

Broadway Dance Syllabus

General Goals: to expand their technical training, increase their performance quality, and continue to develop their muscle memory to retain choreography, spatial awareness, and staying focused in class.

Skills Introduced:

- 3 Step Turn
- Ball changes in all directions
- Battlements across the floor R & L (Front, Side, Back)
- Bell Kick
- Chaines Turn
- Chasses across the floor
- Drag step
- Fan Kicks R & L
- Grapevine
- Hitchkick
- Jazz Square R & L
- Kick Ball Change
- Paddle Turns
- Participation in Improvisation Activities
- Pas de bourrée R & L
- Pirouettes R & L
- Pivots R & L
- Ponies R & L
- Roll to the ground
- Shimmy
- Stag Leap
- Sugars

Classroom Etiquette to Introduce and Reinforce:

- Entering Class Ready to Dance
- Going straight to warm up (not playing on equipment)
- Character/Jazz shoes on, hair pulled back, no gum
- Using the bathroom before class only
- Raising their hands before sharing with the teacher or the class
- Trying all new moves introduced in class

Structure of Class:

The first 10-15 minutes of each class is dedicated to warming up the student and working on flexibility. The next 15-30 minute section focuses on technique and mastering skills both center floor and across the floor. During the last 10 minutes a combination is taught, or recital choreography begins. It is important for our students to build the skills of learning and retaining choreography, as performance is the culmination of their technical training. The last 4-6 weeks before a performance, instructors may choose to shorten the technique portion, or omit it, in order to prepare and polish the routine.

Emphasis on Choreography:

Students will work each week to week on new choreography from different musicals. Muscle memory is needed in musical theatre rehearsals and auditions. It is a skillset, and changing up patterns and combinations will help develop this.

Emphasis on Performance:

Students are expected to rehearse class routines outside of class. CenterStage offers many tools to do this, including uploading music and practice videos to our YouTube channel. During class, teachers may choose to have students perform their routine in groups or individually, to assess what the student knows and what they need to work on. A student's knowledge and execution of their routine will also affect their positioning in the dance (i.e.: students unsure of their routine may be placed in the second or third row). This is for their own comfort ability so that they can watch other students who are more confident in remembering their moves. Ultimately though, it is our goal that each student memorize their routine.

Reinforcement:

We emphasize positive reinforcement in class, using high fives, clapping/cheering, giving a hug/pat on the back, and offering praise to encourage good behavior and dance technique. If a student displays good behavior or work, we will often use them as an example for the class. We also use a three – strike system to inform each student of how well they are focusing in class. A "strike" could be handed out for any of the following behaviors: refusal to participate in activities, unkind behavior towards a fellow classmate or instructor, etc. If "strike 3" has been given, an instructor will ask the student to sit out and will speak with the parent after class.

Future Placement:

Although we currently do not have a more advanced Broadway class, all students are encouraged to put their skills to work in our SpringBoard Variety Show program.