

**2019 - 2020**  
**Studio**  
**Welcome Packet**



**Aleah Darnell** is from Wilson, NC and currently resides in Garner, NC. At the age of 2, Aleah started to dance and never stopped. Aleah graduated from Meredith College with a degree in dance and a concentration in private studio teaching, performance, and choreography, Aleah opened Prestige Dance Institute to share her passion with others. Prestige Dance Institute was opened in 2012 and is quickly growing in the 40/42 area of Johnston County. Not only does Aleah have her degree in dance but is also a graduate of the Broadway Dance Center Intern Program, CPR certified, currently a company dancer in the Carol Finley Dance Company, and a Zumba certified teacher! Her choreography has won numerous regional and national overall highest scores of the day as well as most entertaining awards. She is always taking continuing education dance classes to make sure her students are up to date and informed on new dance techniques.

**Cara Mossman** is originally from Advance, NC, which is close to Winston Salem. She moved to Raleigh in 2010 to attend Meredith College and graduated with a BA in Dance Studies with a focus on teaching, choreography and performing. Cara's mom was a dance teacher and Cara grew up in a studio dancing from the age of 2. Still today Cara is part the Carol Finley Dance Company and continues her education with dance clinics. She has been with Prestige Dance Institute since 2012, had to move in 2014 and is now returning to teach other dancers her passion for dance and Acro.

**Kelsey Riner** was born and raised in Virginia Beach, VA. She danced and trained with Music in Motion Dance Academy for 15 years. Kelsey graduated Meredith College with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Studies. Kelsey's choreography have won numerous regional and national overall top awards at competitions. In the fall of 2011 she choreographed worked titled, "Only Yesterday," and her work was chosen to be performed in the NC Dance Alliance Youth and College Showcase. Kelsey is currently a company dancer in the Carol Finley Dance Company.

**Ellen Cleary** began dancing at the age of 3 at Tonya's Academy of dance in her hometown of Wilkesboro, North Carolina, where she completed 15 total years of dance education. She began clogging at the age of 8, and it quickly became her favorite style of dance. She competed in jazz, lyrical, pointe, modern, hip-hop, and clogging throughout the years, as well as competed numerous solos and duos in both dance and clogging competitions. Ellen has choreographed for her home studio and assisted in teaching. Ellen is a 2018 Meredith College graduate with a degree in interpersonal communication and public relations with a minor in professional writing. She was a member of the Wolfpack Clogging Team for four years. She has won regional and national awards with her choreography and is a great asset to the Prestige Staff.

**Lauren Wolfram** is a native of New York City, where she trained at Ballet Academy East (BAE) under the direction of Darla Hoover from 2002 to 2014. At BAE, she performed principal roles in Balanchine's La Source and in Sleeping Beauty, as well as principal and soloist roles in ballets by Emery Lecrone, Charles Askegaard, and Jeffrey Cirio. In 2014, Ms. Wolfram was awarded a full scholarship to attend the Boston Ballet School Trainee Program, under the direction of Margaret Tracey. At Boston Ballet, she performed with the company in Swan Lake, Onegin, and Mikko Nissinen's The Nutcracker, and with Boston Ballet II as a soloist in Boykko Dossev's Ne Me Quitte Pas. In Boston Ballet's Next Generation performances, Ms. Wolfram performed a principal role in Balanchine's Divertimento No. 15 and the Diamond Fairy in Sleeping Beauty. In 2015, she was selected to represent Boston Ballet as an exchange student with the Royal Danish Ballet in Copenhagen. Ms. Wolfram is currently a member of the corps de ballet at Carolina Ballet. She is excited to be on staff at PDI and share her love of ballet.

**Mychal Woodard** is a world-traveling choreographer based out of North Carolina. He has worked with some of the biggest names and tv shows such as So You Think You Can Dance, World of Dance and the Disney Chanel. He has won multiple championships with his Hip Hop choreography such as 4 USASF Dance World Championships, 4 Dance Summit Championships, qualifying for Las Vegas on So You Think You Can Dance, and 2 Time Top 15 Quarter Finalists for America's Best Dance Crew. Mychal is also highly trained in contemporary and is super excited to join the Prestige staff and share his love for dance.

**Caroline Vance** originally from Durham, NC, Caroline graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2016, where she earned degrees in Psychology and English, and a minor in Anthropology. Before college, she spent four years as a member of the North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble, in addition to

her thirteen years of study with Gene Medler. Caroline is currently on staff at the Ballet School of Chapel Hill and Barriskill Dance Theatre School in Durham. Additionally, she joined Gene Medler in 2016 as the co director of the North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble. Caroline has always been passionate about working with young people, and is thrilled to have the opportunity to combine that with her love of tap.

**Karen Perez** is a 2006 graduate from the University Maryland, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and Choreography. While at Maryland, she was a member of the UMD Spirit Cheerleading Squad. She was chosen to perform at the Gator Bowl and Women's Final Four. Prior to college, Karen made her high school cheerleading squad and was one of two freshmen chosen for the Varsity team. She was named Captain her senior year and led her team to the State Championship. Karen won the Top Gun Dancer Competition 3 years in row and was the reigning State Champion. She received several scholarships and awards for her leadership skills. She also took gymnastics for many years and later began teaching tumbling and acro. Karen has been dancing for over 20 years. She took dance at Children's Studio of the Performing Arts in Shelton, Ct. She has studied tap, ballet, jazz, hip-hop, modern, pom, contemporary, acro and lyrical. Karen began teaching dance at a very young age and found her passion working with children. She coached the Shelton Pop Warner Midget Dance team and they were undefeated 2 years in a row. Throughout her dance career she performed in several productions including works at, Western Connecticut University, Dean College and the University of Maryland. While in college she coached and choreographed for a local allstar cheer and dance program where she led her teams to many National Championship Titles. She was awarded several choreography awards for her achievements. She has judged for allstar cheer and dance competitions as well as high school competitions. Over the years, Karen has previously run and directed several dance programs working with their competitive and recreational students. The competitive programs earned many awards including, Platinum, Diamond, Best Choreography, Most Entertaining and Best Style. She has worked with dancers ranging from ages 2 to 21 years of age and loves what she does. In addition to Karen's dance experience she has also worked as a pre-school teacher for 6 years in Maryland and in Johnston County, North Carolina. She is looking forward to a fabulous year!

**Mike Curtis** is one of the most recognizable names in the clogging world. For approximately 3 years, he was unbeaten in clogging competitions in the solo division. He has several other major awards including several team titles and two National Championships in the Duo-Duet division. Mike got together with three of his best friends, also prominent dancers in the clogging world, and they developed a performance group called ALL THAT! ALL THAT! has stepped outside the clogging world into the mainstream and created a great deal of success for themselves. Their biggest performances include Fox's 30 Seconds to fame, ABC Family's Dance Fever, CBS' Star Search, and most recently they were semifinalists for an unprecedented 2<sup>nd</sup> time on NBC's smash summer hit America's Got Talent. The boys are constant performers at The Carolina Opry in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina where the sky continues to be the limit!! Mike continues to teach and perform at venues all across the country in an effort to show his thanks to everyone for their support of himself and ALL THAT!! Based in Myrtle Beach, SC.

**Brad Berry** grew up in Prospect, Ohio and started clogging at the age of 12. He has danced at many regional and national competitions. Brad joined an Irish Step Dancing group based out of Atlanta, GA, called *Dancing On Common Ground*. He clogged and step danced with them in a US Tour from 1999 to 2003. Brad spent 2 summers in Branson, MO at Silver Dollar City as a cast member of *Rhythm Dance* in 2003 and *Can't Stop Dancin* in 2004. Brad auditioned and was hired for another step dancing troupe, *Magic of the Dance* which was based out of Berlin, Germany. Brad toured with them in their European and Asian Tours from September 2003 until April 2006. In May 2006, Brad joined the clogging group *All That!* and is presently still a member of the group. *All That* competed on NBC's America's Got Talent this past year and made an incredible run all the way into the Semifinals! Brad and All That! Perform nightly at The Carolina Opry in Myrtle Beach, SC. Based in Myrtle Beach, SC.

**Greyson Davis** began his dance training at the age of two in North Carolina. During that time, he received training in all forms of dance from his mother, Scottie Davis, and teachers, Sandy and Sydney Overcash. At the age of 14, he began his focus of tap, receiving choreography and training from tap master Jason Janas. After attending college at NC State, he began developing his own artistic direction, focusing on the rhythmic side of tap. Greyson uses new age jazz music as a platform to phrase smooth, relaxed rhythms as well as hard hitting ones. He now works for Applause Talent, and also teaches for three dance studios through North Carolina and travels the mid-eastern part of the country teaching and choreographing. He is excited to be a part of the prestige family.

## Studio Etiquette

In order to have a fun learning environment and to encourage dancers of all ages there is **NO TOLERANCE FOR GOSSIP, RUMORS, PROFANITY or NEGATIVE ATTITUDES.** We want everyone to enjoy the dance season. This is for all dancers and parents. If there are any issues you will be given one verbal warning, a written warning and then a dismissal from the studio. Respect others as you wish to be treated.

1. For a safe environment, running is not allowed.
2. No gum or candy.
3. **NO FOOD PAST LOBBY AREA AND CLEAN AFTER YOURSELF.**
4. Place any trash in the trash can.
5. NO SCREAMING or playing games, classes are in session.
6. No inappropriate conversations in the lobby, just because your family thinks it's OK, it may offend another and there are always little ears around.

## Classroom Etiquette

1. Dance bags are to be kept in designated areas of classrooms
2. No gum or candy
3. No cell phones during class
4. RESPECT class mates and teachers
5. NO BAD Language
6. Don't be late, you don't want to miss warm ups to prevent injury

## Sportsmanship

Prestige Dance Institute is a professional dance studio and we expect good conduct and attitudes from parents and dancers. Good sportsmanship and good manners should be used by ALL Dancers and Parents at events and competitions. We hold ourselves to a higher standard than everyone else. If there is an issue that arises at an event or competition, there is a 24 hour waiting period after the event has ended before you take it to the office staff.

## Dress Code

### **Ballet/Tap/Tumble, Pre-Dance I, II**

Dress Code: Leotard of your choice, pink tights, Hair up out of face

Shoes: Ballet and Tap Shoes

### **Ballet**

Dress Code: Leotard (Black preferred), pink tights, skirts, booty shorts are optional, Hair up out of face

Shoes: Ballet Shoes

### **Jazz**

Dress Code: Any leotard, tight fitting tank top, or sports bra - tan tights, tight fitting black capris or pants, or booty shorts - but all attire should be form fitting so we can see the alignment of the body

Shoes: Jazz Shoes

### **Tap**

Dress Code: Any clothes that the dancer can move freely in, tights are optional

Shoes: Tap Shoes

### **Hip-hop**

Dress Code: Any attire is acceptable - sweatpants, loose fitting tanks/shirts, - jeans limit movement, so NO Jeans.

Shoes: Any sneaker that is not used as a street shoe. Preferably light sole shoes to prevent streaking of the dance floor. High-tops and converses are great. Classes will order matching sneakers for competition/recital.

### **Acrobatics/Tumbling**

Dress Code: Biketard or any leotard or tight fitting top, footless tights or bare legs, booty shorts are optional

Shoes: Bare feet

### **Clogging**

Dress Code: Any attire is acceptable. Jeans limit movement, so NO jeans.

Shoes: White Clogging Shoes

### **Cheer Dance**

Dress Code: Any attire that the dancer can freely move. Most students like to wear shorts and t-shirt.

Shoes: Jazz Shoe

### **Contemporary/Lyrical**

Dress Code: Any leotard, tight fitting tank top, or sports bra - tights (optional), tight fitting black capris, booty shorts (recommended)

Shoes: Foot Undeez/Paws, or Bare feet

### **Jazz Technique**

Dress Code: Any leotard, tight fitting tank top, or sports bra – tights (optional), tight fitting black capris or pants, or booty shorts - but all attire should be form fitting so we can see the alignment of the body

Shoes: Jazz Shoes or Foot Undeez/Paws

### **Musical Theater**

Dress Code: Any leotard, tight fitting tank top, or sports bra - tan or black tights, tight fitting black capris or pants, or booty shorts - but all attire should be form fitting so we can see the alignment of the body

Shoes: Jazz Shoes

## **ACCEPTABLE PAYMENT OPTIONS for Classes**

For your convenience, we accept several methods of payment.

1. AUTO DRAFT Credit Card or Bank Draft
2. Cash, Credit Card or Check in the studio office
3. VISA OR MASTERCARD online through your Customer Portal (found on our website)
4. Entire year of tuition paid up front by September 1st, yields 10% discount for a family of 1 or more dancers. There are no other discounts added when paying in full. This is per family not per dancer. **\*ALL PAID IN FULL PAYMENTS MUST BE PAID WITH CASH OR CHECK. NO VISA OR CREDIT CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

## TUITION INSTALLMENTS for CLASSES ONLY and LATE FEES

### Recreational Classes

9 tuition installments are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month starting September 1, 2019

Last tuition installments end May 2020

Late Fees are added on the 10<sup>th</sup>

### Competitive Teams' Classes

9 tuition installments due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month starting September 15, 2019

Last tuition installment ends May 2020

Late Fees are added on the 16<sup>th</sup>

*8 Company Installment Fees due on the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month September-April*

May tuition installment is expected, as installments are not based on a four-class-per-month rate.

**If May installment is not received by the 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm, your dancer will NOT be able to participate in the recital.**

If we are closed due to a holiday you may mail your payment or pay online through your Customer Portal. **\*If the installment is not received by the end of the month, your child will NOT be allowed to participate in class until the account is paid.\***

**Any account not current or paid in full by June 1, 2020 will be sent to an outside collection agency to recoup any losses to PDI.** Please note that all returned check and declined credit cards will be subject to a \$25 returned check/decline fee. If we receive a returned check or your card declines, you will be asked to pay cash for the remainder of the dance season.

## CHILD DROP OFF AND PICKUP

The studio will open 15 minutes before the first class starts. Dancers under the age of 9, who arrive more than 15 minutes before the beginning of their class, must be accompanied by a parent until class starts. Feel free to drop your dancer off at the door if arriving 5 minutes or less before the beginning of class. Parents are not required to stay during class time. **If you drop off your dancer, they are not allowed to go outside the building for any reason.** Parents must pick up their dancer promptly at the end of their class. Dancers under the ages of 9, must be picked up in the lobby. These rules are to keep everyone safe; it is a very busy parking lot. If your ride is 10 minutes late at the end of the nights class, a \$1/per minute will be added to your account.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

PDI typically will follow the Johnston County School System. When schools are closed due to inclement weather, the studio will be closed. However, if inclement weather does not take place PDI will make a decision and an email is sent out at noon that day as to weather classes will take place.

## CHRISTMAS PARADE

PDI will be participating in the Clayton Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 3pm. Prestige Company Dancers will be dancing in the parade ahead of the float and will have a \$15.00 parade fee. Company Dancers see Company Fee sheet. All recreational dancers may participate in the Christmas parade by riding on our Christmas float. A sign-up sheet will be sent through google documents for anyone wanting to ride the float. Company dancers will wear their company jackets. Recreational dancers will need to purchase a sweatshirt for \$35.00 at the time of sign up. Everyone will wear black dance pants, and all black shoes. (No Dance Shoes as concrete will ruin them.) Dance classes will still take place during the parade.

### **MAKE UP CLASSES**

Dancers are encouraged to make up classes by attending another age appropriate class time. Full installment is due each month regardless of your child's attendance. It is your responsibility to make up classes due to holidays or sicknesses. In the event of inclement weather, the studio does not make up the first canceled class. This time can be made up within another age appropriate class. If a second class of the same day is canceled due to weather, all classes will be reschedule for a make up day or will given the appropriate class to attend.

### **MANDATORY CLASS/REHEARSALS**

All Dancers are required to attend classes including technique classes and/or dress rehearsals the week of a dance competition or recital. Failure to do so will result in not participating in the performance.

### **WITHDRAW/CANCELLATION POLICY**

If, for any reason, you must discontinue classes at any time once enrolled with Prestige Dance Institute, Inc., a 30 day written notice is required. A withdraw request must be submitted to [Info@PrestigeDanceInstitute.com](mailto:Info@PrestigeDanceInstitute.com) to be withdrawn from a class. This will be considered the 30 day written notice. Payment is still expected for the 30 days and a dancer can attend the class during the 30 day withdraw notice. If a dancer withdraws after October 1st or we had a written notice of a payment, that indicates your request for a costume to be ordered and you will be responsible for the remaining balance.

\*Any unpaid accounts by June 1st of each year will be sent to a collections agency for further payment.

### **ABSENT POLICY**

For Company dancers there are 3 **unexcused** absences per team/class allowed in a dance season. This applies to team class, practices, or technique classes. If there is an extended amount of absences not excused the dancer will be dismissed from the team and the withdraw/absent penalty fee will apply. See fees for withdraw/absent penalty.

## Recreational Information

### REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee is \$25 and is charged once each dance season and is non-refundable. Due at the time of Registration

### 2020 RECITAL

Our recital is set for May 9, 2020. Recital #1 at 11am, Competition Showcase at 2pm and Recital #2 at 4:30pm at Johnston Community College in Smithfield, NC.

### STAGE FEE

The stage fee is \$65 and is charged once each dance season. This fee is due by the first week of classes starting August 19, 2019. This stage fee covers the cost of the recital auditorium rental, rehearsals/recital, back drops/scenery, props, lighting, audio and recital help. This fee is paid PER FAMILY, if you have one, two or three children you still only pay ONE stage fee. This is NON-Refundable.

### COSTUMES for classes NOT teams

Each student that participates in the 2020 recital will need a costume for each class taken. Costume prices vary dependent upon size and make. Pre-Dance I & II costumes will be a 2-in-1 costume ranging from \$55-75, 5 years and older will have costumes for each class (combo classes will have a costume for each dance) ranging from \$60-80. We strive to keep costumes cost to a minimum. A \$30 non-refundable per costume deposit is due October 1, 2019. The remaining costume balance will be due December 1, 2019. Costumes will NOT be ordered if they have not been paid for by October 10, 2019. Color of tights will be based on costumes, **and must be purchased through Prestige to ensure uniformity**. Tights and shoes not included in costume fees.

### SHOES

Prestige requires dance shoes to be purchased through the studio to ensure uniformity. All shoes must be purchased by February 1, 2020 to dance in the recital.

### VIDEO/PHOTOGRAPHY

The undersigned grants PDI permission to record the participation of the student on video or by photograph and to use it for promotion and public relations on the website ([www.prestigedanceinstitute.com](http://www.prestigedanceinstitute.com)), in print, and at other PDI functions for promotional purposes only. Such recordings are the sole property of PDI.

### PARENT/ TEACHER COMMUNICATION

Teachers are always happy to speak with you, but please do not stop teachers between classes as this makes the start time for the next class delayed. Please understand that prior to teaching class our teachers are focused on the class ahead, and after class they are often on their way to their next class. **DO NOT TALK TO A TEACHER WHILE THEY ARE TEACHING CLASS. THE TEACHERS ARE THERE TO TEACH THE DANCERS, AND BY PULLING THEM AWAY FROM CLASS, YOU ARE PROHIBITING THE DANCERS FROM LEARNING.** Parents are welcome to call the studio at 919-661-9111 or email us at [info@prestigedanceinstitute.com](mailto:info@prestigedanceinstitute.com) to schedule a mutually convenient time for a conference.



## Tentative Dance Calendar for Recreational 2019-2020

August 19 .....	Dance Classes Begin/\$65 Stage \$25 Registration Fee Due
September 1 .....	September Installment Due
September 2 .....	Holiday/Studio Closed
September 9-12 .....	Bring a Friend week and dance in Pajamas
October 1 .....	\$30 per Costume Deposit/October Installment Due
October 31 .....	Holiday/Studio Closed
November 1 .....	November Installment Due
November 27-December 1 .....	Holiday/Studio Closed
December 1 .....	Remaining Costume Balance/Installment Due
December 2 .....	Classes Resume
December 14 .....	Clayton Christmas Parade 3pm
December 14-January 1 .....	Holiday/Studio Closed
January 1 .....	January Installment Due
January 6 .....	Classes Resume
February 1 .....	February Installment Due/ Tights and Shoe last orders Due
March 1 .....	March Installment Due
March 16-19 .....	Costume Distribution
March 23-26 .....	Picture Week with Brandi Autry
April 1 .....	April Installment Due
April 10-19 .....	Spring Break/Closed
April 20 .....	Recital tickets go on sale online
April 27 .....	Dress Rehearsal for Recital #2 at Johnston Community College Auditorium
May 1 .....	May Installment Due
May 7 .....	Dress Rehearsal for Recital #1 at Johnston Community College Auditorium
May 9 .....	11AM Recital #1, 2PM Showcase, 4:30PM Recital #2
May 11-14 .....	Last Week of Classes
May 14 .....	Last Day of Classes

*Please remember that we will be open during teacher workdays, student vacation days, and early release days.*

*Full Tuition Installments are due every month from September – May!!!*

*If you want to be AUTO DRAFT PLEASE Email*

[aleah@prestigedanceinstitute.com](mailto:aleah@prestigedanceinstitute.com)

### OPTIONAL EXPENSES

1. Recital DVD (Optional)
2. Group and Individual Pictures in Recital Costume (Optional)
3. Advertisement in Recital Program (Optional)
4. Prestige Recital T-Shirt - worn during Recital Finale \$25 (Mandatory) Black shorts at own expense

### EXTRAS

1. If teacher is sick, classes will have a substitute.
2. Important updates and information will be sent by email
3. Questions and Concerns may be emailed, [aleah@prestigedanceinstitute.com](mailto:aleah@prestigedanceinstitute.com)

**NO MONTHLY INVOICES WILL BE MAILED. Accounts must be paid in full before the date of the recital. I understand there are 9 full tuition installment payments – September-May for recreational classes. Full May tuition is due by May 8, 2020 at 11:59pm or dancer will NOT participate in recital. Should collection become necessary for any past due amounts, I hereby expressly agree to pay all costs of collection. I further agree to pay all court costs and attorney fees should legal action become necessary, including agency fees. Waiver by Prestige Dance Institute of any default or breach in compliance with the terms of this contract shall not be deemed a waiver of an subsequent default or breach and shall not be construed to be modification of the terms of this contract unless stated to be such in writing, signed by an authorized representative of Prestige Dance Institute, and attached to the contract.**

**THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING PRESTIGE DANCE  
INSTITUTE! WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT  
YEAR!**

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Please return this with your signature to the front desk at the studio.

By signing below I have read and understand the information and studio policies written in the 2019-2020 Prestige Dance Institute Welcome Packet.

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Signature of Student  
(If 18 years of age or older)

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Signature of Parent  
or Legal Guardian of Student

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Date

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Print Name of Student

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Print Name of Parent  
Legal Guardian of Student

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Date