

2023-2024 SEASON | CELEBRATING 16 YEARS!

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# Registration Package

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"Because You've Got 2 Dance!"

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**[www.got2dance.ca](http://www.got2dance.ca)**

**[got2danceproduction@gmail.com](mailto:got2danceproduction@gmail.com)**

**403-963-6789 | Gjenna Saretsky**

**403-704-5207 | Anne-Alisa Wiancko**

## *Why Got 2 Dance?*

Experienced instructors. High energy classes. Competitive or just for fun. We have something for everyone!

Welcome to Got 2 Dance Productions and the 2023-2024 season! At G2D it's simple: we love to dance and we want you to love to dance too. Our registration package will fill you in on all the info you need for the season. Costumes, classes, performances, attire, policies - it's all right here.

# Get to know us

At G2D we believe that dance is a discipline. It requires hard work, dedication, commitment and determination. We also believe that inside the studio is where friendships are founded, laughter should be heard, and lasting memories made. This is what dance meant to us growing up and it is our hope that we can provide that same sense of belonging and togetherness with our students. Dance is a team sport. Meet the G2D team and why we love to teach.



## Gjenna Saretsky

**Studio owner, Recreational & Performing Arts instructor**

Miss Gjenna grew up in Ponoka where she was a student at the Ponoka Dance Company for 12 years. She studied ballet, jazz, pointe, lyrical, modern, hip hop, variety and musical theatre. She also studied ballet at the Red Deer College Conservatory of Ballet, completing ballet examinations in the Checchetti technique. Gjenna has trained in the ADAPT syllabus, has her Acrobatic Arts certification, and has travelled across Canada and the United States taking classes from some of the dance world's top choreographers. This season marks Gjenna's 16th year co-owning G2D and teaching. Miss Gjenna also has an Applied Communications in Public Relations degree from Mount Royal College, and resides with her husband and two children just outside of Lacombe. Dance has always been one her greatest passions and she looks forward to another wonderful year!

## Anne-Alisa Wiancko

**Studio owner, Recreational & Performing Arts instructor**

Dance has been a major part of Anne-Alisa's life for over 25 years, and this year also marks her 16th year of co-owning G2D. She was a student in Ponoka for nine years where she trained in ballet, pointe, jazz, lyrical, modern, hip hop and musical theatre. Anne-Alisa has been a dance instructor for over 20 years, teaching in both Red Deer and Ponoka. In this time, Anne-Alisa choreographed routines in all the above styles and has numerous choreography awards to her credit. Over the years Anne-Alisa has had the opportunity to train in a variety of exciting locations including New York City, Las Vegas, Phoenix and throughout Canada. She continues to expand her dance repertoire with training in such specialty dance forms as bellydance, West African and the ADAPT syllabus. In addition, Anne-Alisa is certified in the Acrobatic Arts Syllabus. Anne-Alisa has earned her degree through the University of Alberta, Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine and resides in Lacombe with her husband and two children.





*Alexis Gociurkin*  
**Performing Arts Ballet instructor**

Alexis has been dancing since the age of three. She grew up dancing in Edmonton at Dance Extreme, Dance Unlimited and the Edmonton School of Ballet. She has also danced semi-professionally for Edmonton's City Ballet and Chameleon Dance Edmonton, while earning her diploma in Applied Banking and Business from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). Alexis found her passion in teaching and inspiring young dancers. For the past 15 years, she has taught everything from ballet, lyrical, modern, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, musical theatre, variety and tap. She is certified from the Edmonton School of Ballet Junior Grades, Classical Ballet Progressions of Canada, and is working on her ADAPT and Acrobatique certifications. Alexis is currently the Ballet Director at Amanda's Academy of Dance in Edmonton. This marks Alexis' sixth year with us at G2D. Welcome back, Miss Alexis!

*Daniel Andries*

**Recreational & Performing Arts Hip Hop Instructor**

Daniel Andries is one of the driving forces behind the hip hop dance scene in Edmonton, as a choreographer for many studios across Canada and as a member of the professional crew White Chocolate. White Chocolate have performed for numerous recording artists such as; Chris Brown, Ne-Yo, Ashanti, Ginuwine, Sean Paul, Kreesha Turner, The Game, Nelly Furtado, Obie Trice, 112, Boyz II Men, Fabolous, K-Ci & JoJo, Chingy, Sean Desmond, Massari, Gary Beals, Rochester, Fabolous, and Snoop Dogg. White Chocolate have also performed alongside Jabbawockeez, Supreme Soul, Fanny Pak, and Super Crew from America's Best Dance Crew. Daniel has starred in the hit music video "Bounce With Me" by Kreesha Turner which was directed by world renowned director Little X. He teaches at workshops across North America, Mexico and China, and continues to help educate and teach across his hometown of Edmonton. This is Daniel's second year with us at G2D, and we are so excited to bring his talent and creativity to our students!





## *Stefanie Hatala*

### **Performing Arts Acro & Contemporary instructor**

Stefanie's passion for dance began at the age of seven. Throughout her years at G2D, Stefanie trained in jazz, ballet, lyrical, contemporary, modern, acro, variety, pointe, tap and musical theatre. In addition, she was a student teacher and Kinderdance instructor. While a competitive dancer, Stefanie was the recipient of many awards including Intermediate Triple Threat, Dedicated Dancer, Top Soloist, Overall Passion Award, Vibe Scholarship, Senior Groove Street Scholarship, and many onstage awards. She was also awarded the Overall Top Advanced Soloist and received a scholarship to Harbour Dance Center in Vancouver. In April 2021, Stefanie received her Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta. While attending university, she was a member of MOD Contemporary Dance Movement. This opportunity allowed her to continue training in all styles of dance and brought forward many choreography and performance opportunities. We are thrilled to welcome back Stefanie in her third year of teaching with us at G2D.

## *Megan Veary*

### **Recreational instructor**

Megan began dancing at the age of four years old in Ponoka for the Ponoka Dance Company where she studied ballet, jazz, lyrical, pointe, hip hop, contemporary and musical theatre. She received multiple awards and scholarships throughout her competitive dance years. Megan taught the Recreational program at G2D from 2011-2015 and is so happy to be back teaching. She is excited to bring her love of dance to all her G2D students again this season. When she isn't teaching dance, Megan is a design consultant for Jessie-Jayne Design, and lives outside of Ponoka with her husband and two children. Welcome back, Miss Megan!



# G2D programs

No two dancers are created equal. Some love to dance just for the fun of it and some live for the thrill of competition. At G2D we tailor our programs to suit the needs of every dancer, at every age, for every interest. Our programs are broken into two options: Performing Arts, which is our competitive program, and Recreational. Take a look at what we have to offer and where YOU best fit!



## Performing Arts

The Performing Arts program is designed for students age six to seven years (Rising Stars) and eight years and up, who are ready to take dance more seriously. Performing Arts students dance from September through April and participate in three festivals plus two recitals throughout the year. Dancers will be placed in classes that are best suited to their age and ability in each discipline of dance. All Performing Arts classes are a minimum of 45 minutes. Classes available for the Performing Arts program are as follows (please note classes will need a minimum of five registrants to run):

### Back 2 Basics

The basics are the fundamentals of dance, helping dancers develop a strong technical base for all dance forms. Performing Arts students (with the exception of students taking hip hop or ballet only) are required to take our Back 2 Basics classes. Why? Ballet and jazz are the fundamentals of all other forms of dance. Without training in both, it becomes increasingly difficult to move into other techniques. Our Back 2 Basics program is comprised of three classes: ballet, jazz and variety.

**Ballet:** Ballet is the foundation for all things dance. G2D ballet classes are broken into dedicated technique development and choreography time. Our dancers follow the RAD syllabus to develop their training. Technique and choreography classes are held within one time slot for scheduling ease for our dance families!

**Jazz:** Have a blast in this fast paced, high energy dance class. Learn exciting jumps, turns and combinations used in all dance forms. Jazz dance has a technical base grounded in the fundamentals of ballet. Much like ballet, jazz classes are broken into technique development and choreography time, all within one time slot.

**Conditioning & Variety:** Our variety class is comprised of dancers from our Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels and generally focuses on specialty dance styles, acting, drama and/or singing. This is a FREE class offered into our Back 2 Basics and is so much fun. You don't want to miss being part of this team experience! We also spend 30 minutes each week on conditioning, strength and flexibility exercises.

## *Expand your repertoire*

These classes are available in addition to our Back 2 Basics package and are designed to expand and heighten one's dance experience. Each class is optional, a minimum 45 minutes in length, and allows you to tailor a dance program specific to you!

**Modern:** Modern dance takes you outside the box with movements that are original and challenging. Modern began as a movement away from ballet - using the body in its full range of motion without set body positions. Use of contraction and release, grounding, and the body's response to gravity are emphasized in this class.

**Contemporary:** Contemporary has evolved from modern dance and combines both principles of modern and ballet, which is why taking modern is a requirement for those also taking contemporary. In terms of the focus of technique, contemporary dance tends to utilize both the strong and controlled leg work of ballet, modern's stress on the torso, and also employs contract-release, floor work, fall and recovery, and improvisation.

**Lyrical:** Lyrical tells a story through dance and combines classical ballet and jazz technique. This class helps develop strength, flexibility and balance, with a strong ballet base.

**Hip Hop:** Hip Hop is a fast, high-energy type of dance seen in music videos and commercials. Elements of jazz, street, popping, locking, and breaking are incorporated in this style of dance. Hip hop students do not have to take jazz or ballet, although these classes are recommended!

**Acro:** Acrobatic dance is designed to promote excellence in tumbling, flexibility, strength, balance, contortion, and partner/group stunting for dancers. Elements of gymnastics are mixed with the grace of dance! Acro is comprised of a technique component and choreography component so that we can ensure our dancers are safely and properly developing their technique in addition to their festival routines.

**Rising Stars Ballet:** Geared towards six and seven year olds with a recommendation of at least one prior year of dance experience, our Rising Stars Ballet class works on a routine that will participate in one festival.

**Rising Stars Jazz:** Geared towards six and seven year olds with a recommendation of at least one prior year of dance experience, our Rising Stars Jazz class works on a routine that will participate in one festival. Take both classes for a discounted rate!



## Recreational Program

The Recreational program is designed for students with an interest in dance, but do not want or are not ready for the time commitment associated with performing in competitions. It is great for students who are trying out dance for the first time. Rec students dance from September through April, and participate in two recitals during the season. Classes run once per week, with each class 30 to 45 minutes in length. Classes available in our Rec program are as follows:

**Kinderdance:** For our little ones! Kinderdance is a program designed for 3-4 year olds. Monthly themed classes will focus on learning ballet, jazz, song and dance and more!  
30 mins/week

**Mini Movers & Groovers:** For our 5-6 year olds who love to move and groove! We will focus on ballet and jazz all season long with the year split evenly between the two disciplines.  
45 mins/week

**Movers & Groovers:** For our 7-9 year old dancers who want to move and groove! We will focus on jazz and acro all season long with the year split evenly between the two disciplines.  
45 mins/week

**Rec Hip Hop:** For kids age 7+ who are interested in trying out hip hop for the fun of it!  
45 mins/week

**Rec Jazz:** For kids age 9+ who are interested in learning jazz for the fun of it!  
45 mins/week

# Class Attire

## What should my dancer wear to class each week?

Proper class attire is important, no matter what discipline, program or level you are participating in, as it helps the instructor see body alignment to ensure dancers are completing the correct technique, aren't fidgeting with their outfits or hair, and it also demonstrates a respect to both the teacher and the discipline. Clothing and shoes that are not appropriate for dance may cause injury to the dancer. Just as you wouldn't send your child out onto the ice for hockey practice without the proper equipment, they should not arrive to class improperly dressed. Attire requirements for all G2D classes are outlined below. We encourage all of our dance families to attend our in house dance wear sale on **Thursday, August 24th from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.** to purchase all of their shoes, tights, bodysuits, accessories and more. G2D class wear can be purchased at The Edge Dance and Gymnastics Apparel in Leduc.

### *Reforming Arts class attire*

#### **Ballet (including Rising Stars):**

- Bloch canvas split sole ballet shoes
- Boys: black canvas split sole ballet shoes
- Pink convertible (hole in the bottom) ballet tights
- Black bodysuit
- Boys: fitted shorts & plain shirt
- Fitted shorts or wrap skirts allowed at the instructor's discretion
- Hair: classical ballet bun with bangs off the face

#### **Jazz (including Rising Stars), Lyrical & Variety:**

- Beige Foot Undeez (half sole shoes)
- Boys: black jazz shoes
- Beige footless tights
- Bodysuit (any style/colour), fitted shorts, sports bra, fitted tank top, fitted leggings
- Sweatpants and sweaters will be allowed for warm up only
- Hair up and off the face (ponytail, braid)

#### **Acro, Contemporary & Modern**

- Bare feet
- Beige footless tights
- Bodysuit (any style/colour), fitted shorts, sports bra, fitted tank top, fitted leggings
- Sweatpants and sweaters will be allowed for warm up only
- Hair up and off the face (ponytail, braid)

#### **Hip Hop**

- Clean runners/sneakers
- Clothing comfy enough to move in. Hair up and off the face (ponytail, braid).



# *Recreational class attire*

## **Kinderdance**

- Any style/colour of bodysuit
- Pink ballet tights
- Bunnyhop ballet slippers
- Tutus, skirts, dance shorts optional
- Hair up and off the face

## **Mini Movers & Groovers**

- Any style/colour of bodysuit
- Beige footless tights
- Beige Foot Undeez (half sole shoes)
- Tutus, skirts, dance shorts optional
- Hair up and off the face

## **Movers & Groovers**

- Any style/colour of bodysuit
- Beige footless tights
- Beige Foot Undeez (half sole shoes)
- Tutus, skirts, dance shorts optional
- Hair up and off the face

## **Rec Hip Hop**

- Clean runners/sneakers
- Clothing comfy enough to move in
- Hair up and off the face

## **Rec Jazz**

- Any style/colour of bodysuit
- Beige footless tights
- Beige Foot Undeez (half sole shoes)
- Leggings, shorts optional
- Hair up and off the face

# *What you need to know during the season*

## **Studio communication**

G2D does the bulk of our communication with parents through monthly newsletters, which are distributed via email at the beginning of each month. All studio communications (monthly newsletters, reminders, invoices) will all be distributed by email. Please ensure you notify G2D if your email address changes throughout the dance season. Hard copies will be posted on the studio bulletin board and also online ([www.got2dance.ca](http://www.got2dance.ca)).

Don't forget to follow us on social media! Daily news, events, schedule details, pictures, and behind the scenes posts are made almost daily.

If you have any questions, please contact either Miss Gjenna or Miss Anne-Alisa outside of class time (contact information attached to the first page). Questions during class cut into the amount of time spent on the dance floor. Thank you!

## **Absences and withdrawing from a class**

Attendance is key to a successful dance experience, both for the dancer and their teammates. G2D expects all of its dancers to show up on time and prepared. Dancers in the Performing Arts program are expected to attend all of their classes and cannot miss more than three unexcused classes throughout the year. Excusable absences include illness, vacation or a family emergency. A dancer's absence must be phoned or e-mailed by a parent. If attendance becomes an issue, there is a possibility the dancer will be choreographed out of the routine(s) or leave the program at the teacher's discretion.

We understand that circumstances may arise causing a dancer to withdraw from a class. Please contact us and we can ensure the proper steps are taken.

## **Recital performances**

All Performing Arts and Recreational Program dancers will participate in the Christmas Show and Year-End Recital, both held at the Red Deer Memorial Centre. Tickets are required for spectators and can be purchased in advance. More details will be provided closer to the date. Why don't we hold the recital in Ponoka? Ponoka does not have a facility large enough for the number of attendees who come to recital or a facility with a sufficient stage or lighting. At G2D, we believe that the amount of time and effort our students put into their dances during the year warrants a professional stage and performance opportunity to best showcase their work to their most important audience: you.

## **Costumes**

All Performing Arts dancers will require a simple costume for the Christmas Show that will be picked by their instructor. Every effort will be used to make use of existing costumes and/or keep costumes costs to a minimum. All PA dancers will need a costume for each discipline they are enrolled in for festivals and the year-end recital. Costume deposits are required in the fall to secure a costume order for each dancer. Remaining fees are paid in the New Year once all costume orders have been received.

Recreational costume fees are included with lesson fees and costumes are worn for both the Christmas Recital and year end recital. We take costume measurements in early October and send costumes home once they arrive. Please take good care of your costume and accessories and refrain from wearing them to class!

## **Festivals (Performing Arts only)**

Performing Arts dancers participate in three festivals during March and April. Festivals are where dancers go to perform their dances for medals and awards and to receive feedback from an adjudicator. These dates will be communicated in our September newsletter so that our dance families have plenty of advance notice. Festivals are a requirement and attendance is mandatory. Festival fee invoices are sent out in November, and these payments need to be paid in full in order for a dancer to participate in festivals.

## **Extra Numbers (solos, duets & trios - Performing Arts only)**

Dancers who wish to participate in extra numbers such as solos, duets or trios must be enrolled and training in the discipline they wish to do the extra number and must have the extra number approved by their instructor. Extra numbers require added practice and responsibility so we want you to be prepared! More information on extra numbers will be provided in September.

## **Class pictures**

Near the end of the season, we will have a photographer come in to take pictures of all the groups and extra numbers. All dancers must attend even if they do not wish to purchase photos! These are a wonderful keepsake for our dance families!

## **Class cancellations**

Classes may be cancelled during the course of the dance season due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. Time permitting, classes will be rescheduled for a later date. Rescheduled classes are not subject to the three absence policy in the Performing Arts program, but attendance is important! If the Wolf Creek School Division cancels school due to weather G2D typically follows suit. The safety of our parents, students and instructors is our number one priority! All class cancellations will be notified via text message. Please ensure you provide G2D with your correct cell phone contact information. Cancellations are also posted to our Facebook group and website.

No classes will be held during Wolf Creek School Division breaks (Christmas break, Spring break, etc.).