



# 2022 – 2023

## Registration Information

Fall Classes will begin the week of August 29<sup>th</sup>!

- Entrance: We ask parents not to wait in the building. Students should be dropped off and picked up at the door. Our lobby is crowded and this helps the flow of traffic.
- Hand Sanitizer: Hand sanitizer will be distributed to each student that enters a studio. Hand sanitizer will also be used between each class and each direct contact by staff and students.
- Additional Sanitation: High touch surfaces will be wiped down with Clorox wipes between each class.
- Please DO NOT send your child to class if they are ill or anyone in your immediate family is ill.

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## **About Us**

Stairway to the Stars has been offering dance and tumbling instruction in Washington, Iowa, since 1993. Our program is designed to motivate and inspire young people to be the best that they can be in every aspect of their lives. Our age-appropriate curriculum affords students the opportunity to have fun and enjoy the learning process. They will develop skills for good health and fitness that they will carry with them forever. Many life-long friends will be made at dance class – for the students and the parents!

## **Our Philosophy**

Stairway to the Stars is committed to providing high quality dance classes to enhance the overall development of the child. We believe that children gain enormous benefits from proper dance training, whether a dance career is the goal or not. Students are involved in a safe, enriched, child-centered environment that provides them the opportunity to explore dance with a qualified, nurturing staff. We encourage our young dancers to develop a positive self-image. When children feel good about themselves, they are free to learn and grow.

## **Why Lessons at Stairway to the Stars**

Stairway to the Stars offers children the experience they need to become successful learners, while experiencing the performing arts. Enhanced concentration, coordination and discipline are just a few of the skills learned at Stairway to the Stars that will help foster a healthy mind and body. We try to make the dance experience stress-free for parents with a clear, consistent schedule, newsletters and a website to keep you informed.



## **Ballet**

Ballet is the foundation of all dance, and involves the entire body and mind. It consists of a highly stylized progression of exercises and movement combinations. Ballet training increases strength, flexibility, and rhythm. Proper terminology and alignment are emphasized.

## **Jazz**

Jazz class reflects many diverse styles from classic jazz for funk, hip-hop and lyrical. Jazz utilizes techniques and movements of ballet; therefore, all students of jazz must be students of ballet.

## **Tap**

Tap is a form of dance that is a favorite of many. Rhythms are produced with the feet and complimented by the rest of the body. Tap terminology is taught, as well as learning how to listen, reproduce and create various sounds and rhythms.

## **Hip Hop**

Hip-hop dance refers to street dance styles primarily performed to hip-hop music or that have evolved as part of hip-hop culture. It includes a wide range of styles primarily breaking which was created in the 1970s and made popular by dance crews in the United States.

## **Tumbling**

Tumbling develops strength, flexibility, and coordination. Proper form and execution of skills are taught. Through coached repetition tumblers set goals and progress through basic to advanced skills.

## **Wee Dance & Creative Dance**

Wee Dance and Creative Dance are introductory classes to dance and tumbling for 2 and 3 year olds with no previous dance or tumbling exposure. Children will develop basic locomotor skills, gross and fine motor skills and flexibility through our fun-filled system.

## **Clogging**

Clogging is a truly American dance form that began in the Appalachian Mountains and now enjoys widespread popularity around the world. The word "clog" comes from the Gaelic and means "time". Clogging is a dance that is done in time with the music – to the downbeat – usually with the heel keeping the rhythm.



## **Recital**

We proudly display the progress of our students in an annual spring concert. For 2023 our recital will be held at The Riverside Casino and Golf Resort on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Costumes**

Recital costume charges will appear on your account in September. You have the option of paying the entire balance due or paying half in October and half in November. The average costume price is \$65-\$85 and you will receive one costume per class (some classes share). If your costume charges are more than \$200 you may choose to make 3 payments (October, November, December).

## **Tights**

All students will need tights for our spring pictures and recital. Tights will be ordered in December and you will be billed for them in January. All students must have the same brand and color of tights to present a uniform appearance onstage. Ballet classes and Creative Dance wear pink tights, all other classes wear light toast tights - some stirrup and some with feet. Tights are \$8 per pair, Stirrup Tights are \$12 per pair.

## **Pictures**

Class and individual pictures of all students in their recital costumes are taken by Batterson Photography in the spring.

## **Attire**

All students must come to class in the appropriate attire. Dance or exercise wear is expected. Students should leave jewelry at home and hair should be pulled back away from the face. All students should have a bag to keep their shoes in to help minimize the chances of them being lost. Be sure that their names or initials are in each shoe to help identify them if they are misplaced.

## **Attendance**

Attendance is very important in dance and tumbling as they are progressive in nature – each dance step or tumbling moves leads to the next. Please make every effort to be at class each week. If you must miss class, please send us an email to let us know.

## **Newsletters**

A newsletter will be emailed at the beginning of the month to keep you updated on important information. These letters can also be found on our website.

## **Cancellations**

We will not be following the school districts for winter weather cancellations. We will make our own determination about inclement weather and notify you via email. Cancellation announcements will also be on the studio website and the studio Facebook page.

## **No School Days**

We still have dance and tumbling when there is no school for in-services, conferences etc. The only times that we do not have class are listed in the Calendar of Events and include Labor Day, the week of Thanksgiving and 2 weeks for Christmas/New Years and the week of Spring Break for Washington Community School District.

## **The Lobby Area**

All students should hang up their coats and leave their street shoes on the plastic mats in the first floor lobby area. Street shoes should not be worn in any of the studios or in the office area – please help to keep our dance floors clean. Be sure to check the lost-and-found for missing clothes and coats. All lost dance shoes are taken to the office upstairs and labeled with the day that they were lost. Please check with your teacher or the office staff if you are missing your shoes.

## **Dance Shoes**

Below is the list of dance shoes needed for each of our classes:

Creative Dance & Wee Dance:	Pink Ballet Shoes
All Ballet Classes:	Pink Ballet Shoes
All Jazz Classes:	Tan Slip-On Jazz Shoes
All Tap Classes:	Tan Baby Doll Tap Shoes (Mon 6:30 & Wed 6:30 wear black slip-on)
All Clog Classes:	Black Clog Shoes
All Hip Hop Classes:	Black Hip Hop Shoes
All Tumbling Classes:	No Shoes

All necessary shoes must be purchased in our office or through our used shoe program. This is for consistency in style and color. And because it's easier for everyone 😊

The link to our shoe order form is available on our website: [www.stairwaytothestarz.com](http://www.stairwaytothestarz.com)

If you would like to be sized for your shoes in person, you can also stop by the studio during our open hours August 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> to be sized for shoes and turn in your used shoes, if you have some.

If you stop by the studio during this time, please have already tried on your current shoes to determine what still fits and what doesn't.

Used shoes can also be put in a bag with your name on it and placed inside the door of the landing in between our two buildings at any time. We will credit your account!



## Tuition:

1 hour class           \$45.00  
½ hour class           \$35.00

Unlimited Student   \$135.00 (register for unlimited classes for a price of \$135/month)

We have several payment options available for your tuition and other charges! Our tuition is a yearly charge that you may pay in one payment (September), two payments (September & January) or 9 monthly payments (September-May). If you would like to pay your tuition in one payment or two payments simply multiply your monthly amount by 9 for one payment and divide that by 2 for two payments. All accounts are currently set-up for monthly payments.

### Payment Options:

- The easiest way to pay your tuition and other charges is to use our Parent Portal. You should have received a login and password for this when you registered. If you need this information re-sent to you, please email us at: [office@stairwaytothestarz.com](mailto:office@stairwaytothestarz.com)
- Monthly Auto Payment: if you would like your tuition and other charges to be automatically charged to your debit or credit card, please complete the Auto Payment section on your account on the Parent Portal
- Venmo: @StairwayToTheStarz. We will email you a receipt.



## **August**

1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>

29<sup>th</sup> – Sept 1<sup>st</sup>

4:00-8:00PM Stop in to order or purchase shoes for dance!  
Classes begin!

## **September**

5<sup>th</sup>

Labor Day – No Dance & Tumbling Classes

## **October**

15<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Costume Payment Due by the 15<sup>th</sup>

31<sup>st</sup>

Halloween – No Dance & Tumbling Classes – Enjoy Trick-or-Treat!

## **November**

15<sup>th</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Costume Payment Due by the 15<sup>th</sup>

21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>

Fall Break – No Dance & Tumbling Classes - Happy Thanksgiving!

## **December**

15<sup>th</sup>

Final Costume Payment Due by the 15<sup>th</sup>

(3 payments only available if your costume total is more than \$200)

19<sup>th</sup> - Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

Christmas/New Years – No Dance & Tumbling Classes

## **January**

2<sup>nd</sup>

Classes Resume

15<sup>th</sup>

Payments for tights & jewelry due by the 15<sup>th</sup>

## **February**

## **March**

6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

Dance & Tumbling Pictures at the Studio

13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

Spring Break

15<sup>th</sup>

Recital Fee (\$75 per family) due by the 15<sup>th</sup>

## **April**

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>

Registration Information for 2023-2024 will be emailed

## **May**

5<sup>th</sup>

Dress Rehearsal at The Riverside Casino

6<sup>th</sup>

Recital at The Riverside Casino – 1:00 & 6:00PM