

THUNDERBIRD DANCE CAMP CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND LEVELS

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Class size will vary - between 30-36 students
2. Approximately 3 hrs total to teach dances - class times are 1 hour each day
3. Teachers will use any extra time to work technique
4. Length and tempo of music appropriate for level - do not repeat just to add length - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (beg) to 2 minutes is a good base (especially for beg/int) - example - intro/verse/chorus/ending

TECHNIQUE

- Two 45-minute sessions
- Day One - Dance Labs
- Day Two - team classes - specific genre requested

JAZZ

Beginning - no formal training or very little - new to dance/dance team.

- Teach basics and include the following in routine:
 - chasse
 - pivot turn
 - chaine turn
 - single pirouettes
 - basic leaps / jumps (stag, double stag, straight leg, split, grand jete)

Intermediate - Level 1

- students should have mastered above items
- teach and include the following in routine:
 - split leap / double turns
 - simple combinations

Intermediate - Level 2

- students should have mastered above items
- teach and include the following in routine:
 - pique turn series
 - chaine turn series
 - leap and/or turn combinations

Advanced

- students should have mastered all of above
- teach, breakdown and may include the following in routine:
 - switch leaps
 - axels
 - triples
 - fouettes
 - center leaps
 - combinations of above
 - able to learn combinations, follow instruction and perform without a great deal of explanation and individual help

- *Lyrical Dance is*
 - Blends elements of ballet and jazz dance
 - Inspired by lyrics and/or music
 - Majority of movement is fluid, more classical straight lines/shapes and often more upright positioning
 - Emotive and tells a story
- *Contemporary Dance is.....*
 - Blends elements of ballet, jazz, modern, etc...
 - An appreciation of the body and its natural movement; breath work and contractions
 - May emphasize more of the other parts of a song outside of the lyrics, ie. the baseline, percussion, instruments - focusing on rhythm of choreography
 - Abstract/less traditional movement that does not fall into other dance categories. Parallel movement. - pedestrian. Classical lines are optional.
 - Accents in movement (sudden or even sharp in the midst of slow/smooth, etc.)
 - Grounded, Can be off balance, weight-bearing. Can often be interlaced with partner work/connection
 - Contains elements or movements outside of dance terminology
- *HipHop Dance is....*
 - An urban style of dance characterized by its use of hip hop music.
 - Originally developed from the streets and breakdancing, it focuses on musicality, rhythm, and the beats and accents of the music being used.
 - Should use expressive movements that compliment and demonstrate the "vibe" of music.
 - Can be fast paced and hard hitting or grooving, depicting a natural feel for the music.
 - Often includes: isolations, popping/locking, soft knees and/or low to the ground movement, tricks, stalls
 - Frequent tempo changes. For example 1, 2, 3 & 4 & 5, 6, 7 & 8
- *Funk Dance is...*

- Not a hip hop or jazz class.
- Includes sharp, stylized moves, able to clean for a more precise look than hip hop
- Straight or strong arms, and head or body isolated pops/hits help define it.
- Music should have a definite beat - especially for beginner classes.
- Visual effects should be used when possible. For example, groups, ripples, kick lines, form changes at the intermediate/advanced levels
- *Novelty Dance is...*
 - All ability level routines - divide the team accordingly. Class sizes will be unpredictable.
 - Fun, creative music - do not be afraid to use old songs with a new twist.
 - Must include dancing, not just acting, but emphasis is on showmanship & enjoying performance.
 - Props are always a fun addition (but no chairs) - These are briefly explained on the first day of camp.
 - These are not Hip Hop classes. May incorporate some hip hop/funk style into your dance if it fits your theme.