

**Deborah's Stage Door Center for the Performing Arts**  
**CONFIRMATION PACKET**  
**2009-10**

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to an exciting year at DSD. Our studio features one of the best performing arts facilities in the country. We strive to provide an excellent educational experience in dance, gymnastics, music and drama and believe you will enjoy your classes here. We offer a wide variety of dance for different ages and levels. We also offer gymnastics and cheernastics classes. Our music department offers a Children's, Junior and Senior Show Choir. All students who are interested in being a part of one of the choirs should attend the first class on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. The acting department has expanded and will be presenting various performances this year – it also offers a chance for your child to become a part of the Junior or Advanced Conservatory performing groups depending upon their age. If you have a student who would be interested in auditioning for one of our ballet companies, please contact our studio office. Finally, if you have a child who would like to become a DSD Frequency Radio Disney Dancer, please contact the office. Our spacious studios are air-conditioned for your comfort and we offer a complete dancewear store where dance shoes and dancewear may be purchased at a reasonable cost.

We offer classes for students of all ages and degrees of interest in dance, music and acting. Many of our students enroll in one or two classes per week, while others choose to join one of our dance lines which requires a more extensive commitment. We also offer three Performing Arts Companies. You will see listed a Junior Performing Arts Company for students 5-7 years of age, a Senior Performing Arts Company for students 8-10 years of age, and the Performing Arts Co. for students 11 and up. These students receive additional training and performance opportunities without making the same kind of commitment as the competition dance line members. This is a good way for your child to get a chance to perform in different shows and to compete at one regional dance competition. Our dance lines will be performing at Rochester's Art & Apples Festival on Friday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 p.m. and on Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:45 p.m. We encourage you to attend a show, as this is an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with the types and quality of dance and music offered to students by our studio.

We have an exciting year ahead of us, which will conclude on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> with our annual recital! The recital will once again be held at the beautiful Lake Orion High School Auditorium.

Sincerely,

Deborah Agrusa  
 Director

**Attention Parents:** Please sign this form and return it to our office before your child's first class. I have received and read carefully the tentative calendar for the year and the statement of policies and rules for the 2009-2010 season for Deborah's Stage Door, Inc. and agree to abide by them. I recognize that there are risks of physical injury associated with dance, gymnastics, theatre, music and cheer classes and performances. We, the student and parents, assume all risks of injury and hold Deborah's Stage Door, Inc. and its agents harmless for any such injury. We give permission for our child to be photographed and videotaped at any DSD class, event, etc. and for the photography and the videotapes to be used in advertising purposes, etc. We also give our permission to be contacted by email at the address we provided upon our registration.

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Print Student's Name	Date	Student's Signature
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Print Mother's Name	Date	Mother's Signature
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Print Father's Name	Date	Father's Signature
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Home phone number	Work phone number
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First class day	Time	Type of class	Teacher
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## COURSES:

### **\*\*DANCE:**

Classes run from September through the first week of June. Most classes are 45 minutes in length.

Types of dance included in our program are:

Ballet	Pre-School Rhythm (2½ - 4½ yr. olds)	Karate
Pointe	Pre-School Gymnastics (2½ - 4 ½yr. olds)	Zumba
Tap	Ballet/Tumbling (4 - 6 yr. olds)	Contemporary
Jazz	Tap/Tumbling (4 - 6 yr. olds)	Clogging
Rhythm Tap	Adult Hip Hop	Ballroom
Gymnastics	Adult Tap	Stott Pilates
Lyrical	Adult Jazz	
Hip Hop	Adult Ballet	
Cheernastics	Pointe	
Strength/Flexibility	Turns	

### **\*\*COMPETITION DANCE LINES:**

Repertory Company (Rep.)	Junior Repertory Company (JRC)
Senior Repertory Company (SRC)	Juniorettes (Jrette)
Teen Repertory Company (TRC)	Limited Program(Shelby)
Teen Company (TC)	Mini, Junior, Senior Dancelines(Shelby)

Dance Line members range in age from 4 ½ – 19, and are placed according to age and ability. Becoming a member of dance line is by invitation only. Dancers may request an audition, or may submit an interest form to the office in the spring if they would like to be considered to be a part of one of these groups. These groups have performed at Rochester's Art 'n Apples, Piston half-time shows, The Woodward Dream Cruise, Hob Nobble Gobble, Disney World, and on Star Search.

### **\*\*PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS:**

Junior Performing Arts (Ages 5 – 7)	Junior Performing Arts Plus (Ages 5-7)
Senior Performing Arts (Ages 8 – 10)	Senior Performing Arts Plus (Ages 8-10)
Performing Arts Co. (Ages 11 and up)	Performing Arts Plus (Ages 11 and up)

These groups are for the dance student who is interested in more than just recreational dancing, but is either not ready for a competition dance line, but wants more than a regular dance student. Students must enroll in a tap, jazz and ballet class appropriate for their age and level. They then sign up for the performing arts group above that is age appropriate. These students attend one regional competition and perform in our Christmas Show in addition to the June Recital. This is a great way to try "competition" without the full commitment of a dance line.

### **\*\*BALLET COMPANIES:**

The Senior Ballet Company is going into its 19<sup>th</sup> year and performs at our Christmas Show and the end-of-year recital. These dancers make up our ballet company, known as *The Great Lakes Youth Ballet Theatre*. Membership is by audition/invitation. The Senior Ballet Company will be performing "The Nutcracker" this December.

The Junior Ballet Company was formed ten years ago. This company will have its first performance in our Christmas Show. They will also perform at our end-of-the-year recital. Membership is by audition/invitation. The Junior Ballet Company will be performing "The Nutcracker" this December.

A Children's Company, entitled The Children's Ballet Theatre, was formed seven years ago. This company will perform in our Christmas Show and the end-of-the-year recital. Membership is by audition/invitation. The Children's Company will also be performing in "The Nutcracker" this December.

### **\*\*DSD Frequency Radio Disney Dancers:**

The DSD Frequency Radio Disney Dancers are chosen by audition. You must be 8 years or older. The RD Frequency dancers are required to be enrolled in a jazz and a hip hop class and attend a one hour rehearsal once a week. The Shelby group meets at the Shelby studio on Monday evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 and the Rochester group meets on Tuesdays from 7:15 – 8:15. DSD Frequency performs throughout the year at various events with Radio Disney. They will also perform at recital in June.

## MUSIC & THEATRE:

We offer music and acting classes for ages 6 and up:

Private ½ hour **voice** lessons

Private ½ hour **piano** lessons

Private ½ hr. **guitar** lessons (ages 10 and up only)

**Group acting lessons**, based on age and experience

Show Choirs:

Children's Show Choir                      Ages 5 – 8

Junior Show Choir                              Ages 9 – 12

Senior Show Choir                              Ages 12 & up

There will be a \$15 materials fee per session for each student enrolled in show choir.

Acting:

Acting

Musical Theatre

Junior Conservatory (by audition only)

Advanced Conservatory (by audition only)

**This department has its own separate recital in May/June for all of those participants who wish to perform. In addition, the show choirs perform in the Christmas Show and the dance recital. The Junior & Advanced Conservatory students may also perform at various times throughout the year.**

## RECREATIONAL & COMPETITIVE CHEER TEAMS

DSD is home to Michigan's most decorated All-Star cheer team. Please call the Rochester studio for further information regarding these programs if you are interested.

### TUITION PAYMENTS: For all dance and theatre classes

Tuition is payable at the beginning of each month from Sept. - May, for the 2009 - 2010 season. Note that May tuition includes one quarter of a month's tuition for June for all dance and theatre classes.

There is a \$12.00 registration fee per student for each school year.

#### **\*\*Monthly tuition costs are as follows:**

\$42.00/month for one class

\$76.00/month for two classes

\$110.00/month for three classes

\$138.00/month for four classes

\$30.00/month for each additional class beyond four

*If you are going to drop a class or leave the studio please notify the office before the first of the month in which you will not be attending. Tuition is not pro-rated if you leave in the middle of the month. Attendance for a partial month requires that the monthly tuition be paid in full.*

#### **\*\*Voice and Instrumental Music Lessons:**

All lessons are done in ten - thirteen week sessions. Payment must be received in full at the time of registration in order to hold your time slot.

Piano    \$250/10 wk session

Voice    \$250/10 wk session

\*\*If more than one voice or instrumental lesson is being taken by one student, or taken by two children in the same family, the first fee is \$250, and the second fee is \$225. There will be a \$20 materials fee per session for each student enrolled in private music or vocal lesson(s). This covers the cost of supplies purchased by the teacher. There will be a \$20.00 performance fee per student for each recital a student participates in. This is in place of a fee for tickets and will offset all expenses for the recital. Make-up for piano and/or voice lessons is done only if the teacher cancels the class or a second lesson is missed because we are closed due to severe weather.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**Each day of the week is allowed to have one snow and/or severe weather day that will not be made up.**

### TUITION ENVELOPES:

Tuition statements will be emailed one per family at the end of each month. **Payment must be received at or before the first lesson of each month** or an \$8.00 late fee will be assessed. Payment may be made with cash, check, Mastercard or Visa.. If you choose to pay with a credit card, there will be a 3% surcharge. We hope this will make payments simpler. If a student is absent, the tuition statement and payment should be mailed to our office before the second lesson of the month to avoid the late fee. If a student is absent, a **deduction from the month's tuition is NOT ACCEPTABLE**. Each class is allowed one snow day that will not be made up. **Please note that the monthly**

tuition fee remains the same regardless of how many lessons are in a month. The number of lessons per month varies and the tuition fee is an average of these.

**TUITION IS NON-REFUNDABLE.** Please notify the office in writing, if a student drops or adds a class, so your tuition will be adjusted accordingly. In the event of illness, the student is welcome to attend another class of the same type and level during the week, from September through January. From January to June, please check with the office regarding the making up of classes. Taking a month or so off during the dance year is not allowed. **All tuition for all months, including May which includes the first week of June, must be paid by May 12, 2010.** Tuition for music lessons is not refundable and missed lessons will not be made up. Acting lessons missed may be made up at another class of the same level. NO make-up classes may be done during the weeks of Parent Observation.

On the first of each month, if your previous month's tuition has not been paid, (example: On March 1<sup>st</sup> if your February tuition has still not been paid) your child will not be allowed to attend classes or rehearsals until tuition is brought up to date.

### **NEWSLETTER**

The monthly newsletter, 5,6,7,8 is available monthly on our website at [www.deborahsstagedoor.com](http://www.deborahsstagedoor.com), and we will also be passing these out in class to each student. These newsletters contain valuable information regarding your child and our studio schedules - please make sure you read them each month.

### **RETURNED CHECKS:**

**If a check is returned to us due to insufficient funds, or an account being closed, etc. there will be a \$10 check return fee assessed to your account and the check will be put through your bank a 2<sup>nd</sup> time. If it is returned again, an additional \$20 returned check fee will be posted to your account.** All payments for returned checks, including the returned check fee, **must be paid in cash** to the DSD office.

### **VIEWING OF THE CLASSES:**

Parents are invited to attend the first dance class for each of the following months:

**November**  
**December**  
**March**  
**June**

We prefer that you do not bring other children to Parent Observation days. If you must bring children, they are to sit QUIETLY. **There will be no parent observation for the acting classes or show choirs or music lessons. There is no parent observation for the Performing Arts Rehearsals, Dance Line rehearsals, DSD Frequency Dancer Rehearsals, Limited Dance Line Rehearsals or any of the GLYBT ballet companies.**

### **CLASS SIZE**

If the enrollment in any class falls below 8 students, we may be contacting you to move your child to another class (of the same style dance). Classes with less than eight students may be canceled and every attempt will be made to place the students in a class that is convenient for both the parent and their dancer.

### **SEVERE WEATHER OR SNOW:**

In the event of severe weather during winter months, the Rochester studio will close when the Rochester School District closes and the Shelby studio will close when the Utica School District closes. Please be aware that we will not be able to notify you in any way. **We will close whenever the Rochester School District or the Utica School district closes due to severe weather ONLY.** Each day of the week receives one snow day which will not be made up. If a snow day happens to fall more than once on the same day of the week, it will be made up. **We DO NOT follow the Rochester or Utica school calendar for any other reasons, including school breaks, inservices, etc.** The attached calendar to this packet will give you all the dates that the studio is closed. Please be sure to make note of all dates on our calendar so that your dance student won't miss classes that are being held.

## DANCE ATTIRE:

Proper dance attire must be worn at all times. Listed below are our requirements:

**Females:** Advanced Ballet classes - solid dark leotard, pink ballet tights.  
Hair must be in a bun secured tightly to the head.  
All other dance classes - leotards and tights of any color or style  
Hair must be up and off the dancer's face.  
Gymnastic classes - leotard, no tights

**Males:** All dance classes - loose fitting pants or shorts and a T-shirt, any color.  
Gymnastic classes - T-shirt, boxer shorts with bike pants underneath  
Ballet classes - clean, white T-shirts, shorts with bike pants underneath

**\*All students age 12 and up** should wear appropriate supportive undergarments for classes and performances.

We have a dancewear shop on the premises: **The Jacqueline Ashley Dance Collection**. Please shop in our store for all your shoes and dancewear for classes and take time to browse through all the different dancewear items on display, including Deborah's Stage Door jackets, shirts, and dance bags.

## DANCE SHOES:

Dance shoes must be worn at all times in the dance rooms.

Type and color of shoes required:

Jazz	Females - tan jazz oxford Males - black jazz oxford
Ballet	Females - pink ballet shoes Males - black ballet shoes
Tap	Boys - Black tap shoes Girls - Pre-School Rhythm, 4-6, 5-7 & 6-8 classes need black tap shoes Girls - 7-10, 8-10, 11/Up, 12/Up, 14/Up classes need tan tap shoes Rhythm Tap - Black tap shoes
Gymnastic classes	White gymnastic shoes – with rubber soles
Hip Hop	Black jazz shoes (If you have jazz shoes of another color, you may wear them for class. Black, however, will be required for the recital.)
Ballet/Tumbling	Ballet shoes (pink/girls, black/boys), white gymnastic shoes
Tap/Tumbling	Black tap shoes and white gymnastic shoes
Pre-School Rhythm	Black tap shoes and ballet shoes (pink/girls, black/boys)
Lyrical	Tan slip-on jazz shoes – please check in our store as to which shoe is required for your class.
Cheernastics	Cheernastic shoes
Contemporary	Barefoot

## DANCE RECITAL:

This year's recital will be at Lake Orion High School on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of a year-end recital is to provide the students with the opportunity to perform on stage in costumes, with stage lighting, scenery and an audience.

Participation in the dance recital is optional for students, although highly recommended. The students learn a great deal from the experience and really enjoy the opportunity to perform. Those students who participate in the recital are required to be present for the entire recital and to participate in the finale at the end of each show.

Students who participate in a dance in the recital must purchase a costume for each recital dance that they perform in. **It is the responsibility of students to order and pay for their costumes by the due date.** Forms will be distributed to the students in October for the recital costumes. Costumes range in price from \$65 to \$85 plus tax. A late fee of \$15 will be added to the cost of the costume, if turned into the office after the due date on the order form. **ALL COSTUME MONEY IS NON-REFUNDABLE.** If a student drops out of class, a costume will still be made for that student – it is

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the student and/or parents responsibility to pick up all costumes by June 1, 2010. We will not be responsible for them after this date.

## **GENERAL RULES**

**Students must be picked up promptly when their classes end.** We are not responsible for students left after their classes end or after closing time at the end of the day. Students should wait for parents inside the building - they should not be outside or in the parking lot without the supervision of their parent. Only children in the family who are enrolled in dance classes for any particular day and time may be at the studio for their classes. Other children, who are not dancing at that time or day, may not be left in our building or parking lot without their parent's supervision. This is for the safety of your children.

\*No smoking is allowed anywhere in the building. Older students are not to smoke in the building, in the parking lot, or at any studio function.

\*Students eating in the studio should only eat in the student lounge. Please do not use the floors, hallways or entrance ways as a cafeteria.

\*Students may **NOT** be in the gymnastics room unless a DSD teacher is present and supervising.

\*Gum chewing is not allowed in classes.

\*Children are not to stand on the chairs/benches in the lobby or touch the recital pictures or trophies on display.

\*During inclement weather, wet boots and shoes must be removed before entering the dance rooms.

**\*Attendance at recital rehearsals is mandatory if a student wishes to be in the recital. One absence will be excused if due to illness. In addition, all past due tuition, costume payments, and other balances must be paid in full by May 12, 2010 in order for the student to participate in the recital. This includes the May tuition with the one quarter of a month's tuition for June.**

***\*Children are to behave politely - no running, yelling, dancing or performing gymnastics in the lobby is allowed. Parents, please speak to your children regarding this rule. Keep all the aisles clear so that people may walk through the halls. Improper language is not to be used by students on studio premises or at any studio functions. Students are to treat all staff members, adults, and peers with respect.***

## **HELP US TO KEEP THE STUDIO CLEAN . . .**

**\*Please place all paper, used containers, etc. in the wastebaskets and place pop cans in the box located near the vending machines.** We are proud of our studio facilities and appreciate your cooperation in keeping everything in good condition. **Parents, please remind your children to clean up after themselves when they eat here and to respect studio property.** Also, parents, please return all magazines to the racks after you have finished reading them. This helps to keep chairs available for the next dance group coming into the studio.

## **PARENTAL CONCERNS & QUESTIONS:**

Please direct any questions you may have to the office staff. They are here to serve and help you with any problems or concerns that may arise while you and your child are at the studio. If the office staff cannot provide an immediate answer, they will take your phone number and get back to you within 24 hours. If you need to speak to your child's teacher concerning a problem, you may call the office and leave a message or drop a note off at the office and the teacher will contact you when he/she is out of classes at the end of the day.

If an issue arises that you feel can only be addressed by Deborah, please put your concern in a written letter, place it in a sealed envelope and hand it to the office staff to give to her. Deborah will respond to your concern as soon as possible can also email Deborah at [dta@dsdance.com](mailto:dta@dsdance.com).

If you are new to the studio, we know that you may have many questions that need to be answered. The office staff is here to help you! Don't hesitate to ask questions!!! The entire staff is happy to assist in any way, and want to make your dancer's experience a positive and enjoyable one. We look forward to a wonderful year!