

buffa's dance studio, ltd.

burke village center • 9570-H burke road • burke, virginia 22015
(703) 425-5599 • buffadance@msn.com • www.buffas.com

~~~~~*Celebrating 38 years of Dance Excellence*~~~~~

July 2017

Dear Students and Parents:

Although we are still enjoying the relaxing days of summer, we are already looking forward to another wonderful year of dance. We hope you plan on joining us for the excitement and fellowship that comes from dance education. As always, we at Buffa's will be striving to provide an enjoyable and rewarding dance experience.

This packet includes everything necessary to register for the 2017-2018 dance year. Since classes will be filled as registrations are received, we do recommend a prompt response if you have scheduling constraints. When making your class selection, please consider the appropriate level and age grouping, as well as the day and time most convenient for you.

RETURNING STUDENTS - your Current Information form (on the second page of this packet) lists the information that we have on file and has your class placement(s). Please check the information on that page and then make any changes/updates to the Registration Form.

To register:

1. Complete the Registration Form (one per student), retaining the copy for your records.
2. Read and sign the Contract/Agreement (one per family), retaining the copy for your records.
3. Mail or bring to Buffa's Dance Studio:
 - Registration Form(s) (original copy)
 - Agreement (original copy)
 - Returning Students – please send in Current Information form
 - Your check, made payable to Buffa's Dance Studio, to cover the registration fee and the first month's tuition payment (you may use one check for all family members)

Summer Registration Hours

Monday-Thursday 9am-Noon & 2pm-8pm and Friday 9am-4pm and Saturday from 9am-Noon.

Thank you for choosing Buffa's Dance Studio for your dance instruction. If you have any questions concerning the registration process or proper class placement, please call us at 703-425-5599 or email us at buffadance@msn.com. We are here to help you determine the best placement and are looking forward to working with each of you as we share the joy of dance.

~ Buffa's Dance Studio

**RECEIVE \$5 off 1st Registration Fee with THIS PACKET
if registered by NOON – Wednesday, August 2nd!!**



Buffa's Dance Studio, Ltd



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Buffa Dance



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Meet the Instructors

Buffa Hargett – (Owner, Director) Buffa has a dance background that includes ten years in Europe and over forty years in the U.S. studying with Dothan Civic Ballet, Birmingham Civic Ballet and Ballet Russes in NYC. Influential instructors have included Alexandra Danilova, David Howard and John White. She has a B.S. from the University of Alabama where she was President and soloist with the University Dancers. Advanced teaching work and certifications include in-depth studies, workshops and seminars in the Cecchetti, Royal Academy of Dance and Vaganova methods of ballet. For over thirty-six years, she has directed the studio and managed a staff of twenty-five dedicated professionals. She created the Burke Civic Ballet in 1994 with the goal of providing a community-based performing and educational outlet for students and adults. Teaching and sharing the joy of dance is her central goal, and the goal she has set for the studio. Her philosophy is that dance is for everyone; dance builds strong, flexible, disciplined bodies and minds, and enhances the total person — the creative, mental, emotional and social. Through her guidance, everyone at the studio spreads the love of the profession and reflects sincere caring for the students.

Melissa Hargett – (Owner, Director) Melissa graduated with honors from William & Mary with a BBA in Operations and Information Technology, a Minor in Dance and was President of Orchesis, the College Modern Dance Company where she was a soloist. She choreographed for University productions and studied Modern, Ballet, Dance Composition and Dance History. After graduating, Melissa was an Information Technology Specialist with IBM consulting with State Street Bank and Sallie Mae. Dancing at Buffa's since the age of three, she has been an assistant teacher, teacher and runs the Burke Civic Ballet's Nutcracker, as well as schedules and coordinates the studio's Competitions and Conventions with Dance Company, Diamonds, Crystals and Rhinestones year-long activities. In addition to teaching, work includes scheduling and coordinating over 125 classes per week and over 1800 students and developing and presenting shows throughout the year, especially the year end recitals. Further education includes Vaganova ballet seminars, University of the Arts program in ballet, Dance Teacher Conferences and numerous yearly conventions and Nationals. She was awarded "Excellence in Dance Education" by Hollywood Vibe Dance Convention. Melissa feels so blessed to be able to continue Miss Buffa's vision of a studio where all dancers are welcome - recreational or competitive – and that all who dance here know they have a dance home with those who love and support them no matter where their future takes them.

Tom Alexander – Tom teaches Jazz, Tap, Musical Theater and Lyrical as well as Judges and Choreographs nationwide for Dance Makers Inc., Southern Association of Dance Masters, Chicago Dance Masters, Jazz On Tap Festival and Jazz On Tap on Tour. He began dancing at age 12 with Master Teacher Ray Hollingsworth and has worked with stars such as Debbie Reynolds, Dolly Parton, Rita Moreno, Marie Osmond, Ella Fitzgerald and Bob Hope. Tom has danced at Carowinds, Busch Gardens and Tokyo Disneyland theme parks. Tom taught in Japan for Shujiku Kageki Dan and Osaka Kageki Dan National Dance Companies and performed, choreographed and trained dancers for Crystal Cruises where he co-choreographed many lavish productions. Tom was commissioned in the summer of 2014 by CNADM for a jazz piece that would open their banquet show honoring legendary Anne Reinking. Dance Studio Life Magazine has featured Tom in May/June and September/October 2014 issues in two articles on Judging Dance as well as how dance has changed in the 30 plus years he has been in this business. He has taught for Buffa's since 1984 and full time since 1996. He was recently honored with Chicago National Association of Dance Master's 2017 Artistic Achievement Award! Tom takes pride in knowing that he is not just teaching dance steps, but giving valuable life lessons to all of his students.

Nickolai Balatsenko – Nickolai was born in the Ukraine and began his study of ballet at the Kiev Academy of Ballet when he was 11 years old. His first professional position was with the National Ballet Usti in the Czech Republic, and then the Donetsk Ballet after touring with the Ballet Classique of Paris. In 1999, he moved to the United States and joined Washington Ballet. He later danced with Ballet Theatre of Maryland and Ballet Internationale in Indianapolis, Indiana. He also toured Seoul, South Korea with Universal Ballet and danced with Atlantic Southeast Ballet in Charleston, SC.

Jennifer Baxter – Jen's love of dance started at age three when she was a student at Buffa's Dance Studio. Her daughter started dancing at Buffa's at the age of three as well and it was such a wonderful moment for Jen to experience and

share with her. Buffa's was such an important part of her growth and development as a young child and teen and she came back as an instructor to share those ideas, inspirations, ideals, discipline and self-awareness with other young dancers. Jen is currently a Communications Manager at Immanuel Christian School, where her children attend, and owns her own BAXMarketing business that provides integrated marketing solutions to individuals and small businesses. Jen received a Master of Arts in Integrated Marketing Communications from Emerson College, and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Psychology from Virginia Tech. She was a member of the Virginia Tech dance team, the High Techs, and was co-captain her senior year. She was also the assistant dance team coach at W.T. Woodson High School – where she was a member of both the Precisionettes dance team and varsity cheerleading squad.

Linda Boyle – Linda has been a part of Buffa's as a student, assistant instructor and instructor since the studio opened in 1980. In addition, she has worked with the Burke Civic Ballet since its inception in 1993. She has been the head coach for the Lake Braddock Varsity Dance Team for over 20 years. Linda is very pleased to be teach at Buffa's and to continue passing on her love of the art.

Emma Bradley – Emma grew up and trained at Buffa's Dance Studio where she fell in love with dance and the power that movement has to transform lives – as it has hers, and for which she is truly grateful. Emma apprenticed with ConTeur Dance Company in Toronto, Canada under the direction of Eryn Walkman and taught master classes at OIP Dance Center in Toronto. She has had the privilege of teaching and choreographing throughout the United States on faculty with NRGDanceProject and NRGDanceProject Australia and teaches at Australia Dance Fest in Sydney. In 2012, Dance Spirit Magazine named her one of the top 15 competition dancers to watch. She was featured in the NRG/MSA Youtube Project and in 2015 Dance Spirit Magazine's article "Flying Solo" on her choreography. Her training includes American Ballet Theater, The Kirov Academy of Ballet, Exploring Ballet with Suzanne Farrell, Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet 360, BodyTraffic and Sidra Bell Dance New York. Performance experience/work includes Capezio 125th Anniversary Gala at City Center in NYC, Dizzy Feet Foundation Gala at Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles; Bright Lights Shining Stars Gala at Skirball Center in NYC, choreographed by Andy Pellick; and Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet 360 Installation 2013, directed by Alexandra Damiani.

Virginia Britton – Virginia has lived in many locations nationwide and abroad, studying ballet in most of them. She has studied with the School of the Washington Ballet, the Royal Ballet and was accepted into the Corps de Ballet of the Russian-directed Panama National Ballet. She attended college at the University of the State of New York with a Bachelor of Arts. From there, Ms. Britton danced with the Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center, the American Ballet Theater, the National Ballet of Canada, the Chicago Ballet and Leap Forward in San Francisco.

Joshua Burnham – Joshua was born in Lake Tahoe, CA and started his ballet training at Santa Cruz Ballet under the direction of Robert Kelly and Diane Cypher. He continued his training in Washington State at Mid Columbia Ballet under Debra Rogo. At age 13, he received full scholarships to San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Houston Ballet. In 2004, he joined San Francisco Ballet where he performed in such ballets as Helgi Tomasson's Meiston's Mozart, and Balanchine's Stars and Stripes and The Four Temperments. In 2006, Mr. Burnham joined Cincinnati Ballet where he danced many lead roles. He has worked with choreographers Jorma Elo, Val Caniparoli, Mark Morris, Trey McIntyre, James Kudelka, and Twyla Tharp. In 2009-2011, he performed with Ballet Theatre of Maryland dancing such roles as Romeo in Romeo and Juliet and the Cavalier in The Nutcracker. In May 2012, Mr. Burnham became a principal dancer with Manasass Ballet Theatre.

LeeAnn Bushar – LeeAnn grew up in Lawrenceville, NJ where she danced at a competitive studio for 15 years. She graduated from George Mason University in 2013 with a degree in Tourism and Events Management. While at Mason she was a member of the Masonettes, the George Mason Dance Team, which ranked Top 3 in the nation the three years they competed while she was there. LeeAnn is excited to be able to teach at Buffa's and to share her love for dance with her students.

Laura Fong – Laura grew up in Pittsburgh, PA where she was part of a competitive dance company and also trained at Point Park University and Carnegie Performing Arts Center. In 2005, Laura was cast as the lead dancer in the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera's rendition of A Little Night Music. She received her BFA in Dance from George Mason University in 2008, where she performed in many works including those by modern dance choreographers Paul Taylor, Susan

Marshall, Patrick Corbin, and Kate Skarpetska. After graduating, Laura moved to New York City where she worked and trained at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, Dance New Amsterdam and Broadway Dance Center. Since returning to Northern VA, she has performed locally with dance companies such as Dancevert and DancEthos, and has taught at Buffa's since 2009. Laura is so inspired by the many talented dancers, teachers and choreographers at Buffa's, and is very thankful to be a part of such an amazing studio.

Nikki Gambhir – Nikki currently dances with Culture Shock DC and Tappenstance, and formerly with Classical Repertory Dance Theatre. She is a former director of Hip Hop company DCypher Dance, and founding director of youth Hip Hop company Urban Impact. Nikki has performed with Cirque du Soleil, with the Broadway cast of Hairspray at the White House, and as a backup dancer for 80's pop star Tiffany, the Flaming Lips, and Kicking Daisies. She has choreographed and performed for the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade, the White House Easter Egg Roll, and National Dance Day with Nigel Lythgoe. Nikki was a guest choreographer at Georgetown University and Oberlin College. Television appearances include BET's 106 & Park and she was a featured dancer in the Bollywood movie, Ta Ra Rum Pum. Wilson High School's musical which she choreographed, Hair, won a Cappie award for Best Musical. She was also a teacher at Albert Einstein High School in MD. Nikki is thrilled to teach at Buffa's where she began dancing at the age of 3 and was later a Dance Company member and soloist with the BCB. She believes that the arts are essential to community and hopes to nurture the artist in everyone.

Sylvern Groomes – Sylvern graduated from Frostburg State University with a B.S in Theatre and received the Academic Excellence Talent in the Arts Scholarship, Leonard & Jane Schwab Theatre and Speech Scholarship and the Thelma Shockley Performing Arts Scholarship. A professional singer and actor in the DC area, he has worked with Pandemonium Theatrical Productions, Virginia Repertory Theatre, Riverside Dinner Theatre, Iron Crow Theatre, Workhouse Arts Center, Adventure Theatre and ArtsCentric.

Jessica John – Jessica is a DC-based circus artist, coach, and choreographer who specializes in silks, corde lisse (rope), dance trapeze, and footjuggling. An ardent movement researcher, she was a competitive athlete, a teenage “rockette”, and a ski bum, before finding a passion for circus. Jessica’s work displays virtuosic strength and flexibility and rejects narrative structures as a primary humanizing device. The empathetic space she creates for performers combines with compelling visuals to make award-winning collaborative and solo works. A sixth generation New Orleanian, Jessica is the creative and managing director of [Vaudoux](#), a circus entertainment company. She is also the co-creator of [Steal A Step](#), a postmodern circus company based in DC.

Lisa Mitchell — Lisa's background includes dance at Buffa's since she was 3 years old and cheerleading at Robinson High School where she graduated in 1998. She holds a degree from Radford University where she majored in English and minored in dance with a concentration in ballet, jazz and pointe. Further education includes an Elementary Education teaching license from George Mason University in 2002. She has taught for many years in the Prince William County School System as well as with Flint Hill. Lisa underwent an in-depth training program with Buffa and has been teaching classes at Buffa's for over a decade.

Stephanie Patterson — Stephanie graduated from James Madison University in May 2014 with a degree in Media Arts and Design and a minor in Communications. While at JMU, she was co-captain and choreographer of her sorority dance team each year for their Greek Sign performance, winning “Best Dance” with her Great Gatsby lead role and choreography her senior year. Stephanie has enjoyed dancing at Buffa's ever since her first jazz and tap classes in first grade. She adores the talented staff, beautiful facility and unmatched atmosphere that Buffa's Dance Studio provides. Stephanie is thrilled to join fellow instructors in sharing their love for dance with younger dancers.

Carmen Perez – Carmen began her training with the Ballet of Santiago, Chile. She continued her studies with Ivan Nagy, Julia Prokofieva, and Alicia Targarona. As a soloist of the Ballet of Santiago, she was awarded the Medal of Outstanding National Talent. Ms. Perez was the Silver Medalist of the Latino-American Ballet Competition and was a Semi-Finalist at the International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi. She has danced with the Tulsa Ballet Theatre and with Ballet Dallas.

Alli Smith — Alli danced at Buffa's from the first grade to her senior year in high school. She was on Dance Company and

the Lake Braddock Varsity Dance Team. She attended the University of South Carolina and was a member of the Carolina Coquettes dance team. She performed at all the home football games and traveled to various away and bowl games. Additionally, she did choreography for the team that included teaching a number to their 200+ member marching band. Buffa's has always been a second home to Alli. She learned from amazing teachers and made lifelong friends, and is excited to be teaching at Buffa's and sharing the same joy and love for dance she learned here.

Katie Storch – Katie graduated from George Mason University in the Spring of 2014 with a degree in Tourism and Events Management and a minor in Psychology. While at Mason she was a member of the Masonettes, the George Mason Dance Team, which ranked Top 3 in the nation all four years that she was with them. She started dancing at Buffa's when she was 4 years old and has found it hard to leave ever since. She is ecstatic to be able to now teach her own students at the studio she has called home for so many years, and feels honored to be able to spread her love for the arts and dance!

Hilary Tone – Originally from Los Angeles, Hilary has been dancing since the age of three and teaching since she was 19, from California to Arizona and now DC. She is a product of Retter's Academy of Dance under the direction of Darryl Retter and Linda Bernabei-Retter, and was a member of the nationally-ranked Rhythm Machine Dance Company for six years, winning titles at such competitions as NYCDA, LADF, West Coast Dance Explosion, Co. Dance, and Showstoppers. She has trained with such greats as Brian Friedman, Laurie Johnson, Gregg Russell, Marla Bingham, Suzy Miller and Andy Blankenbuehler. She was also an assistant at Tremaine Dance Convention, NYCDA, and DanceMakers Inc., and Captain of the Santa Clara University Dance Team for two years. She has been a member of the Capitol Movement Dance Company in Washington, D.C. for nearly 4 years, and has toured with Capitol Movement to perform for military overseas in Italy, Turkey, Djibouti, and Bahrain. Hilary moved to the DC area in 2011 and feels incredibly fortunate to be part of the Buffa's dance family. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Communication and Spanish from Santa Clara University and a Masters of Public Diplomacy from USC. By day, she is the Director of Communications for DC Public Schools.

Karlyn Williams – Karlyn was a member, choreographer and president of the Mozaic Hip Hop Dance Team at James Madison University performing at various venues in the area. She taught hip hop and jazz for three years in Harrisonburg, VA. She has been an assistant and substitute teacher at Buffa's Dance Studio for seven years and was also a member of the Dance Company. Karlyn also performed in various roles for the Burke Civic Ballet and was a member and captain of the Lake Braddock Dance Team. Buffa's has been a second home to Karlyn since the age of three. She is thrilled to have the privilege of teaching at Buffa's.

Dance Supplies

Where to Buy!

Via Telephone/Internet:

- **Discount Dance Supply** - <http://www.discountdance.com>

Local Dance Retail Stores:

- **Cinnamon Tree** – (703) 435-3255

1108 Herndon Parkway

Herndon, Virginia 20170

- **Liesl Dancewear** – 571-659-2937

13885 Hedgewood Dr. Suite #141

Woodbridge, VA 22193

www.lieslshop.com

- **Heather's Dancewear Boutique** – (703) 331-5964

8759 Mathis Avenue

Manassas, Virginia 20110

- **The Dance Shoppe** – (703) 815-3205

14215G Centerville Square

Centerville, Virginia 20121

- **Robcyns** – (703) 379-7800

3660 King St.

Alexandria, Virginia 22302

What You Will Need! Shoes & Attire

Dance Movement Age 3:

Top: Pink Leotard

Tights: Capezio (#1915C) in Ballet Pink

Shoes: Pink Ballet

Pre Ballet—hair must be in a bun or pinned back if too short for a bun

Advanced Dance Movement Age 4, Dance I Age 5, Dance II Age 6:

Top: Pink Leotard

Tights: Capezio (#1915C) in Ballet Pink

Shoes: Pink Ballet & Black Tap Capezio (#N625C)

Pre-Ballet Age 7:

Top: Pink Leotard

Tights: Capezio (#1915C) in Ballet Pink

Shoes: Pink Ballet

Pre Ballet—hair must be in a bun or pinned back if too short for a bun

Tap/Jazz Age 7:**Top:** Leotard**Bottom:** Dance Shorts/Pants**Shoes:** Black Tap Capezio (#N625C) & Caramel Jazz Slip On Capezio (#EJ2/EJ2C)**Modern/Lyrical/Contemporary:****Top:** Leotard**Bottom:** Dance Shorts/Pants**Shoes:** Dance Paws (#DPP)/Foot Undeez (#H07/H07C)**Ballet:****Top:** Black Leotard**Tights:** Prima Soft (#101) in Ballet Pink**Shoes:** Pink Ballet Split-Sole Capezio (#2030/2030C) - Canvas

Ballet attire is mandatory—hair must be in a bun or pinned back if too short for a bun

Jazz/Musical Theater:**Top:** Leotard**Bottom:** Dance Shorts/Pants**Shoes:** Caramel Jazz Slip-On Capezio (#EJ2/EJ2C)

Black Jazz shoes may be required for the recital

Hip Hop:**Top:** Leotard, Tank top, hoodie**Bottom:** Dance Shorts/Pants/Sweatpants**Shoes:** Levels Beginning - I/II - Black Low Top Dance Sneaker

Levels II/III-V - Black Combat Type Boot

Advanced Hip Hop Levels and Dance Company: Black Nike Sneakers

Acro/Jumps, Leaps, Tricks, Turns:**Top:** Leotard**Bottom:** Dance Shorts/Pants**Shoes:** None**Tap:****Top:** Leotard**Bottom:** Dance Shorts/Pants**Shoes:** Tan Bloch Tap-On (#S0302L or G)

Advanced Tap: Black Capezio CG16 or 17

Boys:**Top:** Tank top, shirt**Bottom:** Basketball shorts, gym pants**Shoes:** See individual genre

Celebrating 38 Years!

As we begin our 38th anniversary year, we would like to thank all the dancers and families who have allowed us to be part of your dance education and shared in our passion for spreading the love of dance throughout our community. Miss Buffa created the studio in the Fall of 1980 as a place to share her background of arts education through her love of teaching dance. She founded the studio on the philosophy that dance is for everyone: it builds strong, flexible, disciplined bodies and minds and in so doing, enhances the total person: the creative, the physical, the mental and the social.

Throughout the years, our highly qualified instructors, who all possess a secondary education and/or have professional dance experience, have taught and inspired our young dancers and have guided them with the goal of a lifelong love of dance and the arts.

We are so proud that our alumni have careers such as doctors, accountants, lawyers, social workers, teachers, actors, nurses, physical therapists, government, military, dancers and dance educators, and have used their dance education to further enhance their post secondary careers.

Our fine-tuned dance curriculum, carefully constructed for each age group and genre, has been a proven success as illustrated by our highly technically trained and artistic dancers. We use age-appropriate material, music and technical building blocks to construct a dance education plan that considers the whole child and their emotional and physical development.

Our children's programs use props, imagination games, improvisation and creative movement to establish the beginning basics of ballet, tap and jazz technique without diminishing the creative wonder that is in every child. We use their love of movement to build memory sequences, rhythm, patterns and physical awareness in space.

Our beginning and intermediate programs employ age and developmentally appropriate curriculum building blocks to teach technical skills that are built upon with each level. In ballet, we begin with pliés, tendus and chassés and move to petit allegro, grand allegro and emphasize timing, directional changes and transitions that take a beginner student to an intermediate level.

Our advanced programs use multiple ballet classes per week to provide the basis for dance. We also provide well-rounded program offerings of pointe, jazz, lyrical, tap, modern, contemporary. Progressions across-the-floor use multiple turns, jumps, patterns in space, level and rhythm changes to challenge the dancer. These lead to dancers capable of intricate spacing, dynamics and choreography, who can combine the technical training and physical side of dance with the artistic.

In our performing companies, our goal is to take our solid technical education and add more performing opportunities.

Our Rhinestones and Crystals explore multiple genres and learn team work, personal responsibility as well as experience a dance convention and present their dances in competition. We believe that dance at this age should be presented in an environment where learning is positive, rewarding and exciting, and are strongly opposed to non-age-appropriate costuming and music.

Diamonds, Dance Company and Ensemble are for dancers wanting more in-depth curriculum, technical difficulty, and performing experiences. Our priority is technical training and rehearsing pieces an appropriate amount, as over-rehearsing diminishes artistry and leads to robotic dancers. Our dancers excel as they are introduced to new choreography and skills in class rather than only the material presented in their competition dances.

Our goals for competition and conventions are for our dancers to be taught by other professional master teachers in class and further learn from them as judges, using their critiques to provide feedback for evaluation and improvement. We continue to instill in our dancers that the trophies earned are not the goal, but rather, the over-arching goal is the

relationships they form with the master teachers and their contemporaries, the scholarships they win to help them further their dance education and the experience they gain from presenting and performing their pieces. Teamwork, time management, accountability, making lifelong friends, achieving goals, making commitments, organizational skills and technical, artistic and personal growth are the primary reasons we use dance competitions and conventions as part of our well-rounded educational plan for our dancers.

We also offer our students a professional ballet performance with our yearly Nutcracker. Dancers from age 3 to professionals present the holiday classic at a professional theater and it has been an area favorite for over 25 years. Our dancers fine tune their ballet technique and performance skills and enjoy the camaraderie that leads to an amazing final product for our entire community to enjoy.

Thank you for entrusting your child's dance education to Buffa's. We highly value your support and thank you for making these 38 years possible. We appreciate you sharing your children with us as we pursue our passion for dance and our belief in the positive enhancements of a dance education. Our teachers and staff are excited to begin the journey into our 38th year and cannot wait for all the new dance magic to begin!

~Buffa and Melissa Hargett

buffa's dance studio class descriptions

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Dance Movement – (age 3)

An introduction to the world of dance using music, singing, props, instruments, stories and creativity to activate the imagination, increase body awareness, enhance socialization and establish a sense of joy through movement.

Advanced Dance Movement – (age 4)

An accelerated program advancing the Dance Movement skills and introducing age-appropriate ballet and tap technique. Strong emphasis on musical awareness, personal and stage space, sequencing, memory, and creativity.

Dance I – (age 5)

Dance Movement skills and age-appropriate technique in ballet, tap and jazz are amplified. The student will master a specific set of information, steps and movement sequences, while continuing to reinforce improvisation and creativity.

Dance II – (age 6)

Dance Movement skills and age-appropriate technique in ballet, tap and jazz. The student will master a specific set of information, steps and movement sequences, while continuing to enhance improvisation and creativity.

Pre-Ballet – (age 7)

Introduction to the world of ballet using Royal Academy of Dance outlines. Emphasis on establishing the critical basics of alignment, positions and proper coordination of feet, legs and arms, and movement through space. Mime, improvisation and creativity help mold a blossoming artist.

Tap/Jazz – (age 7)

Instructs an age-appropriate skill set in both Tap and Jazz. Focus on musicality, rhythm, timing, clarity, coordination, sequencing, and spatial/stage awareness.

ACRO – (age 7+)

Cartwheels, bridges, headstands, hand stands proceeding to working on backbends and ups without assistance, focusing on building strength and getting comfortable with being upside down and then proceeding to front walk overs, chin stands, elbow stands, walk overs focusing on control, strength, and flexibility and then proceeding to scissor walkovers, tinsikas, hand walks, more in depth flexibility, control, and strength movements.

ACTIVE FLEXIBILITY – (age 10+)

Designed for both the hyper-mobile dancer looking to control their flexibility and the dancer looking to safely gain better splits, bridges/chest stands, and tumbling, this class focuses on increasing the extensibility and the neuromuscular efficiency of muscles through active flexibility and end-range control training. A typical class includes a short dynamic warm-up sequence, soft tissue preparation (foam rolling, trigger point release), nerve glides, and then muscle activation and strengthening.

AERIAL SILKS – (age 8+)

Perform aerial [acrobatics](#) while hanging from silks fabric. Climb the suspended fabric and wrap, suspend, fall, swing, and spiral your body into and out of various positions. Increases upper body strength, core stability and flexibility.

BALLET

Ballet – (age 8+)

Classes stress correct alignment, technique, terminology, fluidity, epaulement, port de bras and flexibility combined with strength and style. Goal is a sensitive, intelligent, professional stage performance.

Ballet Technique I and II – (age 9+ - level divisions on schedule)

Class focused on building strength and flexibility with the goal of improving ballet technique.

Ballet Class Series – (Advanced Ballet)

As a part of its mission to advance the art of ballet in the local community, Burke Civic Ballet is providing an opportunity for dancers to receive training from guest ballet instructors. Dates TBA, The cost is \$25 per class. Enrollment forms will be available at Buffa's Dance Studio.

DANCE TEACHER TRAINING – (age 11+)

This course will teach dancers how to assist classes, construct a curriculum and be a great role model for future generations. Dancers must be prepared to attend weekly class and do light assignments/course work outside the classroom.

HIP HOP – (age 7+)

One of the most current dance styles; offers a variety of movements from old school, new school, street, funk, jazz and free style. Using age-appropriate music, emphasis is placed on interpretation and style.

JAZZ – (age 8+)

Each successive level adds steps, walks and combinations. Class includes warm-up, stretching, isolations, jazz walks, turns, pirouettes, across-the-floor patterns, and combinations.

JUMPS, LEAPS, TRICKS, TURNS – (age 11+)

Learn and improve jumps, leaps, turns, and special tricks along with working on flexibility.

LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY – (age 7+)

A mix between jazz, ballet and modern with an emphasis on drama and emotion.

MODERN – (age 8+)

Learn basics from many styles and methods and focus on technique, weight, isolation, suspension, and release.

By experimenting, students will push their boundaries of expression through movement and improvisation.

Student choreography will be explored through props, problem solving and teamwork.

MUSICAL THEATER – (age 8+)

Concentrates on Broadway style dance techniques as well as singing and theatre work.

POINTE

Pre-Pointe – (age 11+)

A mandatory precursor to pointe work where dancers work on developing strength, placement and balance.

Course is a dance year in length, uses ballet shoes, and does not participate in recital. Ballet levels II and up with Director's Approval only.

Pointe – (age 12+)

By invitation only and must also be enrolled in a ballet class. Emphasizes proper placement, correct usage of pointe shoe in cooperation with entire body, and sequential progression of technique.

Pointe Technique – (Intermediate Pointe levels and higher)

Additional work on proper placement, strength, and progression of technique on pointe.

TAP – (age 8+)

Emphasis placed on clarity of sounds, rhythm, timing, coordination and style.

PERFORMING GROUPS – Designed for students who desire to be a part of a specialty dance group with additional performance, competition, convention, and choreography opportunities. Please email buffadance@msn.com for specifics on each group and to receive an info packet.

Rhinestones – (grades K-3)

Program includes further instruction in Jazz, Lyrical, and Musical Theater in preparation for performances and competitions. Builds team spirit, confidence and encourages artistry and joy through dance.

Crystals – (grades 3-8)

Program includes further instruction in Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Hip Hop and Musical Theater in preparation for performances and competitions. Builds team spirit, confidence and encourages artistry and joy through dance.

Diamonds – (grades 6-12)

Program includes further instruction in Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Hip-Hop and more in preparation for performances and competitions. Builds team spirit, confidence and encourages artistry and joy through dance. Open by invitation only (please email to request) and dancers must be enrolled in at least 5 classes.

Dance Company – (grades 8-12)

An opportunity to be a part of a group with performances, conventions, competitions, and Choreographer's Showcase. Open by invitation only to selected dancers who exhibit above-average facility, talent, dedication, discipline, character, commitment, and love for dance.

Ensemble – (grades 7-12)

Pre-professional training program offering technique, conditioning and extra performance opportunities that will give serious dancers an inside look at what it takes to be in a company/professional atmosphere.

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@buffadance



Buffa's Dance Studio

2017-2018 Calendar

Sept 5	Fall 2017 Begins
Sept 9	Nutcracker Auditions
Nov 1	Costume/Recital Fee Deadline
Nov 18, 19	Nutcracker Performances
Nov 20-26	Thanksgiving (closed Tues-Sun)
Dec 4-9	Parent's Days
Dec 18-Jan 7	Winter Holidays (closed)
March 26-April 1	Spring Holidays (closed)
May 28	Memorial Day (OPEN) NEW
June 2,3	Dress Rehearsal (Mandatory)
June 14	Last Day Classes
June 15,16,17	RECITALS
July 9-Aug 17	Summer 2018

Contact Info: BuffaDance@msn.com
www.buffas.com – 703-425-5599

Buffa's Performing Company - Rhinestones

Grades: Kindergarten to 3rd

Buffa's Rhinestones will meet on Fridays 4:30-5:15pm!!

Rhinestones will explore areas of dance such as jazz, lyrical, musical theater, choreography and hip hop. Bring caramel slip-on jazz shoes or foot undeez to class every week! Please make sure to always come into Rhinestones class looking like dancers!

For girls - a leotard or sports top must be worn to class every week, even if you wear a tank top over it. As well, hair must always be pulled back into a ponytail or bun, and short hair needs to be pulled away from the face.

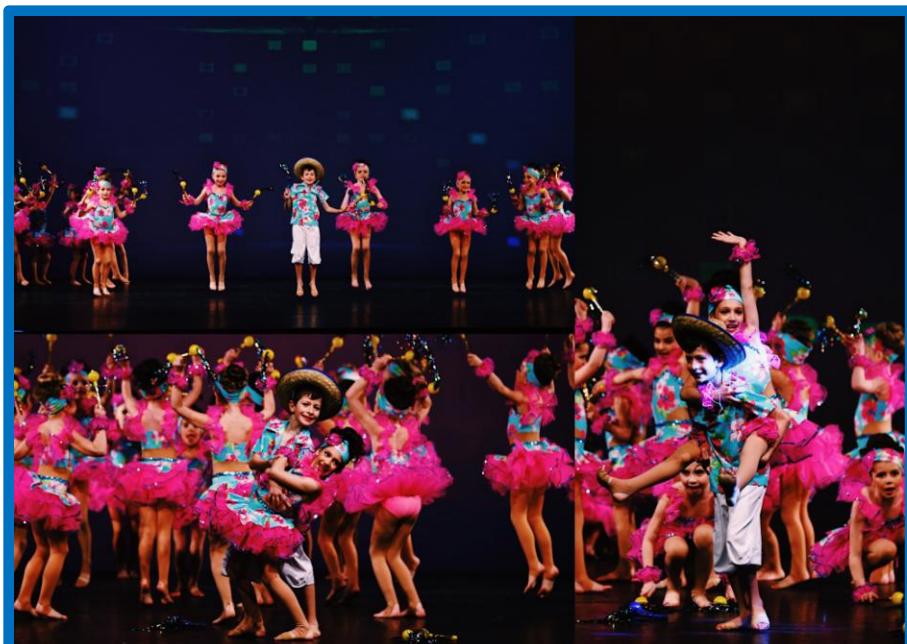
For boys - a tee shirt/tank and shorts.

Rhinestones will take classes and perform at a local dance convention/competition as well as Buffa's Recitals. The local dance convention/competition will be NRG Dance Project on February 2-4, 2018 at Hyatt Regency Reston, VA and the fee to attend is approx. \$325. There will be two dances for this group, and each costume will be \$115. Please make sure we have a working email address on file on your registration form as many emails go out through the year with important updates and last minute information.

Being part of the Rhinestones means you are a member of a performing group and regular attendance is mandatory. If you will be absent, please email buffadance@msn.com in advance. You may not miss more than 6 classes over the year if you wish to perform with the group and no absences are allowed 2 weeks prior to a performance. This is necessary to help out your fellow dancers while rehearsing for performances.

The Rhinestones price will be \$65 per month. There are no discounts for this performing group fee except for the 3% off the full year tuition. Rhinestones also must be enrolled in at least one other class at Buffa's Dance Studio.

We are looking forward to an exciting fun-filled and enjoyable year- a year full of growth and happiness in dance!!!
Questions? Please email buffadance@msn.com.



Buffa's Performing Company - Crystals

Grades: 3rd to 8th

Buffa's Crystals will meet Fridays from 5:15-6:15pm!!

Crystals will explore various forms of dance such as jazz, lyrical, pom, musical theater, choreography, and hip hop. Bring caramel slip-on jazz shoes or foot undeez to class every week! Please make sure to always come into Crystals class looking like dancers!

For girls - a leotard or sports top must be worn to class every week, even if you wear a tank top over it. As well, hair must always be pulled back into a ponytail or bun, and short hair needs to be pulled away from the face.

For boys - a tee shirt/tank and shorts.

Crystals will take classes and perform at a local dance convention/competition as well as Buffa's Recitals. The local dance convention/competition will be NRG Dance Project on February 2-4, 2018 at Hyatt Regency Reston, VA and the fee to attend is approx. \$325. There will be two dances for this group, and each costume will be \$115. Please make sure we have a working email address on file on your registration form as many emails go out through the year with important updates and last minute information.

Being part of the Crystals means you are a member of a performing group and regular attendance is mandatory. If you will be absent, please email buffadance@msn.com in advance. You may not miss more than 6 classes over the year if you wish to perform with the group and no absences are allowed 2 weeks prior to a performance. This is necessary to help out your fellow dancers while rehearsing for performances.

The Crystals price will be \$70 per month. There are no discounts for this performing group fee except for the 3% off the full year tuition. Crystals also must be enrolled in at least one other class at Buffa's Dance Studio.

We are looking forward to an exciting fun-filled and enjoyable year- a year full of growth and happiness in dance!!!
Questions? Please email buffadance@msn.com.



Buffa's Performing Company - Diamonds

Grades: 6th to 12th

Buffa's Diamonds will meet Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm!! Please see your Class Recommendations to see if you were invited to Diamonds, or send an email to buffadance@msn.com to request to be a part of this group. Diamonds must take 4 other dance classes (including Ballet and Jazz) in addition to Diamonds.

This is a group comprised of students who are chosen because of their dedication to dance, work ethic and the ability to be a positive role model. Diamonds will explore various forms of dance such as jazz, hip hop, and lyrical. Caramel slip-on jazz shoes or Dance Paws will be worn each week in class and you may be asked to bring hip hop shoes.

For girls - a leotard or sports top must be worn to class every week, even if you wear a tank top over it. As well, hair must always be pulled back into a ponytail or bun, and short hair needs to be pulled away from the face.

For the gentlemen - a tee shirt/tank and shorts.

Diamonds will perform at two local dance competition as well as Buffa's Concert and Recitals. The local dance convention/competitions will be NRG Dance Project on February 2-4, 2018 at Hyatt Regency Reston, VA and a second convention/competition (TBD) the fee to attend each is approx. \$375. There will be two dances for this group, and each costume will be \$115. Please make sure we have a working email address on file on your registration form as many emails go out through the year with important updates and last minute information.

Being part of the Diamonds means you are a member of a performing group and regular attendance is mandatory. If you will be absent, please email buffadance@msn.com in advance. You may not miss more than 6 classes over the year if you wish to perform with the group and no absences are allowed 2 weeks prior to a performance. This is necessary to help out your fellow dancers and maintain high-quality performances!

We are looking forward to an exciting fun-filled and enjoyable year full of growth and happiness in dance!

Diamonds Information and Fees:

- Diamonds must enroll in at least four other classes (Ballet, Jazz and 2 others) plus the Diamonds class.
- Unlimited Monthly Class Rate = \$360 (or multiple class rate/Serious Dancer Discount if lower)
- Group Fee: Diamonds - \$75/month - no discounts on this fee (except 3% for year in full)
- Diamonds Costume Fee – \$115 Recital/Costume Fee for each costume (2 costumes for year)



Buffa's Dance Company 2017-2018

Acceptance Letter and Contract

Congratulations! You have been selected to join the 2017-2018 Buffa's Dance Company, which will meet Wednesdays 7:30-9pm. Dance Company placement is based on factors such as age, grade, class level and teacher input.

You have the opportunity to be a part of an elite group at the studio chosen because of talent, dedication to dance, work ethic and the ability to be a positive role model. As Dance Company members you receive many benefits including extremely discounted tuition, extra teaching and coaching, increased opportunities to perform, subsidized costumes far exceeding payment, and the opportunity to choreograph.

Please understand that you are under no obligation to accept a position in the company. However, if you decide to accept you must agree to abide by the terms and conditions outlined in this letter and the Contract and Agreement accompanying this letter. Please read these documents very carefully with your parents. Make sure you understand and agree completely before signing. If you feel you are unable to fulfill this obligation, email buffadance@msn.com by August 10th.

----- **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 10, 2017 to be eligible for Fall Dance Company rates.** -----

General Information:

- 3 conventions/competitions/shows

- **NRG Dance Project**
 - February 2-4, 2018 at Hyatt Regency Reston, VA
 - Approx. \$245 for convention plus approx. \$65 per group dance.
- **Revel**
 - February 16-18, 2018 at Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Baltimore MD
 - Approx. \$275 for convention plus approx. \$65 per group dance.
- **Choreographer's Showcase** - date TBA in May - a chance to choreograph, plan, staff and run a student's choreographer show. Participation is mandatory!

- Rehearsals will be during classes, company time and possible weekends.

- Optional attendance at conventions that Ensemble is attending – please see calendar for details.

Fees/Tuition:

Special class rates are available to Dance Company Members, provided you are in good standing and have registered on time.

- **Dance Co Rate:** \$335/month for unlimited classes. Must be enrolled and attend regularly a minimum of **five** classes:
ALL DC: min 2 ballet (not including pointe), 1 jazz and 2 other
- **Dance Company Fee:** \$75/month for Sept-June
- **Costume Fee:** \$115 (or higher based on costume)
- **MANDATORY Summer:** \$350 Unlimited Class Fee plus discounts on intensives. Deadline May 10th 2018 or not eligible for DC. Must complete 12 summer hours to be eligible for Fall Dance Company.
- **Change/Drop/Withdrawal Fee:** \$25 to cover the administrative costs associated with those changes.
- **Choreographer Fee:** \$110
- **Payments:** All tuition payments are made in cash/checks to the studio. Competition/Convention payments are made online by credit card. All monthly payments must be up-to-date to continue in Dance Company and all Competition/Convention/Choreography/Costume payments must be made by deadlines to continue in Dance Company.

Dance Company Pieces 2017-2018 (subject to change):

Dance Company Pro:

- Jazz
- Hip Hop
- Plus Adv Pro: Modern, Hip Hop, Lyrical, Tap and Pointe for those enrolled

Dance Company:

- Lyrical/Contemporary
- Jazz
- Hip Hop

Classes:

- Recommended classes are mailed to you in July and you may register for any recommended class. Class recommendations are made by the instructor and Studio Director.
- You must submit in writing or by email any classes you would like to enroll in below or at your current level for approval.
- Please note: As Dance Company Members, your classes are monitored carefully through the year to be sure you are in the correct level, being challenged and are able to work at the class level. We appreciate your passion for dance as Dance Company Members but we must choose classes for you that are in your best interest considering your class load and current technical skill. We thank you in advance for understanding that there might be classes that you are not ready for and we hope you accept this in a gracious and thoughtful manner.
- **Enrolling in conventions/competition, classes, seminars, summer study programs outside Buffa's Dance Studio MUST be submitted to the Studio Directors by email at buffadance@msn.com before you attend.**

Performances and Rehearsals:

Conventions/Competitions, Shows and Rehearsals will be scheduled in advance and you may decide whether or not you can consider being in/auditioning for that particular piece. You must understand that it is possible that not all dancers will be asked to perform in a piece, and also you might not be asked to perform in certain pieces. This is under the discretion of the Dance Company Directors and Instructors providing materials and rehearsals.

Conventions:

The Dance Conventions we participate with require dance studios to register as a group. We are not allowed to have you contact these companies individually. All entry fees include an additional \$25 charge to cover expenses associated with the school's participation in competitions, including mailings, entry processing, office staff, expenses for teachers to attend all events, music editing, etc. Cash winnings and prizes will be divided equally between performers, choreographers and the studio and be posted to the online payment system for use in future conventions/competitions with the studio. Convention Fees Due Approx 2 months in advance. Late charges will apply.

Costumes:

Costume Fees must be paid on time. You will receive notice of additional costume payment coming due and must pay by the given deadline or a costume will not be purchased for you. Costumes become the property of the dance company member once paid for and received.

Make-up and Hair:

Each dance company member must own the following stage makeup and hair products for the competition season. Dancers are permitted to share supplies safely, but must coordinate their own groups and obtain parental permission.

- A Smokey Eye Palette OR Urban Decay Naked Palette
- Black Eyeliner OR Urban Decay 24/7 Glide-On Eye Pencil in Zero
- Any mascara
- Non Stick Red Lipstick
- Any foundation that best matches your skin
- Coral/Peach Blush
- False eyelashes
- HAIRSPRAY: 1 personal bottle per competition
- BOBBY PINS: 200 per competition per dancer
- DONUT BUN: IF needed
- HAIR TIES: To match hair color
- EXTRAS: Bunheads Knot Keepers or Band aids for pointe shoes

Conduct/Attire:

Dance Company members are expected to comport themselves as role models for our school. Younger dancers look up to Dance Company members and imitate your behavior, attire and work ethic. Therefore, always be on your best behavior and be kind and respectful of all dancers at the studio. As role models, Dance Company members are expected to **dress appropriately for each class and rehearsals** and always have their dance bag (with all of your dance supplies and gear kept in this bag – to include all dance shoes, rubber bands, bobby pins, hairnets and any other necessities of a dancer). This is part of the discipline of dance – to be prepared and to always present your best effort. **Bullying and disparaging remarks made in person or online by dance company members or their parents about other students, teachers, parents or the studio and making detrimental remarks in the studio, outside the studio or at conventions and competitions will not be tolerated.** If this occurs, you will be asked to withdraw. **The way you dress, speak, take class, perform and your attitude throughout the year plays a huge role in how you are perceived by other students, parents, instructors, staff and the Dance Company and Studio Directors.** **Ballet class attire is mandatory with no exceptions.**

Absences:

September – June: You are required to attend all of your regular dance classes, dance company classes, and never miss a dress or any 3 rehearsals prior to a performance. If absent during any of the last 3 rehearsals prior to a performance, you will not perform in that piece. Exceptions will be made, however, for end-of-year commitments for required school functions if submitted in advance. You may not miss more than 6 Dance Company classes over the year. You must attend two ballet classes a week over the entire year. It is mandatory to submit absences by email to buffadance@msn.com.

- July – August: You must complete 12 hours of regular summer classes at Buffa's Dance Studio. These classes are held over a 6 week session. We will work together to accommodate your required number of classes. Know that we at Buffa's strongly encourage each individual to experience out of town dance camps, intensives, Governor's school, theater classes and all genres of dance and different styles, but we want you also to experience the full year in Dance Company. Enrolling in dance classes, dance conventions and summer study dance programs outside Buffa's Dance Studio **MUST be submitted to the Studio Directors by email at buffadance@msn.com before you attend.**

****Any injuries or illnesses resulting in missing a week or more of dance must be accompanied by a doctor's note. A doctor's note clearing the student to dance must be received before returning to dance.**

Failure to fulfill the entire year agreement may result in non-eligibility for the next year. Buffa's Dance Company members are expected to be year-round dancers who understand that commitment to dance requires this of you.

Photos/Videos:

During the year, photos/video may be taken at various times. We require yours and your parent's permission to use these in different formats (e.g. walls, newsletters, and website). See release on signature page.

Guest Teachers:

Guest teachers are brought in for the benefit of our Dance Company members. **You are REQUIRED to attend these classes.** Many we know in advance but sometimes an opportunity presents itself and we hope we have selected dancers who have this as a priority and will make accommodations to participate in these events.

Burke Civic Ballet and Volunteering:

We strongly suggest as dedicated dancers that you take advantage of our in-house ballet company, Burke Civic Ballet, and participate in the Nutcracker. Doing so not only strongly increases your technical ability, but gives you insight into the arts and helping the community. If you are unable to take part in the Nutcracker as a dancer, you will be asked to volunteer in the Dance a Thon and Nutcracker backstage.

Parental Involvement:

We need help from Dance Company parents to work backstage in the dressing rooms and other areas during rehearsals and recitals and also other times during the year such as during Nutcracker auditions and fundraisers. Please help the Volunteer coordinators during the year by volunteering for a minimum of 5 hours for the Nutcracker and a minimum of 5 hours for the Recitals. This helps our productions succeed and our dancers have the best experiences possible.

Social Media Policy:

We take any negative posts on all social media platforms very seriously. If any are made in regards to the Buffa's teachers, our students and/or about Buffa's Dance Studio, we will immediately report this to the parent. Please note that you may be asked to leave Dance Company and/or Buffa's Dance Studio for violating this policy.

Year Calendar:

Please see the calendar for the year and plan accordingly. Please note: there are some events, rehearsals, performances, and conventions etc., which come up suddenly or change. You will be informed as soon as it is known about an upcoming event, either by email or notice in class. It is your responsibility to inform your parents of these events. It is also your responsibility to inform us at buffadance@msn.com as soon as you know you will be unable to make an event or need to leave early or arrive late so the director will be able to work out a solution.

Questions:

Any and all questions concerning Dance Company (your regular classes, adding, dropping, changing, dance company classes, rehearsals, performances, conventions, competitions, intensives or any other questions, problems or concerns) shall be brought to attention of Buffa or Melissa Hargett (Studio Directors) by email to the studio buffadance@msn.com. Dancers must seek approval by the Studio Director before enrolling in dance classes, dance seminars, dance summer study programs outside Buffa's Dance Studio.

Dance Company Signature Page

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO BUFFA'S DANCE STUDIO BY AUGUST 10th 2017

2017-2018 Code of Conduct

Because you are being asked to commit a great deal of time and effort in being a member of Buffa's Dance Studio's Dance Company, and because you already have large commitments at school and to your personal life, it is important that you understand what will be required of you as a dancer with the Buffa's Dance Studio Dance Company. The following contract is meant to help you understand your responsibilities.

It is important to understand that your commitment to the Dance Company is matched by a commitment from Buffa's Dance Studio to provide you with the opportunity to develop technically and artistically as a dancer and to gain performing experience in an atmosphere of professional quality.

Rules of Conduct

Dancers, while involved in Dance Company functions, must conduct themselves as representatives of Buffa's Dance Studio and in a manner that reflects the highest standards. Dance Company dancers are expected to understand that they are viewed as role models by younger dancers and students in the school and must strive to achieve the highest standards of personal conduct for themselves at all times. When travelling with the company, dancers will be expected to observe special rules and regulations that may be established for their safety and protection.

Term of Contract and Early Termination

This contract is intended to extend the entire period of the Buffa's Dance Studio 2017-2018 Season, from September 1, 2017 through September 1, 2018. Any dancer wishing to terminate the contract during the season must give at least four weeks' notice to the Studio Director and must agree to lend costumes for the remainder of the season. The Studio Director may terminate the contract at any time a dancer fails to meet the terms of the contract or fails to meet the technical standards of the Company.

Having read and understood the terms and conditions of this contract, the undersigned do hereby agree to abide by these terms and conditions:

DANCER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT OR LEGAL

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

I Have Read and Will Fully Comply With The Terms and Conditions Set Forth in the "Acceptance Letter and Contract". Both Parent and dancer must sign. The Acceptance Letter and Contract are for the student and parent to keep and refer to during the year.

DANCER DATE

DANCER'S PARENT DATE



2017-2018 Dance Co and Ensemble Calendar

Aug 10	Dance Co Registration Deadline
Sept 5	Fall 2017 Begins
Sept 9	Nutcracker Auditions
Oct 6	Dance A Thon (6-9pm)
Oct 15	Nutcracker Photos (2-6pm)
Nov 1	Costume/Recital Fee Deadline
Nov 18,19	Nutcracker Performances
Nov 20-26	Thanksgiving (closed Tues-Sun)
Dec 4-9	Parent's Days
Dec 18-Jan 7	Winter Holidays (closed)
Jan 12-14	Tremaine – Washington DC – Ensemble & Diamonds
Feb 2-4	NRG - Reston - Dance Co & Ensemble
Feb 16-19	Revel - Baltimore Marriott Waterfront - Dance Co & Ensemble
March 26-April 1	Spring Holidays (closed)
April 20-22	DMI – Bethesda, MD - Ensemble
May 4-6	Radix – Hyatt Regency Crystal City – Ensemble
May TBA	Choreographer's Showcase
May 12	Program Photos
May 28	Memorial Day (OPEN) NEW
June 2,3	Dress Rehearsal (Mandatory)
June 14	Last Day Classes and STAGE REHEARSALS
June 15, 16, 17	RECITALS and possible stage rehearsals
July 9-Aug 17	Summer 2018

Contact Info: BuffaDance@msn.com

www.buffas.com – 703-425-5599

Ensemble Contract 2017-2018

Due Wednesday, August 10th, 2017

We will make a copy when turned in for your records

Dancer Name: _____

School: _____ Grade: _____

Email: _____

Ensemble is a pre-professional training program offering technique, conditioning and extra performance opportunities that will give serious dancers an inside look at what it takes to be in a company/professional atmosphere. Our goal is to prepare dancers for a future in dance - college dance majors and minors in dance, for college dance teams, and for professional careers. Ensemble will prepare them for dance auditions, for success in dance competitions, for exposure to summer study programs in dance all with highest quality in the area of dance education, choreography and performance. Ensemble is open to those in Diamonds and Dance Co who are in Advanced Levels of Ballet.

Ensemble Information:

- Ensemble dancers must follow **ALL the rules and regulations of the contract**.
- Ensemble classes, rehearsals, and conventions/competitions and questions may be made via email at buffadance@msn.com.
- The Ensemble Manager, Kristen Schab, will handle online payments and questions about payments may be made via email at buffasdance@gmail.com.
- The schedule and requirements for Ensemble **may change** based on new dates and changes to competitions as they are published by individual companies.
- Ensemble Fee - \$45/month – for Ensemble class, rehearsals space, planning, casting, emails, travel and convention expenses, plus Ensemble Manager accounting time for dancers and competitions.
- Ensemble is a full year commitment – September-August unless injury/illness.

Ensemble Schedule:

- Ensemble will meet Monday 5:30-6:45 for a MANDATORY technique class.
- There will be additional rehearsals scheduled during the week and weekends during the year by the individual choreographers.
 - Solos – approx.. 8 hours during the year
 - Duo/Trios – approx. 15 hours during the year
 - Groups – approx. 20 hours during the year

Please Note: In being a member of Ensemble, it is important and MANDATORY to be present for all rehearsals, especially prior to competitions and conventions. It is important to accommodate these rehearsals to present polished pieces.

Competitions/Conventions:

- Conventions/Competitions - (approx \$280 per convention + approx. \$75 per each group dance + approx \$90 per each duo/trio + approx. \$150 per solo). Each convention/competition will have a different set of competition pieces and is at the discretion of Ensemble Director and Studio Director. Notifications will be emailed. Late Fees will apply at \$25 per day for each day late if still able to register.
- Please initial in the space before these 5 Competitions/Conventions agreeing to attend them. Fees will be due approx. 90 days in advance and you will get notifications. These are subject to change based on dates/locations changes by the companies.
 - _____ Tremaine – Jan 13-15 – DC – Audition process
 - _____ NRG – Feb 2-4 – Hyatt Regency Reston, VA – All Dances
 - _____ Revel – Feb 16-19 – Baltimore, MD – Audition process
 - _____ DMI – April 20-22 – Baltimore, MD – All Dances
 - _____ Radix – May 4-6 – Hyatt Regency Crystal City – Audition process
- Additional Conventions/Competitions:

- If you would like to go to any Convention, Competition, Intensives, Classes or Dance Events other than the Mandatory and Optional events listed above you must email buffadance@msn.com 60 days prior for approval and registration will be on your own to avoid the credit card fees that we must pay to register you.

Ensemble Pieces:

- Solos
 - Choreography – Fees approx. \$400-500 due to Choreographer
 - Self/Outside Choreography - \$100 rehearsal fee
 - Music Fee – (if choreographer does not cut own music) - \$20
 - Costume – Fees approx. Reused - \$300
- Duo/Trios
 - Choreography – approx. \$250-500
 - Self/Outside Choreography - \$100 rehearsal fee
 - Costume – Fees approx. Reused - \$300
- Small Group (4-9 Dancers)
 - Choreography – approx. \$200-400
 - Self/Outside Choreography - \$100 rehearsal fee
 - Costume – Fees approx. Reused - \$300
- Large Group (10+ Dancers)
 - Choreography – approx. \$200-400
 - Self/Outside Choreography - \$100 rehearsal fee
 - Costume – Fees approx. Reused - \$300

Conventions:

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Costumes:

Costume Fees must be paid on time. You will receive notice of additional costume payment coming due and must pay by the given deadline or a costume will not be purchased for you.

Make-up and Hair:

Each member must own the following stage makeup and hair products for the competition season. Dancers are permitted to share supplies safely, but must coordinate their own groups and obtain parental permission.

- A Smokey Eye Palette OR Urban Decay Naked Palette
- Black Eyeliner OR Urban Decay 24/7 Glide-On Eye Pencil in Zero
- Any mascara
- Non Stick Red Lipstick
- Any foundation that best matches your skin
- Coral/Peach Blush
- False eyelashes
- HAIRSPRAY: 1 personal bottle per competition
- BOBBY PINS: 200 per competition per dancer
- DONUT BUN: IF needed
- HAIR TIES: To match hair color
- EXTRAS: Bunheads Knot Keepers or Band aids for pointe shoes

Conduct/Attire:

Members are expected to comport themselves as role models for our school. Therefore, always be on your best behavior and be kind and respectful of all dancers at the studio. As role models, members are expected to **dress appropriately for each class and rehearsals** and always have their dance bag (with all of your dance supplies and gear kept in this bag – to include all dance shoes, rubber bands, bobby pins, hairnets and any other necessities of a dancer). This is part of the discipline of dance – to be prepared and to always present your best effort. **Bullying and disparaging remarks made in person or online by members or their parents about other students, teachers, parents or the studio and making detrimental remarks in the studio, outside the studio or at**

conventions and competitions will not be tolerated. If this occurs, you will be asked to withdraw. **The way you dress, speak, take class, perform and your attitude throughout the year plays a huge role in how you are perceived by other students, parents, instructors, staff and the Dance Company and Studio Directors. Ballet class attire is mandatory with no exceptions.**

Absences:

September – June: You are required to attend all of your regular dance classes, Ensemble classes, and never miss a dress or any 3 rehearsals prior to a performance. If absent during any of the last 3 rehearsals prior to a performance, you will not perform in that piece. Exceptions will be made, however, for end-of-year commitments for required school functions if submitted in advance. You may not miss more than 6 Ensemble classes over the year. You must attend two ballet classes a week over the entire year. It is mandatory to submit absences by email to buffadance@msn.com.

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Please see the calendar for the year and plan accordingly. Please note: there are some events, rehearsals, performances, and conventions etc., which come up suddenly or change. You will be informed as soon as it is known about an upcoming event, either by email or notice in class. It is your responsibility to inform your parents of these events. It is also your responsibility to inform us at buffadance@msn.com as soon as you know you will be unable to make an event or need to leave early or arrive late so the director will be able to work out a solution.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN BY AUGUST 10th 2017

Ensemble is a huge commitment and dedication of both the student and family, time-wise and financially. The dancer should be able to juggle schoolwork and other extra curricular activities before adding this large commitment. Please understand that you are under no obligation to accept a position in Ensemble. However, if you decide to accept you must agree to abide by the information provided in this Ensemble letter and by all information provided in the Dance Company Acceptance Letter and Contract. Make sure you understand and agree completely before signing.

Ensemble 2017-2018 Code of Conduct

Because you are being asked to commit a great deal of time and effort in being a member of Buffa's Dance Studio's Ensemble, and because you already have large commitments at school and to your personal life, it is important that you understand what will be required of you as a dancer with the Buffa's Dance Studio Ensemble. The following contract is meant to help you understand your responsibilities.

It is important to understand that your commitment to the Ensemble is matched by a commitment from Buffa's Dance Studio to provide you with the opportunity to develop technically and artistically as a dancer and to gain performing experience in an atmosphere of professional quality.

Rules of Conduct

Dancers, while involved in Ensemble functions, must conduct themselves as representatives of Buffa's Dance Studio and in a manner that reflects the highest standards. Ensemble dancers are expected to understand that they are viewed as role models by younger dancers and students in the school and must strive to achieve the highest standards of personal conduct for themselves at all times. When travelling with the company, dancers will be expected to observe special rules and regulations that may be established for their safety and protection.

Term of Contract and Early Termination

This contract is intended to extend the entire period of the Buffa's Dance Studio 2017-2018 Season, from September 1, 2017 through September 1, 2018. Any dancer wishing to terminate the contract during the season must give at least four weeks' notice to the Studio Director and must agree to teach his or her roles to another dancer or dancers to be specified by the Studio Director. The Studio Director may terminate the contract at any time a dancer fails to meet the terms of the contract or fails to meet the technical standards of Ensemble.

Having read and understood the terms and conditions of this contract, the undersigned do hereby agree to abide by these terms and conditions:

DANCER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT OR LEGAL
GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DEADLINES must be adhered to or Dancer will no longer be able participate in Ensemble.

Decisions made in this contract are final and no alterations will be accepted.



2017-2018 Dance Co and Ensemble Calendar

Aug 10	Dance Co Registration Deadline
Sept 5	Fall 2017 Begins
Sept 9	Nutcracker Auditions
Oct 6	Dance A Thon (6-9pm)
Oct 15	Nutcracker Photos (2-6pm)
Nov 1	Costume/Recital Fee Deadline
Nov 18,19	Nutcracker Performances
Nov 20-26	Thanksgiving (closed Tues-Sun)
Dec 4-9	Parent's Days
Dec 18-Jan 7	Winter Holidays (closed)
Jan 12-14	Tremaine – Washington DC – Ensemble & Diamonds
Feb 2-4	NRG - Reston - Dance Co & Ensemble
Feb 16-19	Revel - Baltimore Marriott Waterfront - Dance Co & Ensemble
March 26-April 1	Spring Holidays (closed)
April 20-22	DMI – Bethesda, MD - Ensemble
May 4-6	Radix – Hyatt Regency Crystal City – Ensemble
May TBA	Choreographer's Showcase
May 12	Program Photos
May 28	Memorial Day (OPEN) NEW
June 2,3	Dress Rehearsal (Mandatory)
June 14	Last Day Classes and STAGE REHEARSALS
June 15, 16, 17	RECITALS and possible stage rehearsals
July 9-Aug 17	Summer 2018

Contact Info: BuffaDance@msn.com

www.buffas.com – 703-425-5599