



Dancing Classrooms Northeast Ohio Accepting credentials for 2023 – 2024 Teaching Artists

The *Dancing Classrooms* program is a ten-week, twenty-session social development program that uses ballroom dancing as its “tool” for getting children to break down social barriers, learn about respect, treat others carefully, improve self-confidence, communicate, cooperate, and accept others even if they are different. **Dancing Classrooms is not about teaching ballroom dancing.** Our mission is to build social awareness, confidence, and self-esteem in children through the practice of social dance.

We are currently seeking Teaching Artists who have:

- The belief that every child can learn and excel, regardless of shape, size, family situation, or ethnic background
- A passion for dance and creative expression that is easily communicated to, and contagious among, children
- Self-confidence in his/her dance and artistic abilities
- High expectations for what every child can achieve through the program
- An ability to express themselves verbally in such a way that deserves attention
- An understanding of children’s classroom dynamics and how to manage behavior
- Flexibility and a good sense of humor

Dancing Classrooms Teaching Artists are: actors, dancers, individuals who can move with rhythm; have excellent interpersonal skills; enjoy working with children; are able to work in person in school classrooms; have a generous spirit; a sense of humor, and willingness to travel throughout Northeast Ohio.

You will be fingerprinted with the state of Ohio upon employment. Teaching Artists are paid on an hourly basis as seasonal, part-time employees. Employment is during the school year, on school days, between the hours of 7:30 am – 4:00pm. Teaching Artists are seasonal part-time employees that are paid on an hourly basis (\$30/hour).

Requirements: Make a solid commitment to a sequential ten-week residency two days per week in person at a school(s) during the hours of 7:30am and 4:00pm.

Applicants must be available to attend training.

Training dates will be July 12, 13, 14, 17 & 18, 2023 from 8:00am – 3:00pm.

Training commitment is non-negotiable, please do not apply if you’re unable to commit to attending training.

Please see pages 2-3 for additional information.

Send credentials: Email: JoJo@DCNEO.org

Thank you for taking the time to contact us. We sincerely appreciate your submission. We will contact you to meet if we believe you are a good match for our team.



BASIC OVERVIEW - Becoming a Dancing Classrooms Teaching Artist

Dancing Classrooms is a 10 week – 20 session social development program for 5th & 8th grade children that utilizes ballroom dancing as a vehicle to change the lives of not only the children who participate in the program but also the lives of the teachers and parents who support these children.

Dancing Classrooms was developed by Pierre Dulaine in New York City in 1994 and brought to Northeast Ohio by Jo Jo Carcioppolo, a protégé of Mr. Dulaine (and a Northeast Ohio native) in 2008. *Dancing Classrooms* uses the rich and varied vocabularies of social dance to increase cooperation, improve concentration, and explore areas of commonality, understanding, and cultural awareness.

Mad Hot Ballroom, an award-winning documentary capturing the *Dancing Classrooms* journey from its classroom experience to the culminating Colors of the Rainbow Team Match, was released in 2005 and greatly accelerated national, and international, interest in the program.

To become a *Dancing Classrooms* Teaching Artist, a person must have the following character traits:

- the belief that every child can learn and excel
- a passion for dance/creative expression that is easily communicated to, and contagious among, children
- self-confidence in their dance/artistic abilities
- high expectations for what every child can achieve through the program
- an ability to express themselves verbally in way that deserves attention
- an understanding of children's classroom dynamics and how to manage behavior
- flexibility and a good sense of humor

Specifically, a Teaching Artist candidate should:

- have experience working with 5th and/or 8th grade children. Understanding the developmental realities of 10–13-year-old children is important
- have a dance/theater/creative expression background – not necessarily as a professional
- can commit to part-time work during the day, Monday-Friday, for approximately 13 weeks in our Fall, Winter, and Spring school semesters
- have dependable transportation – personal vehicle or reliable mass transit options
- be able to pass a criminal background check

If you become a Teaching Artist, you will be expected to sign an agreement to:

- provide Dancing Classroom instruction (20 sessions) on agreed upon dates as detailed in the Dancing Classrooms syllabus using the program's methodology.
- contact the DC Program Manager, by 7:30 a.m. on days that the Teaching Artist cannot provide instruction per the schedule on the following page
- attend all required DC team meetings
- complete BCI & FBI background check
- sign a non-compete agreement that will restrict the use of all Dancing Classrooms materials to only the provision of classes contracted



ARE YOU THE RIGHT FIT? Ask yourself these important questions.

Attire: There is a professional dress code for Teaching Artists in our organization (skirt/shirt, dress, shirt/tie, dress pants – no sneakers).

Are you in agreement to do this? **yes** **no**

Communication: We will need to be in contact with you often primarily via email and will expect that you acknowledge and respond within 24 hours during the business week.

- Do you have a functioning cell phone? **yes** **no**
- Do you have an email you consistently check? **yes** **no**

Travel: You will be expected to travel throughout Northeast Ohio (primarily Cuyahoga and/or Lorain County). At times, depending on availability and desired workload, our Teaching Artists travel in inclement weather (depending on the season) to several schools in a day.

Is this something you are willing to do? **yes** **no**

Training: You will be trained intensively in the Dulaine Method and Syllabus. Your training will teach and prepare you to meet our expectations that you will teach with our **specific** methods, vocabulary, and standards.

Do you accept being able to fulfill this to the best of your ability? **yes** **no**

Are you available and willing to attend the training on the dates listed below? **yes** **no**

July 12, 13, 14, 17 & 18, 2023 from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.

- Following a successful “test out” on Tuesday, July 18th, you will receive \$500 on the next pay cycle.
- Upon the completion of your first 20-session residency, you will receive a final \$500 on the next occurring pay cycle.

How is *Dancing Classrooms* integrated into a school:

- *Dancing Classrooms* is a 10-week, 20 session residency that is provided to *all* the 5th and/or 8th grade classes during the school day in participating schools. It is **not** an elective or after-school program
- Prior to the program being implemented at a school, DCNEO’s Program Manager & Teaching Artist meet with the school partner (principal, classroom teacher[s]) to learn about students and explain how the *Dancing Classrooms* process will occur
- 10-week program is implemented according to agreed upon schedule
- At the end of the 10-week program, each school holds a Culminating Event (20th lessons) to present all that’s been accomplished throughout the residency.