

The Andover School of Ballet

Manners for Dancers

These rules of etiquette pertaining to dance classes come from long tradition and will be found at most any dance studio. ***Please read and follow these rules.***

Dancers show respect for themselves by:

- 1. being on time for class;** a student who is more than a few minutes late for class may be asked to sit and watch class instead of participating – this is **not** a punishment but is to reduce the risk of injuries that may happen from not properly “warming up” by doing the crucial exercises given at the beginning of each class. Please be sure that students understand that this is for their own welfare.
- 2. having their hair up off the neck;** for Classical Ballet Level 1 (i.e., 2nd grade) and above, long hair must be in a ballet bun, and short hair must be secured away from the face and off the neck. For all other types of dance, hair **must be fastened in a secure ponytail or pulled away from the face and must not come undone during a class.**
- 3. being properly dressed for class, without any jewelry** (only exception is small stud earrings for those with pierced ears – no dangles). Classical Ballet Level 1 & above; please be sure ballet shoe drawstrings are pulled up gently to secure them, tied in a double knot and the extra string cut off (leave string approx. 3” long on each side) then tuck the strings inside the toe of the shoe; also, please have jazz & tap shoes fastened **securely**.

Dancers show respect for others by:

- 1. keeping their hands to themselves during class;**
- 2. waiting quietly for others to have a turn;**
- 3. waiting until the music for an exercise is finished before entering the classroom if they are late to class or are returning from the bathroom;**
- 4. talking only during a “sharing” time, or when spoken to by the instructor.**

Dancers show respect for their teacher & the art form they are learning by:

- 1. being properly dressed and ready for class on time;**
- 2. listening when the teacher is speaking;**
- 3. when sitting on the floor, sitting cross-legged with backs up straight;**
- 4. always being prepared for their turn;**
- 5. always waiting for the music to stop, then raising their hand & asking before leaving the room for any reason;**
- 6. curtsying or bowing and applauding their teacher at the end of each class.**

Dancers show respect for the studio by:

- 1. entering the lobby area quietly;**
- 2. leaving all gum, food and drink outside the studio (except water bottles for Level 3 & above);**
- 3. waiting for their teacher to let them know when to enter the classroom;**
- 4. never hanging on the ballet barres;**
- 5. never running or doing gymnastics in the studio, dressing room or lobby area;**
- 6. putting trash in the proper places;**
- 7. putting away books and magazines when they are finished with them.**

Parents show respect for the dance class, teacher and studio by:

- 1. asking the receptionist to get a child from class if it is necessary to leave early;**
- 2. NOT bringing any food or drinks into the hall, lobby, studios or dressing rooms;**
- 3. being on time and having students dressed properly and ready for class before their class start time (this includes using the bathroom before class begins);**
- 4. picking students up promptly at the end of their class.**