

Theatre Learning Centre

Dance and Stage Performing Academy



Dear Students/Parents/Guardians

Firstly I would like to welcome you to our school and give you a brief introduction of myself. My name is Arlene Smyth and I started training with the Irish Youth Ballet (Directed by Marie Cole) at the age of six and obtained my teaching qualification from the Royal Academy of dance in 2003. Over the years I have performed in the Point Theatre, the Odyssey Belfast, the Cork Opera House, Jurys Irish Cabaret Dublin, Gaiety Theatre, Olympia Theatre & the National Concert Hall.

My other dancing experiences as a performer also include Beauty and the Beast, Celtic Storm, Cinderella, Magical Rhythms of Ireland, Sleeping Beauty Sort Of, Celtic Nights, Jack and the Beanstalk, West Side Story, 42nd Street, Daniel O'Donnell Rock 'n' Roll Tour & Tony Kenny's Ireland.

Various Television appearances include Late Late shows, National Entertainment awards Daniel O' Donnell PBS Special for American Television, Top of the Pops, Cinderella Christmas Special with Boyzone and the Tudors. She has toured extensively throughout the USA, Germany, Holland and the UK. With fifteen years experience both as a performer and teacher, I am very excited about my new teaching role at TLC.

Our classes are divided into three age groups. Our 4-6 year olds class covers a wide range of music, dance and drama styles and an introduction to the basics of the Performing Arts. The Children have a half hour dance class covering all kinds of music and songs from pop to Irish and a half hour creative drama class geared specifically to their own age and ability.

CREATIVE DRAMA is an improvisation based class with the emphasis on learning through fun and theatre games. By cultivating a happy and productive class atmosphere the student's self expression, imagination, self confidence and vocabulary are built, as is their ability to function as part of a team - both on stage and in life. Specialised workshops are taught by recognised T.V. and West End stars.

The Juniors class (7-12 year olds) and Young Adult class (13-18 year olds) include dialect work, characterisation and script work. To date, our students have been involved in stage Productions and we prepare students for castings and auditions for T.V. and theatre.

The School teaches a wide variety of styles including Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Hip Hop which will be geared specifically according to age and ability. The students will learn technique, improve their coordination and will keep fit and flexible at the same time. It will be challenging for experienced dancers yet attainable for the less confident. Above all it is extremely enjoyable and fun for all students.

We do encourage parents of our students to continue, at home, the etiquette that their child learns at class. Punctuality is essential as children will miss out on valuable dance time by arriving late. Children will also need to focus and give full attention during class and, therefore, parents are not permitted to stay in the class as this may cause distraction. To prepare for shows and auditions, junior students may also need a little help from parents with additional practice at home. This can be a fantastic way for parents to enhance strong bonds with their children.

It is imperative that, as parents, you are aware of the nature of a dance class and that it can involve high aerobic sessions. **Please include any relevant medical information on the form attached. This form must be completed and presented to myself before any child partakes in class.**

All classes are thought adhering to the Code of Ethics incorporated into the Child Protection Act 1997.

Looking forward to teaching your child the magic of dance at the Theatre Learning Centre.

Ms. Arlene Smyth
Director
Theatre Learning Centre - Artane