

LTRC Tap/Jazz Dance Program
Information for Registration

April 2010

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The 50/50 Raffle winners will be drawn at the LTRC Tap/Jazz Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 27, 2010. Winners will be notified and the names of the winners will be posted and also announced in the September newsletter.

Also see separate notice "NEW for 2010-2011 Dance Season" for other exciting news.

CLASSES OFFERED:

This year, our program will offer:

- Tap/Jazz combo class to Boys and Girls ~ PreSchool / PreK to Kindergarten
- Tap and / or Jazz to Boys and Girls ~ 1st grade through 4th grade
- Tap, Jazz/Hip-Hop and / or Lyrical to Boys and Girls ~ 5th grade through 12th grade
- Tap, Jazz, Jazz/Hip-Hop, Lyrical and / or Tappercise for Adults
- Companies in Jazz, Hip-Hop, Tap, Lyrical and Technique (auditions held in October after classes have begun)

We will again be offering Tappercise. Tappercise is like an aerobics class with Tap shoes. No tap experience is necessary. Tappercise, like Adult Jazz, will perform a fun routine in the recitals. So if there are any Moms or Dads or Grandparents or older siblings over 18 out there who always wanted to learn Tap, here's your chance. It is great exercise and lots of fun. For more information, just ask Miss Val.

In addition, we will also have auditions for all Company Dancers: Company Level I, Company Level II and Hip-Hop Company. Participation in Tap Production Company (TPC), Dance Technique Company (DTC) and Dance Company Elite (DCE) is by teacher selection and invitation only. If you are a new student and would like an audition for TPC or DTC, please contact Miss Val. All current students will receive notification in their pre-registration information if selected and recommended for TPC, DTC or DCE.

For more information on our Dance Companies, please see the section on "Dance Companies".

ALL CLASSES WILL BE FILLED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS, HOWEVER, THE SCHEDULING OF CLASSES WILL BE DETERMINED BY WHETHER OR NOT WE RECEIVE ADEQUATE REGISTRATION FOR THE CLASS. See the class schedule for more information.

DAYS/LOCATIONS OFFERED:

Classes will be offered once a week on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at Lutherville Elementary in the Activity Room, Pinewood Elementary in the cafeteria or Timonium Elementary in the Cafeteria based on the class schedule. All classes will be scheduled between 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm.

DANCE COMPANIES:

Dance Company Elite (DCE)

At the end of the dance season, Miss Val will invite the top LTRC Tap / Jazz dancers to participate in the Dance Company Elite (DCE). New selections, if any, will be announced at the Awards Ceremony. These dancers will have strong technique in all styles of dance including Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Lyrical and especially Ballet. There will be a strong emphasis on advanced technique. Members of DCE will be performing in the recitals and the style of the routine(s) may vary from year to year. There is no attendance requirement; however, the dancers are expected to attend as often as possible and are responsible for material they miss when absent. The dancers will choose by

December 1st whether or not they want to participate in the recitals based on the number of classes they can attend. DCE dancers do not need to audition for any of the other Companies. They may sign up for Company Level I, Company Level II, Hip-Hop Company or Tap Production Company.

Dance Technique Company (DTC)

By April 1st, the instructors will make recommendations to Miss Val as to which dance students who will be at least 12 years old by September 1, 2010 should be considered for DTC for the upcoming Dance Season (2010-2011). Several of the factors considered include, but are not limited to, the dancer's ability, potential, commitment (especially to practicing outside of class), serious attitude and respect for their fellow dancers and most importantly their instructors. Dancers will not be selected until they are nearing the Company level. Those dancers selected will receive notification with their pre-registration information. Company members of DTC will not be learning a routine for the recital other than part of the Opening Number (Company Production). Instead they will be able to concentrate on improving technique in all aspects of dance without the pressure of preparing for the recital. Several categories of dance technique may be covered but not limited to the following: Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Pilates, Yoga, Partner Stretching, Street Dance, Dance tricks, etc. **NEW:** DTC members may not miss more than FIVE (5) DTC classes during the 2010-2011 dance season or they will be dismissed from the Company.

Other Companies

In 2007, Jazz Company and SR Company were combined into one company called "Company". In 2010, we are dividing "Company" into two levels and will now have two separate Companies ~ Company Level I and Company Level II. Members of Company Level I will perform a Jazz routine OR Lyrical routine in the recital at the discretion of the instructors. Company Level I dancers will also take have class with other DTC dancers. Members of Company Level II will perform both a Jazz routine AND a Lyrical routine in the recital.

Dancers MUST audition for Company Level I first before auditioning for Company Level II and/or Hip-Hop Company. If you are selected for Company Level I, you may or not be given an invitation to audition for Company Level II/Hip-Hop Company. If selected for Company Level II, you will be required to buy two costumes ~ one for Jazz and one for Lyrical. If selected for Hip-Hop Company, you will be required to buy one Hip-Hop costume.

All dancers who audition should attend ALL parts of the audition. In the 1st Audition (Part 1), dancers will learn the choreography. In the 2nd Audition (Part 2), the dancers will perform what they were taught. The intensity of the Company Level I audition will obviously be a lot less than in the Company Level II audition. In Level II, dancers will be taught a portion of 3 routines ~ Jazz, Lyrical and Hip-Hop.

We will have AUDITIONS for Company Level I, Company Level II and Hip-Hop Company in October several weeks after classes begin (see schedule below). Tap Production Company is by invitation only by Miss Val. Due to the complexity of technique and the demanding role of a Company dancer, you must be at least 12 years old by 9/1/10 to audition for any of the Companies unless under the discretion of the instructors. (Please see Miss Val if you are interested in trying out for any of the companies prior to becoming age 12.) There is no upper age limit for any of the Companies. If you were in any of the Companies last year, you must still audition again.

A serious attitude, dedication and the proper approach to a Company is as important as the technical abilities of the dancer. It should be noted that without such qualities, one cannot succeed in Company. It is only fair to the other members of a Company that a dancer CANNOT REMAIN IN THE COMPANY unless ALL of the above requirements are met. Company dancers can miss no more than FIVE (5) classes PER Company throughout 2010-2011 dance season regardless of the reason or they will be dismissed from that Company. In that case no refunds can be given and all ordered costumes must be paid in full. You may register for Company Level I, Company Level II, Hip-Hop Company, and/or Tap Production Company as long as you meet the above requirements.

We are excited to announce that all members of our Companies (including DTC and DCE) will perform in the Opening Number (Company Production) in the recitals (In the past, we have done Company productions such as “CHORUS LINE”, “WEST SIDE STORY”, “CATS”, “FOOTLOOSE”, “CALENDAR GIRL” and “MY FAVORITE THINGS,” to name a few). Additional details will be provided at a later date if you are selected for a Company.

The dates and times of the auditions for Company Level I, Company Level II and Hip-Hop Company are as follows. ALL Dancers must come to the audition on Friday, October 8, 2010:

- Audition Part 1 ~ Friday, October 8, 2010
from 7:45 – 9:45 pm (audition closes at 8:00 pm)
TIMONIUM ELEMENTARY in the Cafeteria
- Audition Part 2 ~ Tuesday, October 12, 2010
from 8:00 – 10:00 pm (audition closes at 8:15 pm)
TIMONIUM ELEMENTARY in the Cafeteria
- Audition Part 3 ~ Tuesday, October 19, 2010
from 6:30 – 10:00 pm (audition closes at 6:45 pm)
TIMONIUM ELEMENTARY in the Cafeteria
- Audition Part 4 ~ Friday, October 22, 2010
from 6:45 – 10:00 pm (audition closes at 7:00 pm)
TIMONIUM ELEMENTARY in the Cafeteria

Sorry, no parents are allowed to observe any of the auditions; the dancers will be nervous enough.

Tap Production Company and Hip Hop Company will be a 1.25 hour class each week.

Company Level I and Company Level II will be a 2 hour class each week.

For those dancers selected for Dance Technique Company (DTC) or Dance Company Elite (DCE), classes will be 1 hour each.

Jazz and Ballet experience is necessary for all Companies except Tap Production Company. Dancers in Hip-Hop Company MUST have strong, disciplined dance technique. All Companies will perform in BOTH recitals.

After the 2nd Audition on October 12, 2010, as a courtesy SR Staff will meet with each dancer individually to discuss his/her dance strengths and weaknesses. Afterwards, each will be told whether or not they were selected for Company Level I. At this point, if applicable, he/she will be invited to attend Company Level II/Hip-Hop Company 3rd and 4th Auditions. After the 4th Audition on October 22, 2010, again each dancer will meet with SR Staff and be told whether or not each was selected for Company Level II and/or Hip-Hop Company. Dancers who do not make Company Level II will still be in Company Level I.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If your dancer is auditioning for any of the Companies, he/she MUST still register for at least one regular class. If selected for any of the Companies, he/she may continue in their regular class(es) as well or dance only in the Company(s). After Company selections, we MUST know your dancer’s decision regarding continuing in your regular classes by Monday, October 25, 2010.

A \$30.00 audition fee is required to audition for one or more of the following Companies: Company Level I, Company Level II or Hip-Hop Company. Audition fee is applied to course registration if selected. Otherwise, it is not refundable. This helps to offset the expense of 7 hours of instruction received during EACH of the auditions.

All Company dancers will sign a contract on the first day of class.

AGE REQUIREMENTS for regular classes:

- JAZZ / TAP Combo class - dancers must be at least 4 years old by September 1, 2010 and have control of their bladder (NO exceptions to the age requirement since 3 year olds cannot handle what is expected)
- JAZZ class – dancers must be at least 6 years old by September 1, 2010.
- TAP class – dancers must be at least 6 years old by September 1, 2010.
- JAZZ / HIP-HOP – dancers must be at least 9 years old by September 1, 2010
- LYRICAL class - dancers must be at least 9 years old by September 1, 2010

PLEASE NOTE: In order for your child to participate in our dance program, he/she must be old enough/mature enough to sit with his/her class during the recital (not with his/her parents) for the duration of the recital (approximately 2 ½ hours). The dancers will be supervised during the recital. If you are interested in supervising one of our groups and being a “Stage Mom”, please mark the appropriate box on your registration form.

CLASSES BEGIN:

In order for Miss Val to be in ALL classes to ensure proper placement, classes will begin as follows and then continue each week unless otherwise notified:

All **Tuesday classes held at TIMONIUM** will begin on Tuesday, September 28, 2010

All **Wednesday classes held at TIMONIUM** will begin on Wednesday, September 29, 2010

All **Thursday classes held at TIMONIUM** will begin on Thursday, September 30, 2010

All **Friday classes held at LUTHERVILLE** will begin on Friday, October 1, 2010

All **Monday classes held at LUTHERVILLE** will begin on Monday, October 4, 2010

All **Tuesday classes held at LUTHERVILLE** will begin on Tuesday, October 5, 2010

All **Wednesday classes held at LUTHERVILLE** will begin on Wednesday, October 6, 2010

All **Thursday classes held at LUTHERVILLE** will begin on Thursday, October 7, 2010

All **Thursday classes held at PINWOOD** will begin on Thursday, October 14, 2010

Afterwards, follow the calendar for given in each monthly newsletter.

REGISTRATION:

The registration fee for all classes except the Company classes is \$175.00 for the entire year. Classes for age 4 – 7 years old (PreK – K Tap/Jazz combo class and the 1st-2nd grade classes) are 45 minutes and require additional staff. All other regular classes (3rd grade through Adults) including DTC and DCE are scheduled to be 1 hour (which is subject to change depending on class size). Hip-Hop Company and Tap Production Company (1.25 hour class) are \$215.00 each. Company Level I and Company Level II (2 hour class) are \$305.00 each **.

NEW: ** A \$50 savings for Company Level I and Company Level II dancers who take and pay for at least one additional LTRC Tap/Jazz class. Classes that dancers and staff are required to audit at no charge as either

part of extra practice or part of the staff's continuing education requirement and FREE classes that are won as prizes do not count. Sorry ~ this savings is per dancer not per family.

With the downsizing of the recreation offices and school personnel, we are required to pay the janitors on the rehearsal and recital days at time and a half. In addition, we need to supplement the cost of having our recital booklet copied and we also need to carry insurance on our participants. They have also nearly tripled the hourly rate we need to pay the tech crew at Dulaney for our recital weekend, among other increased overhead costs of running our program, so to help defer these costs we had no choice but to raise the registration fee by \$5.00 this year.

The registration includes lessons for the entire dance season (approximately 30 weeks from Oct through the end of May), awards, certificates, and a small gift from our program. An additional costume deposit of \$40.00 per class is due by Friday, December 3, 2010.

\$40 Costume DEPOSIT per registered class must be received by Friday, December 3, 2010 or we cannot order your dancer a costume for the recital. No exceptions ~ no grace period.

A word about costumes... Tap and Jazz costumes are more complex and cost more than a simple Ballet leotard with a tutu. We will do everything in our power to keep the cost down and keep the costumes in the range of \$65 to \$80 per class. You will be notified by the beginning of February of the balance due for costumes.

Payment of remaining costume balances must be received or postmarked by Friday, February 25, 2011.

For a \$20.00 late fee per dancer, you can take an additional 2 weeks to pay your outstanding balance but ALL money must be given to your dancer's instructor or hand delivered to the Treasurers no later than Friday, March 11, 2011. If you are taking advantage of the extension, you should NOT mail your payment. All outstanding balances must be paid however in order for your dancer to participate in the recital, ALL money due must be received no later than Friday, March 11, 2011.

NOTE: Any outstanding registration or costume money not postmarked or received by February 25, 2011 will be subject to the \$20 late fee. We would rather not charge any late fees but are trying to be fair to those who paid on time. As with any business/program, we also have expenses that must be paid on time.

PRE-REGISTRATION:

As always, class size will be limited. Classes will be filled on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS. Last year, as well as in the past, many classes were filled BEFORE Walk-In Registration in May and many more were filled by Walk-In Registration in September. With the program expanding and limited classroom space available, we **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** that you mail your pre-registration form to us as soon as possible to reserve your spot.

Please mail completed registration form(s), along with a deposit equal to one class (\$175.00) per dancer to:

Joe and Lisa Colburn
LTRC Tap/Jazz
3936 Forest Valley Road
Baltimore, MD 21234

In order to reserve your dancer's spot in one or more classes, \$175.00 deposit is due with your registration form (the cost of one regular class). Again this is per DANCER, not per FAMILY. Your dancer will NOT be placed on any class list until \$175 deposit is received, the registration form is completed including waiver information and you have signed up and validated your account on rainedout.com. Keep in mind we have a very popular program and as many as 4 to 6 classes may be filled BEFORE walk in registration on May 27, 2010. Please pre-register by mail to ensure the day and class time you or your dancer desires.

For dancers who take more than one class:

- 50% of the total remaining registration balance is due by Saturday, July 31, 2010.
- The remaining registration balance must be received by Saturday, September 25, 2010.

For dancers who audition for and are selected for Company Level I, Company Level II and/or Hip-Hop Company.

- Company classes, except DTC and TPC, will begin the week of October 25th – 29th.
- **NEW:** **Payment in FULL is due prior to the first class. Dancers may hand check to instructors on the 1st day of class.**

Dancers with an outstanding registration balance will NOT be permitted to attend class until paid in full.

Dancers who stay after school at Lutherville or dancers who show up to class must be picked up immediately if there is an outstanding balance as they will not be allowed in class. Additionally, if there is a waiting list, your dancer may lose his/her spot in the class to another student who is paid in full.

PLEASE NOTE: WE MUST HAVE A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT OF STUDENTS IN ORDER TO SCHEDULE A CLASS.

WALK-IN PRE-REGISTRATION:

Walk-In Pre-Registration (for those who did not register by mail) for the 2010-2011 dance season will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2010 from 6:00 – 7:15 pm at TIMONIUM Elementary in the GYM LOBBY prior to the Awards Ceremony which begins promptly at 7:30 pm in the Timonium Elementary Gym. An additional Walk-In Pre-Registration will be held on Wednesday, September 8, 2010 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm at LUTHERVILLE Elementary in the ACTIVITY ROOM to fill any remaining openings.

REGISTERING:

ALL REGISTRATIONS SHOULD BE PAID BY CASH, CHECK OR MONEY ORDER. SORRY, NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LTRC. If you are registering more than 1 child, please complete a registration form for each child. If you need additional forms, it is perfectly acceptable to photo copy your original registration form. Forms are also available on our website www.ltrc.org/tapandjazz/index.html. Make sure you download the registration form for the 2010-2011 dance season. REGISTRATION/DEMAND WILL DETERMINE THE TYPE AND AGE GROUP OF CLASSES FOR EACH DAY. We do however have a tentative schedule which is subject to change - see the 2010-2011 class schedule in your pre-registration packet, which will also soon be posted on our website.

NOTE: Please pay close attention to the class schedule if you are registering your child(ren) for different days. We have marked the class schedule so you can register for classes that will perform in the same recital.

DANCE ATTIRE:

Proper dance attire and shoes are required at all times to assist instructors with properly aligning the dancer's body.

ALL hair should be pulled back off face so it does not distract the dancer's concentration. Please use whatever hair accessories are necessary to avoid the dancer's need to fool with her hair in class.

Dancers who are not properly dressed for class may not be allowed to participate.

NEW: Please see below for new requirements as of 2010-2011:

- TOP ~ Choice of:
 - Leotard (any color and any style ~ camisole, tank, halter, long sleeve, etc)
 - Camisole or tank top (any solid color)

Dance shrugs may be worn. No shirts. No t-shirts. No sweatshirts. No jackets. Dancers may also wear unitards.

- BOTTOM ~ Choice of:
 - Tights only with leotard but no shorts of any kind
 - Capris or leggings (BLACK)

Dance skirts only may be worn. Leg warmers may be worn.

No dance shorts of any length. No dance pants. No regular shorts. No sweatpants.

DANCE SHOES:

MALE dancers:

- Tap/Jazz combo class ~ BLACK Jazz shoes AND also BLACK Tap shoes (tie)
- 1st grade through Adult JAZZ dancers ~ BLACK Jazz shoes
- 1st grade through Adult TAP dancers ~ BLACK Tap shoes (tie)

FEMALE dancers:

- TAP/JAZZ combo class:
 - PINK Ballet shoes WITH ELASTIC STRAPS AND also BLACK Tap shoes (tie or buckle)
- JAZZ and JAZZ / HIP-HOP:
 - 1st – 2nd grade ~ PINK Ballet shoes WITH ELASTIC STRAPS
 - 3rd – 10th grade ~ TAN split sole Jazz shoes (“slip-on” style with no ties)
 - 11th grade through Adults ~ BLACK Jazz shoes or BLACK Jazz sneakers
- TAP:
 - 1st – 2nd grade ~ BLACK Tap shoes (tie or buckle)
 - 3rd – 12th ~ TAN FLAT Tap shoes (tie, buckle, “slip on”, split sole or full sole oxfords)
 - TAPPERCISE ~ TAN FLAT Tap shoes (Split sole oxfords)
 - Tap Production Company/Advanced Tap Production Company ~ TAN FLAT Tap shoes (Split sole oxfords)
- LYRICAL:
 - 5th – 10th grade – TAN Capezio Freeforms
 - 11th grade through Adults – TAN Dance Paws or TAN Foot Undeez (you can wear other prints to class but you must have TAN for the recital.), CAMEL So Danca
 - ALL Company dancers including DTC but excluding Jazz Company ~ TAN or skin colored Dance Paws or TAN Foot Undeez (you can wear other prints to class but you must have TAN for the recital.), CAMEL So Danca
- JAZZ COMPANY ~ TAN T-strap character shoes 2 ½ inch heel

All dancers must have proper dance shoes. Please mark all dance shoes inside with your dancer’s name.

*****PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE SHOES BASED ON COMPANY REQUIREMENTS UNTIL YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR COMPANY(S).**

NOTE: IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF THE "FIT" OF YOUR DANCER'S SHOES, PLEASE ALLOW ONE OF THE INSTRUCTORS TO LOOK AT THE SHOES ON YOUR DANCER'S FEET before he/she walks in them. The dance shoe stores will not exchange shoes that have been walked in.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

- The dancers will be called into class and dismissed by their instructor. Please have the dancers waiting outside the classroom at the appropriate time and remind your dancer to use the restroom **BEFORE CLASS** so as not to interrupt the flow of the lesson.
- Dancers should sign in when they arrive in the attendance book. If the dancer does not sign in, he or she will be marked absent.
- After class, parents must come into the classroom to pick up your dancer.
- Parents must also sign the dancer out. For their safety, dancers will not be dismissed until an adult signs them out or unless the dancer drives themselves to and from dance.
- No gum or candy is allowed in class.
- No hoop or large earrings should be worn. Please keep all jewelry worn to a bare minimum.
- Also, we ask that the younger dancers leave all toys, dolls, play jewelry, etc. **OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM**. Please keep in mind it is your responsibility to keep dancers and their siblings quiet while in the lobby before and after class. Please remain outside the classroom.

REFUND POLICY:

NOTE: The refund amount, if any, will be based on the date the LTRC Tap/Jazz Treasurers (Mr. Joe and Mrs. Lisa Colburn) are notified. Do not notify your child's instructor.

From the time of pre-registration of the 2010-2011 dance season until September 25, 2010, there will be a 100% REFUND if your dancer drops the program FOR ANY REASON.

After September 25, 2010, there will be a 75% REFUND if your dancer drops the program FOR ANY REASON.

After November 1, 2010, there will be a 50% REFUND of registration money if your dancer drops the program FOR ANY REASON. If the costume has not been ordered, you will get a refund of the entire \$40.00 per class deposit. If the costume has been ordered, the balance due for the costume will be deducted from your registration refund.

After December 1, 2010, there will be NO REFUND if your dancer drops the program FOR ANY REASON. Additionally, you will be required to pay the balance due for the costume(s) since the costume companies do not allow us to cancel orders.

If you have a problem, you **MUST** call the Treasurer (not the instructors) immediately.

Please visit our website throughout the year at www.ltrc.org/tapandjazz/index.html and www.rainedout.com for updates.

If you have any questions or comments now or during the course of the dance season, please feel free to let us know.

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