

Dancer DISPATCH

Welcome Back Dancers!

Welcome back Dancenter dancers! Get ready for another exciting season! Both Dancenter of Utica and Dancenter of Herkimer begin class on September 11th. To start the year off right, here are some tips...

- Arrive early to the studio to allow time for you to stretch and prepare for class
- Wear dance clothing that is appropriate for the class you are in and come prepared with any shoes that you may need
- Stay hydrated by always bringing water to class
- Make sure hair is up and out of face (and always in a bun for ballet)
- Enter class positive and ready to learn
- Make healthy meal choices to keep your body in good condition and give you energy for dance
- Have fun!

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Summer Dance Highlights

Summer Dance Intensives

In addition to the normal summer dance session in July, dancers had many opportunities for honing their skills in Dancercenter's numerous dance intensives. Starting back in June, many dancers joined former Dancercenter staff member Leyla Jackson for a ballet intensive. In August, two exciting intensives were held for dancers: one with Dancercenter alumni Latoya Brooks and another with Dancercenter alumni Caitlyn Schrader. Latoya is a former Knicks dancer who joined students at the Dancercenter of Herkimer for an exciting hip-hop intensive. Caitlyn led students in a four day long contemporary dance intensive. Thank you to Leyla, Latoya, and Caitlyn for leading these outstanding intensives!



Annual Princess Camp

For four days in July, young dancers ages 3-7 participated in Dancercenter's annual Princess Camp. Dancers came dressed as Ariel on Monday, Cinderella on Tuesday, Elsa/Anna on Wednesday, and Snow White on Thursday. While at Princess Camp, dancers participated in a number of activities. These included learning princess manners, playing fun games, making princess related crafts, listening to stories of their favorite princesses, and of course learning dance routines that corresponded with the princess of that day.



Congratulations Competition Students!

Congratulations to all new and returning competition team members! We are so excited to share that Dancenter now not only has a competition team at the Utica location, but also at the Herkimer location!

To new members of competition, make sure that you are making a point to always attend your competition classes even if you are unable to dance that day due to an issue such as an injury. This is because competition classes move at a faster pace and you must learn all choreography. If you absolutely cannot attend, make sure to ask a fellow class mate to catch you up on the choreography you missed so that you are all caught up for next class.

The competitions scheduled for this season are:

- VIP in Utica, NY on March 2-4
- The United States Tournament of Dance (USTD) in Syracuse, NY on May 4-6
- Dance America/Olympus in Albany, NY (dates to be determined)

Be on the look out for competition students with fundraisers. We are currently selling goodies from Lizzie's Cupcakes in the New Hartford Shopping Center. You can order from any competition student. We always appreciate the support!

Making Spirits Bright

Dancers, do not forget about auditions for this years Living Arts Movement (LAM) production, Making Spirits Bright. This is a great opportunity for dancers of all levels to perform on stage aside from the recital. They can learn choreography set to classic Christmas favorites, and perform it in December for family and friends. Auditions will be held at the Utica location on September 16th and at the Herkimer location on September 23rd. Auditions are 12-1pm for Jr. & Sr. Company members, 1-1:30pm for ages 5 & 6, 1:30-2:15pm for ages 7-9, and 2:15-3pm for ages 10-11. The show will be held at MVCC on both December 9th and 10th. We hope to see you at auditions!



Welcome New Staff Members!

This year we are excited to be adding three new members to our Dancenter staff! We would like to welcome Kathleen, Sarah Yacco, and Caitlyn Schrader. Kathleen will be teaching hip-hop, Sarah will be teaching tap, and Caitlyn will be teaching modern. Welcome to the Dancenter family!





Dancenter
OF UTICA & HERKIMER

Kathleen

TEACHING HIP-HOP AT
DANCENTER OF UTICA
& HERKIMER

Kathleen grew up dancing at Deb's Dance Studio for 15 years where she was awarded a "Star Performer" award upon graduating High School. Since graduating, Kathleen began taking class and teaching at Studio 1000 Dance Company. Last summer, she also trained with the Joffrey Ballet School. Kathleen continues her dancing and training through class at Dancenter Dance Center and conventions.

REGISTER NOW
CALL OR ONLINE
315.868.1010 • 230 NORTH MAIN STREET, HERKIMER
DANCENTERSTUDIO.COM



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SARAH YACCO HAS SPENT THE 16 YEARS OF HER LIFE DANCING. SHE HAS STUDIED JAZZ, TAP, LYRICAL, BALLET, MODERN, HIP HOP, AND CONTEMPORARY TAP BEING HER FAVORITE. IN HER SENIOR YEAR OF DANCE SHE WAS VOTED KID-TEEN DANCE CAPTAIN BY HER TEACHERS. AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE STUDIO IN 2016, SHE BEGAN COLLEGE AT SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE WHERE SHE WILL BE GRADUATING WITH A B.A. IN PSYCHOLOGY IN DECEMBER. HER PLAN IS TO CONTINUE ON WITH MY EDUCATION IN CHILD LIFE.

TAP

Introducing our new tap instructor

SARAH

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Comments, questions, or concerns? Send
an email to mruff5678@gmail.com

Our Mission Statement:

It is our philosophy that the experience of dance should be positive and rewarding while learning the discipline required for to reach personal goals; be it furthering their career to dance professionally or to develop poise and coordination on a recreational level. Each class is structured to the age and abilities of our dancers and is taught by highly trained, qualified, adult dance educators. Our classes are designed to teach muscle development, coordination, balance, rhythm, grace and poise. Dancers will gain independence and confidence, build positive self-image and learn to interact with others. Our main objective is for each student to learn the joy and appreciation of music and dance. We strive to create an innovative approach to dance Training recognizing diversity, encouraging unanimous participation, and ensuring achievement by all students.