

DOVBUSH SCHOOL OF UKRAINIAN DANCE
Association of United Ukrainian Canadians
805 East Pender Street, Vancouver, BC V6A 1V9 (604) 254-3436
Email: dovbushdanceschool@gmail.com Website: www.auucvancouver.ca

2025-2026 Policy Manual & Registration Package

Welcome to the 2025/2026 dance season at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre!

Please read all the information carefully.

Email & WhatsApp groups are the primary methods of communication. Ensure you've provided us with an up-to-date email address & phone number(s) and check regularly for messages from dovbushdanceschool@gmail.com

*Please follow us on Instagram (@dovbushschoolofdance), "Like" our Facebook page (@AUUCVancouver) and find all other DSUD information, upcoming event information, ticket sales and more can be found on our website www.auucvancouver.ca

We are excited to be welcoming all returning and new dancers on the first day of classes, **Saturday, September 6th, 2025.**

Parent Meeting We will be inviting parents to join us for parent meetings, **Saturday, September 27th** to meet the teachers, to meet each other, to learn about the AUUC organization and our cultural events, and to learn more about our upcoming dance season.

Please review our **Policy Manual and Class Schedule** contained within this package. We will continue to adapt during the season in order to provide everyone with the best possible experience!

Any adjustments to class placements will be emailed within a few weeks of the start of classes.

We continue to request that registration be completed by sending your forms in by email. Online Etransfer payments are preferred (send to dovbushdanceschool@gmail.com)

*Please let us know if you need to make alternate arrangements. We are here to make this as easy as possible for you!

Please contact us with questions or concerns. We look forward to spending a fantastic year celebrating Ukrainian culture and guiding your children as they grow and learn!

Caitlynn Schell, Director

Nicole (Nicky) Bizovie, Sr. Dance Instructor

Nicole James, Dance Instructor

Veronika Pihuliak, Dance Instructor

Joseph Bizovie, Dance Instructor

Elaine Lewis & Louise Keeling, Assistant Instructors

Class Times & Calendar of Events 2025/2026 September - December

*Dance class schedule (final class placements confirmed by Oct 1)

9:00- 9:45	Jazz/Lyrical (Junior 5yrs +) 45min
9:45-10:30	Zaychyky 'Bunnies' (Preschool/Kindergarten 3 yrs +) 45min
9:45-10:45	Bilka 'Squirrels' (Junior 6 yrs +) 1.0 hrs
10:45-12:45	Veselka "Rainbow" (Intermediate II 10yrs +) 2.0 hrs **NEW CLASS**
10:45-12:45	Druzhba 'Friendship' (Advanced 14 yrs +) 2.0 hrs *NEW CLASS TIME*
1:00-2:30	Zirka 'Stars' (Intermediate I 10yrs +) 1.5 hrs *NEW CLASS TIME*
1:00-2:00	Contemporary (ages 11+) 1.0 hr

September 6	Welcome back! 1st day of rehearsals (reg forms, fees & volunteer cheques due)
September 13	Regular Rehearsal
September 20	Regular Rehearsal
September 27	Regular Rehearsal + PARENT MEETING DAY
October 4	Regular Rehearsal CHOREOGRAPHY REHEARSAL (Zirka, Veselka & Druzhba) **new** Intermediate and advanced classes will learn the framework of their new dances this day approx. 3-4hrs
October 11	CLOSED for Thanksgiving
October 18	Regular Rehearsal
October 25	Regular Rehearsal (Halloween Class)
November 1	Regular Rehearsal
November 8	Regular Rehearsal Seminar with Miss Maryna TBD
November 15	Regular Rehearsal
November 22	Regular Rehearsal + PARENT PARTICIPATION DAY
Sunday, Nov 23	PICTURE DAY!
November 29	Regular Rehearsal
December 6	Regular Rehearsal - KOLACH
Sunday, Dec 7	CHRISTMAS RECITAL (2pm) *dancers will have earlier call times.
Dec 13	Christmas Workshop – Fun Christmas Classes!
Dec 14- Jan 2:	CLOSED for the Holidays
January 3:	Classes resume - Regular Rehearsal
January 10:	Regular Rehearsal
January 17:	CLOSED for Malanka (Ukrainian New Year Celebration - See you all there!!) *Druzhba & Veselka performing TBD

***Please note, this calendar is subject to change. Notice will be given in the event of any change**

2025-2026 Policy Manual

Dovbush School of Ukrainian Dance (DSUD)
Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (AUUC)

Please read the following carefully! Students must arrive ready for class in appropriate attire. Dress code is important not only to maintain structure in class and avoid distractions, but also to aid teachers in observing dancers' technique and ensuring their safety when learning and performing movements. Failure to adhere to the dress code may result in a child being disallowed from participating in class, and repeated failure will result in removal from the class.

★ **Dress Code for All Classes:** **GIRLS** in black leotard, black skirt, pink ballet tights and slippers. **BOYS** in DSUD black or white t-shirt (no other logos), black joggers, black socks and slippers. Warm-ups are to be removed after piles. Please ensure your children's dancewear fits properly; ill-fitting dancewear can pose a risk to dancers. Long hair must be put into a **bun** for all classes; however, preschoolers (Zaychyky) may have their hair in a braid or ponytail. **Hair must be secured off the face, no matter its length.**



Ballet Slippers - ALL CLASSES

Girls: pink ballet slippers (leather or canvas for age 9+).

Boys: black ballet slippers (leather preferable)

Zirka & Veselka (in addition to ballet slippers)

Character footwear:

Girls Character: Bloch Karacta Character Shoe – Low Heel S0315 (3/4" heel)

Boys Character: Capezio E-Series Black Leather Oxford Jazz Shoe (or similar)

Druzhba

Ballet Slippers: Canvas Split Sole ballet slippers only.

Character footwear (shoes & boots):

Girls Character: Black Leather Character shoe. Bloch Curtain Call Character Shoes, 1.5 heel S0304L. May consider Kozachok Women's Full Sole Character Shoe Traditional Heel

(postmarkukraine.com) as foot growth slows.

Boys Character: Black Oxford Jazz Shoe. May consider Hopachok Men's Full Sole Dance Boot (postmarkukraine.com) as foot growth slows.

DSUD Merch: Order forms will be emailed out on the first day of classes and are due by September 27 (Parent Meeting Day).

- **Please respect class time:**

- ☐ Please ensure dancers arrive prior to their scheduled class in proper attire so that they are ready to dance when class starts (hair up, no jewelry, proper dance strip etc.)
- ☐ Arriving late to class can be disruptive and difficult on the groups' progression in learning. Late arrivals and missed classes can result in removal from class choreography at the teacher's discretion.
- ☐ While classes are in session, learning is underway! Please keep noise and activity in the entrance to a minimum.

- **Communication:**

- ☐ Our primary method of communication is email dovbushdanceschool@gmail.com and WhatsApp groups
- ☐ Event information is found on our website www.auucvancouver.ca and Facebook page: www.facebook.com/AUUCVancouver.
- ☐ WhatsApp chats: we use WhatsApp for quick communication to parents. Please provide us with an up-to-date phone number(s) to use and download WhatsApp to stay in the loop!

- **Attendance:**

- ☐ Absences affect not only the student but also the entire class, especially when working on performance material.
- ☐ Absences in an activity-based class can't easily be made up - each missed class results in missing valuable instruction, the opportunity to practice important technique, placement, steps, and choreography.
- ☐ When a dancer accumulates 3 absences, we reserve the right to disallow the dancer to perform in any concert and reserve the right to remove the dancer from choreography
- ☐ Dance is a team sport! Please try your best to make all rehearsals as it is imperative not only for technique building and strengthening but for learning and maintaining choreography.

- **Illness & Holidays:**

- ☐ Review the School Calendar and please give consideration to closure dates when planning holidays.

- ❑ **A minimum 48-hour notice should be given to the Dovbush School of Ukrainian Dance (DSUD) via email (dovbushdanceschool@gmail.com) for any planned absences so that teachers can adjust class plans accordingly!**
- ❑ Sudden absence due to illness or incident - a message should be given as soon as possible.
- ❑ Giving no notice is an unexcused absence.

- **Parent Participation Day & Parent Viewing Day**
 - ❑ Parent Participation Day: Parents are welcome to join their child's class for 30min alongside their dancer to see 1st hand what their children experience in dance classes.
 - ❑ Parent Viewing Day: A session before competition, parents are invited to quietly observe their dancer's class for the first 20 minutes as they prepare for BCUCF

- **Competition & Other performances:**

**BC Ukrainian Culture Festival (BCUCF) currently hosts this event on the first Saturday of May (this year being May 2, 2026). We will continue to monitor this event and its potential plans for possible participation*

 - ❑ If your child's class is chosen to compete in the BCUCF competition in Mission, it is imperative that they participate in this competition (competition fees are included in our registration fee)
 - ❑ Participating classes will be **Zaychyky (NEW!)**, Bilka (Junior), Zirka (Intermediate I), Veselka (Intermediate II), and Druzhba (Advanced).
 - ❑ Attendance at all regular classes and special rehearsals for competition classes is mandatory. **Please advise the School by January 3, 2025, if your child is unable to commit to a competition class or the BCUCF competition date.**
 - ❑ Additional rehearsals may be required prior to the competition
 - ❑ Veselka and Druzhba groups will be asked to perform at other events throughout the year, including our Malanka (Jan 17, 2026). We will provide as much notice as possible for these performances, and additional rehearsals may be required for restaging. We greatly appreciate the efforts for outside performances as they help showcase our dance school and share our beautiful Ukrainian culture.

2025-2026 Registration Package

DANCER INFORMATION (attach additional Dancer sheets as necessary):

Surname _____ First name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Age in September: _____ Pronouns: _____

PARENT INFORMATION

Surname _____

Guardian 1 name: _____ Guardian 2 name: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email address: _____

Dancer email: _____

STEP 1

Select Class(es):	Fees: (Classes run Sept-June)	Class(es) Selected
Preschool Ukrainian Dance (45 min) Zaychyky Dancers	Annual Fee: \$400 (includes \$20 costume fee)	
Junior Ukrainian Dance (1hr) Bilka Dancers	Annual Fee: \$550 (includes \$50 costume fee)	
Intermediate I Ukrainian Dance (1.5hrs) Zirka Dancers	Annual Fee: \$575 (includes \$50 costume fee)	
Intermediate II Ukrainian Dance (2hrs) Veselka Dancers	Annual Fee: \$650 (includes \$50 costume fee)	
Senior Ukrainian Dance (2 hrs) Druzhba Dancers	Annual Fee: \$675 (includes \$50 costume fee)	
ADDITIONAL CLASSES		
Contemporary Class (11 yrs+)	\$495 (includes \$20 costume fee)	
Jazz/Lyrical Class (6-10yrs)	\$470 (includes \$20 costume fee)	
Total fees payable:		

STEP 2

Etransfer:
doybushdanceschool@gmail.com

Medical and Emergency Contact information:

BC CareCard (MSP) # _____

Name of Doctor: _____ Phone: _____

Emergency Contact name: _____

Relationship to dancer: _____ Phone: _____

Allergy, medical, learning/cognitive or other concerns (Confidential): _____

1. Waiver of liability

I _____ (parent) have enrolled the above-named child(ren) in a program of physical activity, offered by DSUD. I hereby release DSUD and its instructors from any and all actions, causes of action, claims and demands for damages, loss or injury, howsoever arising, which heretofore may have been or may hereafter be sustained by me and/or my child which may occur before, during or after participation in any of the programs offered at the DSUD or at any time, while in the vicinity of the premises of the above stated business, or in any activity sponsored or organized by DSUD and its instructors. By signing this document, I hereby affirm that I have read, fully understand and agree with the above waiver.

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2. Photo Consent

The DSUD is a dance school that uses social media to connect with other Ukrainian dance groups, cultural groups and to our community. I understand and grant permission for my registered dancer(s) to appear in photographs and or videos taken by representatives or staff of DSUD both within the cultural centre or during dance activities associated with the School, for the purpose of archiving, advertising, web content, and publicity. I understand that the DSUD is not responsible for photos and/or videos taken by other parents of the School or the general public and that the DSUD can not control what others post on their personal social media sites. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your dancer's photo release, please speak to Caitlynn Schell.

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3. Parent group chat (WhatsApp)

Other than email, an important means of communication between the individual dance groups and the School is WhatsApp. This has also proven to be a great way for parents to share information and create a parent community. Each dance group has their own individual group chat.

Please write the phone number(s) on the line given below that you would like included in the chat groups.

Phone number(s):

4. Volunteering: ****IMPORTANT: NEW POLICY****

The Dovbush School of Ukrainian Dance is an extension of the AUUC - a non-profit, cultural organization which relies heavily on the help of volunteers to keep the Ukrainian Cultural Centre (and the DSUD) affordable and operational. Through many cultural events, pyrohy sales, and other activities and fundraisers, the Ukrainian Cultural Centre is able to continue as a viable community centre.

We need more help! This year, we are asking every DSUD family to donate a minimum of 5 hours in the cultural year to help the Dovbush School of Dance or the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. A long list of volunteer duties that will count towards your donated 5 hours will be provided at the parent meetings. **We ask that all families provide a post-dated cheque (dated June 30th, 2026) in the amount of \$250 and written out to *The Dovbush School of Ukrainian Dance* be submitted with your registration package.**

When the 5 hours of volunteer time is fulfilled, your cheque will be returned to you. Should your family choose not to donate the 5 hours of volunteer time during the year, the cheque will be cashed. Please consider volunteering your time; it really helps us!

* We understand that this is a new policy, and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Caitlynn Schell.

Let us know your strengths/volunteer interests:

- Costume sewing/mending_____
 - Recital costume inventory and collection_____
 - Year-end recital costume inventory_____
 - Parent volunteer for Kolach & Pysanky day_____
 - Pyrohy making_____
- (usually Sunday afternoons and/or kitchen prep Saturday mornings)*
- Event set-up/take-down and planning_____
 - Fundraising committee (BINGO night, canteen, donation collection, etc)_____
 - Cultural Activities committee_____
 - Other areas of interest:_____
-

General comments: Please let us know of any additional information about your dancer or yourself that may be relevant (confidential).

* Would you be interested in children's dance classes on a different day? If yes, which days/times work for you? _____

* Would you be interested in Ukrainian language classes for your dancer(s)? _____

* Would you be interested in Ukrainian choir for your dancer(s)? _____

I have read and understand all the information provided in the DSUD Policy Manual:

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Date (MM/DD/YEAR): ____/____/____