

4 Things Every Parent Should Know Before Choosing a Dance Studio

If most dance studios seem to have qualified teachers and a big show at the end of the year, aren't they all pretty much the same? Does it really matter which place you decide to enroll at? Yes. There are 4 main things that can make a huge difference in the quality of instruction your child receives, the amount of extra work and hassles the parents must deal with and the overall enjoyment and satisfaction of being involved with a dance program. Here are 4 things that every parent should consider before deciding on a dance studio for their child:

1. What is the curriculum of the class?

It is easy to assume that dance studios have curriculum to establish goals within each level; surprisingly, most do not. Dance does not have universal standards, so it is up to each studio to provide goals and lesson plans. While many teachers are outstanding, a studio curriculum provides the assurance of proper progression from year to year. We pride ourselves on having an understanding of dance education and its progression. We have lesson plans that allow teachers to teach to their individual styles and strengths, while also ensuring continuity amongst the entire studio.

2. What is the size of the class?

If the dance class has fewer students in it, each child will receive more personalized attention, learn more, and have more fun. With younger students it is easier for a teacher to maintain control over the class and make sure each student understands the concepts and instructions. Our smaller class sizes make sure that no fundamental concepts are being missed. A smaller class size also allows our teachers to ensure that students are not developing bad habits or improper technique. Our studio limits our classes (ages 2.5 – 5) to a maximum of 6 students per class, and ages 6 and up a maximum of 12 per class. Some hip hop classes may be 14 students.

3. What is the year end show?

Most studios put on a year-end show in a professional theater. Students that perform in the show must have a costume for their dance number. We order all costumes for you and have a professional seamstress to alter the costumes, so parents do not have to worry about costume hassles. We also include accessories such as tights. In addition, each family receives 2 free recital tickets and a free DVD of the show!

4. Can I get immediate assistance and customer service?

In many studios, the teacher will conduct class and do administrative duties. By trying to do two jobs at once, the class may suffer as the teacher has to use class time for customer service issues, or the studio may have no customer service available while classes are in session. To have a good experience, it is important to choose a studio that can assist you with details like costumes or schedules. Our studio's friendly office staff is available to assist you during regular office hours.