



Finding Common Ground
Among America's Diverse Dance Communities

UNITY Standards of Etiquette for Dance Education [Classroom/Teacher, Parent & Audience]

Created and endorsed by Associated Dance Teachers of New Jersey, Cicci Dance Supply, Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, Curtain Call, Dance Alliance of Rhode Island, Dance Masters of New England, Dance Masters of Wisconsin, Dance Media, Dance Teachers Association of Virginia, Dance Teachers' Club of Boston, Dancewear Corner, Florida Dance Masters, More Than Just Great Dancing, National Dance Education Organization, National Dance Week, National Registry of Dance Educators, New York State Dance Education Association, Rhee Gold Company, Southern Association of Dance Masters and Tennessee Association of Dance, The Andrea Rizzo Foundation, The Dancers Answer, United Dance Merchants of America

1. Classroom

a. Teacher

- Sets tone
- Models good classroom decorum
- Honors kids' and parents' time and investment:
 - Prepare lesson plans and objectives
 - Operate the class as scheduled
 - Teach age-appropriate curriculum
 - Wear proper dance attire
 - Understand, respect and implement the school policies.
 - Avoid personal communication while teaching (text, phone, social media)
 - Avoid eating or chewing gum

b. Student

- Be respectful of your teacher's time and commitment; arrive 15 minutes before class
- If late be mindful of ongoing class
- Understand and honor the studio handbook
- Avoid unnecessary talking during class
- Wear appropriate attire

- Avoid personal communication while taking class (text, phone, social media)
- Read and give your parents any studio communications you receive
- Support your fellow dancers in the classroom and on the stage

2. Parents

- Respect teachers' and dance studio's schedules and policies
- Read and share with your child all school handouts and communications
- If you have concerns about your child, make an appointment to discuss first with the teacher, then with administration. Do not engage in ad-hoc hallway meetings.
- Drop off and pick up your child on time
- Make sure your child has proper attire and equipment
- Refrain from negative comments and conversation regarding studios, parents, teachers and other students
- Understand and live up to your financial commitments
- Respect and follow the policies of the studio regarding backstage rules

3. Audience – to enhance experience of the performers and audience members

- Watch the performance in a quiet and respectful manner
- Avoid unnecessary talking
- Turn off all electronics
- Follow the policies of the theater and the studio regarding photography and video
- Dress respectfully for the occasion
- Stay seated unless there is an emergency
- Refrain from catcalls and cheering
- Arrive on time and stay until the end
- Audience reactions and applause at the appropriate times are appreciated