DANCE

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Karl Condon - Classical Ballet in Dance and Musical Theatre
Stephani Kammer - Jazz, Hip-Hop in Dance and Musical Theatre
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Tiana Pourciau-Sykes - Classical Ballet, Modern (Horton), Dance History in Dance and Musical Theatre

The Dance Department provides a complete and comprehensive dance education and experience to all of our students. Along with master classes, visiting dancers and guest choreographers, the faculty develop and mentor fine young citizens who will complete their artistic and academic requirements for graduation from this institution.

Admission: Admission to high school levels (grades 9-12) is through live audition in three dance disciplines: Classical Ballet, Modern, and Jazz. Students will also participate in a dance improvisation component of the audition. It is recommended that students have some prior training in some or all of these disciplines. No prior choreography or dance presentation is required.

Admission to preparatory levels (grades 7-8) is through live audition in three dance disciplines: Classical Ballet, Modern and Jazz. No prior training is required.

Placement: Students audition for the Dance faculty and are placed in one of four levels in each individual discipline. Freshmen are level 1 in each discipline and attend their arts from 4:00-6:30pm. Grades 10, 11 and 12 are leveled 2-4 in each discipline and dance from 1:15-3:45pm each day, with rehearsals for concerts and productions taking place from 4:00-6:30pm, giving each student a customized schedule designed to teach to the individual’s strengths, while supporting any perceived weaknesses in a given discipline. This leveling gives our students more of a conservatory or collegiate pre-professional dance experience. Dance faculty constantly evaluates students through grades, observation and communication and students may be moved into a new level either at the beginning of a new semester or any time in between semesters or grading periods.

Please note: NOCCA as an institution levels students by years of enrollment; a first year student as a level 1, a second year student as a level 2, etc. Except for incoming level
1 freshmen and Dance Studies, these institutional levels have little or no bearing on discipline leveling within the Dance Department.

**General Requirements and Guidelines:** Attendance regulations are strictly enforced. Students will be expected to arrive at school, change into their dance attire and go directly to their assigned dance studio. Classes will begin promptly at 1:15 pm or 4:00 pm. Transportation to NOCCA is the responsibility of each student. Failure to arrive on time and be fully dressed and ready for class will result in a tardy for that day. Repeated tardiness is reason for dismissal from NOCCA. Students must submit documentation for excused absences – i.e. note from physician, school, etc. Maintaining good health and being injury free are essential to artistic growth; injuries or prolonged illnesses jeopardize enrollment eligibility. All students are admitted on a probationary basis. The faculty may at any time decide it is in the best interest of the student to return to the sending school full time.

**Dress Requirements:** Failure to attend class fully and appropriately dressed demonstrates a flagrant disregard for the dress code and an unprofessional work ethic. Dancers failing to dress appropriately on a given day may purchase the required dancewear from us. Hair must be secured away from the face, off the neck in or as close to a tight bun as possible. Fingernails must be clipped at the fingertip. Jewelry (earrings, bracelets or anklets, necklaces, and rings) must be removed before entering the classroom. Additional garments such as warm-up clothes are worn only when permitted by the instructor and are black only. Removable paint or ink visible on the skin must be removed before class begins.

The Dance Department Dress Code will consist of a single style, black leotard for all female students. NOCCA will provide one leotard, one pair of pink tights and one pair of black tights to each female student. If you wish to purchase more the styles are: Natalie Adult Microfiber Pinch Front Tank Leotard, Style No.N8808. Convertible, mesh, backseam tights will be Theatrical Pink, and Black. NOCCA will provide one Capezio Fitted Tactel Crew Neck T-Shirt, Style No. 10358 in white, and one pair of Black Convertible tights to each male student. Socks will be black or white and match. Socks alone (without shoes), are never appropriate footwear in the Dance Department.

**Female Dress Requirements:**
- **Ballet:** black leotard, pink tights, pink ballet slippers, pointe shoes for specific levels.
- **Modern:** black leotard and black footless tights.
- **Jazz and Tap:** black leotard, black tights, black jazz shoes (no jazz sneakers).

Black tap shoes with will be a single, full hard sole, Oxford style.
Tap Shoe Specifications: Oxford style; lace-up (no slip-on); single-sole, no split sole; no Mary- Jane; metal taps with three screws on each tap (no single-screw taps); black (no patent leather). Solid black or white ankle-socks if needed.

Hip-Hop: The NOCCA Dress Code appropriate leotard will be the base for all Hip-Hop attire. Baggy T-shirts, sweatshirts, or light jackets may be worn over base. Baggy pants, sweatpants, athletic pants, leggings, Harem pants, and yoga pants are acceptable. All clothing will be solid black in color and of a single fabric. Cut-outs, lace, mesh, glitter, sequins, studs, grommets, lamé, or large stripes will not be allowed. Small, discreet brand logos will be acceptable. Large brand logos will not be allowed. Hats and hoods may not be worn. Male dancers may substitute black shirts for white in this discipline.

Footwear: Tennis shoes, sneakers, or dance boots with non-scuff soles will be required for class. Shoes will be black or white in color, and be tied securely while dancing. Socks will be black or white and will be a matching pair. There will be no jewelry, such as earrings, bracelets (wrist and ankle), necklaces, and rings worn.

Hair: For Hip-Hop, hair will be pulled away from the face but may be loose in nature. Ponytails, pigtails, and natural hair are recommended.

Undergarments: flesh-colored brassieres must be concealed under tank-top leotard. No designer bras. Flesh-colored bodysuits or camisoles may be worn under the leotard. Panties are not worn. Tights have no runs. Acceptable bras and underwear are available for purchase from NOCCA Dance department.

Male Dress Requirements:
Ballet: white T-shirts (form fitting, tucked in), black tights, thong style dance belt, thin white socks, and white ballet slippers.
Modern: white T-shirts (form fitting, tucked in) and black footless tights.
Jazz and Tap: white T-shirts (form fitting, tucked in), black tights, black jazz shoes (no jazz sneakers), and tap shoes.
Undergarments: thong style dance belt, also available for purchase from NOCCA Dance department.

Additional Requirements: No student may consider or accept any outside performance engagements or competitions without advance permission in writing from the faculty. This includes engagements that begin rehearsing prior to the start of school but are in production after classes begin. Although we do not discourage performing in local venues, these performances cannot conflict with NOCCA’s programs or curriculum. NOCCA comes first at all times.
All Dance students are required to attend all NOCCA Dance productions. Non-attendance at performances results in a loss of credit according to the terms of the signed Enrollment Contract. Students are also given tickets to attend at least two local public dance events.

**College Preparation and Career Counseling:** The Dance Department is driven to prepare our students to be competitive in any audition for college, conservatory, or professional employment by rigorous study in our dance disciplines, equally rigorous coursework and college preparation in our dance studies classes, individual and family mentoring, and close contact and collaboration with NOCCA’s Student Services department. We offer a number of students the opportunity to attend either the National or Regional High School Dance Festivals in alternating years. We are committed to writing letters of recommendation, reviewing resumes and essays, and staying active in our own professional development in order to serve our students as completely as possible. The students are engaged in numerous auditions within the department as preparatory experience.

**Curriculum / Course Descriptions:** Dance students become proficient in five dance disciplines; Classical Ballet, Modern Dance, Jazz, Tap, and Hip Hop as well as several curriculum courses of study in Dance Studies.

A level 1 student will be expected to demonstrate and execute rudimentary steps and concepts in each discipline. Additionally, each student will show proficiency in rudimentary vocabulary and terminology in each discipline. Written and demonstration testing may be used in each or any discipline. Level 1 students will audition for successful casting for performance in one dance concert during the school year.

A level 2 student will be expected to demonstrate and execute more advanced steps and concepts in each discipline. Additionally, each student will show proficiency in basic vocabulary and terminology in each discipline. Written and demonstration testing may be used in each or any discipline. Each dancer will be expected to express themselves artistically with their bodies and facial expression. Level 2 students will audition for successful casting for performance in two dance concerts during the school year.

A level 3 student will be expected to demonstrate and execute advanced steps and concepts in each discipline. Additionally, each student will show expertise in basic vocabulary and terminology. Written and demonstration testing may be used in each or any discipline. Students will have understanding of the basic elements of choreography.
Each dancer will be expected to express themselves artistically with their bodies and facial expression. Level 3 students will audition for successful casting for performance in two dance concerts during the school year along with opportunities to attend and/or perform at an out of town dance festival.

A level 4 student will be expected to demonstrate, execute and teach advanced steps and concepts in each discipline. Additionally, each student will show expertise in complex vocabulary and terminology. Written and demonstration testing may be used in each or any discipline. Students will have understanding of the basic elements of choreography and will conceptualize and create a dance piece. Each dancer will be expected to effectively express themselves artistically with their bodies and facial expression. Level 4 students will audition for successful casting for performance in two dance concerts during the school year along with opportunities to perform at an out of town dance festival and to work with guest choreographers.

Certificates: The Dance Department awards certificates in the following three categories: Certificate of Artistry represents the highest level of artistry by Level IV graduates, demonstrated through coursework, comprehensive examination, and performance. Certificate of Performance is granted to Level III graduates who have presented a performance but have not completed the full dance curriculum. Certificate of Recognition is granted to graduates who have completed all requirements for Levels I and II. In all cases, the judgment of the core dance faculty regarding the awards of certificates is final.