



Dance For Joy

Brielle, NJ
732-223-5336



"I do not try to **DANCE** better than anyone else. I only try to dance better than myself."

-Mikhail Baryshnikov

www.DanceForJoyNJ.com

About Dance For Joy:

1025 Highway 70
Suite 2
Brielle, NJ 08730
732-223-5336



“Dance
is the
hidden
language
of the
soul.”

Dance For Joy offers students the experiences they need to become successful learners, while exposing them to the wonderful world of dance. In a society that lends instant gratification to many things we do, dance is a way to instill focus and discipline in your child's sometimes hectic life. It is our goal to create a safe and friendly atmosphere while inspiring and challenging the students in the art of dance. The studio isn't just a place where students learn a dance; it is where they learn how to dance. Whether your child is looking to dance for fun, exercise and the love of movement, or looking for disciplined intensive training, there is something for everyone at DFJ!

Our teachers are college educated or certified dance instructors fully equipped to teach your child safely and effectively in a supportive, friendly environment. We have a state of the art studio with raised marley floors (this helps to keep dancers safe from injury). All three of our studios (in one location) have viewing windows for parents to watch classes.

We are VERY protective of the youth and innocence of our students, and strongly believe in age appropriate music and costuming. The choreography that we place on our students in class and in performances will always be something parents and grandparents (especially dads and grandfathers) will be comfortable watching! We will NEVER put a child in a two piece costume. We believe that some children may be uncomfortable in this type of costume and will have a negative dance experience. We want all our students to feel confident in their own skin and hope that dance can positively effect their lives whether they become a serious dance student, stay at the recreational level or decide that dance is not for them. We want every child that walks through our doors to have a true love and appreciation for dance when they leave. This is our job as a dance studio and dance educators, and at Dance For Joy we take this very seriously!



Nurturing Creativity...

Creativity is innate in all of us. DFJ educators spend time bringing out the best in your child. We encourage the use of improvisation in the majority of our dance classes. We first begin with structured improvisation to help students break through any emotional barriers and eventually they will begin to explore movement on their own with confidence and grace! They learn the importance of stillness, different levels, traveling, and focus. Most importantly, they begin to learn more about who they are through dance.

Through this encouragement, children engaged in these creative activities will more likely learn to develop new ways of approaching problems, of exploring possible solutions, and of discovering innovative solutions. The development of their creative capacities will hopefully translate into positive steps forward in the constantly evolving world.

“Creativity cannot be left to chance, it must be valued, encouraged and expected – and seen as essential to all teaching and learning.” -PBS (The Whole Child)





Classes at Dance For Joy

At Dance For Joy we offer classes in:

- * Classical Ballet
- * Pointe
- * Pre-Ballet
- * Jazz
- * Lyrical
- * Tap
- * Hip Hop
- * Contemporary
- * Modern
- * Choreography
- * Teen beginner classes
- * Mommy and Me
- * Pilates

At DFJ we understand that ballet is the foundation of all dance forms. Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, and Modern classes all require a student to be registered in at least one ballet class. Pointe students are required to take two ballet classes per week to maintain strength and technique.

Why Dance???

Dance is more than the exploring of different ways to make a shape or learning a series of steps to music; it is a way of moving that uses the body as an instrument of expression and communication. Through dance, students learn teamwork, focus, and improvisational skills. Dance awakens new perceptions in children which help them learn and think in new ways.

Dance For Joy offers state of the art dance studios with raised flooring and professional dance marley. Each studio has a viewing window for parents to watch as they please. All DFJ staff are trained professionals in teaching the art of dance.

“Dance is music made visible” -unknown



All enrolled students are expected to participate in the end of year performance***

***Ballet level 4 and higher have an optional performance in the show for their ballet dance, as ballet routines (for these levels) are rehearsed on Saturdays and will require an extra rehearsal fee. Pre-Ballet dancers also have the option of performing.

Performing at DFJ

Why Perform?

“Dance develops the individual physically, artistically, intellectually, and socially. Dance students join an artistic family where they develop enduring friendships and nurture a passion for the arts. While having fun, students gain many benefits from dancing and performing...”



DFJ Spring Production:

Dance For Joy is proud of producing spectacular spring productions! The show is a requirement of all students with the exception of those enrolled in a ballet level four class or higher.

Ballet levels one through level three, jazz, tap, lyrical, hip hop, modern and contemporary will rehearse their dance routines in their weekly class. During the month of January we will be learning and setting choreography for the show in each class and ask that you try to have perfect attendance during this time. Students enrolled in a ballet class level four or higher will need to sign up specifically to be in a ballet dance and will rehearse their dances on Saturdays. Ballet classes level four and higher will remain strictly a technique class for the entire season. Rehearsals and classes are extremely important. Our goal at Dance For Joy is to present students on stage who are confident, and able to express their joy of dance. This can not be accomplished if your child does not know their routine! We stress to the children to try and have perfect attendance, but we realize and understand when illness and family commitments come up, so we allow up to two absences for Saturday ballet rehearsals, and up to five absences in regularly scheduled classes (per class) from January-May.

Dance For Joy's performance group is for the dancer that LOVES

to perform! At DFJ we do not turn down dancers. We audition students to assign them to a group that can perform at the same level. We focus on growing as dancers and artists, as well as building strong technique. A Step Above Dance Company performs at two competitions, at a senior citizen community village, and our annual February benefit performance at the Algonquin Theater in Manasquan.

Our Dance company does not measure our value according to the awards we win at competitions. Although winning is an exciting time when we are recognized for something the dancers have worked hard for, we realize it is the opinions of only three (maybe four) judges and does not define who we are as dancers and as a company. We try hard to instill this in all our students.

How to get into A Step Above Dance Company

1 A summer dance intensive is required in order to participate in A Step Above Dance Company.

This shows a student's dedication and commitment to dance. Students learn choreography in August over two weeks. Students **MUST** be available during these two weeks, no exceptions.

2 Once you know you can commit to a summer intensive and are available during choreography weeks, you will have to read through our company handbook. In the company handbook you will find all the dates you will need to commit to for the season. If you are unavailable for any of these performances, you may not audition.



A Step Above D

3 **AUDITION!** Come in with a good attitude, encourage your friends and never gossip about any outcomes. We are a team and will support each other as we go through our dance journey together.

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Above Dance Company

OFJ's Student Performance Group



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