



STUDIO GUIDE 2026-2027



978-458-5836

1379 Bridge Street Dracut, MA 01826

www.GuidingLightDanceAcademy.com



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Welcome to Guiding Light Dance Academy

We have an exciting dance year planned ahead! This guide is filled with information covering the entire dance year. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to Ms. Jen or our front desk staff, Ms. Angela and Ms. Katherine.

We request that you keep all communications as you receive them via email. You will be receiving updates and important information throughout the entire dance year that you will want to keep in a handy place!

Our lobby is open to all parents, siblings, and dancers. Please remember that this is a working space, and to keep talking and electronic devices to a low volume. Parents are welcome to stay to enjoy the duration of class or run out for a few quick errands.

We request that you arrive at the studio with adequate time for parking, walking to the classroom, restroom, front desk inquiries, etc. Parents, for your children's safety, please be available close to the front doors to receive students when dismissed from class. Please call the studio at 978-458-5836 whenever delayed for class start time or pickup.

We welcome your comments and suggestions. If any parent/student would like a private meeting concerning your individual dancers goals or financial concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. We are happy to work with you to ensure that your dance year is one of pleasure and growth. The entire faculty and staff wish you a fantastic year of dance, fun, and friendships!

Ms. Jen





Mission

At Guiding Light Dance Academy, we strive to create a joyful learning experience as well as provide an excellent technical foundation.

Our goal is to shape an environment of mutual respect and camaraderie. We focus on self-confidence, self-discipline, and poise. We encourage all of our students to achieve their highest potential to the best of their ability on and off the dance floor.



Vision

Guiding Light Dance Academy was established in 2011 by Jennifer Fontaine. Her vision is to create a welcoming family-centered environment where every dancer feels seen, valued, and inspired. Through kindness, creativity, community, and connection, we aim to be a Guiding Light in every dancer's journey.





The Staff of Guiding Light Dance Academy



Ms. Jen



Ms. Kyra



Ms. Katherine



Ms. Nina



Teaching Assistants of Guiding Light Dance Academy



Sadie



Aubrie



Olivia



Autumn



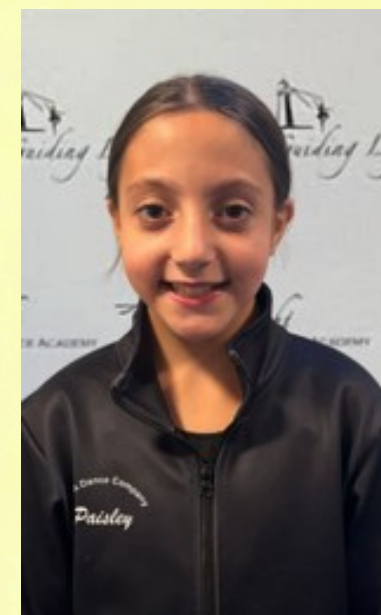
Harmony



Ava



Quinn



Paisley

A Teaching Assistant must be a member of the GLDA Dance Company, age 10+, and complete a 3 hour Leadership training course designed by Ms. Jen

CONTACT US

"EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR DANCE...RIGHT FROM YOUR DRIVER'S SEAT!"

Studio
Ritz

PARENT PORTAL



ORDER SHOES



WEBSITE



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM



GLDA AT A GLANCE

- All communication is sent via email; please keep a current address on file.
- Special events and announcements will be emailed to current families and will be posted on our website, Facebook and Instagram page.
- The dance season will consist of 39 weeks of classes held over a ten-month period. A student may join at any time should a costume be available for Recital.
- The studio will be closed for major holidays and school vacations. Please see the studio calendar for more information.
- Our studio year runs September through June.
- Our Annual Dance Recital is held in June.

New Students: Try A Class for Free!

Thinking about registering at Guiding Light Dance Academy? We invite you to come join us for one FREE class of your choice to discover what our studio is all about! Just contact our front office 978-458-5836 to make arrangements to attend a class in your specific area of interest. We nurture a safe, welcoming and encouraging environment that is fun for every dancer of every age and skill level!

SCHEDULE



2026-2027 Schedule

****Season begins September 14th****

<u>Monday</u> <u>Studio A</u> Ms. Nina/Ms. Katherine	<u>Monday</u> <u>Studio B</u> Ms. Jen	<u>Tuesday</u> <u>Studio A</u> Ms. Jen	<u>Tuesday</u> <u>Studio B</u> Ms. Nina	<u>Wednesday</u> <u>Studio A</u> Ms. Jen	<u>Thursday</u> <u>Studio A</u> Ms. Kyra	<u>Thursday</u> <u>Studio B</u> Ms. Jen	<u>Saturday</u> <u>Studio A</u> Ms. Jen
							9:00-9:45 a.m. Tiny Ballet/Tap
				5:00-5:45 p.m. Tiny Ballet/Tap			9:45-10:15 a.m. Tiny Hip Hop
5:00-5:45 p.m. Mini (Ms. Nina) Musical Theater	5:00-5:45 p.m. Tiny Ballet/Tap	5:00-5:45 p.m. Mini/Petite Ballet (Level 1)	5:00-5:45 p.m. Mini/Petite Cheer Pom Dance	5:45-6:15 p.m. Tiny Hip Hop	5:00-5:45 p.m. Mini/Petite Jazz (Level 2)	5:00-5:45 p.m. Petite/Teen Hip Hop	10:15-10:45 a.m. Tiny Cheer Pom Dance
5:45-6:30 p.m. Mini/Petite Ballet (Level 2)	5:45-6:30 p.m. Petite/Teen Tap	5:45-6:30 p.m. Mini Tap/Jazz	5:45-6:45 p.m. (1 hr.) Mini/Petite Jazz/Tap	6:15-6:45 p.m. Tiny Cheer Pom Dance	5:45-6:30 p.m. Mini/Petite Lyrical	5:45-6:30 p.m. Petite/Teen Musical Theater	
6:30-7:30 p.m. Petite/Teen Ballet	6:30-7:15 p.m. Mini/Petite Tap	6:30-7:15 p.m. Mini Hip Hop	6:45-7:30 p.m. Mini/Petite Hip Hop	6:45-7:30 p.m. Adult Jazz	6:30-7:15 p.m. Petite/Teen Jazz (Level 3)	6:30-7:15 p.m. Mini/Petite Hip Hop	
7:30-8:15 p.m. Petite/Teen Pointe Ballet	7:15-8:00 p.m. Mini/Petite Jazz (level 1)	7:30-8:30 p.m. Dance Company Rehearsal		7:30—8:00 p.m. Adult Tap	7:15-8:00 p.m. Petite/Teen Lyrical	7:15-8:00 p.m. Mini/Petite Tap	

Levels of Dance



See what level is the best fit for your dancer!
Evaluations to be moved up are available per request
through the front office.

Tiny Level(Age 2-5)

Designed for those new to dance or with minimal experience. Focuses on learning basic techniques, terminology, and fundamental movements specific to the dance style.

Mini /Petite (Age 6-13)

Targets dancers with some experience and proficiency in the basics. Emphasizes refining technique, increasing complexity of movements, and developing more advanced skills and combinations.

Teen/Adult Level (Age 13+)

Geared towards highly skilled dancers with extensive training. Challenges dancers with complex choreography, advanced techniques, and stylistic nuances specific to the dance genre. Often includes preparation for performances or competitions.

Each level builds upon the skills and knowledge gained in the previous one, providing a structured progression that allows dancers to develop proficiency, artistry, and confidence in their abilities.



Dance Styles & Types

Ballet	Jazz	Tap	Pointe
Ballet is a formal, highly technical style of dance. It uses precise body movements, graceful poses, and musical rhythm to tell a story or express an emotion.	Jazz dance is an energetic and expressive style that combines sharp and fluid movements. This class covers various jazz techniques, including kicks, leaps, turns, and stylized choreography.	Tap dance focuses on rhythm, sound, and timing, with dancers using their feet to create intricate beats and patterns.	Pointe class is for advanced ballet students. This class focuses on pointe work, including barre exercises, center combinations, and variations.
Musical Theater	Hip-Hop	Lyrical	Cheer Pom
Musical Theater class combines dance, acting, and singing to perform choreography from popular musicals. This class emphasizes performance skills and character work.	Our hip-hop class is a high-energy dance style that incorporates street dance elements and urban rhythms. This class focuses on developing freestyle, popping, locking, breaking,	Lyrical dance blends elements of ballet and jazz to create expressive and emotive movement. This class focuses on storytelling through dance, emphasizing fluidity, grace, and emotion.	Pom dance incorporates cheerleading movements, sharp motions, and precise arm work with dance routines performed with pom-poms. This class focuses on precision and energy.

Behavior & Rewards

At Guiding Light Dance Academy, we want every dancer to learn in a positive, safe, and respectful environment. When behavior becomes disruptive or inappropriate, we follow these three steps:

1. REDIRECT

The teacher will calmly remind and redirect the dancer, clearly explaining the expected behavior and giving them an opportunity to make a better choice.

2. RESET

If the behavior continues, the dancer will take a brief break from the activity to reset, refocus, and prepare to rejoin the class appropriately.

3. PARENT PARTNERSHIP

If the behavior continues or becomes a recurring concern, a parent/guardian will be contacted so we can work together on a plan that supports the dancer while maintaining a positive classroom environment for everyone.

Our goal is always correction, not punishment—helping dancers learn respect, responsibility, and kindness while keeping dance a positive experience for all.

During some classes, dancers are rewarded for their efforts in class that day with stickers, trinkets, candy, or GLDA bucks.

Reasons why dancers earn rewards:

- Outstanding Technique
- Significant Improvement
- Excellent Attendance
- Positive Attitude
- Creativity and Expression
- Exceptional Performance
- Effort and Dedication
- Quick Learning and Adaptability
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Musicality
- Helping and Encouraging Others
- Maintaining Proper Etiquette
- Listening
- Confidence
- Question & Answer



Dance Attire

All students must wear appropriate dancewear and dance shoes to participate in class. Any color or style may be worn.

Hair: All dancers must wear their hair up off the neck and out of their face.

Cover-Ups: Dancers must wear cover-ups to and from the dance studio, which should be removed during class time.

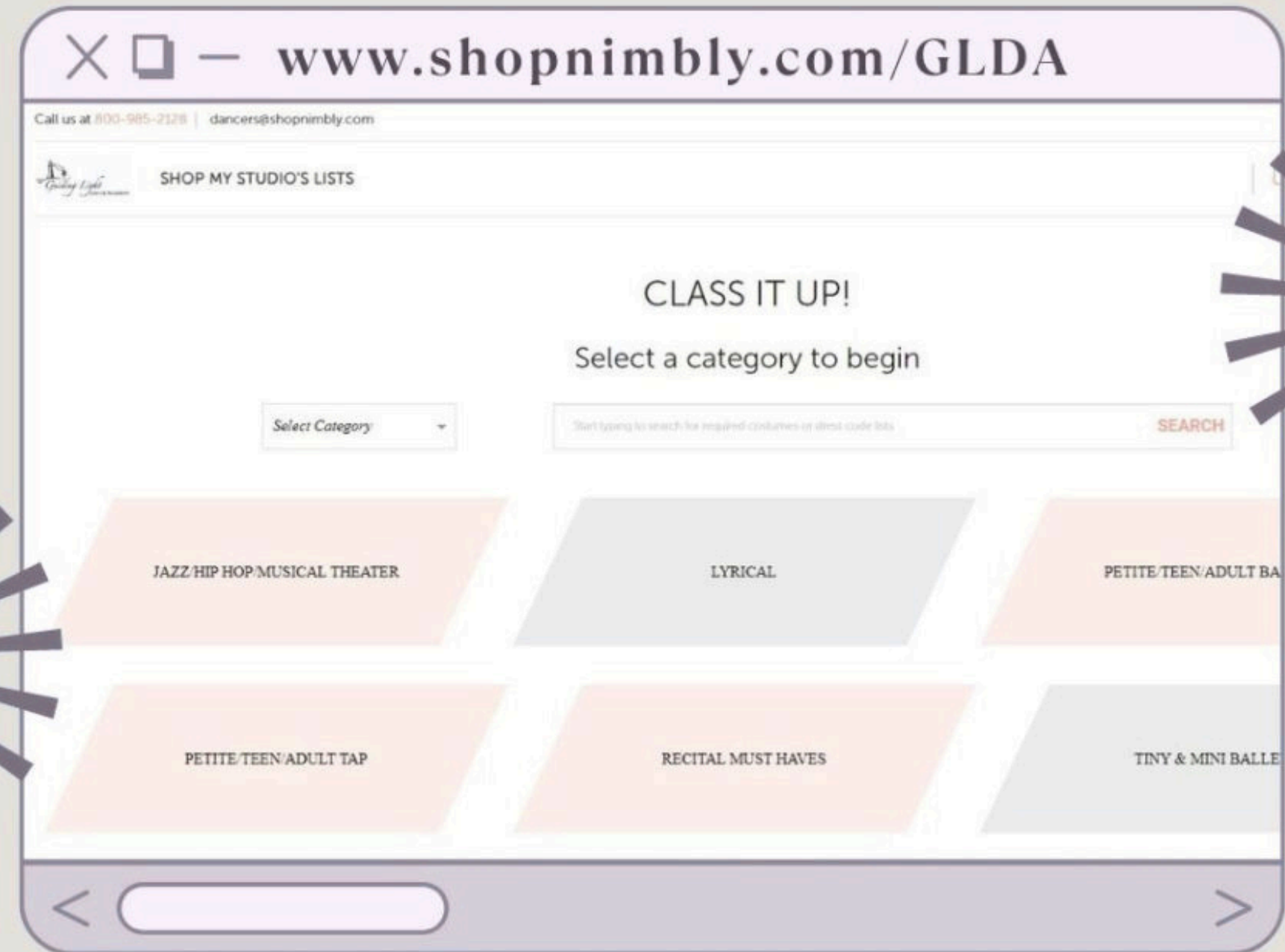


Dance Shoes

Class requirements for shoes are outlined and available for order through our online dancewear store at www.shopnimbly.com/GLDA. For your convenience, shoe sizing kits are available at the studio. All shoe styles sold through our vendor meet Recital requirement.



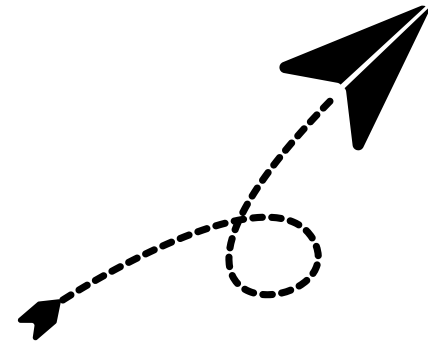
Conveniently Shop for Dance Shoes



- 1.) Visit shopnimbly.com/GLDA
- 2.) Create a parent account
- 3.) Click the age category and class type your dancer is registered for
- 4.) Place your order and have your dancers shoes delivered to your door!

For sizing assistance, view the sizing chart on the website or visit the studio lobby to utilize the sizing kit!

Studio Newsletters



On the 1st of each month you will be receiving a monthly newsletter from GLDA via email. Be sure to read through each newsletter entirely to keep up to date on all important information going on at the studio!

During Recital Season, an information packet will be sent out to help you and your dancers navigate the process.

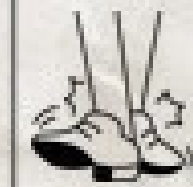
EXTRA!! EXTRA!!

GUIDING LIGHT DANCE ACADEMY NEWS



**Season 16
begins
Sept 14th!**

**IS YOUR
DANCE BAG
READY?**



**DO YOU
HAVE DANCE
SHOES?**



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM



Registration



Our annual registration fee is \$40.00 for one student and \$20.00 for a second family member.



The 2026-2027 Dance Year classes run from September 14, 2026-June 2027



You can register online via our website, at the studio during business hours, or by contacting the studio at 978-458-5836



Registration fees are non-refundable.

Monthly Tuition & Payments

- Tuition is split evenly between the 10 months of the dance season.
- Monthly tuition is due between the 1st-10th of the month.
- A \$20.00 late fee will be applied if your payment method is not received.
- Accounts will be prorated should a dancer join after the first of any month.
- Payments can be made via Venmo (GLDA-1379), online in your secure parent portal, cash-card-check in the studio lobby. A \$25.00 fee will be assessed for any bounced checks.

SPECIAL: Pay the annual tuition up front in CASH and receive 10% off the total.

This only applies to tuition charges.

Monthly Tuition Fees:

30 Minute Classes-	\$45.00
45 Minute Classes-	\$60.00
1-Hour Classes-	\$65.00

Our 16th Annual Recital will be held at the end of our Dance Season in June. (Date and location to be announced as soon as secured). This event provides our students with the opportunity to shine on stage and showcase their progress, creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Recital & Costumes

1.) Recital fee: Each FAMILY is charged a Recital fee of \$72 due in April. This fee covers the cost of 4 tickets. You will receive a code via email in May to utilize in choosing your auditorium seats during online ticket sales in May.

2.) Costumes are \$75 each for Recital. A deposit of \$50 is due in November and the remaining balance of \$25 per costume is due in February. If your dancer is in a combo class, they will utilize ONE costume for TWO Recital dances.

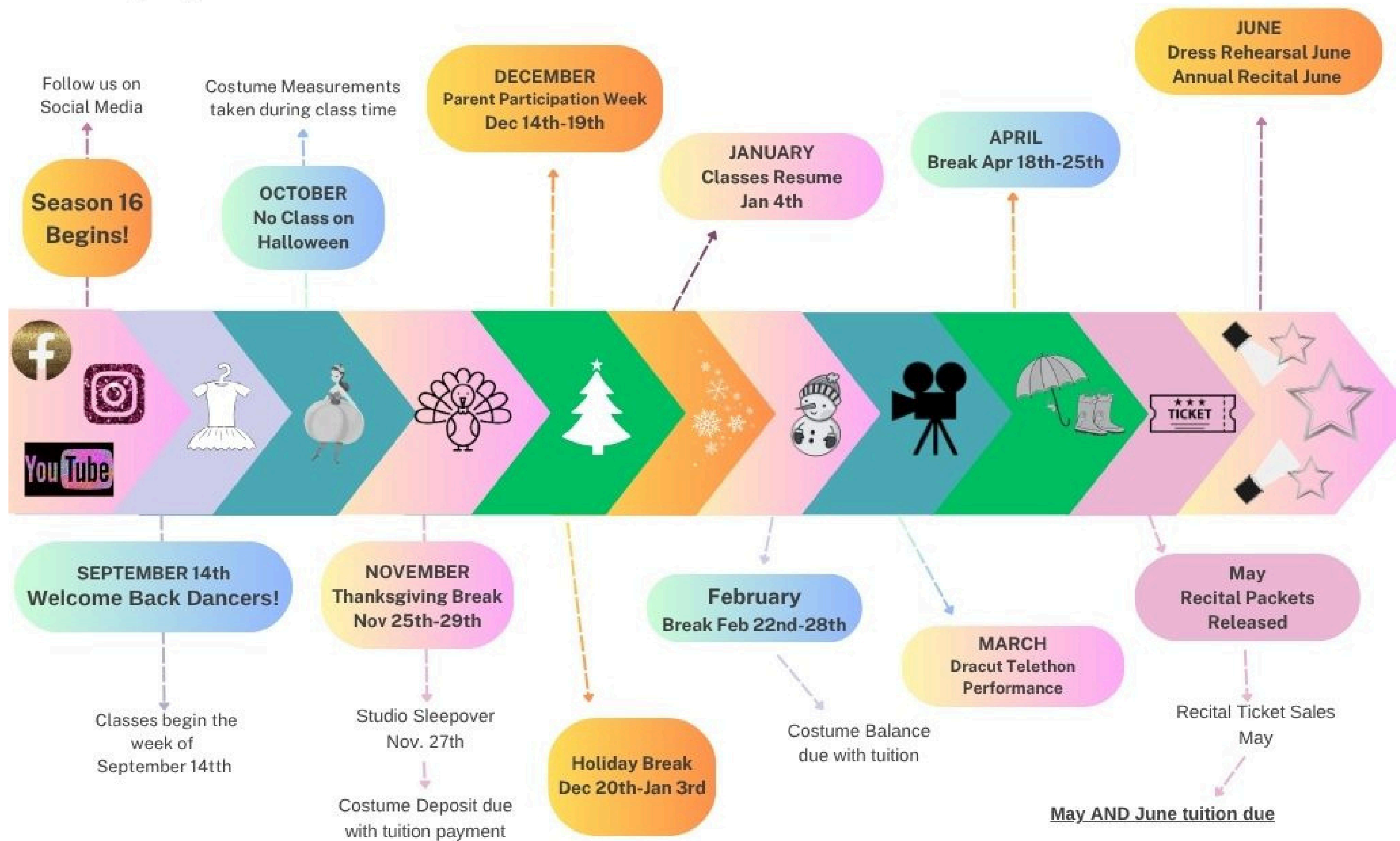


- Prices are subject to change based on fluctuations in tariff and import costs.
- Please note that Recital fees, including costume costs, are non-refundable, and costumes will only be ordered once the deposit is paid.

CALENDAR



A YEAR OF DANCE TIMELINE 2026-2027



Attendance & Make-Ups



Regular attendance is crucial for student progress. Please ensure that your dancer is in class and on time each week. If your child must be absent, please call or email us in advance. Make-ups are available for missed classes August-February and can be scheduled through the front office.





Viewing Classes

There is a viewing door in both Studio A and Studio B. To minimize distractions, we kindly ask that you refrain from tapping, talking through the window, or opening the studio door to get your child's attention.

We ask that you also refrain from standing outside and watching through the windows as it draws away from their attention to the teacher at the time.



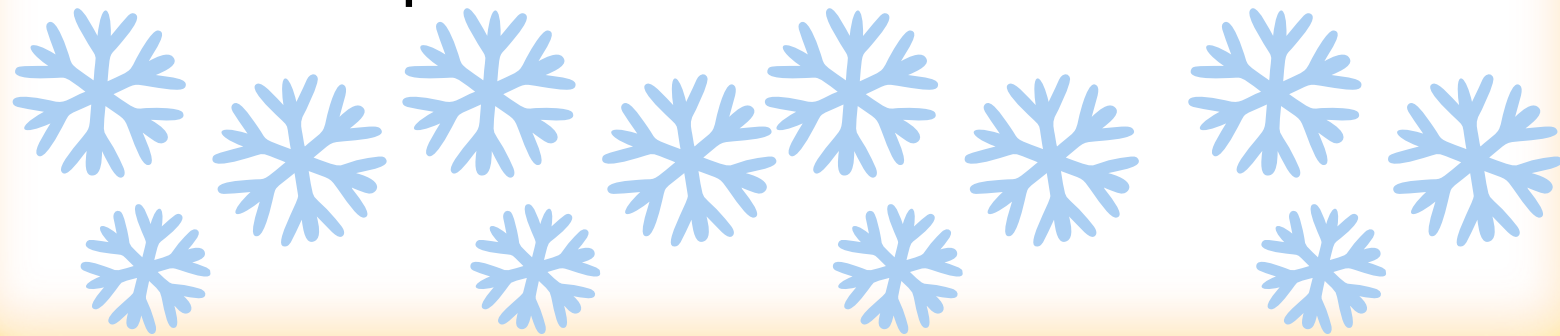
If you need to reach your dancer at any time, please see the front desk.

Inclement Weather

Guiding Light Dance Academy does not follow any particular school cancellation.

For the safety of our staff, dancers, and their families, classes may be cancelled at the discretion of Ms. Jen. If inclement weather arises, a text, email, posts on Facebook and Instagram will be posted at least 2 hours prior to a class beginning.

Please check with the front desk or in the parent portal to be sure we have your correct cell phone and email address.



Withdrawals & Refunds

- If you choose to discontinue a class or leave the studio please provide a drop form to the front desk in person or via email.
- You are responsible for monthly tuition payments until your drop form is received.
- Please note that refunds will not be issued for any reason, including tuition, recital fees, costume fees, etc. If applicable, your account will be credited and can be applied to future use.



The GLDA Dance Company.



The Dance Company is a group of dancers, ages 7+, that take class weekly in Jazz, Tap, and Ballet. While they may choose to take other styles of dance as well, they must take the required 3 genres as the basis of their dance training.

This group consists of dancers who show dedication, concentration, the eagerness to improve, and the passion for dance. They perform at local events as well as open and close the annual Recital. Past performance have been The Lowell River Hawks, Providence Bruins, The Lowell Spinners, local nursing homes, local parades, and Dracut Home Day.

Company Rehearsal is an annual cost of \$375 NOT a monthly tuition cost. Company members must purchase a studio jacket for \$150 and one additional costume for the Recital.



**Join the GLDA Dance Family
for a lifetime of memories!!**

