



THE SCHOOL AT THE MARK MORRIS DANCE CENTER

For immediate release

The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center to Resume 100% In-Person Classes this Fall for Children Ages 18 months to 18 years

BROOKLYN, NY – This Fall, The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center will resume its dance and music programs for children, teens, and families 100% in-person, with most classes also remaining available 100% online. These progressive, weekly classes will be held in the dance studios at the state-of-the-art Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn and feature live musical accompaniment.

Programs include **Early Childhood** classes for children ages 18 months to age 6, as well as **Children and Teen** classes for children ages 6 to 18. At all ages and levels, The School offers classes in a wide range of dance styles for students with and without disabilities in a creative, inclusive, and safe environment. For the 2021-2022 academic year, The School has introduced tiered Tuition pricing options for increased program affordability and will award up to \$25,000 in need-based scholarships to qualified students.

Early Childhood Program

The School's Early Childhood programs – including Parent and Toddler Movement for toddlers ages 18 months to 4 years with their caregivers and Creative Dance for children ages 4 to 6 – introduce dance and music concepts primarily through play-based activities. Parent and Toddler Movement supports child-caregiver bonding with modeling, language, and movement development during an exploration of dance and movement; Creative Dance incorporates movement, music, improvisation, and basic dance steps to develop students' imagination alongside dance fundamentals. Early Childhood classes are 45 minutes in duration and are held weekly during two 8-week Fall Sessions: Fall Session 1 from September 13 to November 10, 2021, and Fall Session 2 from November 11, 2021 to January 20, 2022.

Children and Teen Program

Children and Teen programs at The School include classes in a wide variety of dance styles. Children ages 6-12 and teens ages 13-18 can choose from ballet, hip-hop, jazz, modern, music & singing, tap, and West African at different levels, from beginner to intermediate/advanced. Students in the Children and Teen Program receive high-quality instruction using dance to learn skills like critical thinking, creative choice, collaboration, and communication while centering on the joy of moving. Each class takes place weekly over the course of two 16-week semesters: Semester 1 from September 9, 2021 to January 15, 2022, and Semester 2 from January 24, 2022 to June 11, 2022.

The School also presents programs for families through its Family Fun Series, Dance with MMDG, and Community Programs. These classes and programs are presented throughout the year and are open to participants of all ages with and without disabilities, no dance experience required.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, The School at Mark Morris Dance Center has introduced tiered pricing options to help reduce financial barriers that have prevented some students and families from participating in its programs. The Mark Morris Dance Group will subsidize costs that cannot be met by lower-income families. The School's new pricing structure, in collaboration with its Scholarship Program are designed to uphold the organization's commitment to its core values of Community, Access, Artistic Excellence, and Creativity by extending access to excellent dance education for the entire community.

Learn more about fall dance classes, including class schedules, tuition, and policies for The School visit: www.mmdg.org/theschool.

WHAT: **Fall Classes at The School at the Mark Morris Dance Center**

WHEN: Beginning **September 9, 2021**
Early Childhood classes (ages 18 months to 6 years) begin September 13, 2021
Children and Teen classes (ages 6-18 years) begin September 9, 2021

WHERE: **The School at Mark Morris Dance Center**

INFO: **For schedules and prices visit: www.mmdg.org/theschool**

About the Mark Morris Dance Center

The Mark Morris Dance Center opened in Brooklyn in 2001. It cultivates creativity and celebrates its diverse community by providing subsidized studio rental opportunities to hundreds of local artists each year, rehearsal space for the dance community, programs for children and seniors, and affordable dance classes for students of all ages, with and without disabilities. Through these programs, the organization strives to advance access, exposure, and opportunity to dance and music.

Learn more at: www.mmdg.org

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