



WELCOME AND INFORMATION PACK

<http://letsdanceltd.ca>

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Welcome Packet 2025-2026

We are so happy that you have decided to dance with us at Let's Dance!
We want to make sure that each dancer has a wonderful experience and that each parent is pleased with the service they receive. This welcome packet will provide you with information about fees, class policies, events, etc.! Please read this entire packet to be informed of what is required of you as a parent as well as students.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE CONSENT FORM

Introduction

Let's Dance Ltd. was founded over 35 years ago, by Sandra D'Arise. As a small neighbourhood studio, it was our mission to provide the highest standard of dance instruction for both recreational and competitive students. 30 years later, our dancers are recognized nationally and internationally for their skills, abilities and attitude. Let's Dance has grown considerably in size and now offers Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Lyrical, Acro, Hip Hop, and Contemporary. Classes are offered for ages 2 and up by qualified and experienced teachers. From an early age, your child receives instruction that is current, proper, age appropriate and safe. Despite being a larger studio, we still embrace our original mission of providing the highest standard of instruction to all levels of dance whether it is competitive, recreational or pre-competitive. This high quality of dance instruction is especially important during the early ages of 2 to 6. For these children, we utilize several teachers' assistants – to give a high teacher to student ratio. Your child receives the individual attention they deserve in a clean, positive and attentive atmosphere!

Designed to Bring Out the Best in You

Let's Dance offers recreational, pre-competitive and competitive programs. Recreational classes are offered by a combination of age, experience and style. Parents and students can choose from a variety of dance genres and skill levels. We will be happy to assist you in your curriculum choices and will work with you to place your dancer accordingly.

Let's Dance also offers two levels of competitive streams. The pre-competitive levels are for classes with dancers that train less than 6 hours a week and, during competitions, they will compete against similarly trained dancers from other studios. Full competitive dancers are those that train more than 6 hours a week. Studios are graded across the province for their inherent level of dance skill so that competitions are challenging but not overwhelming.

Let's Dance places a strong emphasis on all programs as children's needs and demands grow as they and their skill levels progress. It is our philosophy that a performing art can only realize its full level of art, expression and beauty when the dancer believes they must present their full capabilities to others, for themselves and (...for competitive streams) against others. Recitals and competitions are serious! They are the culmination of months (years) of training and commitment. It is a time of great personal expression and growth. Dance builds skills in teamwork, focus, prioritization, commitment and dedication. Moreover, a dancer grows as part of a team with a vibrant and powerful sense of community.

Dance Styles Taught at Let's Dance

- **Ballet:** Focuses on fundamental techniques which develop strength, poise and flexibility. Use of core muscles and discipline skills are developed. Ballet is the basis of all dance forms
- **Jazz:** Develop the latest style in these high energy and innovative classes. Age appropriate material is presented in this fun and exciting program with an emphasis in correct technical execution. Energetic and fun; consisting of unique moves, leaps, turns and line formations.
- **Tap:** Rhythm, coordination and style is developed in these fun, upbeat classes. Tap his style of dance is one where rhythmic patterns are sounded by the toes, heels and balls of the feet. Progressive rhythmic skills and syncopation styles are taught in a fun and energetic manner
- **Contemporary:** Strong ballet fundamentals and modern techniques utilizing strength, flexibility, alignment, breath, contraction, suspension, tension and relaxation while emphasizing artistic expression and unique choreography
- **Hip Hop:** An age appropriate approach to rhythmic movements, steps and styles inspired by the hip-hop/urban youth culture. A high-energy class full of expression and attitude.
- **Acro:** This dance style is a combination of Jazz and gymnastics skills, flexibility and dance presentation. The development is progressive and, in a carefully monitored environment. Students will learn cartwheels, walkovers, balances, and aerials.
- **Lyrical:** A combination of jazz and ballet. A routine which interprets the lyrics of musicality of a song. Usually set to ballad style music. Shows clean classic body lines and solid traditional technique.

Class Placement

Newly arriving students or current students are placed according to what the teaching staff believes is best for the development, happiness and self-esteem of the Dancer. Some Dancers will be discouraged by being in a class that is more challenging than expected while others will work to overcome these challenges and improve their skill sets. Re-evaluation is a normal part of the coaching process and class placement is a highly individual and complex decision. These decisions come from the experience of many years of coaching and are always done with the best interests of the Dancer at heart.

Year End Recital

Let's Dance's annual concluding recital is done in June each season. All recreational numbers, pre-competitive and competitive groups and lines will perform. Additionally, the pre-competitive and competitive solos, duets and trios that have distinguished themselves with top awards (1st Overall Award, Top Ballet Score of the Weekend etc) will also perform (Overalls are excluded at any extra competitions students decide to add to their competitive schedule). It's a great mix of fun and serious dancing. This event is typically performed at the Humanities Theatre. Tickets are sold at the Humanities Theatre box office. Details for ordering are regularly communicated in the monthly Newsletters. **OUR YEAR END SHOW FOR 2026 WILL BE HELD JUNE 19 & 20, 2026, AT THE HUMANITIES THEATRE.**

The Competitive Season

For our pre-competitive and competitive dancers, we hold a competitive showcase in the first quarter of the new calendar year. Dancers get to perform for an audience under competitive conditions. Teachers and students use this experience to fine-tune their numbers before actual competition starts in March. Dancers are not the only ones who benefit by the showcase! Parents who curl their children's hair, apply their makeup and help with costumes also get put through their paces! Successful competition is a team effort.

*18 and Saturday, March 3 /185 and Saturday, March 3 /18day, March 2 /18 and Saturday, March 3 /18

Competitions will be chosen by the director and announced each Fall during meetings and in Newsletters. There are usually between 4 competitions each year. Most of the chosen venues will be close to home but, there may be others that require overnight stays. All competitions are designed to challenge but not overwhelm the dancers and, to give the best experience possible. Competition is a serious commitment and requires extra fees, costuming and extra practices as required. Missing classes from November to March is not advised as it affects the entire team. **OUR SHOW WILL BE HELD AT THE HUMANITIES THEATRE ON FEBRUARY 28 & MARCH 1, 2026**

Registration and Competitive Season

The registration fee is \$25 per family and is charged once each dance season. This fee is non-refundable. It is due at the time of registration. Early registration for the following dance year is encouraged as space can be limited. Registration fees are waived for the following season if enrolled before the end of regular Spring classes.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

Tuition fees are listed in the Let's Dance fee document. Here are the dates just in case: **September 1, October 1, November 1, December 1, January 1, February 1, March 1, April 1, May 1 and June 1.** Monthly tuition is calculated for the entire season. The total is divided evenly through the 10 months of dancing, taking Christmas break and March Break into consideration.

NEW THIS YEAR! Upon registration, we will provide the option for automatic withdrawal from your account, or you may choose to keep your credit card on file for tuition payments. This payment method will solely be utilized for your tuition on the 1st of each month. All payments are required to be made on the 1st. Cash will be accepted on the 1st of the month.

COMPETITIVE STUDENTS: A COSTUME DEPOSIT OF \$175.00 PER COSTUME IS DUE OCTOBER 10 AND NOVEMBER 10. (PAYMENTS CAN BE SPLIT BETWEEN THE 2 DATES GIVEN)

Please note the following: NSF cheques will incur a \$25.00 fee. There are no refunds for missed classes.

Withdrawal or expulsion from classes results in the forfeiture of fees for that month as well as any costume deposits, examination fees, ticket purchases or competition payments that have already been paid.

Picture Week

Let's Dance will hold a picture taking weekend at the Let's Dance studio. Even if you are not buying pictures it is considered a courtesy to all team members that your Dancer be present for this event. Dancers will be able to have individual photo shots as well as group photos in their recital costumes. Choose some pictures, pick all the pictures or, choose none but...please be there. Pictures will be available for pick up in September. The photos are professionally done and a variety of styles and sizes are available for your choice.

Picture dates for 2026 are May 30 & 31, 2026

Costumes and Choreography

- Choreography is typically defined for all students by the end of October for competitive and pre-competitive classes. Recreational classes progress at their own pace and according to their skill set and age during the year.
- Competitive and pre-competitive students will be offered extra dance numbers (solos, duets, groups etc) after careful consideration by the entire dance staff of the studio.
- Each student that participates in the year end recital and/or in competitive numbers will need a costume for each class taken.
- Recreational students -- a \$75.00 deposit is due December 1, 2025.

Volunteering

- Students are always welcome to volunteer their time. Please advise the studio director of your desire to volunteer. Parents are also welcome to volunteer.

Class Cancellations

- Due to time restrictions Let's Dance cannot guarantee the rescheduling of classes due to inclement weather although every effort will be made to do so.
- Cancellation of classes is announced through a message on the answering machine (1 519 743 3957) by 3:30. Every effort will also be made to send out an e-mail to all parents and students (as well as Facebook). If there is no message on the answering machine by 3:30 pm then please assume that classes will run.

Arrival and Departure

- Dancers should arrive 10 minutes before class and begin to stretch and warm up.
- Please put any outside shoes on the mats or under/on the benches in the entry way. This safety measure applies to ALL Dancers, parents, siblings, guests etc.
- Dancers under the age of 16 should not leave the studio unaccompanied without their parents/guardians or, with the express written consent of their parents or guardians.
- Dancers should wait inside the studio while waiting to be picked up.
- Dancers should be picked up within 10 minutes of the end of the evening's classes.

Studio Etiquette and Rules

- Students should follow the dress code for what is to be worn in class.
- Hair should always be worn in a bun (or tied back for boys) while in class.
- Please do not bring or wear watches, rings, necklaces or metal bracelets to Dance. Not only can they be an injury hazard but they may be misplaced or forgotten at Dance.
- Dance bags should be stored in the designated areas in the boys or girls change rooms.
- Students are not allowed to use or have cell phones on during class. NO EXCEPTIONS!

- No profanity or offensive language will be tolerated.
- Students are expected to treat teachers, parents and each other with respect.
- No one may smoke, chew gum, use bad language, alcohol or drugs in or near the studio.
- No food or drink (except water) is allowed in the dance studios at any time.
- Let's Dance is a peanut-free facility. Please do not bring peanut snacks or dishes.
- Siblings and friends of dancers must be supervised while at the studio. No running, shouting, rough or loud play is permitted as that is disruptive for classes being taught.
- The use of empty studio space is prohibited without the consent of the studio director.
- Let's Dance is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- Let's Dance shall not be held liable in any way for injuries sustained during attendance at the dance school or, any of its related functions.
- The Let's Dance studio director may dismiss any student from class/studio for breaking the rules, being disruptive, destructive or for endangering the health, safety and welfare of themselves or others. This includes the forfeiture of any fees paid to date.

Dress Code, Shoes and Attire

A dress code keeps things organized. When one is teaching a number and there is a variety of different colours and styles, it is very hard on the eyes. More importantly, it is quite difficult to make corrections on body lines when children come in wearing baggy clothes. As it is easier to learn in a professional environment, Let's Dance students must be dressed properly. For new students, feel free to wear running shoes for the first few classes until your child is comfortable and committed. Hair must always be tied back securely

Attire for Recreational Classes (Ages 2-5, boy or girl)

- Wear comfortable dancewear, any color, any style that is relatively form fitting

Attire for Recreational Classes (Ages 6 and up)

- Girls
 - Ballet: Any colour of bodysuit any style, pink tights.
 - Jazz, lyrical: Black crop tops any style, black shorts any style
 - Leggings: Tight fit will enable us to see feet and ankles more clearly, black only
- Boys
 - Pants: Black pants or black shorts
 - Tops: White or black tank top

Regular Class Attire for Pre-Competitive and Competitive Teams

- Girls
 - Black body suit, any style & pink convertible tights
 - All other classes: full strap crop top or fitted tank tops & black shorts
- Boys
 - Black shorts & black or white tank tops only

Shoes for Dance (may change each year)

- General for Classes
 - TAP: Black lace up shoes with built up soles
 - BALLET: Pink ballet shoes, canvas
 - JAZZ – Students can go bare feet
- **Competitive Shoes**
 - Please inquire with the front desk at Let's Dance
 - Shoes styles may be dance specific and part of the costume

All Hip Hop Classes

- Clothes: Anything comfortable and hip-hop appropriate
- Shoes running shoes (non-marking soles, **SHOES MUST BE INDOOR AND NOT WORN OUTSIDE. PLEASE RESPECT THIS RULE FOR THE UPKEEP OF OUR FLOORS**)

STUDIO HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The studio will be closed the follow dates for statutory holidays:

Monday October 13, 2025 Thanksgiving Monday

Monday December 22 - Monday January 4, 2026 for Christmas Break

Monday February 16 2026 - Family Day

Friday April 3, 2026 - Good Friday

Sunday April 5, 2026 - Easter Sunday

NOTES - THE STUDIO IS OPEN EASTER MONDAY APRIL 6, 2026

Monday May 18, 2026 - Victoria Day

please cut return _____

Consent Form: Signatures & Acknowledgement

Please fill in, date and sign this last page to acknowledge receipt of the Let's Dance Welcome and Information pack and that you understood and agree to the guidelines, rules and requirements as outlined in this document.

Dancer(s) Names and Signatures:

Parent(s) Names and Signatures

**THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING LET'S DANCE LTD
LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT
YEAR!**

Sandra D'Arsie

sandradarsie@outlook.com