



Class Placement & Class Observation

It should be understood that students often remain in a class level for more than one year. Our main interest is to offer our students proper training for each stage of development. Some students are mentally more mature than their body is capable of physically implementing, while some students bodies are physically strong yet mentally not prepared for the increased structure of the next level up. If a change to another level is appropriate, you and the student shall be notified. Promotions are made at the discretion of the instructors along with the director. Parents are welcome to request a conference concerning the student's progress.

Although we do our best to keep students within a certain age range (for example, 6-8, 8-11), our priority regarding class placement is whether the child is physically or mentally ready for the next level. We have seen 13-year-old dancers who were not as strong as 9-year-olds. Other important considerations are attention span, which includes stamina for a longer class time, the ability to take correction, understanding of the technical aspects of the movement, strength, the possibility of injury, and confidence. Another key factor in the decision would be that students who advance before they are ready might become discouraged and thus no longer enjoy their performing arts experience. For young children taking a 45-minute class is a big difference compared to a one-hour class.

Especially in the case of younger students, parents are asked to refrain from "peeking in" as some students are shy or are easily distracted by an "audience". There is a side room near the bathrooms where parents can watch and wait. We ask that you come at the beginning of class and plan to stay for the duration to reduce student distractions and anxiety. A private conference with the teacher and director may be arranged if a parent is concerned about their child's progress.