

WELCOME!

2026–2027

FINE ARTS CLUB™ FAMILY HANDBOOK



WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

Welcome to our Fine Arts Club™ Program - where imagination and creativity lead the way! Our Fine Arts Club offers dance, yoga, fitness, music, art, and drama classes exclusively to children 2 - 5 years of age. We look forward to moving and grooving with your child while educating and inspiring them through the fine arts. All activities are developmentally appropriate and allow children to develop social skills, body awareness, self-confidence, and routine. We are not a daycare or preschool, but rather a specialty fine arts program building physical, cognitive, social, and emotional awareness. We are so excited for you and your child!

COMMUNICATION

We aim to respond to all inquiries within 48 hours. Our administrative team can be contacted at **780-739-0227** or by emailing tarynsdancecompany@gmail.com **(general studio inquiries, payment, registration)** or laurenjc.tdc@gmail.com **(fine arts club program inquiries)**

Our primary means of communication is email. You will receive monthly newsletters and important information via email, so please ensure you have provided the studio with an up-to-date email address that is regularly checked. In the event that you do not receive them, we kindly ask you to notify our office at your earliest convenience.

2026-2027 PROGRAM DATES

Fall 12-week Session: Sept 15 - Dec 11, 2026 (**no classes during Fall Break: Nov 8-14**)

Winter 12-week Session: Jan 5 - March 26, 2027

Possible mini spring session depending on interest and instructor availability.

The Fine Arts Club™ classes will not run during Black Gold School Division fall, winter, and spring breaks.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Age 2-3 – Mini Movers: Tuesdays - 9:30-11:30 am (Age 2 by session start date)

Studio 3 (New)

Fall session: Sept 15 - Dec 8, 2026

Winter session: Jan 5 - Mar 23, 2027

Tuition: \$99.84/month

Mini Movers allows children to start off on the right foot moving and grooving while exploring basic concepts and encouraging social development. This level is ideal for children that are new to unparented programs, or have a little experience in being away from caregivers. Our fun and active 2- 3-year old program helps kids develop routine and comfort with being away from caregivers. Our program fosters talents and interests through theme-based fine arts activities, while also focusing on learning through play. Skills progress throughout the session as children gain confidence and grow in body and mind. Children do not need to be potty trained.

Age 3-5 – Little & Kinder Movers: Wednesday & Friday - 9:30 -11:30 am (Age 3 by session start date) **Or a one-day option on Wednesday**

Studio 3 (New)

Fall session: Sept 16 - Dec 11, 2026

Winter session: Jan 5 - Mar 26, 2027

Tuition: \$99.84 or \$199.68/month

Little & Kinder Movers builds on the skills learned in Mini Movers (though not a prerequisite). This level is appropriate for children who have successful experience in unparented activities, or high confidence in being separated. We also invite children who are in Kindergarten to participate, as an enrichment program for days in between school. Our age 3-5 program is your child's opportunity to explore the fine arts while nurturing talents, skills, and confidence at a young age. Students engage in activities individually and with others, refine movements, expand cognitive abilities, and develop artistic abilities. As we introduce new and familiar topics, children learn through their bodies to remember in their minds! Children must be fully daytime potty trained.



DAILY SCHEDULE

****Flexible and subject to change based on dynamics/interests of children****

First 15 - 20 min: Transition Activity Options

10 - 15 min: Drama and Music

10 - 15 min: Welcome/Theme Time: question of the day, calendar/weather, rhyme/song warm-up

15 - 20 min: Dance, Fitness, and Yoga/Stretching

15 - 20 min: Bathroom Break and Snack Time

30 -40 min: Art/Sensory Activity Option & Free Play

Final 10 min: Story Time and Goodbye Song



ATTIRE, TOILETING, + SNACK POLICIES

Please label all items and belongings brought to the studio with your child's name.

Children need to wear a comfortable outfit that will allow them to move around. Jeans are not permitted and skirts must be worn with leggings or shorts underneath. We ask that you please send your child with an extra set of clothes every class – spills, and accidents do happen. **If in diapers or pull-ups, please send a few along with wipes.

All students are required to have clean, non-marking and non-slip indoor shoes such as ballet slippers, Robeez slippers, or runners. Bare feet are also acceptable.

Children will be taken for a toilet break at snack time and when needed between activities, if they are potty trained or actively working towards this goal at home. We do not potty train your children, but will support efforts already in place. For our 3-5 year old classes, children must be potty trained. **We kindly ask that all parents have their child use the bathroom before class to set them up for success.**

Please pack a nut-free snack and a water bottle for your child to enjoy during snack time. (No juice boxes – reusable drink containers only with water). 1-3 types of finger foods are best – teachers will help open up containers, but children need to be able to feed themselves during their 15 - 20 minute snack time.

DROP OFF + PICK UP

Please arrive at least 5-10 minutes before start time, and stay with your child until the class begins. Studio rooms will be opened two minutes before class starts – we cannot take children prior to this, as the teachers are setting up for the day. Taryn's Dance Company is not responsible for children before/after their class and we kindly ask you to be diligent and on time. **Transition activities at the beginning of class are just as important as the remainder of our class time.**

For pick up, please be waiting in the studio when class ends and if you are running late, phone the office at **780-739-0227**. If someone else will pick your child up, please notify the teacher at drop-off. A parent or caregiver must be available via cell phone in case we need to have your child picked up for any reason.

Late Pick-Up Policy: If you are more than 5 minutes late in picking up your child, a dollar per minute will be added to fees owed in your Studio Pro parent account, and paid to the instructor.



PHOTOS, WAIVERS + VIDEOS

We will be taking pictures throughout the year to celebrate your child's learning and growth. Taryn's Dance Company holds the right to take videos and photos which may be used on social media, website, and in-house printed materials. If you do not wish for your child to be photographed or included in videos, please notify your child's teacher and our administrative staff.

INTEGRATION POLICY

Our goal is to ensure your child feels safe, confident, and inspired. We also want to set your child up for success and build trust. Our purposeful class integration policy is outlined below:

First Class – Parents/caregivers are requested to attend the first 20 - 30 minutes of class. Siblings are welcome to attend as well. Children feed off their parent's energy – when the parent is relaxed, the child is more likely to be relaxed. During free play, teachers will connect with caregivers and children, and collect all personal profiles if not already emailed back. After free play, teachers will lead a short welcome time with intros and a warm-up activity. When complete, caregivers will take their child for a toilet break or diaper change, say “see you soon,” and the children and teachers move into the first activity together.

Second Class – Parents are welcome to come in the room for the first 10 - 15 minutes to help their child settle. After 15 minutes we ask that all parents say “see you soon” to their child and leave the studio.

Third Class – Parents are welcome to bring the child into the classroom and have free play with their child for 5 minutes, or drop off and leave if their child is settled.

Fourth Class – Parents say goodbye in the lobby area and teachers bring the students back into the room. If your child cries, it is best to leave them with us so we can redirect and build rapport with them. If your child is still unsettled after 30 minutes, we will call you and provide you with an update. At this time, we can come up with a suitable plan.



TIPS FOR SAYING GOOD-BYE TO YOUR CHILD: EXPLAIN, ASSURE + LOVE

- 1) Explain that you are going away and that you will come back
- 2) Assure them that you love them and that they will have fun
- 3) Give them a hug, say goodbye and proceed to leave – short goodbyes are best

LEARNING OBJECTIVES + THEMES

Students will enjoy a different set of activities each day, with some repeated skills, and a different theme every 2-3 weeks for age 3-5 and every 4 weeks with age 2-3, providing an academic curriculum to assist with their learning. The goal of the program is to enhance your child's overall development including gross and fine motor skills and improve social, cognitive, and emotional awareness. We use an integrated approach to learning and incorporate theme-based lesson plans so students get to feel it in their bodies so they can remember it in their minds.

When discipline is required, our teachers use a positive redirection approach and encourage the children to make good choices. When children choose not to participate in the planned activities, they are instructed to observe the class from the table or side of room. This ensures they are safe and not a distraction to the other students, while still learning.

Please note that we observe and assess all of our students during the first few weeks and may make recommendations to transfer to “Mini” or “Little & Kinder” levels if appropriate. If there is a teacher recommendation that your child is not ready for our program, we will recommend that you join us at a later date and will provide you with a credit.

SHOW DAYS

Fall Show Days – Mini Movers: Tuesday, Dec 8, 2026/ Little & Kinder Movers: Wednesday, Dec 9, 2026

Winter Show Days – Mini Movers: Tuesday, Mar 23, 2027/ Little & Kinder Movers: Wednesday, Mar 24, 2027

Parents are invited to come and watch our mini showcase at the end of each session, followed by a wrap-up party with snacks, art, and playtime. Families will be asked to contribute an item for this potluck-style celebration. The celebration show and party will occur in the last hour of their scheduled class.

Children come at usual class start time, and guests join 45 minutes after.



EDUCATOR INFO

LAUREN CARLETON – FINE ARTS CLUB & INTELLIDANCE DIRECTOR / LITTLE & KINDER MOVERS TEACHER / COSTUME COORDINATOR

Lauren grew up in Edmonton, AB, training competitively from a young age in various styles of dance - jazz, tap, ballet, and contemporary. She further developed a love of dance, technique, and overall fine arts exposure through Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts from grades 8-12.

Lauren then completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at Taylor University College and Seminary, and found her calling after working in out-of-school care and as a nanny — she wanted to better understand the youngest children! In New Jersey, USA, she completed an Early Childhood Education diploma and Business Certificate, then moved back to Canada to begin her career in Early Learning and Child Care. While running her dayhome from 2013 - 2026, Lauren's own children started dance classes and she was smitten with their enthusiasm and energy toward movement and rhythm, and wanted to be a part of that. She combined her knowledge and experience with young children with her love of dance, and joined the team at TDC in 2021.

With over 22 years experience in working with young children, and having three of her own kids, Lauren continually looks for opportunities to learn more about trends, Early Education strategies, and learning methods. She is excited to bring the Fine Arts Club™ to life at TDC in Leduc, and support families in the community!

Credentials/Certifications:

- BA: General Arts
- AAS: Early Childhood Education & Business Management
- Standard & Childcare First Aid/CPR Level B
- Alberta Level 3 Early Childhood Educator
- Intellidance Method Certified Instructor
- Acrobatic Arts - Preschool Acrodance
- Studio Fine Arts Club - Early Childhood Fundamentals & Teacher Certification



EDUCATOR INFO

ABBE KRATKO – MINI MOVERS TEACHER / PRESCHOOL & PERFORMANCE DANCE INSTRUCTOR

Miss Abbe has been dancing for over 18 years, training in jazz, ballet, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop, and acro. Her love for dance quickly grew into a passion for teaching, and she has spent many years working with dancers of all ages and levels. She loves helping dancers build confidence, develop strong technique, and discover their own love for movement.

Abbe is certified as a Junior, Intermediate, and Advanced Instructor through the Acro Dance Teachers Association (ADTA). She continues to further her education and training as an instructor, with a strong focus on creating classes that are safe, encouraging, technically strong, and fun.

Outside of the studio, Abbe attends the University of Alberta, where she is pursuing her education in Elementary Education. Her passion for working with children extends both inside and outside the dance studio, and she hopes to create spaces where every child feels supported, included, and encouraged to grow. She is incredibly excited to begin her first season at Taryn's Dance Company and looks forward to sharing her love of dance with her students while watching each dancer grow in confidence, skill, and love for dance.

Credentials/Certifications:

- *In Progress:* University of Alberta - Elementary Education Degree
- Acro Dance Teachers Association - Junior, Intermediate, and Advanced Instructor
- Studio Fine Arts Club - Early Childhood Fundamentals & Teacher Certification



OFFICE HOURS

The most current office hours can be found on tarynsdancecompany.com. ***Please note that during the spring and summer months, our office hours vary and might be reduced. To best contact us at any time, send an e-mail!***

QUESTIONS

We like to have open communication with you! If no one is in the office and you have questions regarding general studio operations, registration, and payments, please reach out by calling **780-739-0227** or email tarynsdancecompany@gmail.com. If you have any questions about your child or regarding the Fine Arts Club specifically, please reach out by emailing laurenjc.tdc@gmail.com.

THANK YOU

Thank you for joining our Fine Arts Club™. This is a great stepping-stone for your child's development.

We also offer 10-week Intellidance™ sessions for ages 3 months - 5 years old (caregiver-assisted for 3 months to age 4/ unassisted age 3-5), and year-long and sessional dance classes for all ages, should you be interested in enrolling your child for another class. Our mission is to inspire growth and we hope you grow with us!



