



March 22, 2020

Dear TDS Families & Dancers,

I want to give a heartfelt thank you for your support over the past week. It was a very difficult decision to close our in-person studio at this time, however – we feel that it is very important to do our part to help “flatten the curve” and aid in stopping this pandemic.

We'll continue to deliver the dance experience you know, trust and love at TDS – just in a slightly different way. Thanks to the [ZOOM](#) app, we will be providing all of our families with a personalized online dance class experience! We want our dancers to keep moving, be active and be able to socially interact with their teachers & classmates. In addition, we want our dancers to be able to continue to work on their routines, and maintain the technique that they have been working on this season.

[ZOOM](#) Steps

1. You will need to download the “Zoom Client for Meetings” app to your device with a front-facing camera + create an account.
You can download here: <https://zoom.us/download>

All Zoom accounts are FREE of charge and easy to sign-up for! You can also just use Zoom via your internet browser (without the app). We recommend using Zoom on your device with the largest screen.

When it's time for your dancer's class:

2. Open the Zoom app. Click “Join”
3. Copy+Paste (or type in) the “Meeting ID” number, which can be found on the spreadsheet attached to this email. Every virtual class has a unique Meeting ID.
OR, if you prefer: Copy+Paste the virtual class URL (also in the attached spreadsheet)
4. Enter the password: **tdsonline** - This password is the same for every class on our schedule.
5. Your front-facing camera video will pop-up and you will enter into the meeting. If the instructor, aka “host,” is not present yet, don't worry! They will be entering the virtual class at their scheduled times.
6. Get ready to see your teacher & classmates, and DANCE! 9

****I will also be posting a video on our TDS Facebook Page of the Zoom Meeting Entry process for anyone who may need additional assistance****

A Few Important Side-Notes

- My husband and I have been tirelessly working on setting up our virtual classrooms over the past 5 days. We have done numerous rounds of beta-testing, including Zoom meetings with each other & all of our faculty members. We have tested the app on our smart phones, iPad, laptops & more to see and understand the various layers of Zoom. This is a first-time venture for everyone, including us. We understand that there may be hiccups – please be patient with us. We are more than happy to help you and we'll continue to do our best to make this transition as smooth as possible for every TDS dancer and family.
- Review the attached virtual class schedule carefully. Class times / days have shifted to accommodate our staff's professional & schooling schedules with most families now working full-time from home.
- Virtual classes are 45-minutes each. Without our teachers being hands-on with our students, and taking into consideration the time it takes during classes to: go across the floor one-at-a-time, ask specific choreography questions, work on partnering, etc. – we decided that 45-minute classes were better-suited for our current situation.
- We will still be providing content online to keep our students engaged and active. Our goal is to provide full value for your child's dance experience and education by implementing these additional resources from our dedicated faculty.
- TDS has put a significant time, effort & resources into setting up our virtual classes and ensuring that all of our dancers can get back to dance as soon as possible. We greatly appreciate every TDS dancer's participation in their virtual classes going forward.

We are SO excited to see our dancers in classes beginning TOMORROW! We appreciate your support of our small business and our dance family – we will get through this together! Please reach out to us via email with any questions – dancers_sole@yahoo.com.

Kindly,
Kristen "Miss K" St. Laurent
Owner/Director



March 15, 2020

Good Afternoon TDS Families & Dancers:

In an attempt to aid in "flattening the curve" in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, **The Dancer's Sole will be CLOSED Monday March 16th – Saturday March 21st, 2020.** Going forward, we will be taking our operation status one week at a time, continuing to update our studio families in a

timely manner. We feel that it is our responsibility as an integral part of our community to follow the advice of the CDC and our local government officials.

TDS appreciates the support and understanding of our studio families and friends. Please know that like many other studios and small businesses, this decision was not made lightly. Now more than ever, during this time of uncertainty, we sincerely appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as we work through unpredictable event together.

In order to make-up class time for this week's closure, The Dancer's Sole will now be **OPEN** during April School Vacation Week (April 20th – April 25th, 2020). Should the need arise to close for more than one week, we have multiple plans in action to remain up to date with your child's classes so as not to miss new choreography, maintain their dance technique, etc.

At this point in time, TDS is planning to continue with our regularly scheduled events including Picture Days (May 8th & May 29th) as well as our annual Recital (June 20th).

We understand and can certainly relate that this can be a stressful, scary and uncertain time for everyone, especially children. We want our dancers to feel a sense of comfort and security by providing some normalcy and familiarity into their days at home over the next week(s).

Beginning on Monday, Miss K and some of our staff will be uploading mini-class videos to Facebook and YouTube for our dancers to watch and participate in on their normal dance days – or ANY day!! These classes will include Pre-Dance & Kinderdance, tap, ballet, jazz, hip-hop, conditioning, technique and much more! In addition, Miss K will be emailing/posting some fun coloring pages and at-home activities for our littlest dancers, as well as some social media challenges for our dancers of all ages ☺ Miss K has also been in contact with a few other local studio owners to bounce ideas off of one another and work together to keep our local dance community happily moving!

We encourage you to get creative and share your dance time at home with us – tag us on social media: @thedancerssole or #TheDancersSole; or, send us your photos and videos and we will share them! This will be a fantastic way to stay connected with our dance teammates, teachers and friends during this time. After all, we could all use an extra smile or two every day!

We would like to keep our competitive dancers conditioned for competition season when it resumes, so we strongly encourage you to continue stretching, reviewing your choreography and perfecting your ballet barre practice at home. You could even FaceTime a friend to practice – we are so lucky to have all of this amazing technology right at our fingertips!

Please know that we always have our dance families' best interest at heart, and based on the CDC's regulations and suggestions, we know that this closure is the right thing to do to keep everyone as healthy and safe as possible. Our daily routines have now shifted, and we will wholeheartedly miss seeing everyone – whether it is normally once a week or every day.

Let's try to look at the positive – we will still be able to communicate with everyone virtually and dance in our living rooms for the time being ☺ Keep sending us your dance photos, videos and TDS love. We will be in touch regularly with updates on all of the above; until then, stay healthy and keep movin' & groovin'!

With Healthy & Happy Dancing Ahead,
Kristen Surprise St. Laurent
Owner/Director



March 13, 2020

The Dancer's Sole cares deeply about the health and wellness of our dance families. Your safety is, and always has been, our number one priority.

To All TDS Parents and TDS Students:

PLEASE READ THIS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Precautions for The Dancer's Sole regarding the Corona Virus:

We respect your concerns and assure you we staying on top of the latest information and recommendations. Due to the amount of emails/calls/social media inquiries we are receiving, we are respectfully providing all answers and updated information in this email & future email communications.

We will be CLOSING The Dancer's Sole on SATURDAY, MARCH 14th for a deep, disinfecting cleaning of our entire studio, including all props and classroom equipment.

I will be taking time over the course of the weekend to determine our status going forward starting this Monday. We have enormous amounts of information to consider and several resources at our fingertips - we want to be able to thoroughly address all options, including risk versus benefit. Please stay tuned to your emails, our website and our social media outlets for information RE: future classes and events.

IF we determine that we will remain open beginning this Monday, we kindly ask that our dancers and families please adhere to the following policies...To Alleviate Congestion & Eliminate Prolonged/Unnecessary Social Contact:

- ONE AND ONLY ONE PARENT/ADULT SHOULD ACCOMPANY THEIR CHILD TO CLASSES/REHEARSALS. (Please no extra parents, siblings or grandparents in the waiting area/entering the studio for now.)
- IF YOUR CHILD IS OLD ENOUGH (Ages 10+), PLEASE DROP THEM OFF AT THE DOOR. Our office staff will be extra diligent about making sure children get to class safely and on-time.
- PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING YOUR CHILD IN AND DROPPING THEM OFF, AND COMING BACK TO PICK THEM UP WHEN CLASS IS OVER (Ages 6+). We understand parents of our younger students need to be in the lobby (for bathroom trips).
- To alleviate any congestion & promote social distancing, please gather your belongings and head home immediately after your class(es).

Our faculty and staff takes extreme pride in the studio and has always worked hard to keep the studio clean and safe for our children.

We are taking **extra precautions** by:

- * Disinfecting all bathroom surfaces every day.
- * Ballet barres, door handles, countertops, light switches, and all touchable hard surfaces are wiped down with disinfecting wipes every day, multiple times per day.
- * Students will be asked to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before each class. Students are welcome to bring their own hand sanitizer into class with them. We will continue to remain diligent in maintaining a clean environment in an effort to prevent the spread of viruses.
- * If your child is sick or has been sick, please do not send them to class to help stop the spread of germs. We ask that all students remain home for a *healthy* 24 hrs. before returning to dance.
- * We are going to put a seasonal pause on hand-holding & partner work in our classes.
- * TDS encourages our students to also take the following precautions such as: frequent hand washing, use of hand sanitizer, avoiding touching face, and staying at home if you are sick.
- * TDS is more than happy to offer make-up class options, so you'll always have the entire time your dancer is enrolled to make-up any classes they need to miss due to illness. Makeup class options will be discussed in later email communications once we determine the status of the studio's classes going forward.

We feel that it is very important to try and keep some normalcy in our children's lives during this difficult time. We always want TDS to be a safe haven for our dancers and we are doing everything we possibly can to keep your children safe. We would like to inform you that we are simultaneously researching/testing technology solutions to facilitate online class opportunities should the need arise. While we understand and appreciate that online learning cannot replicate the true classroom experience, we will certainly do our best to provide the best options possible for our students.

A Note to our Company Dancers and their families:

It is very hard to predict any outcome in regards to whether any future regional competition events will be held. While these are very valid questions and concerns, we unfortunately do not have an answer for you at this time. We are being extremely diligent and learning daily about new information that is being released. Our final decision will always be in the best interest/health and safety of our dancers and families, however at this time we have no definitive answers for you. We respectfully ask that you be patient with the unknown, and we promise we will keep you all updated as we work behind the scenes with our competition directors and their staff.

As always, the health and well-being of our dancers, families, and staff is our highest priority. Be kind, stay positive & stay tuned - we've got this!

With Healthy & Happy Dancing Ahead,
Kristen Surprise St. Laurent

Owner/Director