



## HSA Dance Department Dress Code Guidelines 2015-2016

The Harlem School of the Arts (HSA) requires appropriate attire in all of its dance classes. Please help us maintain an environment of professionalism.

HSA Dance Department Dress Code:

- A **dance belt** for men is for protective support (similar to a jock strap in other sports) and should be worn for all dance classes.
- White T-shirts and tank tops should fit snugly and be tucked in for men
- No **jewelry** may be worn except very small earrings or studs.
- All **ballet slippers** should be fitted by the teachers or head of dance department. Elastics should be tucked in and sewn on. In general shoes and socks must match or shoes and tights. In general, leather slippers are more durable than canvas. Additionally, dancers **ages 2-5 should wear full sole leather ballet slippers because they provide more stability for their feet and ankles.**
- **Tights** come in many different styles, please review carefully the dress code details regarding tights. *Convertible tights* are those with a small pre-designed slit under the foot. These can cover the full foot fully for ballet or rolled up above the ankle for African or Modern. **\*Young ladies should refrain from wearing underwear with their dance tights. They should wear dance tights with a cotton panel instead of underwear.\***
- **Hair:**
  - *Ladies* - Neatly pulled back or up into a bun. For shorter length hair, hair may be pinned back. Loose bangs, fly away, and hanging hair is not allowed. **No bows, decorative barrettes, beads or flowers are allowed. Headbands may be worn but they must be black or match your child's hair color.**
  - *Men* - Short and neat. Braids, pony tails, and long hair are not allowed.

**Dance attire is for inside the studios during class.** Please remind your children to cover up with at least one garment and wear shoes to protect their feet until they are inside the studio.

If a student arrives to class without the proper dance attire, they will not be allowed to take class. Instead, they will be asked to sit down, watch and take notes. If a student repeatedly (2 or more times) wears inappropriate dance attire to class, the teacher will meet with both the parent and the student to discuss the importance of the dress code. If the situation persists, the child will be dismissed from the class. **PLEASE HELP US MAINTAIN A PROFESSIONAL DRESS CODE.**



**Leotard Colors for Girls Based on Assigned (Ballet) Level:** Girls are required to wear leotards in the colors and styles designated for their level. Leotards must be solid in the designated color and should not have any trim or areas featuring a different color. Leotard styles may not be velvet, lace or velour.

*Please note that undergarments should not be worn under Girls' leotards! An extra nude camisole style leotard may be worn if necessary.*

### **BALLET**

Pre-Primary A-B	ages 3-4/4-5	Pink	<b>(Cap Sleeve)</b>
Primary A-C	ages 5-7	White	<b>(Cap Sleeve)</b>
Level 1	ages 8-10	Powder Blue	<b>(Cap Sleeve)</b>
Level 2	ages 9-11	Lavender	<b>(Camisole Style)</b>
Levels 3+ and Up & Teen Ballet	ages 12-17	Black	<b>(Camisole Style)</b>

#### **Agnes 2-3: Tiny Moves / Baby Samba:**

Girls: **Cap sleeve** leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), footless pink tights, and bare feet .

Boys: White fitted T-shirt, comfortable black gym shorts, and bare feet.

#### **Agnes 4-7: Nimble Jacks / Mini Taps :**

Girls: **Cap sleeve** leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), pink convertible tights covering the foot. Black tap shoes and optional matching skirt or **black jazz pants** for tap classes.

Boys: White fitted T-shirt, black biker shorts or black gym shorts, black sweats, bare feet. Black socks and black tap shoes for tap classes

### **AGES 7-17**

#### **African / Afro-Caribbean**

Girls: **Cap Sleeve or Camisole** leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), pink convertible tights rolled up above ankle, \*Lapa, bare feet.

Boys: White fitted tank top, \*African print pants, dance belt, bare feet.

*\*Lapas and African print pants can be ordered through the school.*

#### **Ballet**

Girls: Leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), pink seamless tights that cover the foot, pink ballet slippers, pink point shoes (when recommended by teacher).

Boys: White fitted tank top or white leotard, black tights that cover the foot, dance belt, white socks, white ballet slippers. Shoes must match socks.



### **Dynamic Dance for Boys**

Boys: White tank top, black biker shorts or black gym shorts, black sweat pants, dance belt, bare feet.

### **Hip-Hop**

Girls: **Leotard** in designated color (see above), or HSA T-shirt, black sweat pants, black socks, black dance sneakers. Black converse or indoor sneakers allowed. No outdoor sneakers. Hair in the style of Hip Hop but out of face and must be neat. Check with teacher.

Boys: White T-shirts or HSA T-shirt, black sweat pants, dance belt, black socks, black dance sneakers preferred. Black Converse and other black sneakers are ok but must be worn only in the studio and not in the street. No outdoor sneakers allowed.

### **Jazz / Musical Theatre**

Girls: Leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), black jazz pants, thin black socks, black jazz shoes. Hair in a bun or neat ponytail.

Boys: White fitted T-shirts, black jazz pants, dance belt, thin black socks, black jazz shoes.

### **Modern**

Girls: Leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), black convertible tights, bare feet. Hair in a bun. See page one, Hair.

Boys: White fitted tank top or white leotard, black convertible tights, dance belt, bare feet.

### **Tap**

Girls: Leotard in designated color (**see above for Ballet Level colors and style**), with optional matching skirt OR black jazz pants, pink tights, thin black socks (if black jazz pants are worn), flat black tap shoes. Hair in a bun or neat ponytail.

Boys: White fitted tank top, black jazz pants, dance belt, thin black socks, black tap shoes.

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### **OFFICIAL HSA DANCEWEAR RETAILERS**

Dress code attire and shoes can be purchased at the following locations:

1. **Capezio**, 201 Amsterdam at 69th Street 212.586.5140 **20% HSA Discount**
2. **Capezio**, 1650 Broadway at 51st Street 212.245.2130 **20% HSA Discount**
3. **Lee's Boutique**, Inc. 276 West 125th, (Between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) 212.749.4590
4. **Capezio**, 136 EAST 61st at Lexington Avenue 212.758.8833
5. **Capezio**, 1651 3rd Avenue 212.348.7210
6. **JoAnne's Boutique**, 44 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street 212.749.4590