

DANCE PROGRAM WELCOME POLICIES 2025-2026

Classes start September 8th, 2025

@ the Trumansburg Elementary School Auditorium, 100 Whig St, Trumansburg, NY... while TCFA is under construction this Fall... more info. TBA!

*Important Dates To Remember:

"Bring-A-Friend" Week: Sept 22 - 26, 2025

Fundraiser Dinner @ Little Venice: Sept 30, 2025

-TCFA Dancers' Recital Costume Fees

Fundraiser Dia de Muertos: Nov 1, 2025
-TCFA Dance Program Equipment

"Family Participation" Week: Nov 17 - 21, 2025

Annual Spring Recital Costume Fee Cut-Off Date: Dec 1, 2025 (online payment only)

Fundraiser @ TCFA's Holiday Handmade Market: Dec 6th, 2025

-TCFA Competition Teams

Photoshoot: April/May... TBA

Annual Spring Recital Dress Rehearsal: June 5th, 2026

Annual Spring Recitals & Awards: June 6th (only competition teams)

June 7th (all dancers, awards ceremony)

No Class Days:

Sept: 1-5 Feb: 16-20 Oct: 13, 24 Mar: 19-20, 30-31

Nov: 11, 26-28 Apr: 1-3 Dec: 22-31 May: 25

Jan: 1-2 June: Last day of classes: 6/4

General Guidelines & Procedures:

- 1. TCFA is adhering to all current, updated, local and state-issued, CDC, and DOH health and safety guidance, and expects all of our families and students to understand and do the same. Guidance is subject to change, per the Tompkins County Health Department.
- 2. Please, do not bring students to class if in the past 24 hours he/she has had any symptoms of illness, including cough, fever, sneezing, shortness of breath, fatigue, headache, nausea, etc.
- 3. Enter and Exit will happen through the Tburg Elementary School main entrance when we are at the Trumansburg Elementary School Auditorium.
- 4. Outside street shoes will not be allowed on the dance floor/stage.
- 5. All classes are limited to 12 students because of individual attention requirements, space and equipment needs.
- 6. The use of hand sanitizer and/or handwashing upon both entering and exiting class will be encouraged.
- 7. Students should bring their own water bottle. The water fountain will be available.
- 8. If a student is suspected of having illness symptoms or injury during class and needs to sit or go home, we will immediately call all parents to notify and/or pick-up their children.
- 9. Absences and cancellations may be made up by attending another comparable class by permission. Please contact Ms. Sam for recommendations.
- 10. The "Perfect Attendance Award" is back! Attendance and punctuality are very important to each student's growth. Perfect attendance is no more than three (3) absences, all of which must be made up by May 18, 2026. Awards will be given at the Award Ceremony 2026!
- 11. Closings and Cancellations: TCFA will notify via email and the Remind application (see Remind info. below) if classes have been canceled due to weather or emergency. All scheduled classes have accommodated for three (3) cancellations. Make up classes will be offered, if necessary. See the list above of scheduled "No Class Days." Any changes to the schedule will be updated ASAP.
- 12. Closed Classroom Policy: Visitors and parents are not allowed to watch class unless special circumstance is permitted by Ms. Sam. This is so your child can focus on self-work and progress. <u>Exception</u>: Creative Movement parents/guardians must stay for the entirety of class, either nearby or in the building, to help with bathroom needs, etc.
- 13. Family Participation Week: Family members are welcome to watch and/or participate in a fun family dance class! (See more info. above)
- 14. Bring A Friend to Dance Week: Any registered dancer may ask <u>one</u> friend to attend their registered dance class, free of charge, for a fun class day! If the "Friend" decides to register for class, both dance students will receive a dance prize at the Award Ceremony 2025! (See more info. above)
- 15. Fundraisers will be offered throughout the year to benefit students' recital costume fees, programming equipment, and competition teams. Dancers and families are encouraged to participate!

Classroom Rules:

- 1. Please be on time, ready for class, promptly at scheduled start time.
- 2. No street shoes in the dance studio, to maintain cleanliness.
- 3. Dress codes and hair expectations are put in place to ensure quality dance education and your safety, please follow (see specifics below). Please be ready when class starts.
- 4. Water is allowed on the stage, but food and other drinks are not. Please, no food or eating on the stage, unless permission is given due to health needs, etc. Snacks may be eaten in the audience or in the TCFA foyer.
- 5. No touching the dance mirrors, to maintain cleanliness.
- 6. No chewing gum in class.
- 7. No jewelry is allowed to be worn during class, unless permission is granted. Earrings and necklaces can be especially dangerous for acro students.
- 8. No swinging, hanging, or climbing on the barres or stage.
- 9. No running (especially in tap shoes!)
- 10. Students should wait inside the Tburg Elementary School building at the end of class for parent/guardian pick-up, for safety precautions.
- 11. If a student is injured, they may come to class to sit and watch class, to continue visual learning.
- 12. Restrooms: Students are encouraged to use the facilities before class.
- 13. IMPORTANT! Disruptive, violent, or otherwise disrespectful or unsafe behavior will not be tolerated. First instance: a verbal warning. Second instance: Instructors may ask the student to sit out until the mentioned behavior has passed, or for the remainder of class. Third instance: Parents will be immediately contacted.

Hair Expectations:

Please, for all dance classes, keep the hair out of the eyes and off the face and neck—even short hair, please pin back off the eyes and contain in a tie as much as possible. A ballet bun is required for ballet dancers. Please do not wear hair accessories that can easily break.

Ballet Bun Instruction: You will need bobby pins, a hair elastic, a hair net (if necessary due to "fly-aways") and hairspray. Brush or comb hair, pull up to a tight ponytail with the elastic and tighten. Twist ponytail into a rope, and wind around the elastic. Secure with bobby pins, hair spray, and a hair net. See further instruction visit: http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Ballet-Bun.

Dress Codes & purchasing dancewear:

ACRO: athletic wear or dance clothes, acro socks or bare feet.

<u>ADULT BALLET:</u> comfortable studio dancewear or yoga attire. Relatively form-fitting clothing (not necessarily leotard and tights) is best for the sake of safety and for the

instructor to be able to give technical corrections. Shoes: leather or canvas ballet slippers.

<u>ADULT INTERMEDIATE IRISH:</u> Comfortable clothing, Irish hard/heavy/jig shoes with superflexible soles. See instructor for recommendations if needed.

<u>ADULT IRISH:</u> Comfortable clothing, Irish hard/heavy/jig shoes, preferably with superflexible soles. Tap shoes are allowed if preferred, but most dancers quickly want to switch to the Irish shoes for the deeper sound. See instructor for recommendations if needed for new shoes (warning: sizing can be challenging!); used hard shoes are also available online.

<u>ADULT TAP:</u> tap shoes - black oxford preferred, athletic wear or dance clothes <u>BALLET:</u> traditional ballet attire: ballet slippers; Girls: leotard, tights; Boys: t-shirt, boys tights

CONTEMPORARY: athletic wear or dance clothes, turners

<u>CREATIVE MOVEMENT:</u> ballet slippers, tap shoes (January); athletic wear or traditional ballet attire: Girls: leotard, tights; Boys: t-shirt, boys tights.

<u>COMPETITION TEAMS:</u> Leotard or dance top and dance shorts/pants, tights. Ballet shoes, Turners, Jazz shoes. Tap shoes, if taking a tap class.

<u>HIP HOP</u>: athletic wear or dance clothes, sneakers (clean, not street shoes, any design) <u>INTERMEDIATE IRISH DANCE</u>: white polo top or long sleeve black leotard, black or green shorts, skort, or skirt over bike pants. Footwear: ghillies and hard shoes; poodle socks (optional, but recommended for protection of lower legs and feet). Contact instructor for recommendations if needed for online Irish dance merchants.

<u>JAZZ:</u> Leotard or dance top and dance shorts/pants, tights. Jazz shoes.

<u>KINDERDANCE</u>: ballet slippers, tap shoes; athletic wear or traditional ballet attire: Girls: leotard, tights; Boys: t-shirt, boys tights.

<u>POINTE:</u> traditional ballet attire: ballet slippers, pointe shoes; Girls: leotard, tights; Boys: t-shirt, boys tights. Pointe shoes can be fitted and purchased at Dance Plus in Auburn, NY.

MUSICAL THEATRE: Leotard or t-shirt (any color) with leggings or warm-up pants that allow for full range of movement. Character shoes or jazz shoes and tap shoes.

TAP: Leotard or dance top and dance shorts/pants, tights. Tap shoes (black oxford)

preferred for advanced students).

NOTE: All dance shoe sizes run small by 1-2 sizes, please see size charts!

Nimbly Online Dancewear:

TCFA has set up an account with Revolution Dancewear and has made discounted products available through their website, called Nimbly. A small percentage of the proceeds help support the dance department at TCFA. Please note, it is not a requirement to purchase your dancewear through Nimbly. Visit www.shopnimbly.com/tcfa.

Discount Dance Online Dancewear:

All things dancewear, all name brands at the lowest price. Visit www.discountdance.com. For 12% discount, at checkout use TEACHER CODE: TP116081

Text/Push Notifications for Remind App:

The "Remind" application for smartphones and computers, a free communication platform, will be used throughout the year to notify you of important dates, warn you of closings, etc. in addition to regular email notifications.

Remind Instructions: There are several ways to sign up for push notifications...

- -Text 81010 with Class Code (listed below)
- -Go to remind.com to create an account & enter Class Code
- -Go to the listed link (below)

<u>Class Codes</u> are listed as follows, by class day:

- Monday TCFA Dance Classes: <u>@TCFAMon</u>
 - o Or, go to: rmd.at/tcfamon
- Tuesday TCFA Dance Classes: <u>@TCFATues</u>
 - Or, go to: rmd.at/tcfatues
- Wednesday TCFA Dance Classes: <u>@TCFAWed</u>
 - o Or, go to: rmd.at/tcfawed
- Thursday TCFA Dance Classes: <u>@TCFAThurs</u>
 - Or, go to: rmd.at/tcfathurs
- Friday TCFA Dance Classes: @TCFAFri
 - o Or, go to: rmd.at/tcfafri