



October 2018 newsletter

Welcome dancers and parents to another exciting year of classes at Defy Gravity Dance Co. After a successful year of classes, competitions and performances last year, we anticipate another amazing year of learning, laughing and growing! We look forward to teaching each student and will enjoy sharing with you the progress they make throughout the year. We appreciate your support of the studio and hope that you are as excited about the upcoming year as we are!

defy gravity
dance company inc.

12th Season

The 12th Season of Defy Gravity has arrived and with it brings a renewed sense of passion from the DG faculty. We are so pleased to have your dancer join us for what is sure to be a benchmark year for the studio! We look forward to motivating your dancers to work harder, show their studio pride and get stronger, more articulate and artistically authentic each class! We know your dancers benefit from our integrated approach to teaching, and can't wait to share more innovative ideas for training and injury prevention this year! We're setting goals with your dancers and helping them achieve them – their success is our success! It's going to be a great season!

Congratulations

Over the summer our Pre-Professional Program (PPP) 1/2/3 Dancers competed at the Crystal Classic Grand Championships in Kelowna and our work was awarded many Gold, High Gold and Diamond medals, Plaques, Trophies and Choreography Awards as well as Choreographer of the week to Miss Carolyn, and Scholarships for Margarett and Emma. Several dancers attended summer programs: Bridget attended the Victoria Academy of Ballet Summer Program, Rachel attended the Ailey School Summer Program in New York and many DG dancers attended the Summer Creation Intensive at DG. We are so pleased with the fabulous learning experiences had by all!

Last season, our PPP and Competitive dancers performed beautifully throughout the Competitive season earning many trophies, medals, scholarships & Judges Awards. Our Faculty were also awarded several Choreography awards. All trophies are on display at the studio along with lists of our Competition results for the 2017-18 season.

New Faces at Defy Gravity

Our fabulous faculty are returning for our 12th season including Kristyn, Carolyn, Tamara, Riley, Kirsten, Adam, Taylor and Rishell. We have added several new faces to the DG team – Miss Mariah-Jane, Miss Katherine and Miss Natasha are teaching Ballet to our PPP dancers. We are pleased to announce that Karin is our new Studio Concierge and will be able to help you in the office.

Each instructor at DG is one of the best trained, most experienced and highly sought after professionals in the Lower Mainland. Many of our instructors are working performers and continue to take classes and teacher training to be relevant and inspired choreographers/educators. We all love dancing, performing and sharing our passion with the DG dancers. Want more info? See our website Bios ☺ From time to time we will have Guest Instructors teach our students. Our students benefit immensely from different approaches to teaching, so the more dance influence the better!

Studio Policies

- We remind all students that **food and water are not allowed in the studios. GUM IS NOT ALLOWED ON THE PREMISES AT ANY TIME!** We are a NUT FREE studio as we have several students with life threatening allergies.
- **Street shoes and street clothing are not permitted in the studios.** It is very important that your child wear the appropriate footwear and attire for each class so that instructors can correct posture and movement. Dress code is available here: <http://defygravitydance.ca/classes/dress-code>
- **Dance slippers/shoes are NEVER to be worn outside!** Our professional dance floors are expensive and easily ruined by dirt, rocks & moisture...
- *The studio will be open 10 minutes before the beginning of classes to provide sufficient time for dancers to prepare for class. We remind parents that children 8 years and under are not to be left unattended at the studio before or after classes.*
- Please respect the class schedule! The instructors teach multiple classes back to back. If you have something urgent to tell us, please do so quickly at the beginning of your child's class otherwise, please leave a message for us at the office.
- **Absences?** Please call or email the office ahead of time if your child will be away so that we are prepared for absences.

Studio Care

We have the nicest studios in the Lower Mainland and we are happy to share them with you. Students & their families have a responsibility to keep the space clean and in good condition.

- Food & drinks brought to the studio should reflect what we do here – please help your dancers make healthy choices!
- **Clean Up after yourself:** please put food wrappers and waste in the garbage and tidy up any toys or books/magazines left out in the lobby.
- **RECYCLING: Recyclable drink/food containers need to be rinsed and put in the appropriate bins!** Paper in the paper bin and plastics in the Plastic bin please! Paper towels in the bathrooms are recycled so please make sure they go in the recycle bins in the bathrooms!
- Please stay off the grass in Richmond and wipe your feet at the door in both locations.
- Please keep your hands & feet off the walls - especially tap shoes and avoid placing hands all over the mirrors/windows!
- Keep quiet in the hallways and change rooms....we don't want to interrupt the important work of other students!
- **Take your water bottles and jackets home with you!** They live with you and they miss you when you leave them behind (oh and we will donate them if they are left to live at DG!)

DG Dance Gear Store is OPEN!

For your convenience, we continue to stock dress code items at competitive prices. Check out the store during office hours for all your dress code needs!

Water & Snacks

We encourage all students to bring a water bottle with them to class. Water bottles must be kept in the change room or outside the studio doors and are not allowed in the studios. We encourage students in multiple classes in one day to bring a healthy nut-free snack to the studio to eat between classes....dancers need to keep their bodies fuelled – donuts, cookies, cupcakes and pop are not appropriate fuel for dancers! Please help your dancers make healthy food choices such as fruits & vegetables, proteins and WATER 😊

DG Awards

Congratulations to the following dancers that were chosen by the faculty last season to receive trophies for their achievements as outstanding dancers, role models and exemplary students in class:

Leaps & Bounds – Arielle Rodricks
Love That Smile – Anna Dukes
Together We Can – Lara Rebeiro
In It to Win It – Lily Hogarth-Wood
Dress for Success – Kaia Hanna
I LOVE DG – Sophie Nunn
Rising Star – Katherine Tan
Blood, Sweat & Tears – Rebecca Smith
Shining Star – May Samy
Bright Future – Sasha Bitkova
Share the Love – Mai Perez-Ishikawa
Practice Makes Perfect – Mykela Ylaya
Tapping Toes – Mikaela Ting
Jazz Hnads – Jade Hurkett
Balancing Act – Nola Errani
5 Point Star (Modern Improv) – Shayna Kallner
Make us Cry (Lyrical) – Inbar Ben-Moshe
1Hundred % (Hip Hop) – Kendall Paulhus
Eat Broccoli (Work Ethic) – Emily Lyth
Nice Picadilla (Tap) – Paige Schmidt
To the Pointe (Ballet) – Jada Tang
Liquid Awesome (Jazz) – Sasha Pinder
Sing Out Louise (Musical Theatre) – Katelyn Newman
Fliptastic (Acro) – Lucy Mori
See the Space (Contemporary) – Tristen Bilawka
Outstanding Dance Parent – Ally Medweth

***We will continue to recognize our students for their unparalleled commitment to dance, positive attitude, solid work ethic and perfect attendance – working hard all year does not go unnoticed!*

Workshops & Conventions

We may recommend Workshops or Conventions to our PPP Dancers as part of our comprehensive training program. We can't say enough good things about exposure to many unique teachers and choreographers contributing to the success of our dancers. Workshop details will be emailed as applicable.

Viewing Week (Sat Dec 8–Fri Dec 14, 2018)

Family members are invited into the studio to watch the last 15 minutes of class to see what students are learning. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to see what happens in the studio and for students to show what they have accomplished!

Competition Rehearsal (Sun Mar 10, 2019)

Our Competitive and Pre-Professional dancers will perform for the Faculty to get final approval and prepare for competitions.

Recital (Thurs-Sat June 27-29, 2019)

We conclude the year with a professional Recital at the Gateway Theatre in Richmond. Each class will perform a dance choreographed for them by their instructor. Family and friends are invited to attend this wonderful event that will showcase the accomplishments of each student! Please reserve the entire day for dance related activities! Additional dates before the recital will be needed for Rehearsals and Photos as listed below.

The studio is CLOSED the following days:

Sat Dec 22, 2018 – Fri Jan 4, 2019	Winter Break
Mon Feb 11, 2019	Family Day
Sun Mar 17 – Sun Mar 24, 2019	Spring Break–ONE WEEK!
Wed & Thurs Apr 3 & 4, 2019	Gravity Dance Competition
Fri April 19 – Mon April 22, 2019	Good Friday / Easter
Tues April 23 – Sun Apr 28, 2019	Synergy Dance Competition
Mon May 6 – Sun May 12, 2019	Dance Power Competition
Sat May 18 – Tues May 21, 2019	Victoria Day

Other Important Dates:

Tues Feb 12, 2019	Mon classes on, Tues classes cancelled
Sat/Sun June 8/9, 2019	Photo Day DG Richmond
Sun June 23, 2019	Dress Rehearsals
Thurs - Sat June 27-29, 2019	Tech Rehearsal & Recitals
Mon July 1, 2019	Canada Day Parade 😊

Website, email & Student Information

This newsletter, along with all other important information, will be posted on the studio website. We send out studio updates via email. If you have not received an email from us or have moved or changed contact information, please update your contact info in the Jackrabbit parent portal!

Social Media

Want to keep up to date on all the fun things happening around the studio? Follow and Like our Social Media accounts! Defy Gravity Dance Co on Facebook and defygravitydance on Instagram. Be sure to tag us in your posts or use #defygravitydance

Thank You

A HUGE Thank You to all Defy Gravity families that have referred new students to the studio!! The greatest compliment we can receive is the referral of your family and friends. In recognition of your continued support of the studio, we continue to offer a \$20 referral credit for every new referred student registered.

We look forward to an exciting and rewarding year!

Rishell, Kristyn, Tamara, Carolyn, Riley, Kirsten, Adam, Taylor, Mariah-Jane, Katherine, Natasha & Karin