

Dear Steffi Nossen families,



As we are quickly approaching the start of the school year and getting ready to get back to dance, we have been taking into consideration this fluid, ever-changing environment that we are navigating through. Everything we are doing is contingent upon supporting the health and safety of our students and staff, and we are committed to doing so.

After thorough investigation and support and guidance from our re-opening committee we have decided to continue to offer our full class schedule virtually, online through Zoom. As of now, under the Phase 4 re-opening guidelines put forth from Governor Cuomo and NY State we are not eligible to have dancers in the studio as we fall under the umbrella of a small gym , yoga or Pilates studio.

Now is the time to focus on the technical and artistic growth of our students. We are focusing our energies and resources to build a strong, engaging, and enriching curriculum for our Young Movers, Core Program, Technique classes, Pre-professional Program and all of our Outreach and Adaptive Dance.

We will be working with our faculty throughout the month of August to prepare a full virtual curriculum where dancers will continue to gain strength, balance, flexibility, creativity and grow as artists while connecting through zoom with their peers and teachers. Whether in the studio or dancing through zoom we know that our faculty can continue to inspire our students to challenge themselves and continue to be the best they can be.

We are looking at additional ways to connect with our students and families through community and family class offerings both virtually and outdoors when weather will permit. We will keep you posted on upcoming events as they arise.

Another focus in our curriculum development this year is in direct response to the Black Lives Matter Movement, we are taking a deeper look at being a Culturally Responsible Organization and will be working with our faculty to develop weekly lessons within our conservatory based classes along with workshops offered to our community. Steffi Nossen has always been a place of inclusivity and we will continue to strive for that in the future.

We will continue our efforts to prepare our space for re-opening to have dancers in the studio when allowed by the state and we feel that all safety measures have been put in place to insure the safety and health of our students, staff and families. We will be following all suggested guidelines and requirements by the state, county, CDC and will be working with the Music Conservatory to complete our re-opening plans.

Re-opening plans include.

- Building, classrooms, studios will always be at 50% capacity
- Temperatures will be taken upon entry of the building
- Masks are required to enter the building
- Hand sanitizer stations will be added throughout the building
- Daily and frequent cleaning will be done of all common areas, bathrooms, hallways, etc
- Frequent hand washing will be suggested for all in the building
- Proper air ventilation systems and filters are being investigated and will be put into place before the reopening of the building

As we get closer to bringing our dancers back into the studio, clearer guidelines will be given on how we are keeping the studios safe including the use of masks, cleaning between classes, social distance boxes taped out on floor for individual dancers and proper ventilation and air circulation with CDC suggested filtration.

We might be dancing individually from our homes, but Steffi Nossen is a strong, connected community and I know that together we can get through this and rise to be even better than we were before.

Anyone can dance and everybody should. – *Steffi Nossen*

Shelley ~

Shelley Grantham

Executive Director

Steffi Nossen School of Dance

Steffi Nossen Dance Foundation