

## **Public Academy for Performing Arts**

### *Dance Department Policies*

#### Addendum to Dance Class Syllabus

**Attendance** is of essential importance in any dance class as students must have the daily movement experience necessary in order to gain muscle development and coordination, avoid injury, and make progress in dance. Students are required to bring in a doctor's note if they have an extended absence or cannot participate due to a medical situation. School-related absences will not count against the student, but excessive or unexcused absences WILL adversely affect the student's grade.

**Lateness** in a dance class is disruptive and potentially detrimental for the student as their body doesn't get the warm-up necessary for the demanding exercises and movement done in the middle and end of class. Students who arrive more than ten minutes after a technique class has begun may not participate in class and will have to complete an observation paper in order to be counted as "present," but will not earn full points for class. Excessive lateness WILL affect the student's grade.

**Participation** in the Spring Dance Concert is a requirement of all dance classes. Spring Dance Concert dates are given at the start of the semester and on the PAPA website so that plans can be made accordingly. Students with injury (i.e. a broken leg, recent surgery) may be given an alternate activity so that their grade does not suffer. However, students who are consistently late or chronically absent may revoke their performance privileges and will consequently have a lowered grade.

**Placement** into classes are by audition and/or teacher recommendation. Placement into a class level isn't necessarily contingent on a student's completion of a level, but rather the students' growth and development in class based on their level of physical fitness prior to entering the class, their supplemental training outside of class as well as their dedication to the class. Additionally, as each student develops differently, the knowledge gained, the experience learned, and the self-development attained should always take precedence over grades.

**Corrective feedback** during dance class is a regular part of class. Comments are meant to be constructive in order to help students improve various elements of their dance development. As dance is physical activity, corrections are physical as well. If the student is uncomfortable being corrected by physical contact please inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

**Dance attire** must be appropriate to the class he/she is taking (see dance syllabus for specifics) so that the instructor can see the placement of the student's body for proper alignment and development. Incorrect placement is difficult to assess in non-dance clothing, thus incorrectly executed may cause injury.