

May 10, 2020

Dear Dancers and Parents,

Welcome to the GC Community Dance Program! We are honored that you have trusted our staff with the dance education of your child and we take this responsibility very seriously. This begins our 26th year at Georgia College!

As we navigate this corona virus pandemic, know that we at GC are doing everything we can to promote dance in a safe environment. We are part of a committee that is looking at safety in the studio, lobby, restrooms and anywhere our dancers and parents might be on campus. I am hoping and praying we can open up for July classes in masks and social distancing. If this is not possible then hopefully we will begin in August as we normally do. One thing that is being discussed is limiting class sizes in Chappell and Miller studio so that students can be six feet apart at all times. For the larger classes we will offer two sections of the same class to make this possible. We will keep you informed as this situation progresses every step of the way.

***Our GC Community Dance Program Mission:** To educate and promote dance in all ages of students through the proper teaching of dance technique. Emphasis is upon correct usage and implementation of dance terminology, tasteful and age appropriate costuming and choreography, a safe environment for learning, kindness and compassion to all students, parental involvement at all levels, teaching correct dance etiquette and discipline in the classroom, and the hope of instilling a lifelong appreciation and love of dance. The GC Community Dance Program does not involve itself in any type of dance competition or similar commercial venture. There are two dance productions each year in which students may take part: The Nutcracker in December and the Spring Concert in May.*

Dance Instructors: GC Director of Dance Amelia Pelton and Senior Lecturer and full-time instructor Natalie King have the Bachelor of Fine arts degree in dance and the Master of Fine Arts degree in dance. All other instructors are lifelong dancers, dance students in the GC Credit dance program, have had Dance Pedagogy, and are supervised by Mrs. Pelton and King.

This is your summer and fall information letter for the GC Community Dance Program. Please keep it on your computer and print it out if you would like and keep in a safe place because this will be the only letter you will receive about fall classes.

Summer Classes: **Summer classes begin the week of JULY 13** and continue through **JULY 30 if we are able to offer them.** If you have not done so, please call and register your child if you are planning to attend. I would recommend paying the registration fee prior to July 1 to hold your child's place. Enclosed is a summer schedule. There are no discounts given for second classes or siblings during the three-week summer session. As always, you may sign up for one or two weeks of your choice if you are going out of town for one of the three weeks.

Fall classes begin the week of AUGUST 3. We will not have a price increase again this year. Our prices will be as follows: \$43 for the first hour or hour and fifteen minute class, and \$38 for

a 45-minute class. Students who register for two or more dance courses per month pay full price for the first course and receive a \$5 discount for each subsequent course. Siblings receive the \$5.00 discount as well. St. Stephens Creative Movement price is the same as last year.

Registration Fee: There will be a \$20 per family registration fee due at the beginning of the fall quarter, or as new students register during the year. **This fee will be due with August tuition.**

Fall Schedule: Enclosed is a fall schedule of classes. I am receiving phone calls every day from new students. Please call now to enroll your child in fall classes. I would not want our returning students to be closed out of a class because they waited to register until classes were filled.

Previous and current students have until July 1st to register for the fall classes. After that time I cannot guarantee that we will have a place for you. On July 2, we will begin accepting new students for the fall. Last fall, we had several current students who did not register for fall classes and simply showed up the first day of class in August to find that the classes were full. Please do not let this happen to you!

Recommended Classes: We have thought long and hard about each child and his/her proper class. Remember, **we promote according to skill level—not age**—and there are many other considerations as well that go into the class placement for your child such as class attendance, attitude in class, work habits, maturity level, and rehearsal attendance. Please call as soon as possible at (478) 445-5277 to register your child for fall. You must pay for the first month in order to guarantee your child a place in the course. (Attention new students: please check with me first to determine the proper classes and then go to Chappell Hall to register.) Class assignments are listed at the end of this letter.

Two class per week requirement for Ballet IV, V, VI, and VII: Many years ago, we implemented a schedule that included two ballet technique classes for Ballet IV and up. In the professional world, and in serious dance studios, students are required to take two ballet technique classes a week. This is considered a minimum requirement in training. This is required for students enrolled in Ballet IV, V, VI, and VII. I am sure most of you can see the obvious progress a student makes when enrolled in two ballet technique classes a week. There are no exceptions to this policy. All students working in pointe shoes, especially, must have two technique classes a week.

Pointe Shoes: I will take this opportunity now to remind you that students are selected for pointe shoes on an individual basis depending on their technique level, age, body alignment, weight, overall strength, and overall physical health. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to call me to discuss this important issue. Pointe shoes are given to students on an individual basis and based upon the following: the student must be at least 11 or 12 years of age, have strong legs and feet, must have had at least 3 years of serious consistent ballet training, not be overweight, must have a high arch and relevé, must be a good student who is dedicated to ballet.

BoBo's Dance Supply Discount Dates: Again this year, BoBo's Dance Supply in Macon is

offering a discount to each dance studio or school in this area. To receive a discount you must shop BoBo's Dance Supply on OUR DATES: July 22 through August 5! ONLY ON THOSE DATES WILL THE DISCOUNT APPLY!! If you go another time you will receive only half the discount. The shop is located on Ingleside Drive. Just mention our name (GC Dance) to get the discount, during our two weeks.

Proper attire consists of: a solid color leotard and tights of any color, PINK ballet shoes for ballet, black jazz shoes for jazz classes, black tap shoes with single taps (no clogging taps or double taps) for tap classes, and pointe shoes for students on pointe if allowed by the instructor. Students not dressed properly will not be allowed to participate in class. Hair **MUST** be tied back and secured away from the face. Long pony tails should be up. Chiffon skirts may be worn to classes, but no shorts or sports attire. Jazz and Tap classes may wear jazz pants, jazz shorts, leggings, but no sloppy tee shirts please. Students who are dressed appropriately for dance generally work harder and dance better!

The Nutcracker! Plans are underway for the 24th annual Nutcracker! I am already thinking and planning for our annual Christmas presentation! Some roles in the Nutcracker will be open to the public. In particular, we will need several young boys, in the fourth, fifth, or sixth grades, for Act I. Please let me know if you know of any who would be interested! We will have open auditions for those parts in early September. Those parts will rehearse on some Saturdays. **Our Nutcracker dates this year are: Friday, December 11 at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 12, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, December 13 at 2 p.m. We are also planning to present a school performance this year on Friday, December 11!**

Costumes: On the first day of class, you will be given a letter about Nutcracker costumes. I try very hard to choose attractive, inexpensive costumes that will look good on every student in the class and that can be worn later in the spring dance concert. A size measurement chart is posted at each studio. **Please remember to order a size that can be worn in May in the spring dance concert!** Pictures of these costumes will be posted on the bulletin board outside the studio door along with size charts. **If in doubt, order a size up.**

Yearly calendar: In August, we will E mail a complete year-long calendar giving all of the important dates for the dance year.

Rehearsal Schedule and Cast List: The Nutcracker rehearsal schedule and cast list will be distributed and posted around Labor Day.

Communication: **The primary source of information is through e-mails from the director and instructors.** In an effort to be "green" and to cut down on printing and postage costs, letters will be sent by e-mail.

Facebook: Anyone wishing to join our private FB page please search for Georgia College Dance on Facebook and ask to join. It is a private page for our parents, dancers, and friends of dance only. Pictures and announcements for dance are posted.

Pictures: Individual photos are available in front of a white back drop at Spring concert on dress rehearsal day. Group photos of each class are also made at this time. We have an account for Smugmug, the on line site for pictures made during the dress rehearsals of each production. Go to gcdance.smugmug.com to see our photos. The log in is: amelia.pelton@gcsu.edu **Our password is: Nut2015.** All Nutcracker and spring concert photos are up on this site for your enjoyment and ordering pictures.

Videos: Each production is videoed and parents are welcome to purchase a copy of the concert.

Student Assistants: Student assistants are dancers in our program who help with classes. They help to teach dance steps, guide dancers to the restroom, greet parents, and generally help with the overall dance lesson each week. Assistants are chosen on the basis of maturity, dedication to dance, and desire to help. Assistants commit to helping for the entire year, each week. In the event of an absence they should obtain a substitute to take their place. Student assistants are not paid but do get extra tickets to the Nutcracker. Assistants will receive a contract on the first day of class in the fall. This year assistants will be chosen from college and high school students only in our dance program, due to state regulations with minors on campus laws.

Scholarships: There are a limited number of partial scholarships available to our dance students each year. The scholarship application is posted in the fall letter, given out in June. Applicants should complete the form and other instructions listed on the information form. A committee of GC faculty and staff review the applications. Criteria of selection is based upon financial need, dedication to dance, amount of years in our program, talent, and work ethic demonstrated in performances and in class. Those chosen will receive a contract stating that they will continue to be a good example to other dancers, hard working in class and rehearsal, and over all good students.

Nutcracker information: There is a Nutcracker Handbook that is given out later in the fall that is full of information about the Nutcracker. This handy guide should answer most of your questions about our production.

Awards/Recognition: Students in the Spring concert are given recognition for 5 years of continuous dance in our program, for 8 years, and 10 years and up.

Solos in productions are generally given to the students in the most advanced levels. Ballet VII, Tap IV, and Musical Theatre are the top levels of ballet, tap, and jazz. Students should be in these levels to receive senior solos in their senior year of high school or at GC. Other age appropriate solos are given in the Nutcracker, to younger dancers.

Registration information:

To register and make monthly payments you can call (478) 445-5277, place check in either drop box (Chappell or Miller), come to the Continuing Education Office (Chappell Hall 100 – Monday – Friday 8AM to 5 PM), or pay online. **Right now the GC campus is closed due to the**

pandemic. Tuition should be paid by the first class of each month. Once you have paid tuition, you will receive an email receipt with waivers attached. These must be filled out once every year. If you have completed waivers in Spring 2020, you will not need to complete them again until January 2021.

This year we are pleased to offer dancers and parents the option of registering for dance online! Dancers must pay the Registration Fee in order to be eligible for online registration. Call (478) 445-5277 to obtain instructions for online registration. Discounts will not be available online.

We welcome suggestions from parents to help us have a better dance program! Please e-mail me with suggestions.

We look forward to another wonderful year with you and your child! Please e-mail me with any questions. Thanks for your support of our program!

Best Wishes,

Amelia Pelton
GC Director of Dance
Amelia.pelton@gcsu.edu

Natalie King
Senior Dance Lecturer
Natalie.king@gcsu.edu

Our GC Community Dance Program guidelines:

1. **Students pay for their lessons in advance, by the first class of the month.** Students more than two weeks behind on their tuition may not be admitted to class. Parents may call (478) 445 – 5277 and put tuition on a credit card, drop the check (no cash please) into the drop box at Miller or Chappell studios, or register on line.
2. **Students need to be on time for class, with the proper attire on, with a cover-up on top.** Dance shoes and dance attire are not to be worn outside. Put your name in all articles.
3. **Proper attire consists of:** a solid color leotard and tights of any color, PINK ballet shoes for ballet and jazz class (or black jazz shoes), black tap shoes with single taps (no clogging taps or double taps) for tap classes, and pointe shoes for students on pointe if allowed by the instructor. Students not dressed properly will not be allowed to participate in class. Hair **MUST** be tied back and secured away from the face. Chiffon skirts may be worn to classes, but no shorts or sports attire.
4. **Parents need to pick up students on time please.** It is very distracting to have parents enter the next class to pick up a child. Also, it is unfair to the instructor to ask her to wait after class because a parent is late. Last year we had several students who were left for long periods after their classes were over. The parent will be required to pay a fine of \$10 when the student is left after class more than 15 minutes. We are not responsible for students who arrive earlier than 15 minutes before class. Please know we cannot babysit and supervise unattended students in the lobby areas or outside of the building.

5. **Promotion** to the next level of dance is decided on an individual basis by the instructor in regard to ability, maturity, and work habits of the student. We promote according to technique level and not by age in dance classes.
6. **There can be no food, drink, or gum in the studio. Covered water bottles are okay.**
7. **The assignment of roles for The Nutcracker** or any other production is the sole responsibility of the director, Amelia Pelton, and Natalie King and is based upon dedication to dance, absences, maturity, appropriateness, talent, and classroom work ethic.
8. **A dancer may not dance in a production until all student tuition is paid.**

GC Community Dance Program Summer Program

Classes begin July 13 (if available due to the corona virus, availability will be sent out by e mail and listed on the fb page)

All Classes at Miller Studio
Instructor: Amelia Pelton

Monday

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Ballet III/IV
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Ballet V/VI

Tuesday

6:00 – 6:45 p.m. Ballet I/II
6:45 – 7:30 p.m. Jazz I
7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Ballroom Dance: Shag!

Thursday

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Ballet III/IV
7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Ballet V/VI

GC Community Dance Program Schedule Fall 2020

Classes begin August 3

MILLER DANCE STUDIO

Mondays

5:00 – 5:45 p.m.	Creative M. – Abbey Reber
5:45 – 6:45 p.m.	Ballet IV - Amelia Pelton
6:45 – 7:45 p.m.	Ballet V - Amelia Pelton
7:45 – 9:00 p.m.	Ballet VII - Amelia Pelton

Tuesdays

5:45 – 6:45 p.m.	Ballet VI - Amelia Pelton
6:45 – 7:45 p.m.	Musical Theatre - Amelia Pelton
7:45 – 8:45 p.m.	Tap IV – Abigail Tong

Wednesdays

7:15 – 8:15 p.m.	Beg. Pointe – Selena Scott
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Thursdays

5:45 – 6:45 p.m.	Ballet V – Natalie King
6:45 – 7:45 p.m.	Ballet VI – Natalie King
7:45 – 9:00 p.m.	Ballet VII – Natalie King

CHAPPELL DANCE STUDIO

Mondays

5:30 – 6:15 p.m.	Ballet II – Kensi Tenhouse
6:15 – 7:00 p.m.	Jazz I - Abbey Reber
7:00 – 7:45 p.m.	Tap II - Alison Beale

Tuesdays

5:30 – 6:15 p.m.	Jazz II – Alison Beale
6:15 – 7:00 p.m.	Tap III – Alison Beale
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Adult Beg. Ballet – Michala Hill

Thursdays

5:30 – 6:15 p.m.	Ballet I & Tap I - Abigail Tong
6:15 – 7:00 p.m.	Ballet III – Selena Scott
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Ballet IV – Michala Hill

Saturdays

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.	Hip Hop – Alecea Housworth
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ST. STEPHENS DANCE

Wednesdays

2:30 – 3:15 p.m. Creative M. – Abbey Reber

PUTNAM PRIMARY DANCE (Gym)

Thursdays

3:15-4:00 p.m. Ballet I – Alecea Housworth

BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL DANCE

Monday - Lakeview Primary Gym

3:15-4:00 p.m. Ballet I – Kensi Tenhouse

Friday - Early Learning Center

2:45-3:30 p.m. Creative M. – Abbey Reber

Wednesday- Lakeview Academy Gym

3:15-4:00 p.m. Ballet III – Kensi Tenhouse

Instructors

Amelia Pelton

Natalie King

Michala Hill

Alecea Housworth

Alison Beale

Abbey Reber

Selena Scott

Kensi Tenhouse

Abigail Tong

Class Descriptions

Creative movement: A beginning level dance class for 3 and 4 year old students. A 45 minute class, once a week. Beginning dance terminology is taught, combined with locomotor movements (skips, hops, leaps, runs) and using props such as balls, scarves, and hoops. For any student who is not 5 by Christmas, 2019; this class is for 3 and 4 year olds, you must be 3 by Christmas 2019.

Ballet I: Our beginning level ballet class. A 30 minute class, once a week. For all students who are 5 by Christmas 2019; all students who are beginning ballet dancers if they are 5 or 6 years old.

Ballet II: For students who have completed Ballet I or have had a little ballet experience at another school. A 45 minute class, once a week. Students in this class are generally 6, 7, and 8 years old.

Ballet III: For students who have successfully completed Ballet I and II, or transferred from another studio with several years of dance experience. An hour long class, once a week.

Ballet IV: For students who have successfully completed Ballet I, II, III. An hour long class, twice a week. Pointe shoe work generally begins in this class.

Ballet V: An upper level ballet class for students who have completed ballet I, II, III, and IV. An hour long class, twice a week. Pointe shoe work continues in this class.

Ballet VI: Advanced ballet. For students who have completed ballet I, II, III, IV, and V. An hour long ballet class, twice a week. Advanced pointe shoe work is studied in this class.

Ballet VII: Our most advanced ballet class. For students who have completed Ballet I, II, III, IV, V, and VI. Advanced Pointe work is given. An hour and 15 minute class, twice a week.

Beginning Pointe: An excellent class for all students in ballet IV, V, VI, and VII as an additional technique class and for those just beginning on pointe, or getting ready to be on pointe. This class does not perform in the Nutcracker or spring concert. An hour long class, once a week.

Jazz I: Our beginning jazz dance class. For students who have completed ballet I and/or tap I, or who are 6 years old. A 45 minute class, once a week. Generally for students in ballet II. Ballet I students are not in this class, but may take tap I.

Jazz II: This is our intermediate jazz dance class. A 45 minute class, once a week.

Musical Theatre Dance: This is our advanced jazz dance class, with an emphasis on musical theatre skills and repertory. Students in this class will learn about 4 dances per year. An hour long class, once a week. For all students in Ballet V, VI, and VII, with previous jazz dance experience.

Tap I: A beginning tap class, for 5 and 6 year old students. For ballet I students.

Tap II: An intermediate tap class for those students who have successfully completed tap I. A 45 minute class, once a week

Tap III: A high intermediate level tap class for those students who have completed tap I and II. A 45 minute class, once a week.

Tap IV: Our highest level tap class. For those students having successfully completed tap I, II, III. An hour long class, once a week.

Adult/Teen Beginning Ballet: For any student 8 years old through adult who is new to ballet, or returning to ballet after many years of no classes. An hour-long class, once a week.

Individual Class Assignments 2020

Creative Movement – Any child who is 3 by Christmas 2020. If the child turns 5 after Christmas, they will be in Creative movement.

Ballet I – Any child who is 5 by Christmas 2020. For 6 year olds with no dance experience. Shamari Balkcom, Mabel Mae Essau, Londyn Ford, Gabriela Guerrero, Hayleigh McCall, Victoria Hensley, Kinsley McLeroy, Phoenix Moody, Stephanie Moon, Treasure Parks, Presleigh Stringer, Madison Tanner

Ballet II – (includes our public school students) Savannah Burney, Penny Lane Esau, Elizabeth Hensley, Salome Manzano, Neveah Mills, Solaris Motes, Riley Simmons, Ellison Swymer, Catherine Walters, Juliana Campbell, Lillian Howell, Kendall Johnson, Isabella Jones, Cadence Polack, Neely Skelton, Charlotte Yates, Emma Zoetewey, Makenlee Williams, Willa Beth Soles, Mackenzie Smith, Abigail Sryan, Alyvia Cleveland, Brooke Cole, Lizzy King, Abigail Davis, Avery Hogan, Parker Jane Odom, Georgia Peters, Bailey Ratliff, Ava Roberts, Perrin Smith, Sadie Torrance

Ballet III – Katie Campbell, A’Mia Freeman, Raegan Ogden, Briseida Lopez, Ashley Lucio, Dixie Rogers, Cora Snyder, Audree Brown, Caroline Dyer, Ana-Maria Filimon, Cassidy Root, Ciera Shirley, Mariah Shy, Makenzie Snook, Lilly Grace Steinmeyer

Ballet IV – Lily Dickey, Ansley Calken, Evie Dempster, Aslan Yates, Riley Brown, Amara Johnson, Talitha Tuininga, Helen Ann Davenport, Aubrey Overman, CJ Ballew, Jewel Cavender, Ariel Hall

Ballet V – Rebekah Aubrey, Teri Ann Bradley, Destiny Peete, Avery Owens, Danielle Layfield, Toler Thompson, Kinley Wilson, ClaraAnn Smith, Scarlett Wozdacz, Caroline Dixon, Keely Fountain, Anna Caroline McMillan, Ava Gale, Lola Bergeron, Iabelle Rocker, Morgan Smith, Sara Campbell, Kathleen Augustine, Aaliyah Johnson

Ballet VI – Addison Davis, Abigail Hildreth, Brenna Miller, Kaylee Smith, Caroline Robinson, Laura Towner, Abigail Brack, Emma Kate Godin, Hannah Kitchens, Madison McDade, McKinley Norris, Bayleigh Blalock, Kate Mathis, Kenzie Knoph, A’Maya Solomon, Kaitlyn Wright, Sophia Arias, Farrah Meeks

Ballet VII – Harlee Ann Robinson, Josie Taylor, Joy Wells, McKenna Whitley, Allie Bell, Katie Hargrove, Kenleigh Johnson, Rebecca Hildreth, Sarah Reaves, Ashley Wade, Libby Mathis, Jade Waters, Ally Beale, Kaebrie Smith, Avarianna Villarreal, Kylah Chatman, Selena Scott, Amelia Pound, Abbey Reber

Musical Theatre Dance – any student in Ballet V and above with previous jazz dance experience

Jazz I – Any student in Ballet II and III

Jazz II – Any student in ballet IV, and Anna Caroline McMillan

Tap I – Any student in Ballet I or II, Eleanor Rucker

Tap II – any student who has completed tap I, and Blake Arias, Evie Dempster, Bailey Ratliff, Perrin Smith, Ava Roberts,

Tap III – Ansley Calkin, Helen Ann Davenport, Anna Caroline McMillan, Cassidy Root, Aslan Yates, Lola Bergeron, Caroline Dyer, A'Mia Freeman, Beatrice France, Anashia Boyer, Isabelle Rucker, Aubrey Overman

Tap IV – Kinley Wilson, Harlee Ann Robinson, Kaitlyn Wright, Toler Thompson, Danielle Layfield, Avery Owens, Ava Bergeron

Beginning Pointe – Any student in ballet IV and above, with or without pointe shoes

Adult//Teen Beginning Ballet – any student age 8 and above with no previous ballet experience

Hip Hop – Any student in Ballet V and above, or about 12 years of age. Previous experience in dance is necessary.

Scholarship application follows on next page...

Partial Dance Tuition Waiver 2020 Application

We are able to offer some partial dance tuition waivers this year. Those interested students should print this application, complete the following information and mail to: Mrs. Amelia Pelton, 221 N. Jefferson St., NE, Milledgeville GA, 31061 postmarked by **July 1, 2020**. **No applications will be accepted after this date.**

Failure to provide needed information on the application will result in the applicant being disqualified.

The partial tuition waiver will be awarded to a dancer based upon talent, previous dedication to dance, attendance, work habits and attitude, and financial need.

A committee of GC faculty/staff will meet with GC director of Dance Amelia Pelton to review the applications and to decide on awardees. ALL information on this application is strictly confidential.

Name _____

Parents' names: _____

Parents' occupations: _____

Combined yearly family income _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Years of dance training: _____

Years of dance training at GC: _____

On a separate piece of paper, in your own words, please write an essay describing what dance means to you, what this scholarship means to you, and why we should award it to you. Parents, please don't write this for the students. The scholarship committee wants to see it in the student's own words and handwriting.

Due date: July 1st!!!

Note that the partial tuition waivers are for one academic year only. Generally, the same students do not receive waivers year after year.