

GRAND CENTRAL

academy of performing arts

Sparkles

HANDBOOK

2026-2027



13266 REESE BLVD E, HUNTERSVILLE

WWW.GCAPA.NET

CREW



MISS CAITLIN

Sparkles, Rising Stars



MISS AVERY

Stage Manager



MISS WENDI

CEO/Director
Team Instructor



MISS OLIVIA

Ballet



MISS LINDSEY

Rising Stars & Sparkles

DAD-APPROVED

GCAPA and **Sparkle Dance Studios** consider the influence and innocence of children when choosing costumes, music, and choreography.

GCAPA CULTURE

GCAPA does not push beliefs on or recommend a set of beliefs to any student or family.

GCAPA celebrates all Christian Holidays without apology as well as the holidays of our friends from other faiths. Respect and courtesy are reciprocal.

GCAPA follows all of its rules at all times. When in doubt, check the handbook. Policies not in place will be determined solely by the director.

GCAPA is a place for education in art and life.

GCAPA is a business.

GCAPA is a family.

INTEGRITY | MODESTY | COMMITMENT | PROGRESS | COURTESY



CONNECT



DOWNLOAD the **Band App** on your phone and keep up-to-date with all communication. Find all the information you need in one place! Emails are also sent out for major information.



SUBSCRIBE to the GCAPA Families Calendar and connect it to yours. Pace your notifications at your leisure. Your changes will not effect our calendar!



SIGN-IN to your account using the parent portal. Here you can see all transactions, registrations, class/camp schedules. You can also schedule your own absences and make-ups.



GCAPA PARENTS page on the GCAPA website includes most of the information listed on this page.

www.gcapa.net/parents

QUICK LINKS

gcapa.net/...

gcapa.net/rsd for **Ready Set Dance 1**

gcapa.net/babies for **Sparkle Babies**

gcapa.net/tots for **Sparkle Tots**

gcapa.net/kids for **Sparkle Kids**

etc...

gcapa.net/dad for Dad-Approved

gcapa.net/bab Boutique/Lobby info

gcapa.net/parents for General info

CONTACT



WEBSITE



Email GCAPA



Call GCAPA

STUDIO POLICIES

LOBBY

- All parents are welcome to wait in the lobby. Unrecognized adults will be I.D.'d.
- Adults who bring children into the studio will be permitted to leave with them without I.D. unless otherwise expressed AND acknowledged in writing.
- **NO FOOD, NO DRINKS**, including snacks for toddlers. (exceptions made for Camps/Parties)
- **NO DIAPERS OR FOOD/DRINK or containers in the garbage.**
- **Please keep Cell Phone Conversations Outside.**
- **Parents are welcome to wait in the lobby, however parents are not permitted to enter the classrooms unless invited in.** When late, please see the Stage Manager who will escort your dancer into class with the least amount of distraction.
- **NO RUNNING CLIMBING.** All children must be supervised vigilantly by their adult.
- Please keep all children from standing on seats.
- The Bathroom is **NOT** a changing room.
- The bathroom is located around the corner and to the right in the lobby. Please remember that somewhere in the building is a 5 year old who is so excited to be in class that she has forgotten to ask to use the facilities and when she remembers she will need to RUN! Please don't monopolize the bathrooms.

CLASS VIEWING

- A closed circuit TV option is available in the lobby.
- Parent Visitation Week is an opportunity for all parents (not grandparents, family and neighbors) to observe from within the classroom. We ask that you leave small children at home and remove your shoes before entering the classrooms.
- Parent Participation Week is the most explosive week of the season when parents get to show their kids what they're made of! Don't be shy! You know you want to!

COMMUNICATION

- **Know your Sparkle's class name.** It will be referenced often throughout the season!
- Know your child's teacher's name.
- Band is the primary form of communication from the Crew to you.
- GCAPA Families Band Group is a closed group for just the parents and caregivers. Use this media if you have a question or if you are missing a shoe, etc.
- **The Crew is not permitted to contact families outside of the studio.** This is for their own safety as well as your child's. As it is a fireable offense, and contractually obligated, we ask that you refrain from reaching out to the Crew. For questions and concerns please email info@gcapa.net or call the studio at 704.896.3033. No adult should ever have access to your child.
- Teachers have back-to-back classes. Please do not hold up a teacher with questions after class. Email or call the studio and your message will reach the right person.

My Child's Class Name _____

My Child's Teacher Name _____

STUDIO POLICIES

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

- **All Sparkles must be walked in and out of the building. NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- If you are sending someone else to pick-up your child, please leave a message at the studio with their full name so we can check their I.D.
- Any parent or guardian listed as a contact in your account will have full permission to pick-up. If there is an issue with custody, please leave copies of your order at the front desk.

MAKE-UP CLASSES

- Any missed classes may be made up in alternate classes. Ask for current class times. Sign into your parent portal to mark an absence and choose a make-up class. Always work down-level if your level is not an option.
- Classes cancelled due to inclement weather follow the above make-up policy.
- In the off-chance that a class is cancelled, further instructions will be given or you may use the above make-up policy. Cancelled classes are not refunded.
- **Classes may not be made up after Mother's Day.** Missed classes are not refunded or prorated for any reason. Please follow the make-up policy.
- An injured Sparkle may make up class using the make-up policy for however long it takes to make-up the missed classes. Tuition may not be put on hold for injury or prolonged absence. For health exemptions, please contact our Director, Miss Wendi.

BULLYING AND/OR GOSSIPING

These are traits unbecoming an adult and will not be tolerated at GCAPA. Stars and Sparkles will be addressed with corrective action as they are still learning; adults will be dismissed. We reserve the right to refuse your business for any reason. If you are dismissed for behavior deemed inappropriate or destructive by our Director, you will forfeit any and all payments made. Costumes paid in full will be available for pick-up after costume distribution week.

PERFORMANCES

- Christmas Parade, Christmas Performance Troupe, Nutcracker, Competitions, Festivals and Recital information will be distributed at the appropriate times.
- Recital Participation is assumed. To withdraw, written notice is required by October 30th. Costumes will be charged starting November 1, unless notification is made.
- **All performances are optional.** However, each performance will have associated fees. We advise that you read the information distributed before making a choice.

ATTIRE

- **Proper dance attire is required for all classes without exception.**
- Dancers should wear their hair off their face as it disrupts the physicality of dance. Hair slaps the face during turns or gets stepped on during acro.

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY | MODESTY | COMMITMENT | PROGRESS | COURTESY

WHAT TO EXPECT

What to expect each week in dance class:

GCAPA is a technique studio. That means that we're not just going to teach your Sparkle a dance routine or two. We're going to start from the beginning and teach them all the elements of dance. The fun, the form, the fantastic. Each class is a structured experience from start to finish. While learning dance, kids absorb so many life skills, lessons, work ethic, team work, and socialization. To get started on the right foot, we have some guidelines to follow:

- The classroom is for Sparkles only. It is not a gathering site.
- Dancers should use the bathroom before class, not during.
- Help your Sparkle to remember his/her Dancer's Manners:
 - * **Eyes on the teacher**
 - * **Be a first-time listener**
 - * **Keep your hands to yourself**
 - * **Wait your turn**
- **Sparkles are encouraged to keep a good attendance.** Since dance is a discipline that requires consistency, missing classes can put Sparkles behind in their skillset, thus keeping the class from moving forward. Making up missed classes is encouraged in all levels. Make-ups can be made in the same name class. Sign into your parent portal to mark and absence and choose a make-up class.
- **Sparkles are expected to be in their appropriate uniform, tights and shoes for every class with their hair properly secured off the face.** This includes the holiday classes, spirit week classes, and final classes of the year. If your Sparkle is not geared up properly we will send a little note just in case you are unaware. Dresses are never an appropriate substitute.
- **Sparkles develop at different rates.** Abilities will vary within the class. The only comparison you should make is of your child from Week 1 to Week 35. Has she learned? Has she progressed? In what areas has she improved? Nothing more...Nothing less. We heat oil at one temperature, use one pot, using identical kernels and yet all the kernels pop at different times. Kids are no different.

***"Find your own Sparkle.
It can help someone else find theirs."***

DRESS CODE

All Sparkles are required to wear their class uniform and tights to each class.

- Ready Set Dancers wear a uniform dress or Tshirt with Shorts. RSD accessories optional.
- Babies, Tots, Kids, and Stars wear pink tights with uniform leotard and tutu/skirt/dress.
- Show Sparkles and Acro Sparkles wear tan or pink tights with uniform biketard.

SHOES

Ready Set Dance: Studio Studio Brand White Sneaker.

Sparkle Babies: Studio brand ballet shoes, Studio brand tap Shoes

Sparkle Tots: Studio brand ballet and tap shoes

Sparkles Kids: Studio brand ballet and tap shoes

Sparkle Stars: Studio brand ballet, jazz and tap shoes

Acro Sparkles: No Shoes

Show Sparkles: Studio brand jazz shoes and Hip-hop sneakers.

Sparks: Black jazz shoes, black oxford tap shoes.

Boys: Black bottoms, white tops, black jazz, black ballet shoes, black tap oxfords

For **combined classes**, dancers will wear their assigned color for classroom management purposes. This makes it visually easier for the teacher when setting expectations.

TUITION

Tuition is a set annual rate broken up into monthly installments for your convenience.

Tuition is drafted to your card-on-file (COF) on the first of each month.

Those who prefer to pay tuition via check or cash may do so before the 1st. Return check fees are \$45 and paid by cash or credit card.

Declined charges will be reattempted on the 7th. After the 7th, a \$35 late fee per student will be posted to your account.

Requests to hold payment must be made no later than 1 business day in advance to avoid the charge. After the 7th, all unpaid balances will incur a \$35 late fee per student.

Withdrawals must be made in writing (email) to info@gcapa.net before the 15th of the month to avoid the next tuition payment. Those who withdraw after the 15th will be charged on the 1st for their final tuition payment.

Registration Fees do not include the Summer Session of camps and classes.

Monthly installments are made toward the annual tuition August-June; August/June is paid in August.

Multi-class discount: 10% off second class, 20% off third class.

Tuition listed on website is subject to change without notice.

FEES

FEES FOR CLASSES

REGISTRATION: \$45 first child, \$35 second child, \$25 each additional child
Charged upon enrollment.

TUITION: Monthly installments charged on the 1st of each month.
First/last month charged upon enrollment.

ATTIRE: Merchandise ordered from GCAPA is charged when ordered. All items must be paid before ordering. Some merchandise is only available at GCAPA. All other merchandise may be ordered elsewhere.

FEES FOR PERFORMANCES ALL PERFORMANCES ARE OPTIONAL

Each performance has a set of fees that may vary from others.

CURLS: Curls are required only for Sparkle Stars on Dance Team. All Sparkle Stars may wear curls for recital. Curls are ordered at your leisure after the GCAPA Crew has color matched your child's hair.

May/JUNE RECITAL RECITAL HANDBOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

RECITAL FEE: \$110 first child, \$60 per sibling. This fee includes all class and individual photos, the rights to use those images at your discretion, digital downloads of your shows, and a recital T-shirt.

2-4YO COSTUMES: \$90 per costume paid in 1 installments on January 15th.

5-6YO COSTUMES: \$100 per costume paid in 2 installments. \$50 November 15th, \$50 December 15th. (For example: a child with two costumes will be charged \$100 on 11/15, and \$100 on 12/15).

****All Costumes Subject to tariff increases imposed by the costume companies****

CHRISTMAS HANDBOOKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

All information for Nutcracker, Christmas Town Festivals, and the North Meck Parade will be included in the Christmas Handbook.



SCHEDULED CLOSINGS

THESE CLOSURES ARE EXCLUDED IN TUITION DO NOT WARRANT MAKE-UPS

LABOR DAY	September 7
PATRIOT DAY	September 11
HALLOWEEN	After 3pm October 31
VETERAN'S DAY	November 11
THANKSGIVING BREAK	November 23-29
CHRISTMAS BREAK	December 19-January 1
PRESIDENTS DAY	February 15
EASTER BREAK	March 26-April 1
MEMORIAL DAY	May 31
RECITAL WEEK	TBA

MODIFIED WEEKS

SEE GOOGLE CALENDAR FOR YOUR SPECIFIC TIME

CHRISTMAS DRESS REHEARSAL	November 2-7
SPARKLES/B&C PICTURE DAY	May 8

INCLEMENT WEATHER

IN THE CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER OR POWER OUTAGES THAT EFFECT THE STUDIO, BAND/FACEBOOK NOTICES ARE POSTED.
AT THIS TIME, YOU MAY SCHEDULE A MAKE-UP CLASS
IN ANOTHER GENRE OR ANY LOWER LEVEL CLASS.

IN THE CASE OF A TORNADO WARNING, PROTOCOLS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED BY ALL CREW MEMBERS TO GATHER THE KIDS TO AN INTERNAL LOCATION UNTIL THE THREAT HAS PASSED. DO NOT TRY TO GATHER YOUR CHILDREN PUTTING YOURSELF AND OTHERS AT RISK. OUR PROTOCOLS INCLUDE KEEPING A CALM PRESENCE THROUGHOUT THE STUENDT BODY.

DANCE TEAM IS NOT REQUIRED TO MAKE-UP CLASSES MISSED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER OR POWER OUTAGES, HOWEVER REHEARSALS MAY BE RESCHEDULED.

PARKING AT GCAPA

CREW PARKING

Please do **NOT** park in CREW Parking in the rear. This designated area is for the CREW to safely exit at night from the building.

NO ENTRY FROM BACK

There is no entry from the back of the building. All doors will be locked and never opened for knocking. This is a matter of safety.

Cars should never be left overnight in the parking lot. The Landlord reserves the right to tow unattended vehicles.