

VOL. 1 | SEPTEMBER 2021

To the Pointe newsletter



Got 2 Dance Productions



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Welcome!

Welcome to Got 2 Dance Productions (G2D) and the 2021-2022 dance season! This is our 14th season of dance in Ponoka, and we are so excited to get back to the dance floor. It's our goal to provide a positive outlet for our students outside of home and school in the safest way possible. We know the past 18 months have been full of uncertainty, changes and restrictions surrounding COVID, but one thing that we are proud to say has remained consistent is our love of dance and passing that on to our students.

Please take a moment to read our attached studio COVID guidelines and to discuss them with your dancer. Any changes to these guidelines will be communicated out to our dance families as they come. Thank you for your support and for being part of our dance family. We look forward to welcoming both our new and returning students. Now let's dance!

- Anne-Alisa & Gjenna , studio owners



Let's get To the Pointe!

At G2D we strive to keep both our parents and students informed of important news and events throughout the year. How do we do this?

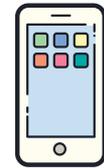
- G2D puts out a **newsletter** at the beginning of each month with upcoming events, news, announcements and schedule changes. Make sure you read it thoroughly, as it is our main method of communication with our dancers and parents. All newsletters are sent electronically. Our website and bulletin board will also house extra copies. If your email changes during the year, please let us know so that we can update our contact list accordingly.

- Join us on **Facebook!** "Like" our page to keep up with news, announcements, pictures and more.

- Follow us on **Instagram!** Pictures, videos and more behind the scene studio life.

- **Email** us! During the week, email is the best method of contact with G2D and we will provide you with a timely response.

- Give us a **call or text!** Studio owners Gjenna (403-963-6789) and Anne-Alisa (403-704-5207) are happy to talk over the phone.



If you have not received your monthly newsletter, please follow up with your instructors to ensure you receive the most up to date information. During the year additional questions or concerns may pop up that aren't addressed in studio communications. We are here to help and ask that you contact your instructor after class time by one of the above methods. Thank you for your cooperation!

Welcome, Miss Megan & Miss Stefanie!



We are thrilled to have Miss Megan join our G2D team on Monday evenings as our Recreational instructor. She is a familiar face around the studio, teaching for us from 2011-2015, and we couldn't be happier to welcome her back!

Miss Stefanie joins us as our Performing Arts INT/SR acro and contemporary instructor this year. She is a G2D alumni dancer with an impressive resume to her name. Jump on over to our website to learn more about our amazing teaching team!



Final schedule

If you have not received a copy of the final schedule, visit our website or help yourself to an extra copy from our studio bulletin board. Please note that class lists may shuffle slightly as dancers find where they are best suited. All class placements are based on G2D's class placement policy, which is also available online. Thank you!

Weather cancellation notification process

It seems hard to believe, but winter is just around the corner. When extreme weather conditions occur causing unsafe driving conditions that result in studio class cancellations, G2D notifies parents by text message.

As always, cancellations will also be posted to our website, Facebook and Instagram pages.

Dance wear

If you ordered dance wear at our studio registration night, you can pick it up from our front desk during the first week of classes.

Still need shoes, tights, bodysuits and more? Contact The Edge for all your apparel needs:
www.anedgeindance.com or
anedgeindance@gmail.com



Thursday, Sept. 30

September 30th marks Truth and Reconciliation Day in our province. This is an important day to acknowledge the legacy of residential schools and the vital role it holds in the reconciliation process.

Please note that classes will run at their regular times on this date and dancers are encouraged to wear orange.

Extra number sign-up forms

Extra number sign-up forms are attached for any Junior, Intermediate or Senior level Performing Arts dancers wishing to perform in a solo, duet, trio or small group this year.

Tentative upcoming performance dates!

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming tentative performance dates for this season. All details about performances will be communicated to our dance families in the studio newsletter.

Christmas Recital (Recreational & Performing Arts dancers):
Saturday, Dec. 11, Red Deer Memorial Centre

Stage Rehearsal & Extra Number Recital (Performing Arts dancers only):
Saturday, March 12, 2022, Red Deer Memorial Centre

Year-End Recital (Recreational & Performing Arts dancers): Wednesday, May 18 & Thursday, May 19, Red Deer Memorial Centre (evening performances)



Performing Arts Festival dates 2022

Festival dates have been confirmed for the 2022 competitive season, so please mark your calendars! Festivals are mandatory for all Performing Arts dancers. Students work hard all year long for these events - plus, it's our favourite time of year!

For those new to festivals, you are only required to attend on the day your dancer performs, and not the entire festival.



Schedules are typically distributed to us by the festival organizers in February, and times are sent home to all dance families as soon as we receive them.

Our 2022 festival dates are:

- **For the Love of Dance:** April 14-17, 2022 (DOW Centennial Centre, Ft. Saskatchewan)
- **Dance Vibe:** April 20-24, 2022 (the Arden Theatre, St. Albert)
- **Extreme Dance Challenge:** May 7-8 (Westerner Park, Red Deer) *Rising Stars will attend this festival*

September = Try it Out Month!

Performing Arts only

There are a lot of different class options in dance! Sometimes it's hard to decide what to enroll in because we're not even sure what the class is about. Well, we have a solution for that! During the month of September, Performing Arts dancers are invited to try out any class they'd like that they aren't registered in. Think hip hop would be cool? Registered in Back 2 Basics but want to try out acro and lyrical? In Rising Stars Jazz but want to see what Rising Stars Ballet is like? Do it! If it's a class a dancer decides they would like to add, just let us know at the end of the month and we can make it happen.

Please note that dancers must stay within their level (ie. a Junior level dancer enrolled in Back 2 Basics can try out Junior lyrical, but not Senior contemporary, for example.)

And remember! If dancers want to enroll in secondary disciplines like lyrical, modern, contemporary, etc. you must also be enrolled in Back 2 Basics to ensure fundamental dance technique is being learned.

If you would like to try out a class that you aren't enrolled in, please send us an email and we will add you to the list. Thank you!



At G2D we value a fun, respectful, inclusive environment where dancers can build confidence and develop characteristics of perseverance and team work. In order for instructors to provide the best possible experience, all instructors, dancers and their families are required to adhere to G2D's studio policies. These policies help ensure a successful dance season for all!

Show Respect

- We consider our instructors, dancers and dance families all part of the G2D family!
- Our most important policy is for all family members to respect each other. This includes your instructors, fellow G2D dancers and their families.
- Show respect to each other by:
 - Speaking in a respectful and kind tone
 - Supporting, including and encouraging fellow dancers
 - Taking corrections and feedback from instructors without opposition
 - Cleaning up after yourself
 - Taking good care of G2D property including waiting room, studio spaces and student lounge
- Disrespectful behaviors include criticizing fellow dancers, their families or instructors, destroying or vandalizing G2D property, fooling around in class, in the lobby or student lounge, and being late or unprepared for class.
- Parents and students keep noise to a minimum in the waiting area. Excessive noise in the lobby is distracting to the dancers.
- Dancers are not to loiter behind the front desk area. This area is for instructors only.
- G2D has zero tolerance for bullying or disrespect shown by dancers, instructors or families and this may result in suspension from the studio.

Be Ready

- Dancers are expected to be ready to dance when class begins. This includes having hair done and dressed in proper attire.
- Please do not arrive when class is beginning and start getting ready. This is disrespectful to your teacher and classmates. It may also result in injuries if you miss warm up. Be ready at least five minutes before class starts.
- For our younger dancers this is the parent's responsibility.
- Hair:
 - Ballet: Hair is to be in a bun, pulled back off face
 - All other classes: Hair is to be pulled back off face. Examples: Pony tail, bun, braids
 - For short hairs styles have bangs pulled back with headband or bangs pulled back with bobby pins
 - Not Acceptable: Bangs down, hair down
- Attire:
 - Ballet: Bodysuit, pink ballet tights, ballet slippers
 - Hip Hop: Clothing that does not restrict movement (yoga pants/capris, sweat pants/capris) and clean runners

- All other classes: body suit or fitted tank top, fitted shorts or fitted leggings, Foot Undeez. Loose shirts and sweats are not permitted.
- Use the bathroom before class and bring a water bottle to class. Bathroom breaks will only be provided if the instructor permits, not upon dancer's request, and only one dancer may leave to go downstairs to use the washroom at a time.
- Unprepared dancers will be given a warning and the opportunity to correct their attire/hair. If this happens subsequent times the dancer may need to sit out of the class and the parent will be informed.
- All personal items are to be kept in the change rooms downstairs. Absolutely NO cell phones in the studio during class. Your instructor may allow them for the last portion of class to record choreography.
- Make sure you know the choreography for all groups and extra numbers. Dancers should practice choreography between classes and on their own time.
- Label all of your dance wear (shoes, bodysuits, costumes, etc.) with your name and studio. Many items are lost or misplaced throughout the year and this ensures they make their way back to the correct owner as quickly as possible.

Give it your best

- Socializing and fooling around is not to be done during class time. This includes warm-up and across the floor.
- When your teacher is instructing, you should be listening and following their instruction.
- When you are not giving your best effort, you are not only decreasing the quality of your dance experience, but the quality of your classmates' experiences as well. The time your teacher spends asking for your attention or effort is time lost that could be used to improve technique and/or routines.
- G2D will enforce this policy:
 - One reminder/warning will be given to a student who is not focused during class time.
 - The second reminder the student will have to perform an activity of the teacher's choice (jumping jacks, sit ups etc.).
 - A third reminder will require the student to sit out and write notes on the class so they are no longer a disruption
- Always put forth your best effort, even if it's something that is challenging or different. That's the only way to grow!

We are a team

- We are all here because we love to dance. We are a team!
- You are an important part of the team, no matter your age, abilities or position in a routine.
- Give and receive feedback in a respectful manner. Constructive feedback is necessary to build a strong team.
- Focus on building each other up to be the strongest team possible.

Attendance is key

- The only way to improve and learn is to be at class!
- One student's poor attendance affects the entire class. Dance is a team effort.
- If you are injured, please try to come watch the class, if you are well enough to do so.

- Cell phones are not permitted when you are watching unless your teacher grants permission to video choreography.
- If you ask to sit out in a class, you will sit out the entire class. This includes games and special activities.
- Excusable absences include illness, personal emergencies and family vacations. These must be emailed or messaged to G2D, by an adult preferably. All other absences are considered unexcused.
- If a student reaches three unexcused absences, teachers will need to discuss if it is appropriate for the student to continue in that class/routine.
- Withdrawing from a class: We understand that circumstances may arise causing a dancer to withdraw from a class. If this is the case, please notify us and we can help ensure the proper steps are taken.

G2D wants to award and recognize students who come to class prepared, ready to learn and give 100% effort. Dancer of the Month will be selected based on the policies and rules discussed above.

Thank you so much for your cooperation! We are looking forward to a fun, successful and exciting season at G2D!

Sincerely,

Anne-Alisa & Gjenna

**QUESTIONS?
CONCERNS?**

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

www.got2dance.ca
got2danceproductions@gmail.com
Anne-Alisa (403-704-5207)
Gjenna (403-963-6789)