

St. Luke's Episcopal School
In School Dance
Discipline: Hip Hop/Jazz

Annette Champion Flores – Instructor 5th/6th grades
Tino Valles – Instructor 7th/8th grades
For teacher conferences contact Paula Gorman, Dance Director
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210-590-0818

Course Description: *Syllabus is subject to change as deemed necessary by the instructor and any adjustments to the syllabus will be announced in class. It is a student's responsibility to stay informed. 7th grade in school will have a quarter study in classical ballet instead of tap.*

This course will teach basic jazz and hip hop exercises and steps to be set in dance combinations. The course will teach Students will learn proper body alignment, theory and style. These principles will be incorporated in regularly scheduled jazz / hip hop classes.

Style Descriptions:

Jazz Dance Technique: Jazz dance originated from Caribbean traditional dance which evolved into a performing art. With the growing domination of other forms of entertainment music, jazz dance evolved on Broadway into the new, smooth style that is taught today and known as modern jazz, while tap dance branched off to follow its own, separate evolutionary path. The performance style of jazz dance was popularized to a large extent by Bob Fosse's work, which is exemplified by Broadway shows such as Chicago, Cabaret, Damn Yankees, and The Pajama Game. Modern jazz dance continues to be an essential element of musical theatre, and it can often be seen in music videos and dance. Prior to dancing, dancers typically perform exercises in order to warm up and stretch muscles so as to prevent injuries. In addition, core strengthening exercises are often used for conditioning. As in most forms of dance, technique is the foundation for all modern jazz dance movement. **In particular, jazz dancers benefit from a sound working knowledge of ballet technique and, consequently, jazz dance curriculum commonly includes ballet training.**

Hip Hop Technique: Hip-hop dance has gone through a revival in recent years and refers to social or choreographed dance styles primarily danced to hip-hop music or that have evolved as part of hip-hop culture. This includes a wide range of styles notably breaking, locking, and popping which were developed in the 1970s by Black and Latino Americans. What separates hip-hop dance from other forms of dance is that it is often *freestyle* (improvisational) in nature and hip-hop dancers frequently engage in *battles*—formal or informal freestyle dance competitions. Informal freestyle sessions and battles are usually performed in a *cipher*, a circular dance space that forms naturally once the dancing begins. These three elements—free styling, battles, and ciphers—are key components of hip-hop dance. Hip-hop dance is now practiced at both studios and outside spaces.

Materials Needed:

1. You will need a notebook and pen for note taking.
2. You will need proper jazz shoes for boys and girls (black).
3. Girls will need black full length jazz pants and a long sleeved black leotard.
4. Boys will need a white crew neck t- shirt, and black jazz pants.
5. Girls will need hair bands and hair pins to coil hair back from face.

Course Goals:

The goal is for students to perform to their best ability hip hop / jazz technique. As a result, class choreography will be memorized and performed utilizing proper technique for the public. This course aspires to have a student understand jazz terminology and identify and execute various steps in different musical rhythms. The goal is for students to gain an appreciation for the role jazz and hip hop play in dance history.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will improve strength, flexibility, coordination, rhythm and motor learning skills.
- Students will gain an appreciation for the jazz and hip hop dance form.
- Students will learn to free style and create choreography.

Instructor Expectations/Conduct: *If expectations are not consistently met by a student/s the instructor reserves the right to drop the student/s from the class.*

1. I expect you to follow the “Play Nice Policy” by being respectful of the other classmates and their dance abilities.
2. I expect you to listen to and apply corrections.
3. I expect you to cooperate with the class structure.
4. I expect you to work to achieve your personal best.
5. I expect you to have fun while maintaining a professional working attitude.
6. I expect you to attend every class in mind, body and spirit.
7. I expect you to have all materials by the first week of classes.
8. I expect you to wear the required dance attire and have hair properly coiffed in every class.

Course Evaluation/Assessment:

Dress Code 20%

Each student should take pride in their appearance and be acceptably dressed for any possible visitors.

Dorothy’s Dance Shop carries the SLES Dance Program’s required attire on file by number and they will be in stock.. Please request these listed items. The Dress Code on the dance web page contains the specific numbers for these items.

- Ballet: long sleeve black leotard with pink, footed tights and pink ballet shoes must be worn to a ballet class. No undergarments are to be worn beneath dance attire. Black chiffon ballet skirts are allowed to be worn by MS dancers.
- Jazz/Hip Hop and Tap: long sleeve black leotard/white t-shirt for boys and full length black jazz pants, black jazz shoes and black tap shoes (with ties or elastic top).
- No t-shirts or loose fitting clothing are allowed in class. Students may wear solid colored ballet sweaters and leggings on cold days with teacher permission.
- Hair should be securely and neatly pulled off the face and neck in a bun or a French twist.
- Jewelry should be kept to a minimum-no bracelets, dangling earrings, watches or large rings.

Attitude 40%

Attitude extends beyond the demeanor of the student, but also to the work ethic and application of corrections to the dance technique. Attitude will be comprised of, but not limited to elements such as:

1. Respect towards teacher
2. Positive interaction with classmates
3. Ability to listen
4. Sharing the joy of dance and movement
5. Cooperation
6. Encouraging attitude toward self and others
7. Working to achieve personal best
8. Application of corrections

Participation and Personal Growth 40%

A student must be present in body, mind and spirit in every dance class to embody dance technique. Each student will be evaluated as an individual and not compared to classmates.

A student’s commitment to work physically and mentally will be evident in the student’s growth artistically and technically throughout the semester. The dance class is intended to foster an appreciation for the arts, increase knowledge of the subject, and instill a lifelong appreciation for the discipline.

Calendar

- Dance classes begin August 24th and finish December 17th.
- In School Dance Classes will follow the SLES Holiday Schedule.
- Dance Field Trips will be announced at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled event.
- Invitations to perform at other venues will be announced as soon as they are received.

Additional

- Excessive tardiness and absences may affect participation in performances.
- Costume fees are included with the In School Dance semester fee.
- Everyone is expected to respect and willingly abide by all dance class regulations and class procedures, and to conduct themselves in a courteous manner in all dance connected activities.
- Chewing gum, food or drinks are not allowed in the dance studio.
- If you did not receive or if you need another enrollment form, it can be downloaded from the SLES dance web page.

Instructor Bios:

Tino Valles: Hip Hop/Jazz Instructor for 7th grade

An exciting and artistic performer and teacher, Tino Valles began dancing at the age of 4 and is still going strong. He has been at Saint Mary's Hall for ten years, teaching hip hop and jazz dance fundamentals to the younger boys, and Irish dancing, jazz, and folkloric to the older students. Mr. Valles has performed and choreographed in many professional venues, including TV commercials, musical videos, Fiesta Noche del Rio, the Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra, Sea World and the State Fair of Texas. He is in demand for dance workshops throughout the United States.

Annette Champion Flores: Hip Hop/Jazz Instructor for 5th and 6th grade

Annette received a Bachelor of Science in Dance with a minor in Exercise and Sports Science from Texas State University in 2007.

She presently teaches tap at Saint Mary's Hall as an After School Dance Instructor for Forms 2 thru Upper School.

Annette is also an adjunct faculty member at SAC and teaches the technique and basic dance movements of Flamenco and Modern Dance. She is also an instructor for three to adult levels in flamenco, hip hop, tap and jazz at her grandmother's studio, called the Teresa Champion Dance Academy.