

## **Recommended Materials and Facilities for Learning—Dance**

### **Space Recommendations:**

*Dance space:* square or rectangular room, approximately 1,800 square feet, enough to accommodate all students in a class moving at the same time. On average 90 square feet per student is best for dance activity. Gymnasiums, activity rooms, or large music rooms with chairs moved to the sides are frequently used for elementary dance activities. Dance training in secondary schools require spaces exclusively devoted to dance activities.

*Flooring:* Sprung wood or resilient wood floors are most desirable. Concrete, tile, wood over concrete, and wood over tile floors are **not** recommended due to the potential for injury from falls or repetitive jumping. Low pile industrial carpeting is acceptable for elementary movement classes but is not recommended for secondary schools.

*Lighting:* The room should be well lighted, within a 50–75 foot candle range throughout.

*Ventilation:* Temperatures controls should remain within a two to four degree range, with humidity between 50 and 60 percent. The area should be well ventilated, but airflow should not produce drafts.

*Sound proofing:* Appropriate acoustical soundproofing. Dance space could be located away from high-circulation areas to lower school disruption.

*Room:* Electrical outlets should be located on perimeter walls. Light switches should be easily accessible and have the ability to darkening the room enough for viewing audiovisuals.

*Student safety:* The room should be open throughout and clear of fixed furniture and casework.

*Mirrors:* Shatterproof mirrors should be mounted on at least one wall, with drapes installed to cover them when necessary. Wall-mounted ballet barres should be provided. (Not required for elementary, ~~and~~; required for secondary schools.) If used, portable ballet barres should be sturdy.

*Visual:* Computer(s), or Smartboard, or video monitor to allow students to view recorded or live-stream dance performances.

*Audio equipment:* Playback systems with speakers (should include: CD player with pitch control, and digital sound hookup for computer, tablet, or smartphone).

*Accompaniment supplies* (if available): Piano with bench (recommended), a place to store hand or free-standing percussion instruments.

*Student spaces:* Dressing spaces close to dance facility (lockers, lighted mirrors), toilet facilities, water fountains.

*Other:* Office space for instructor

- a place to lock up audio-visual equipment
- tablet desks for students
- storage for costumes
- CDs and DVDs
- books
- props