

About the Royal Bay Dance Academy

The Royal Bay Dance Academy is a skill development program with an emphasis on both dance technique and performance skills. Dance Academy at Royal Bay consists of:

Junior Dance Academy	Grades 9/10	*admission by application
Senior Dance Academy	Grades 11/12	*admission by application
Advanced Dance Academy	Grades 9/10/11/12	*admission by audition and application

Space in the Royal Bay Dance Academy is limited. Students who are not offered a spot in the academy are encouraged to enroll in Dance Performance, a semester long dance course offered at the school. A brief description of Dance Performance is included in this handout. More information is available upon request.

Who can apply to be in Dance Academy at Royal Bay?

Dance Academy at Royal Bay includes opportunities for dancers of various levels of technique and ability. In the Royal Bay Dance Academy, we are looking for committed, coachable dancers with a high standard of personal responsibility and behaviour. Prior studio training is not mandatory, but will assist dancers in the technical requirements of the course.

What are the fees for the program? Fees for the 2017/18 year were \$1,100.00. Fees for academy programs are confirmed in the spring of each year. Please note that fee increases can occur in any given year to allow for rise in costs necessary to run the program.

What kind of instruction will the dancers receive?

Dance classes will include cardio warm up and stretch routines, conditioning, cross floor skill development and choreography. Students will have dance evaluations with each unit of study and will participate in creating their own choreography. Some of the dance genres covered in the course include jazz, lyrical, hip hop, modern, contemporary, ballet and tap.

What is the philosophy of Dance Academy at Royal Bay?

In the Royal Bay Dance Academy we are committed to supporting students' personal development. We recognize that in addition to working with students to improve their dance skills, we are here to nurture their development as a whole. Being part of the Royal Bay Dance Academy gives students an opportunity to be part of a 'dance family' where they can learn and grow together in a safe and enriching environment. We offer opportunities for student leadership and encourage the development of interpersonal skills and social awareness.

How does Dance Academy differ from regular dance classes at the school?

The Academy runs from September to June and is for the dedicated dancer who wants to dance every day. Academy dancers will have the opportunity to work with various visiting instructors on a weekly basis, attend evening performances such as the Ballet Victoria series, participate in festivals such as the *Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival* and the *DanceWorks Festival* and perform in several events such as school performances, our mid-year "Winter" performance and our year end "*Evening of Dance*".

What do my Academy fees cover?

Academy fees cover the following items and experiences:

- ❖ Dancer kit – several items of clothing that serve as our warm up clothes for class and gear worn when we travel. Typical items include a t-shirt, hoodie, sweatpants, foot undeez, duffle bag and one Lululemon item which often doubles as a costume piece.
- ❖ Visiting instructors – we have a partnership with Boston Dance as well as other contracts. Instructors visit once a week and support our program through development of both technique and choreography.
- ❖ Festivals / Masterclasses – we attend festivals and participate in master classes where awards and scholarships are offered.
- ❖ Field trips – we attend evening Dance Victoria performances by professional touring dance companies at the Royal Theatre in Victoria. We also travel to Saltspring Island to perform.
- ❖ Athletic therapy – we have an “in house” athletic therapist who works with us in class on strength building and injury prevention. She is also available to work one on one with dancers when needed.
- ❖ Workshops on nutrition and health – we have workshops for added value including healthy eating for athletes and foam roller stretching for dancers. All of our workshops are catered specifically for our program.
- ❖ Celebrations – we participate in group celebrations, sometimes teaming up with one or more of the other academies in the school. Events can vary from year to year, but can include team building events, holiday brunch and skating and a year-end recognition banquet.

About the Royal Bay Regular Dance Program

Regular dance classes at Royal Bay, or Dance Performance classes, are open to any student wishing to try dance or continue with their dance training. These classes run for only one semester but students have the opportunity to take dance classes both semesters. **There is no fee for this class. The items listed above included in the fee structure for academy are therefore not included in this program.** The dance genres covered in Dance Performance include jazz, lyrical and hip hop. Students will also have an opportunity to engage in student choreography. Classes will include cardio warm up and stretch routines, conditioning, cross floor skill development and short choreographed pieces in a few of the genres covered. Students have an opportunity to participate in an optional presentation of choreography at the end of the course.

For further information: To learn more about the Royal Bay Dance Academy and other dance classes at the school, you can visit the Royal Bay website at: <http://royalbay.sd62.bc.ca> and look for the current Dance Academy page. For questions or further clarification, please contact Royal Bay Dance Academy Director, Leanne Harrington via email at lharrington@sd62.bc.ca .

Thank you for your interest in the Royal Bay Dance Program!