicle. The covered drive-through lane is for pick-up & drop-off only.
- If your student is not at the door, please pull around - please keep the line moving.
- When utilizing this lane for a drop-off/pick up please do so in the LEFT-HAND side/lane away from the building. Parents, students & young children are exiting & entering in the same area. Please keep this, & everyone's safety in mind!
- Remember the drive-through has a LOW CLEARANCE!
- Parking spaces marked "No Parking" on the east side of our parking lot should never be used.
- We discourage the use of parking spots along our entrance and exit driveways as these spots put your vehicle, and you at more risk.
- Thank you for understanding & helping us to keep everyone safe both in and outside the studio!

Handle With Care Policy

We are pleased to offer a "Handle With Care" policy at Ascend Studios. This policy encourages parents to email the office with the subject line "Student Name, Handle with Care" anytime a student might be experiencing difficulties that may affect how they need to be approached in class. Details can be provided, or parents may choose to simply send the email with the subject line only. This is then passed to their teacher - so that their Instructor(s) for the day know to handle the student with care throughout their time with us. This means extending grace, less of a "push" from instructors during class & more understanding. Additionally, older students may submit "Handle with Care" cards to the office for this purpose - these are available in their dressing room area, are intended to remain anonymous unless the student asks for other considerations, & will assist instructors in meeting students where they are at for each and every class time. Examples of great times to utilize our handle with care policy would be in the event of a death in the family, major family event or change, school change, return from illness or injury, etc.

What about class Promotions? / When will my child advance?

Promotions to new classes are very individual and may happen at any time throughout the dance year, at the discretion of instructors / directors. Please be aware that the dance classroom is not like the school room and dancers will not promote each year. There will be levels where students remain for 2-3 years at a time. This just means that your student is perfecting and fine-tuning what they are learning / have learned, and generally, adding to vocabulary before they are ready for promotion. There are certain levels where a lot of vocabulary is added (new steps) and it takes time to master them all. Progress Reports are completed in December and May each season, with class suggestions for the coming season included. It is our desire to keep our students growing and challenged, safe, and fully engaged in learning. Sometimes, that means staying in the current class until they have mastered a certain level of technique and sometimes it means promoting to a new class despite an age range difference. Either way, our top priority is our student's growth!

Why "Always Ballet" and "Ballet First"?

You may have heard us suggest a ballet class first for your student... or encourage your more serious student to stay in ballet classes regularly throughout the year even if their first love is jazz - why? Well, ballet is the mother of all classical dance forms. Ballet class is where a dancer learns to stand & hold their dance posture & placement, and all the unspoken rules of the dance classroom. It is where they learn to correctly articulate their feet and use them properly for efficiency and safety during turns and jumps (allegro).

The 5 positions of ballet are used in ALL styles of classical dance (from tap to modern to hip-hop to jazz and contemporary...) as are many other dance terms that we learn in the ballet classroom. Essentially: ballet class is the class that teaches us how to be a dancer. Without it, students often lack a certain level of technical proficiency and may struggle to understand and pick up things that directly relate to ballet technique. If your student aspires to any goals involving dance ballet training is a must, & they will be grateful for it!

STUDENTS SHOULD

- arrive early or on time
- warm-up before class if possible
- come prepared with correct dance attire and shoes
- respect your teacher and fellow students at all times.
- be ready and wait (quietly) at the studio door before their class time. Never make a teacher fetch you from the dressing room!
- set up barres without being asked (for teen/ elementary level ballet classes)
- respond politely to teachers when asked a question. A simple yes or no is okay!
- give every class your best effort. Some days are better than others, we know that.
- be especially gracious, attentive, and energetic when a guest teacher is present. Put your best foot forward. ;)
- stretch in between combinations
- ask questions! If you're given an opportunity to ask questions and you don't take it, but you can't perform the combination... that's a big dance class faux pas!
- learn combinations for yourself - don't rely on the mirror, or on others
- practice at home - safely.
- excuse yourself for a bathroom or drink break if necessary, but come immediately back into the classroom as quickly as possible. Try NOT to do this in large groups or numbers unless the teacher dismisses you on purpose.
- when a teacher moves to the music player to begin music you should immediately get into position to begin the combination - before the music starts. You should never wait until you hear music to be in position!

STUDENTS SHOULD NOT

- tell a teacher they did something wrong. Instead, ask a question about the correct way to execute the combination or step.
- ask what time it is. There is no way to ask this question without seeming to be disinterested, bored, and ready to leave class.
- refuse to do a step, refuse to improv if asked to do so, or refuse to dance in general. Dance is the reason you are in the classroom!
- tell other dancers what to do
- take more time than necessary during a bathroom or water break. These breaks are meant just for that - not for sitting down in the dressing room or checking your phone!
- discuss other dancers, teachers, or classes in a negative light.
- talk during class time, when the teacher is talking or during combinations or when the music is on
- utilize a phone or apple watch during class

At ASCEND STUDIOS WE . . .

- treat our studio space with respect. No running or horseplay in the studio.
- arrive on time, prepared & ready to work
- only speak when a teacher asks you to speak
- leave gum, candy, snacks outside of the dance studio
- get creative & let insecurities fall away
- treat everyone around us with respect.
- never tell another dancer what to do, unless they ask for your help
- build each other up with positive attitudes & encouragement
- never correct a teacher or question their authority
- wear appropriate clothing for class, wear our hair up & no jewelry.
- welcome each class, combination or exercise with a smile
- discuss problems that arise in a calm, respectful manner.
- do not leave the classroom without permission from your instructor
- grow, learn & explore!
- **HAVE FUN BECAUSE WE LOVE TO DANCE!**

Production 2024

ANNUAL PRODUCTION 2024

Ascend Studios prides itself on a professionally produced show including costumes, lighting, and special production elements each year. We are proud to partner with Rose State College Hudiburg Chevrolet Performing Arts Center as the host to all of our performances. Our themed shows are the highlight of our student's year & the culmination of 9 months worth of work & progress. It is a milestone event for dancers & their families & an essential part of any dancer's training. Plans for our 2024 Production are in development, we expect to have more details on the show in January, with our Production theme reveal in November/December.

PRODUCTION DATES

Please reserve the date of June 1st, 2024 for our Annual Performance.

We will have rehearsals leading up to our show on Tuesday May 28th for our ATP team members, & other Youth Division dancers, on Wednesday May 29th for our Foundations Division Dancers, on Thursday May 30th for our Primary Division dancers, and on Friday May 31st for our Elementary & Youth Division dancers.

More information will be released in spring 2024.

Please reserve these dates until you have more specifics!

PRODUCTION COSTS

- Production fees are non-refundable, regardless of participation/withdrawal from a class.
- Our basic production fees are \$199 per student & \$85 for each additional costume (for each additional class)
- Production Fees are posted to accounts & due in October & November. Unpaid production fees may result in your student's costumes being delayed or unavailable.
- We hold DoubleGood online fundraisers each season in late September & October so that students can apply these funds to their accounts to help offset the costs of production! We are one of the only studios in the area that provides a fundraiser to be applied/available to the whole student body at Ascend!
- Production fees can be paid in one bulk payment, or in 2 installments. 1st installment is due by October 10th, 2022. 2nd installment is due by November 10th, 2022.
- Recital fees that are past due more than 30 days may incur a \$10 late fee.

PRODUCTION TICKETS

Our Annual Production is a ticketed event. **Tickets are usually \$15-\$18 per seat, but up to \$25 including taxes & fees.** We do our best to make our Annual Production accessible for everyone while providing a state-of-the-art performance experience & training experience for our students. Ticket bundles are discounted, & available for families with students participating in more than one of our shows on Production day.

Tickets go on sale in early May, we advise you to plan in advance! All members will receive email & text notifications when tickets go on sale. All ticketing is handled through the Civic Center Box Office, not Ascend Studios.

OTHER PURCHASES / COSTS

We offer Production bundles for pre-order that include a themed stuffie, 3-stem rose bouquet & production t-shirt.

These pre-orders of bundles, roses, shirts & more are available via the parent portal in early spring.

Ascend Studios partners with Tulsa Dance Video for the filming of our performances. Production Videos may be pre-ordered online (generally \$35 & up for one full show purchase) in early spring through the Tulsa Dance Video website, or in person at our performances. *early purchase is best to avoid the lines!

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

A Few Additional Notes

CO-PARENTING

Parents, please be aware that the main parent on any student's account, is responsible for the account, and all fees, communications, etc. throughout the season. *It is not the responsibility of the studio* to divide payments or contact other parents/grandparents for payment or communications.

Additional contacts can be added to the account at time of enrollment, to include parents, grandparents, and step-parents. This will ensure they receive communications, but will not affect or give access to accounts or payments.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

If your student must be absent from class please contact the office via email or the parent portal contact us button (not via our Facebook or Instagram accounts please) with the subject "ABSENT" and include the student name and date & provide a reason for the absence. Thank you!

Dance performances are akin to team sports - without our full team, we can't win. Especially in peak performance times please make every effort to attend classes consistently. You may feel you can afford the break from class if you simply "know your part" but your absence can affect your entire group, During 'Production Season' (January - May) we ask that students not miss more than 2 classes. Students absent more than 2x within this season will be on probation concerning production performance & may be asked to take private lessons with their instructor to make up classes missed, at a cost to the parent.

PRE-SCREENING / MEDICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

For dancers engaged in more than 3x per week dance classes we strongly advise parents to receive a pre-season screening from a professional Physical Therapist prior to the start of the season. Our staff & many students work with area therapists who come to our studio. Please reach out to the office for information if you are interested in an appointment! When physical issues arise in class we often refer to Physical Therapists and Chiropractors for initial assistance with common issues, aches, and pains. A screening and regular check-ins will prevent most injuries & make for stronger dancers!

For Pointe & Pre-Pointe, screenings may be required.

INJURIES / MEDICAL HOLD

Injuries do occur, as with any physical activity. When a student consistently presents with pain complaints in class for more than 7 days, our staff will recommend a doctor's visit and a doctor's note releasing them to return to dance. Should an injury require your student to miss more than 2 weeks of scheduled classes & have official documentation (doctor's note, etc.) it is our policy to put their student account on medical hold for 30 days. This saves their place in a class, but the parent is not charged for tuition during that 30-day time period. After 30 days each case is evaluated and further action determined at that time. It is our expectation that appropriate action is taken when a student is injured. These actions might include recommendations for seeing a physical therapist, chiropractor, massage therapist, or orthopedic doctor. With perceived serious injury a doctor's release may be required to return to classes & rehearsals.

Parents, we advise you to view your dancers as athletes & treat their possible or factual injuries with appropriate care & concern. Dancers who receive appropriate care for even minor sprains & strains are far less likely to re-injure the area or have chronic issues later in life.

Please note that this medical hold policy can be applied to other non-physical medical emergencies pertaining to a student or family within the studio, at Director's Discretion.

COMMUNICATION

Dance Studio Pro online portal & Parent Portal APP

Our Dance Studio-Pro App is the BEST way to keep up with what's happening at the studio & have easy access to communications & your account.

1. Visit the App Store on your device & download the app (Search for Dance Studio-Pro Portal)
2. Log-in using the email / username & password you created when enrolling. You can reset these at any time.
3. Now you can view your weekly schedule, get push notifications, easy contact us button for messaging the studio, view & pay your account online, & have access to music files, videos, resources & more!

Email

Keep an eye out for our Friday Forecast emails sent each Friday with all the latest news!

Please be sure to keep Ascend Studios updated with your current email address and phone number as we will be using them as a primary means of communication throughout the year. You can update your preferences for communication with us at any time, via the parent portal or by contacting the office.

We send emails via DanceStudioPRO as well as from studio accounts like director@ascenddancestudios.com. Please make sure all of these messages are getting to your inbox by checking spam and other folders for them at the beginning of the year! Thank you!

We advise parents to add additional contacts to their accounts who can receive our emails and texts. Additional contacts can be your teen student, grandparents, step-parents or anyone who should have knowledge of your student's schedule and what's happening each week. This is easy to do in the parent portal via the "accounts" tab.

Robo-text Messages / Phone

We occasionally use text messages to communicate important reminders. Mass texts will come from varying numbers, in order to prevent them from being dismissed as spam.

The studio/office phone number is (405) 737-3032. Our office hours vary, & our staff often works from home. Please note that we are generally in the office & available to answer/return calls from 4-9pm nightly Monday - Friday with some exceptions.

Website

Our website can be found at www.ascenddancestudios.com and all the information you need, including a link to DanceStudioPro to log in to your parent portal, can be found there! Check out our new "members" page with all the information & links for our enrolled members!

Facebook

One of the easiest ways to receive updates is by joining our 'Ascend Studios Parent Group' on Facebook. Just search for the group and ask to join. There is a wealth of information there for you. Check out our files section for tutorials, links, and more. A copy of this handbook, schedules, and other pertinent information is there as well!

In addition, we suggest you follow our public Facebook page and subscribe to events.

We often do our Thursday livestream of quick announcements each week in our parent facebook group. This is a great way to catch up on what's happening at the studio!

Theme Weeks!

Parents, we have a lot of fun planned for this Season! Theme weeks are just one of the ways your student can participate in all that is happening at the studio!

Many of our theme weeks end with a Friday evening Dance Party/Camp! These are perfect 3 hour events for a "Parent's Night Out"! You can register for these (& all of our events) in the parent portal - just click the ticket icon!

September 18th - 22nd Theme Week: OPPOSITES!



It's Opposite Week at Ascend Studios & there are a few things we will be doing... backwards... or upside down. Dress as your opposite if you so choose (students as teachers? teachers dress like students? It's going to get a little topsy turvey & we'll wrap it up with our POP STAR! Themed Camp on September 22nd!



October 9th-11th & 17- 19th Theme Days: BACK IN TIME

Pull out last year's dance costumes (if they fit!?) it's a throwback theme days where we'll be reminiscing about past year's productions & more. Don't have an old dance costume lying around or nothing fits? That's ok! Any throwback costume or accessory that you can dance in works!

November 5th - 10th Theme Week!: DANCE AROUND THE WORLD

We're exploring dances from around the world this week! Prepare to "visit" some new destinations & learn about new dance styles & traditions from around the globe!

We'll wrap it all up with our Dance Around the World themed dance camp on November 10th!



December 11th - 15th HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE PERFORMANCES!



Parents! Join your students this week in their classes for a quick holiday-themed performance!

Dancers can dress in holiday attire or... holiday themed Pajamas!

We will do a Christmas Card/candy cane or small gift exchange in classes this week too!

January 22nd - 26th Theme Week: FLUFFY & FUZZY

It's cold outside, so we're staying nice & cozy. It's our Fluffy & Fuzzy theme week.

Fluffy (stuffed) friends welcome & encouraged in class this week!



February 9th -16th Theme Week: GLOW WEEK!!!!



This week is our most anticipated event each year - its our annual GLOW WEEK!!!

It's a GLOW-ing week at the studio while we spread the L.O.V.E!

Join us for NEON-themed fun in class every night!

Parent's Night Out GLOW party Friday February 9th & Friday February 16th. Tickets available via the parent portal ticket link!

March 18th - 22nd Theme Week: IT HAS BEEN A WILD YEAR!

It's a jungle out there! We're celebrating our WILD year with a theme week that will get everyone swinging, hopping & jumping through our outdoor world.!



ASCEND STUDIOS

SEASON 10 2023-2024 IMPORTANT DATES CALENDAR

August 19th	Season 10 Open House! 10am - 2pm
August 28th	First day of Season 10 classes!
September 4th	September 4th Labor Day. NO CLASSES
Sep 18th - 22nd	Theme Week! Opposites Week + Pop Star Camp!
Oct 9th - 11th	Theme Days! Back In Time...
Oct 12th - 16th	Fall Break (Studio Closed Thursday -Monday)
Oct 17th - 19th	Theme Days! Back In Time...
Oct 23rd - 27th	Parent Watch Week
Nov 16th - 10th	Theme Week! Out of This World!
Nov 20th - 25th	Thanksgiving Break - NO CLASSES
Dec 11th - 15th	HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: In-Studio Performances/Dec 15th = LAST DAY FALL CLASSES
January 8th, 2023	First day of Spring Semester classes
January 15th 2023	MLK Day - NO CLASSES
January 22rd -26th	Theme Week: Fluffy & Fuzzy! Slumber Party Dance Camp Jan 26th!
February 9th - 16th	Theme Week: Glow Week! GLOW PARTY February 9th & 16th!
March 6th - 10th	Theme Week: Pets & Ponies! Dance Camp on March 10th!
March 13th - 17th	Spring Break - Studio Closed
March 18 - 22nd	Theme Week: It's Been a Wild Year!
April 5th - 7th	Annual Ambassador Program Rummage Sale!
April 27th & May 4th	Tentative Picture Days - more info TBA!
May 13th - 17th	Parent Watch Week & Production Info Meetings
late April/early May	PRODUCTION Tickets go on sale! More info soon!
May 24th	LAST DAY OF REGULAR CLASSES!
May 27th	Memorial Day - no classes
PRODUCTION WEEK!!! May 29th - June 1st	PRODUCTION WEEK MAY 29 - JUNE 1st. PERFORMANCES ON JUNE 1st!