

Amherst Ballet Code of Conduct

Our Mission

With a conviction of the value of dance in our society, and a commitment to quality dance education, Amherst Ballet seeks to build a diverse and inclusive community of dancers and dance enthusiasts through performance, educational programming, and community partnerships.

Values & Expectations

Our mission is grounded in three core values: community, excellence, and artistry. You can read more about our values in action on our website: www.amherstballet.org.

To support our mission, we expect all members of the Amherst Ballet community to adhere to the following standards:

General

- Tell us if you need support - whether it is financial assistance, physical adjustments to make the discipline work for your body, exercises to support you of class, what to watch, listen to, or read to expand your understanding and experience, or anything else
- Welcome and support your fellow community members - we are all worthy of being here and the success of our community needs us all
- Treat each person in the studio (teachers, staff, caregivers, student and artists, board members) with respect and kindness at all times, especially during hard conversations

While learning

- Respect the learning environment:
 - Arrive 10 minutes early to class, lesson, or rehearsal to ensure you are ready to begin
 - If you are not participating in a class, lesson, or rehearsal, do not interrupt
 - Caregivers and friends are welcome in the studio by invitation only
 - Do not bring food or drink, except for water (always have water!) or sports drinks, into the studio
- Cheer each other on! We can all use the vote of confidence and recognition of effort
- Understand that this is hard work, and you will sometimes be discouraged - ask for help and support! We're here for you, and we've all struggled at times
- Offer and accept help from one another
- Support each other through emotional learning as well as physical learning
- Bring an open mind and heart to your art, and take risks every now and then

- Participate in performances, understanding that whatever role you are in is important and valued, and that you can learn even from roles you didn't want - we've all been there, and we're here to help you figure out how to do that!

In the studio

- Keep our facility welcoming and comfortable
- Try to contain your belongings to a smallish space where no one will trip on them
- Respect other users of the space by cleaning up after yourself and leaving the space a little nicer than how you found it
- Enjoy conversations with each other, but try to keep quiet enough that others can work around you

Outside of the studio

Performing artists are public figures and leaders, both on the stage and off, and we expect you to care for yourself and your community accordingly.

- Eat well, sleep well, and hydrate
- Take care of yourself! Stretch, rest, don't take risks you don't need to take, and be mindful of and attentive to your own individual needs
- Bring the same generosity you bring to your art to the rest of your life - the world needs more people like you!
- Use what you learn in the studio about yourself, about commitment, and about resilience everywhere in your life
- Support the arts - all of them!
- Expect that people may have preconceived notions about classical arts and many other things; you can help them learn by being an advocate for your art form
- Any member of the community who harms others, either at Amherst Ballet or outside of it, may be asked to leave

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