

## **X. CLASSROOM AND BEHAVIORAL MATTERS**

### **Home/School Communication and Conferences**

Teachers are always happy to discuss and answer questions about a student's progress. Please be sure that the teachers hear about problems directly and before they become overwhelming. If your child has any physical or emotional problems, or if you notice a drastic change in the student's reaction to class, either positive or negative, please advise the teacher. Conferences may be scheduled at any time during the year by contacting the office coordinator.

### **Progress Reports and Class Observation**

Takes place during the last class of each semester unless there is a school performance. Written progress reports are distributed at the end of the year for levels Intermediate and above.

### **Visitors**

Arrangements may be made for special visitors to observe a class from time to time. Please contact the classroom teacher or call the Office Coordinator before class to arrange a visit.

### **Sitting or standing in the Studio Doorways**

***Please do not stand or sit (either in a chair or on the floor) in or near the doorways of the studios during classes and rehearsals where the children can see you.***

Children do not give their full attention to their instructor when there is another "audience" to perform for. **For you to receive full value for your dancer's class time, they need absolute concentration.**

### **Exams (held on alternate years from the school performance)**

The exams consist of a series of classroom exercises memorized by the students. This is a test for their memory, their progress and their desire for advancement.

### **Ballet Etiquette and Discipline**

In today's world of instant informality and less than perfect manners, ballet class provides an oasis of true courtesy and dignity, a remnant of the royal decorum of the Baroque age. In ballet we create an environment conducive to learning and physically demonstrate the esteem in which we hold your art, our teacher and our fellow students. Considerate, respectful behavior is expected.

It is our ultimate aim to have each student respond to an inner-directed sense of right and wrong rather than be motivated by the fear of externally imposed consequences. The School expects that all teachers, students and parents will model acceptance and kindness toward all people and will insist that the highest standard of behavior will be upheld in their presence.

\*Respect for the teacher and for one another is essential to a successful classroom environment.

\*Behavior in the halls and the dressing room should be polite and quiet

### **Teaching Method and Corrections**

Proper ballet training happens only when the student feels the correct body position and in most cases the teacher is required to physically touch the students to place the body into position. It is not unusual for a dancer to come home with sore muscles just as participants in any sport or

physical activity might do. Communication and education for both dancers and parents is very much a part of our program. Parents are welcome to observe class and speak to the teacher regarding any special concerns.

As a part of their training, Dancers will receive frequent constructive criticism (called corrections) throughout the year. Corrections are given to assist and teach. The student should understand that a correction is a gift and should be received as such.

## Citizenship

Responsible citizenship, combined with consistent effort, is the basis for success in life. It is essential that students understand the School's expectations concerning citizenship and student recognize that each individual is accountable for his or her actions. We believe that the citizenship of our students is as important as success in dance.

All members of the Canton Ballet community must demonstrate the ability and the willingness to conduct themselves with courtesy and self-control, to respect the rights and property of the individual and the School and to demonstrate a seriousness of purpose and a spirit of cooperation and trust.

### Code of Ethics

- Dancers of Canton Ballet represent the highest standards of morals, ethics, honesty and responsible behavior. They set a good example for their peers and for the younger children in the school.
- Dancers will be truthful, straightforward and honest having integrity in their dealings with each other, other dancers, their teachers and other adults
- All dancers will treat each other with respect, consideration and courtesy.

[See statement against discrimination and sexual harassment.](#)