



To our OCMD Dance Parents & Students:

By now, you have received information on the comprehensive efforts OCMD is making to ensure access to a safe learning environment:

- Brief, contact-free health screenings for all wishing to enter the building
- The use of face coverings and hand sanitizer upon entrance and exit
- Frequent disinfection of surfaces before and after lessons
- One-way entrance and exit
- Physical distancing implemented in commons areas, classrooms, and practice rooms
- Building has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and will continue to be on a regular basis
- A new air filtration system installed to ensure our air will now be continuously cleaned to remove contamination, pollutants, and pathogens (like viruses and bacteria).

As we prepare to return to in-person learning beginning July 6, I want to share with you the proactive measures we are taking to specifically protect the health and safety of our dance students, faculty and families in group classes.

Arrival & Belongings

Upon arrival, parents will escort their student(s) from the lobby area to a marked spot in the hallway adjacent to the studio. Instructors will admit one student at a time while assigning a numbered bin to store belongings during class. Bins will be spaced evenly around the perimeter of the room and sanitized between classes.

Limited-Capacity Classes

Social distancing recommendations become significantly greater when dancers are training indoors. In response, we have limited the capacity of our group classes to ensure a minimum of 8 feet distance between dancers at all times. Floors will be marked to ensure proper spacing and dancers will report to their assigned spot.

Face Coverings Required at All Times

Faculty and students will be required to wear facial coverings at all times. In response, instructors will carefully design activities to allow for an appropriate reconditioning period and be trained to monitor for student symptoms of lightheadedness, dizziness, numbness or tingling, and shortness of breath. If symptoms appear, students will be asked to stop activity and rest.

Staggered Class Times

In addition to the increased cleaning of our facilities, we have scheduled additional time between classes to allow staff to clean the floors and sanitize high-touch areas with non-toxic, medical-grade disinfectant and ensure safe traffic flow between students arriving and departing the studio.



Adapting Curriculum to Ensure Safe Return to Training

While we are eager to return to in-studio training, OCMD faculty will be adapting and adjusting curriculum to ensure a safe return to dance. Classes will focus on restoring confidence, building back up strength, and preparing physically and mentally for returning safely to dance practice. Activities that require direct or indirect contact including partnering, tactile cueing, direct floor work, or touching of the same equipment will be avoided.

As we work together to create the safest environment possible, please consider the ways you may contribute to our efforts:

- Dancers should arrive to the studio already dressed in dance attire.
- Spray and wipe all shoes and personal belongings with disinfectant before entering the building.
- Wash hands frequently, using soap and water, for 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer when bathrooms are not accessible or you cannot leave your area.
- Avoid contact with the eyes and face.

With careful consideration to medical advice, guidance coming from professional dance organizations, and stipulations put in place by our local public health authorities and governments, we will continue to monitor our procedures and adapt and adjust when necessary to ensure the safest experience for our dancers, faculty and families.

We are looking forward to returning to the studio. We can't wait to see you starting July 6!

Tawny Chapman
Chair & Instructor of Dance

