

Student and Parent Handbook 2024-25



MDP Collective Handbook

Welcome to MDP Collective!

Move. Dance (and experience) Pilates with Maya Devi Pingle and other experienced instructors. This handbook will better prepare parents and students for enrollment, and a successful dance season at MDP!

Please review this with your child, as the purpose of this program is to empower students with life skills, responsibility and confidence. Their process will not be as successful without your attentiveness and support. **The registration link is attached at the end of this handbook.**

WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE REGISTRATION:

Location: Aspen Academy, 5859 South University Blvd Greenwood Village, CO 80121

Entrance/Parking: Please enter at University blvd OR Orchard blvd. Park on the west side of the building, facing Curtis Park. The main entrance is the south doors on the west side of the building at the crosswalk from the parking lot.

Start Date of Studio classes: Wednesday, August 28th - September 11th, staggered start time

Last Week of Studio classes: April 15th, 2025 (See calendar for specifics)

Holiday Showcase: Wednesday, December 11th, Time 5pm

End of the year Spring Performance Concert: All students enrolled are highly encouraged to join. *It is a separate fee.* Rehearsals are mandatory and tech week April 21st week during class time and Friday, April 25th. This performance is Sunday, April 27th. Students will be expected to rehearse that morning and perform in the afternoon if enrolled in this production. *This performance is not mandatory for enrollment, but is the culmination of the year and an important piece of this program and each dancer's growth.*

Calendar: Dates listed above, Holidays, and additional days off are listed on the calendar in "parent information" on the website and the google calendar <u>here</u>. Studio closures, breaks and holidays reflect Aspen Academy/Littleton Public Schools calendar. Spring break is 1 week this year (March 24th week) and Winter Break is 3 weeks, to accommodate the majority of schools.



Class information, Schedule, Pricing and Uniform requirements are listed below.

*Registration Fee is due at the time of enrollment.

*Registration fee is \$35/per person, max \$100 per family.

*Monthly payments will occur on the 1st of the month, beginning August 1st-March 1st.

*Sibling discount is 10% off higher tuition pricing.

*Partial Scholarships are available.

*Cancellation Policy:

Students are committing through their class obligation,

but emailed written notice by <u>December 1st</u> will cancel tuition and sessions beginning

January 1st.

Students are committed through April after December 1st. *this is new.

NO refunds will be provided otherwise.



The Ballet Bodhi -an enlightening approach and movement

Join the experience!

Ages 9-13 (3rd grade up)

2 years dance experience, or previous private lessons.

The Ballet Bodhi was established to open an opportunity to a highly practiced art with less time commitment and instill the positive benefits of traditional Ballet. With the root and knowledge of Ballet technique, dancers explore Contemporary dance and Improvisation while reflecting on self, creating stories and themes with voice overs, choreography and community performances. Students participate 3-4 times a year in program performances, and are featured in the Holiday showcase on December 11th and also the April Spring concert (an additional fee).

Auditions this year is Wednesday, August 28th 4:30-6 pm.

We are looking for students who bring themselves to a practice and performance, love a community of new friends, can memorize choreography in ballet, contemporary, jazz or theatrical styles, while exploring improvisation performance dance. Reach out to mdp@mpdcollective.com if you have interest!

4:30-6:30 pm Mondays PBT floor barre, ballet progressions and rehearsal 4:30-6 pm Wednesdays Contemporary and rehearsal

\$260/monthly August 28th-April 16th with a yearly one time registration fee (\$35)

DRESS CODE:

- Mondays- Transition convertible pink/ skin toned tights, black leotard thin strap
- leather skin toned/pink split soled ballet shoes
- Wednesdays- Bare Legs or Black tights, Any leotard or fitted clothing to dance in.
- Black jazz split soled slip on shoes

HAIR:

hair pulled back off of the face in hair bun(s) (M), pony tail (W) or french twist (M or W).



Boogie Bugs N' Fairy Tails

Ages 3-5 (prek-Kindergarten)

No dance experience necessary. Potty trained. 3 year olds enrolled by invitation.

This performance style class is a 25 minute creative movement experience that teaches ballet technique with a more creative and playful approach, using story and expression to find self awareness, confidence and the skills it takes to BE a Boogie Bug. Class will include a variety of dance and music styles, with a showcase performance December 11th and in April (TBA). Each lesson will focus on Ballet, Musical Theater, Jazz and Hip Hop and is designed for all genders. This class will run all year. The April dance concert is a separate fee.

3:45-4:30 pm MONDAYS

September 9-April 14th

\$84/monthly with yearly one time registration fee (\$35)

DRESS CODE: Hair must be away from the face, pulled back.

- Dancers choice: Simple costume, ballet leotard/skirt/tutu or tshirt and leggings in any color. Most children have a set dance outfit they like to wear.
- Required for performances: Pink or skin toned tights with Pink or skin toned leather ballet shoes, leotard any color /boys traditionally wear Black tights with Black leather ballet shoes/ white tshirt tucked.



Dragon Flies N' Fairy Tails

Ages 5-7 (Kindergarten-1st grade)

No dance experience necessary. 4 year olds enrolled by request and invitation.

This performance style class is a 45 minute PRE technique experience that coaches ballet posture, positions with a more creative and playful approach, using story and expression to find self awareness, confidence and the skills it takes to BE a new Dragon Fly! This is the age appropriate version of Boogie Bugs N' Fairy Tails for the new Elementary School bug. Class will include a variety of dance and music styles, with a showcase performance December 11th and the April 27th showcase. Each lesson will focus on the ideas of Ballet, Musical Theater, Jazz and Hip Hop and is designed for all genders. This is the prerequisite for The Ballet Bodhi Minis which is a preparation class for performing independently and with a group in community performances. **This class will run all year.** The April dance concert is a separate fee.

3:30-4:15 pm TUESDAYS

September 3-April 15

\$98/monthly (with yearly one time registration fee \$35)

DRESS CODE: Hair must be away from the face, pulled back.

- Suggested: An outfit that your child chooses. Keep in mind that the required performance outfit must be purchased and can be worn to class.
- Dancers choice: Simple costume, ballet leotard/skirt/tutu or tshirt and leggings in any color. Most children have a set dance outfit they like to wear. No feathers, No glitter or sequins.
- Required for performances: Light Blue leotard, Pink/skin toned tights with Pink/ skin toned leather ballet shoes /boys traditionally wear Black tights with Black leather ballet shoes/tshirt.



The Ballet Bodhi MINIs

Ages 6-9 (1st-3rd grades)

Some basic ballet experience is necessary, This is a structured class with a uniform and dress code.

Each class will address Ballet, Jazz, Improvisation. Class begins with ballet basics for creating and developing a student's own rhythm, movement, and confidence. This includes the floor ballet barre as well as traditional ballet barre. Technical skills and more diverse dance styles such as theater dance and jazz will follow, and finish with a focus on improvisation with these useful skills. Students will perform in the Holiday showcase on December 11th, and may participate in the Spring dance concert at an additional fee. Students may be asked to perform with The Ballet Bodhi in Community shows.

4:15-5pm Tuesdays

\$98/monthly September 3-April 15th with yearly one time registration fee (\$35)

DRESS CODE:

- Transition convertible pink/ skin toned tights
- Light pink leotard any style, thin straps are helpful for performance
- leather skin toned/pink split soled ballet shoes

HAIR:

hair pulled back off face in hair bun(s) or french twist.



Contemporary

Ages 9-13 (3rd-Middle School grades)

2 years dance experience, or previous private lessons.

Students along with The Ballet Bodhi will use their knowledge, skills and strengths of proper placement in the body, extension of the legs, shaping of the feet and upper body positions and find the "uncentering" and freedom with the root of ballet dance. Memorization and repetition will be emphasized with more challenging classroom sequences and skills in the modern version of dance that we see today. Students participate in the Holiday showcase on December 11th and also the Spring concert for an additional fee.

4:30-5:30 pm Wednesdays

\$105/monthly September 4-April 16th with a yearly one time registration fee (\$35)

DRESS CODE:

• Bare Legs or Black tights, Any leotard or fitted clothing to dance in.

HAIR:

• hair pulled back off of the face in hair bun(s), pony tail or french twist.

The Boys Dance Club

Ages 7-11 (2nd-5th grades, some exceptions)

It's a good morning with The Boys Dance Club! Get a great start to your day with stretch, cardio and strength training, coordination and MOVES! Be a part of the movement that can prevent sports injury, provide more body awareness, promote a brain and body connection, and have fun with friends while learning dances to upbeat tunes with HIp Hop and breakdancing styles! Coordination and memorizing steps and combinations will be a progression each week in this course. Students will perform in the opening AMPd performance, Holiday Showcase on December 11th and also the Spring concert for an additional fee.

7:30 am-8 am Wednesdays, August 28th -April 16th \$80/monthly with yearly one time registration fee (\$35)

DRESS CODE: School clothes or something comfortable and clean sneakers.



MOVE AND GROOVE

Ages 7-11 (2nd-5th grades, some exceptions)

This high energy class will get your blood pumping! Come experience World Dance styles, Jazz basics and Hip Hop moves! This class is a fun learning experience for students who just want to DANCE and are ready for structure and choreography that will excite! dThis is an all genders class and will be taught to a 3rd grade mindset and learning capacity. Coordination and memorizing steps and combinations will be a progression each week in this course. Students will perform in the Holiday Showcase on December 11th and also the Spring concert for an additional fee.

3:30-4:15 pm Wednesdays (no class the 1st of the month-9/4,10/2,11/6, 2/5, 3/5, 4/5)

\$80/monthly September 11-April 15th with yearly one time registration fee

DRESS CODE: Hair pulled off of face, Black Jazz shoes split sole, slip on. And bring clean sneakers. Any dance attire, and can wear a school uniform or change after school.



REFUNDS and EXPECTATIONS

REFUND POLICY

- Registration fees are non-refundable following registration. Registration/supply fee payment is due at the time of registration to hold your spot.
- The monthly tuition is subject to a refund of unused classes within 8 days of the student's **first** class. After that time, no refunds will be given for a prior payment.
- April Spring Performance Fee will be released at a later date for students committing January-April 23rd. This fee will include costume, rehearsal, theater, and choreography costs. There are no refunds.
- Withdrawals will be accepted for the cancellation of monthly tuition before December 1st FOR

 January 1st tuition and after, if you notify Maya Pingle via email by December 1. There will not be withdrawals from tuition after December 1st.
- Withdrawals or suspension from the payment plan due to injury/sickness will only be allowed at the discretion of Maya Pingle and with an accompanying doctor's note.

ATTENDANCE

- Students who do not attend class on a regular basis will quickly fall behind and not build the necessary skills, strength, choreography and **confidence** to function with a positive, balanced experience. It is highly suggested that a student commits to attending each class for the best experience.
- When your child is absent or planning to be absent, I will expect you to notify me with as much advanced time as possible, via the parent portal or email at mdp@mdpcollective.com.
- If a student has more than 4 absences a semester, please expect that it may affect their performing opportunities, as well as their progression in class.
- *End of the year performance- STUDENTS MUST ATTEND CLASSES SCHEDULED AND ALL REHEARSALS IN APRIL. IF MISSED, THIS MAY RESULT IN NOT PERFORMING FOR THE CONCERT or not performing in sections such as the finale.
- The calendar is listed on the website www.mdpcollective.com and <u>HERE</u>. Check for dates that we have no class.
- Make up classes can be an option dependent on level. Email for inquiries. Tuition has been prorated based on how many classes given and then the cost is split into 8 months.



DRESS CODE

- Specific dancewear can be purchased at this <u>link</u> for Discount Dance Supply online after August 1st or can be tried on in person and purchased at Dance Xtreme in Greenwood Village. Mention MDP and your child's level for assistance with dancewear.
- The required dress code will be a costume for the December showcase, so choose one that your child loves.
- The Black leotard for The Ballet Bodhi is camisole style for costume changes during shows.
- "Theme" outfit days occur throughout the school year. You will receive notification, though your child will be responsible for remembering this information from class.
- If your child does not have her leotard for a particular class, please wear a black leotard or best option.
- **Jewelry:** No necklaces, rings, bracelets and hanging earrings for class/performances. You may be asked to remove any jewelry for the safety of yourself and other dancers.
- Nails: Short and natural color, no nail jewelry or colored polish for performances.
- **Tattoos:** No visible tattoos including temporary ink for performances.

HAIR

- Please have your child's hair pulled back away from her face and neatly in a bun of any height.
- The Ballet Bodhi Mondays- since some of the class is laying on their backs, a high bun, very low or side bun(s) work.
- If your child's hair is short, use a headband that keeps all hair off of face, hair clips, side buns, or hair gel. Prepare for the end of April concert by growing hair to make an easier time for yourself.

ENTERING AND EXITING THE BUILDING

- There is only one entrance and exit for Aspen Academy at the west side and North doors. Someone is at the front desk to let you in until 6 pm.
- If a dancer is late, it is the responsibility of the dancer, not parent, to get ready quickly and acknowledge the teacher with words and eye contact that does not disrupt the other students.
- Dancers will always wear street clothing or a cover up OVER their dance wear when entering and exiting the building. This is mandatory. Dancers will not wear their dance shoes outside of the studio.



ILLNESS/INJURY

- To the best of their ability, an injured student is expected to attend, participate in or observe class and rehearsals. This is an important part of learning and life skills.
- Please discuss any injuries/sickness with your instructor prior to each class or rehearsal.
- Please check in with your child on the way to dance and monitor health on your own. Students may always wear a mask for precaution.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

- Ms. Pingle will cancel classes due to inclement weather when conditions are deemed unsafe to travel and Aspen Academy is closed. Please note that while every attempt will be made to follow Littleton Public Schools, afternoon/evening classes may still run as scheduled if travel is deemed safe.
- Notices will be emailed to all families through the Parent Portal.
- Please attend at your own comfort level but sometimes this is a great way for the students to work out some extra energy.

CLASS OBSERVATION POLICY

- There will not be observation classes this year but instead an informal studio holiday performance on Wednesday, December 11th 5 pm and the end of the year BIG stage concert April 20th.
- You are more than welcome to videotape and take pictures of your child during the informal holiday performance. Students are able to present their best work that they have prepared for and are proud of.
- For the benefit of your child and their instruction, please do not watch or film class from the windows near the studios if parents are invited into the building. This is disruptive to the students as well as the instructor. Please respect your student's time in class.

END OF THE YEAR PERFORMANCE

All tech, costume and dress rehearsals are MANDATORY in order to perform, as well as the last week of classes, though your younger child will not be in attendance the entire time. Details on this will arrive in December.



REGISTRATION LINK

(for new families) and

Returning families

Please go to the Portal

If you have any other questions or concerns after reading this handbook, please reach out to mdp@mdpcollective.com