



**WELCOME 2026-2027**

**DIML PARENTS & DANCERS!**

Mrs. Jenkins Dance Is My Life Inc.

*"Once A Dancer, Always A Dancer!"*

**PARENT & DANCER HANDBOOK**

Dance • Discipline • Confidence • Community

## ABOUT US

Mrs. Jenkins Dance Is My Life Inc. was founded in 2012.

Since 2012, the DIML Dance Program has partnered with a variety of community supporters to help spread the word about what DIML represents.

We are a Tampa Bay nonprofit dance program dedicated to providing children ages **3-18** with professional dance training, mentorship, positive experiences, and opportunities to perform.

Our dancers receive training in several dance genres, including ballet, jazz, lyrical, hip hop, praise dance, and more.

The DIML Dance Program especially focuses on serving students who attend schools with lower academic performance indexes and/or live in underserved and low-income communities.

Our goal is to provide dancers with opportunities that may otherwise be unavailable because of financial barriers. We believe dance can encourage academic success, confidence, discipline, creativity, teamwork, and personal growth.

We are proud that the **DIML Dance Program** continues to be a dynamic blend of **beauty, talent, creativity, discipline, and community!**

## OUR GOALS

- Provide quality dance training for dancers at all levels, from beginner to advanced.
- Foster creativity, self-confidence, grace, coordination, and positivity.
- Encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Create opportunities for children with medical or physical challenges to experience dance when appropriate accommodations can be provided.
- Help dancers enjoy the excitement of growing and reaching goals as a team.
- Encourage excellence and strengthen our communities.
- Celebrate cultural diversity through dance.
- Increase opportunities for children to experience the joy of dance.
- Encourage dancers to step outside their comfort zones in positive and creative ways.

Dance gives our dancers an opportunity to tell their stories, express their feelings, build connections, and encourage one another. **Sharing creates caring!** Our goal is to create a positive learning environment where every dancer has an opportunity to grow and shine.

## DIML PARENT SUPPORT INFORMATION

We are proud to provide a **Parent-Friendly Environment!**

DIML cannot succeed without the participation and support of our dancers, parents, families, volunteers, and community.

We understand that participating in a dance program can require a major commitment of time and energy from both dancers and parents. However, these years can create memories that last a lifetime.

- Help your dancer stay organized.
- Help your dancer keep up with schoolwork and maintain good grades.
- Encourage your dancer when things become challenging.
- Teach your dancer the importance of teamwork.
- Make sure your dancer arrives prepared for practice.
- Support DIML activities and fundraisers.
- Attend as many performances, competitions, parades, festivals, and events as possible.
- Communicate with DIML when you have questions or concerns.

Your dancer may not always say it, but they look for you in the audience! Your presence, encouragement, and support mean more than you may realize.

**DIML PARENTS:** You are important to your child AND to the DIML Dance Program. Never underestimate your part - and have a wonderful time making memories together!

## DIML REGISTRATION FEE

### **\$80 PER DANCER**

Registration includes DIML Practice Wear and a Custom Name Binder.

## DIML DANCE PACKAGE

### **TOTAL PACKAGE PRICE: \$300**

- Logo DIML Dance Shirt
- Logo DIML Dance Tights
- Logo DIML/Custom Name Costume Bag
- Logo DIML Duffel Bag
- Custom Name Personal Dance & Hygiene Kit
- Skin-Tone Universal Dance Tights
- Dance Costume
- Black Jazz Shoes

## DIML DANCE ATTIRE

Proper dance attire is **MANDATORY** for DIML practices.

- **DIML Practice Shirt:** Clothing should allow instructors to clearly see body positioning and proper movements.
- **DIML Black Bottoms**
- **Black Dance Shoes**
- **Hair Pulled Back:** Hair must be pulled away from the dancer's face. A ponytail or bun is suggested.

**IMPORTANT ATTIRE POLICY:** If a dancer attends practice without the required attire, appropriate corrective action may be taken. Depending on the situation, the dancer may be asked to observe practice, complete a written reflection or appropriate exercise, or have participation/discipline points affected. These measures are intended to teach responsibility, preparation, and accountability.

## DIML PRACTICE SCHEDULE

### **TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS - Band App**

Dance videos will be posted by the end of the day.

### **SUNDAYS - 3:00 PM-5:00 PM**

Additional practices may be scheduled when necessary. Parents will be notified through the dancer's DIML binder and/or through email, text message, phone call, or the Band App.

**ATTENDANCE EXPECTATION:** DIML dancers are allowed a maximum of two excused absences per month, unless otherwise approved by a Director.

## DIML FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

Fundraising helps support the DIML Dance Program and helps reduce costs for our dancers and families.

### **1. KRISPY KREME FUNDRAISER**

Available throughout the year. **\$9 per box.** DIML dancers and members are required to sell **10 boxes or pay \$80**, according to the applicable fundraiser requirements. Half of the amount turned in applies according to the DIML fundraiser policy.

## 2. DIML GIVE FROM THE HEART

Available throughout the year. Each fundraiser sheet represents **\$100**, and a parent/guardian must sign for each sheet received. DIML dancers, parents, and members are expected to participate in fundraising activities.

## 3. MONTHLY DIML DINNER FUNDRAISERS

Held around the **1st of the month**, when scheduled.

**Fish Fry Dinner:** \$10 per plate

**Soul Food Dinner:** \$15 per plate

DIML dancers, parents, and members may be required to sell **10 plates or pay the applicable \$50/\$80 fundraiser amount.**

## 4. SPRING CAR WASH

**Cars:** \$5   **Trucks:** \$10

Exterior cleaning only. DIML dancers, parents, and members are expected to participate when scheduled or pay the applicable **\$25 participation amount.**

## 5. DIML SPONSORSHIP LETTERS

Families are encouraged to help seek sponsorships and community support for the DIML Dance Program.

# IMPORTANT FUNDRAISING & FEE NOTICE

**Additional fees are subject to change due to last-minute events, competitions, performances, costumes, travel, or other program needs.**

The more fundraising opportunities you participate in, the more opportunities you may have to reduce out-of-pocket dance expenses.

All DIML fundraiser and donation funds are used to support the **DIML Dance Program and its mission.**

If you have fundraising ideas or suggestions that may help support your dancer and the DIML Dance Program, please contact the **DIML Dance Mom Leader/Committee or Mrs. Jenkins.**

# DIML CANCELLATION POLICY

Please check the **DIML Band App** and DIML social media for cancellation announcements.

If a class must be canceled because of an instructor's absence, weather, facility issue, emergency, or another reason, parents will be notified as soon as possible.

When cancellations are known in advance, information may also be sent home in the dancer's DIML binder.

**DIML classes are not automatically canceled when school is canceled.** Always check DIML communication channels for confirmation.

# DIML ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular attendance is extremely important. Dance is a team activity, and repeated absences can affect the dancer as well as the entire team.

**First:** A parent/guardian may receive a warning.

**Second:** If attendance problems continue, the dancer and parent/guardian may receive written notice regarding eligibility to participate in an upcoming recital, competition, parade, festival, performance, or event.

DIML dancers are generally allowed **two excused absences per month.** We ask all parents and dancers to communicate with Mrs. Jenkins as soon as possible when an absence is necessary.

# COMMUNICATION

We want to keep the lines of communication open with all DIML families.

**Email:** danceismylife025@yahoo.com

**Mrs. Jenkins:** (813) 214-1444

**Facebook:** MRSJENKINSdiml25

**Instagram:** @diml025

**Threads:** @diml025

**Website:** mrsjenkinsdiml.org

## WELCOME TO THE DIML FAMILY!

We look forward to working with your dancer and making the **2026-2027 dance year** exciting, successful, and memorable.

Thank you for being part of **Mrs. Jenkins Dance Is My Life Inc.**

**SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S DANCE PROGRAM!**

Sincerely,

**Mrs. Jenkins Dance Is My Life Inc.**

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