**Dance & Performance 8/9 Intermediate & Advanced**

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**Ms. Law – Room B008**

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Welcome to Intermediate Dance & Performance! This class is designed to further your dance training, grow and strengthen your skills as a choreographer and challenge you to become a versatile and dynamic performer. This year our focus will be on telling stories through dance and movement as well as on dance leadership within the community. Be prepared to work to your full potential and take advantage of your time spent in our studio.

Throughout the term, we will be working with multiple genres and as intermediate and advanced students you are expected to participate fully and positively in every aspect of the course. Students will have many performance and dynamic group-work opportunities and should treat the class as they would a team. Please be to open to all styles and genres so that you can maximize your potential to grow as an artist!

Our class will run every second day and throughout the term we may arrange for several consecutive class days to accommodate performance or viewing opportunities. As this is a performance-based class, we will be working towards and preparing for multiple performance opportunities which may include District Dance Festivals (January & April), Unleash the Stars (April) and Term-End/Year-End/Fine Arts shows in January and June! Parents, extended family and friends are encourages to attend each of these events to celebrate the arts and see the progress of our dancers! Please note that attendance at performances is considered a mandatory component of this course!

**\*\*\* Weekly Course Structure \*\*\***

Our weekly classes will typically follow this structure:

**Mondays:** large and small group choreography

**Technique Tuesdays:** technique-based class days, structured warm-up and center work, across the floor and genre-specific combos and exercises (basic tech and vocab, turns and jumps, improv, combos)

**Wednesdays**: large and small group choreography

**Thursdays:** large and small group choreography

**Freestyle & Foundation Fridays**: street style(s)-based class days focusing on grooving, circles, stylize combos, fusion, choreo development)

**Your course progress will be based on daily participation, work and resulting growth, choreography projects and work in a minimum of 2 large group pieces (mandatory fusion)**

**Course Materials**

Please ensure that you consistently bring the following to class:

* Dance Notebook (strongly recommended)
* Pen or pencil
* Appropriate dancewear **\***
* Water (eco-friendly bottles, please!)
* Music when needed

**\***Please note that jeans and street-wear are not appropriate for the dance room. Dancers must have a change of clothes that allows for stretching and movement and will not impede their ability to fully participate in all aspects of the class. Bare feet or dance shoes are fine for all units with the exception of Hip Hop where students may wear runners with good support and a no-mark sole. TOMS, sandals and slip-ons are not acceptable.

**Sullivan Dance and Social Media**

Please check-out and bookmark the Sullivan Dance website, [www.sullivandance.webnode.com](http://www.sullivandance.webnode.com). All important updates, show details and program information will be posted regularly. Also, Sullivan dance is on twitter! Please follow me **@klaw6** to receive additional course and Sullivan Heights updates and dance news! Use the hashtag **#sullidance** to stay in the loop, get videos, pictures, music and more! Please follow @Sullivandance on instagram for even more! As leaders in our community please work to help keep these feeds, threads and digital spaces positive and welcoming!

**Learning:**

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Learning is an ongoing process that does not start or end with the bells or with a specific course assignment. As you develop a dance vocabulary and more kinesthetic awareness, start applying it to your own movement and technique and class choreography! Every time you are tuned in to your movement, the movement of your classmates and the ongoing process of corrections and feedback, you are growing as a dancer and that’s what this class is all about!

Aim to work hard and to challenge yourself, keeping an open mind with regards to all the dance disciplines we will explore. **Above all else, please treat one another with respect and courtesy and bring positive attitudes and a spirit of inclusivity to each and every class!**

Be prepared to grow from your successes and your failures! Each of these two experiences should be viewed as an opportunity for learning, as development in dance is an ongoing process that is a culmination of effort, a positive attitude and focused practice!

**During the final week of classes, individual exit interviews will be conducted to discuss your learning, progress and growth as a dancer and reflect back on the term.**

**\*\*Pls see the letter handout for details about assessment in dance. Constant and continued immediate and reflective feedback, self, peer and teacher feedback and portfolio development provides the bases for assessment in this course. Area specific hands-on and verbal feedback and correction will be valued above letter or numerical grading to honor the artistic, individualized and progressive nature of this course and art form.**

**Absences:**

Staying on top of choreography is extremely important. Your presence in class is crucial to the success of the entire group. Unexcused absences will be dealt with individually and more than 1 per term can result in removal from group choreography. Any student who is injured, needs to supply a parent/doctor note and will be expected to observe class, taking technique and choreography notes. **Missed choreography must be learned on your own time.**

**\*\*As this is an INTERMEDIATE class, we will move quickly with choreography and staging. Those who cannot attend on time and with regularity will not be spaced into routines until regular and timely attendance is demonstrated for a significant period of time. Remember that performing onstage is not a right. You earned your spot in this class, now work to keep it! Absences on Tuesday/Friday technique days will be directly correlated with how much you are included in group choreography. Make wise choices.**

**Our studio will be successful if we all:**

1. **Arrive on time and are prepared to work for the full duration of class time.**
2. **Respect the studio space, audio equipment and change-room. Clean up after ourselves.**
3. **Participate fully and positively. Do not disrespect another dancer, a style or genre or choreography either directly or indirectly through attitude or body language.**
4. **Are ready to grow from failed attempts as much as from successful ones. Stay humble, stay hungry and stay united as a community.**
5. **Work together as a team and learn from one another’s respective strengths and styles. One of the greatest feelings in the world, is the second before you step onstage, prepared to move and inspire an audience with a strong, bonded and cohesive team behind you. Do your part to get us there.**

**Finally, Sullivan Dance and its students and alumni uphold a strong tradition of promoting positivity and inclusivity in the arts. The studio, change-room and all dance events are open to all learners and need to remain positive spaces where people feel welcomed and comfortable. They are not spaces for gossip, bullying or any form of intolerance. Please commit to doing your part to positively join our dance community as a learner, leader and artist, leaving drama and negativity at the door.**