

DANCE EXPLORATION

Bologna

This class gives the student a chance to explore different areas of the dance program here at Roosevelt School of the Arts. It is an excellent class for a beginning dance student but experienced dancers can experiment in new areas as well. The class will cover beginning jazz, tap and social dance. An introductory unit to acrobatics and tumbling will also be taught. With an emphasis on teaching students basic dance skills often used in musical theater, ballroom dances such as the Charleston, Fox-Trot, American Swing, the Tango, the Samba, the Polka and the Waltz will also be included as time allows.

Course Objectives:

- *To help students learn and develop a basic understanding and the ability to execute the fundamental principles of dance vocabulary and technique.
- *To help students learn the importance exercise, posture and nutrition play in maintaining a lifelong healthy body.
- *To help students learn the appropriate dress and appearance for a dance class and why it is important to their development as a dancer.
- *To help students learn basic dance class discipline and why it is important to a successful learning environment.
- *To learn about the history of dance in general and how it relates to the world of dance today.
- *To help students become aware of and appreciate the role composers, choreographers and dancers have played in the history and development of dance.
- *To continue to allow students to gain experience, understanding and appreciation of dance by encouraging them to attend live dance performances.
- *To provide students opportunities to improve their reading and writing skills through dance related research reports and written dance critiques

*To help students become more familiar with their ability to perform dance by providing opportunities to perform teacher-choreographed dance numbers in class and in the Spring Dance Concert.

Attendance and Participation:

Your attendance and active participation at each class IS EXPECTED. You will lose points for unexcused absences, tardies and lack of participation. Two points will be taken off your score for each day one of these attendance or participation infractions occurs.

Assignments:

1. Participate in all warm-up and conditioning exercises, and dance combinations in the center of the room. These will be subjectively graded by the teacher and will make up the fifty points in technique that is part of your total points of 200.
2. Attend one live (not a recorded or televised) dance performance each quarter for a yearly total of four. This could be any type of dance concert, full length ballet or musical with dancing. You are to write a critique of the performance you see, following the format I have given you. These reviews are worth ten points.
3. Complete written research reports on given topics. These reports may be hand written, typed or done on a word processor. Each report must include a title page and a bibliography. You will turn in two reports this year, one due the week before the end of each semester. Each report will be worth twenty points out of two hundred in determining your grade.
5. Read assigned chapters and articles in the class. Participation in class discussions of these chapters, completion of quick writes, worksheets and vocabulary and spelling exams is part of the course work.
6. At the end of each quarter write a quarterly self- evaluation in which you express how you feel you did and what you learned and accomplished. You will also reflect on what you need to work on to improve in this class and as a dancer in general.
7. Participate in the learning and performance of all teacher- choreographed dances. Volunteer to perform one of these dances in the Spring Dance Concert.

The dance will be performed in the auditorium in front of a paying audience in May. Attendance at three after school dress rehearsals the week of the concert is required.

Dress Code:

It is your responsibility to follow the dress code for the class. You will receive a copy of the dress code that lists, in detail, what you are to wear. You will lose two points each day you do not or improperly dress out.

Attitude:

Your attitude in class is important to your development and success as a dancer or any career choice. Your class etiquette, concentration, improvement and how well you accept constructive criticism on your dance technique will be taken into consideration in determining your final grade.