

You're In!

2021-2022

Fine Arts Club Handbook



Welcome to the Club!

Welcome to our Fine Arts Club Program - where imagination and creativity lead the way! Our Fine Arts Club offers dance, yoga, fitness, music, art, and drama classes exclusively to children 2-5 years of age. We look forward to moving and grooving with your child while educating and inspiring them through the fine arts. All activities are developmentally appropriate for this age group and allow children to develop social skills, body awareness, self-confidence, and routine. We are not a daycare or preschool, but rather a **specialty fine arts program** building cognitive, social, and emotional awareness. We are so excited for you and your child.

Communication

By now you have probably noticed that we are BIG on communication here. It is our promise to respond to all inquiries within 48 hours. Our admin team can be contacted at **(410) 413-6243** or by emailing **fac@mdacademydance.com**.

Our primary means of communication is **email**. You will receive monthly newsletters and important information via email, so please ensure you have provided the studio with an up-to-date email address that is regularly checked. In the event that you do not receive them, we kindly ask you to notify our office at your earliest convenience.

Program Dates

Spring Seasonal Term: FEBRUARY 7th, 2022 - JUNE 1st, 2022

The studio is closed on all statutory holidays. Studio closings will be posted in the monthly newsletters.



Attire, Snack + Materials Policy

Please label all items and belongings brought to the studio with your child's name.

Children need to wear a comfortable outfit that will allow them to move around. Jeans are not permitted and skirts must be worn with leggings underneath. We ask that you please send your child with an extra set of clothes every class – spills, and accidents do happen.

All students are required to have clean, non-marking indoor shoes such as ballet slippers, Robeez slippers, or runners.

Children will be taken to the bathroom for routine potty breaks if they are potty trained or actively working towards this goal at home. If your child has a noticeably dirty diaper, we will change it. If your child is not fully potty trained, please leave an extra pull-up (with your child's name on it) in your child's backpack. We kindly ask that all **parents take their child to the bathroom before class** to set them up for success. This program does not teach potty training, only encourages it!

Please pack along a nut-free healthy snack(s) and a water bottle for your child to enjoy during snack time. (No juice boxes – reusable drink containers only with water.) 1-3 types of finger foods are best – teachers will help open up containers, but children need to be able to feed themselves during their 10-minute snack time. Please make sure the snack is bite size/ cut into small pieces before class begins.

Drop Off + Pick Up

Please stay with your child until the class begins. Studio rooms will be opened two minutes before class starts – we cannot take children prior to this, as the teachers are setting up for the day. The Maryland Academy of Dance is **not responsible for children before/after their class** and we kindly ask you to be diligent and on time.

We kindly ask that your children are picked up in a timely fashion after their class ends and send an email to **fac@mdacademydance.com** if you're running late. If someone else will be picking your child up, please notify the teacher at drop-off. A parent must be available via cell phone in case we need to have your child picked up for any reason.

Late Pick-Up Policy: If you are more than 5 minutes late in picking up your child, 5 dollars per minute will be charged. This is studio policy.



Photos, Waivers + Videos

We will be taking pictures throughout the year to celebrate your child's learning and growth. The Maryland Academy of Dance holds the right to take videos and photos throughout the year, which may be used on social media, and in-house printed materials. If you do not wish for your child to be photographed or included in videos, please circle "No" on the Sign-In Sheet.

Integration Policy

Our goal is to ensure your child feels safe, confident, and inspired and we have outlined our integration policy below.

First Class – Parents are invited to attend the first 30-40 minutes of class. If your child has siblings, they are more than welcome to attend as well. Children feed off their parent's energy – when the parent is relaxed, the child is more likely to be relaxed. Teachers will lead a 10-15 minute welcome orientation and connect with the parents and collect all personal profiles. This is your opportunity to get to know the teachers and connect with them. After the orientation is complete, parents will be kindly asked to leave and children will explore and interact with one another. The goal is to set your child up for success and build trust and confidence.

Second Class – Parents are welcome to come in the room for the first 10 minutes to help their child settle. After 10 minutes we kindly ask that all parents say goodbye to their child and leave the studio. This will allow us to build trust with your child.

Third Class – Parents are welcome to bring the child into the classroom and have free play with their child for 5 minutes.

Fourth Class – Parents say goodbye in the lobby area and teachers bring the students back into the room. If your child cries, it is best to leave them with us so we can redirect and build rapport with them. If your child is still unsettled after 30 minutes, we will call you and provide you with an update. At this time, we can come up with a suitable plan.



Tips for Saying Good-Bye to Your Child: Explain, Assure + Love

- 1) Explain that you are going away and that you will come back
- 2) Assure them that you love them and that they will have fun
- 3) Give them a hug, say goodbye and proceed to leave – short goodbyes are best

Learning Objectives + Themes

Students will enjoy a different theme each week providing an academic curriculum to assist with their learning. The goal of the program is to enhance your child's overall development including gross and fine motor skills and improve social, cognitive, and emotional awareness. We use an integrated approach to learning and incorporate theme-based lesson plans so students get to feel it in their bodies so they can remember it in their minds. When discipline is required, our teachers use a positive redirection approach and encourage the children to make good choices. When children choose not to participate in the planned activities, they are instructed to observe the class so they are not a distraction to the other students and can still learn in the process.

Please note that we assess all of our students during the first few weeks and may make recommendations to transfer levels if appropriate. If there is a teacher recommendation that your child is not ready for our program, we will recommend that you join us at a later date and will provide you with a credit.

Parent Observations + Family Celebrations

Spring Parent Observation – May 23rd & 25th, 2022

Parents are invited to come and watch our class nearing the end of the Spring session, followed by a wrap-up party with snacks. Parents are welcome to come sit and watch any duration of the class at this time. You can join the little one's at anytime during dance, yoga, fitness, music, art, and drama!



Teaching Team

We are thrilled to have such well-rounded and experienced teachers leading this program that are passionate about children and will inspire them through the fine arts.

TEACHER 1: Ms. Shelby Kolar

TEACHER 2: Ms. Jennifer Singer

Referral Program

The best compliment you can give us is a referral! We know great people know other great people. You will receive a **\$10 credit** for each new person you refer to the studio that registers for any of our classes - no limits! We know awesome people know other awesome people.

Questions

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please reach out to us by calling (410) 413-6243 or emailing us at fac@mdacademydance.com as we like having open communication with you.

Thank You

Thank you for joining our Fine Arts Club. This is a great stepping-stone to your child's development. We offer drop-in classes and seasonal and annual dance classes during the day should you be interested in enrolling your child in another class. Our mission is to inspire growth and we hope you grow with us.

