

ANTIGONISH CREATIVE DANCE ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER AUGUST 20, 2018

Welcome Dancers and Parents!

ACDA is poised to begin 14-week first semester for 2018-2019 with classes beginning on Friday, September 21, Saturday, September 22 and Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday September 24-28.

Registration on-line is open until September 17 and the schedule has been revised from time to time as required. ACDA reserves the right to cancel or change the time of classes as necessary, pending registration. If a change to the schedule results in a change affecting a registrant after payment is made, a full refund may be requested.

Please note the following:

Registration submissions should be made as soon as possible, and you are encouraged to send any questions about class placement by email antigonishdance@gmail.com .

Tuition Fees are due by September 17th A late fee of \$10 will be added to fees received after this date unless an arrangement has been made by contacting ACDA. Fees of over \$200 may be split into installments, with fall fees to be paid in full by November 1st

Refund Policy is as follows: Full refund of fees upon request minus \$10 admin fee if requested no later than September 30th, or after one class taken. No refunds after that except for medical reasons.

The first Semester runs 14 weeks and so concludes February 3rd thereby avoiding the difficulty of getting everyone re-registered right after Christmas break. Second semester begins February 5th. This schedule best equally divides our full year of classes which run to late May.

ACDA Dancewear Swap and Sale is on Saturday September 15, 9:00am to 12:00pm in the Keating Centre, outside the Dance Studio. You are invited to put your out-grown dancewear and shoes in a clear plastic bag marked with your name, phone number, and the price you are asking, Suggested prices: Tap shoes usually range from \$10-to \$30 depending on style and condition. Ballet slippers are only worth selling if they are very gently used. Pointe shoes cannot be re-sold. In addition to the Swap table, C and M Dance Supplies will be set up with new merchandise from 9:00-noon.

Information about the program is available on the website www.antigonishdance.ca as well as on our Facebook page. For any questions you may have, email antigonishdance@gmail.com

Below is statement about the program's goals and philosophy:

Our mandate is to provide an inclusive, creative, comprehensive, and affordable dance program for Youth in Antigonish and surrounding areas. The program is designed to allow for all levels of experience and ability, and to promote excellence, while accommodating anyone with a desire to dance.

ACDA was first incorporated in 1977, and the 40th Anniversary recitals were a testament to its continued relevance and vibrancy. The underlying principles of inclusion and accessibility remain paramount. We have more than 340 students ranging from three years old to young adult, and within the older youth program, a range of levels of intensity and focus on dance.

By far most of our students enjoy the quality instruction and variety of styles they can choose at a commitment level that allows them to do other sports and activities, perhaps an afterschool job in high school as well. The life skills of being confident movers, the opportunity for expression and enjoyment and of dance as well as the camaraderie developed within ACDA throughout the school years are the mainstay of our program and always has been.

From time to time, there is a small minority of students for whom dance is top priority. When they have that focus and have honed their skills for several years in multiple classes until they are high school, there exists the possibility for parents to co-ordinate with parents of like-minded dancers to enter regional competitions, even though it is not part of our regular programming.

This has happened in the past, and that is the case for a small group of our dancers this year. ACDA commends them for their efforts and for representing our organization in this way. It is the ACDA position that entering competitive dance at an early age, and without a solid base of technical training is not beneficial to the child's development and may emphasize the wrong aspects of dance. If you have a dancer in or approaching high school and think you want to learn about how you might form a group in the future, and the commitment and costs associated with it, ACDA can put you in touch with the parents who have done this very successfully to learn more.