



IN STEP

studio news from maranatha



Maranatha is a More Than Just Great Dancing® Studio

More Than Just Great Dancing® (MTJGD) is a licensed affiliation of dance studios committed to a higher standard of dance education, studio management, and student development. As part of a dynamic network of nearly 300 dance studios and 100,000 students worldwide, MTJGD provides affiliate studios with staff development, leadership training, and quality programs designed to help studios thrive. But MTJGD is about more than excellent dance instruction. Our dancers go beyond technique to develop valuable life skills and become respectful, confident, and conscientious young people who use their gifts and talents to make a difference in their communities. MTJGD studios may be diverse in their specialties and styles, but they are united by one shared belief: dance has the power to change lives. For more information about MTJGD and our commitment to creating a safe, positive studio environment, please visit our [Safer Studio Guidelines](#)

--Mr. Andrew & Ms. Amy, Studio Directors



Discipleship Corner

"The Great Adventure"

September: Map

Theme: God shows us the way

Big Truth: We can trust God to guide us.

When you're exploring new places, a map keeps you from getting lost. God gave us the ultimate map—His Word! This September, we are teaching kids that when they read the Bible and listen to God, He promises to guide their steps and show them the best path forward.

Key Phrase: "God knows the way!"

Memory Verse: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." — Psalm 119:105

Meet Our Staff



Leanna joined the Maranatha team in summer 2024 and now serves as our **Administrative Director**. Originally from North Carolina, she has called Florida home for the past 10 years. She and her husband are proud parents to three children—Ellie, Jesse, and Owen. As a family, they love playing video games, board games, and watching movies together, and they never pass up a trip to Disney World (rollercoasters are a must!).



Stevi joined the Maranatha team in January 2023 and serves as our **Customer Care Coordinator**. She loves getting to know the families who walk through our doors and helping them feel right at home. Stevi and her husband, Jason, have been married for 20 years and are blessed with four awesome kids—Kendal, Trace, Clay, and Bailey. For 11 years, they have enjoyed the adventure of homeschooling together, with the blessing of graduating two of their children while continuing to homeschool their younger two. Her family has called Crosspoint Church home for the past 13 years, where she enjoys serving in children's and youth ministries. She has a big heart for people and is excited to continue serving her Maranatha family for many years to come.

Studio Calendar

Sept. 14-17 - Fun Week: Wear Favorite Color

Sept. 21-24 - Sneak Peek Week

Sept. 28 - Oct. 2 - Intersessional Break*

Nov. 5 - Costume Fees Charged

Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day - Studio Open

Nov. 23-27 - Thanksgiving Break*

Dec. 21 - Jan. 1 - Christmas Break*

Jan. 18 - MLK Jr. Day - Studio Open

Feb. 15 - President's Day - Studio Open

Feb. 25 - Recital Fee Charged

March 22-26 - Spring Break*

March 29 - Easter Monday - Studio Open

April 29 - 2027 Membership Renewed

May - Recitals (dates TBD)

*Studio Closed, No Classes



Preschool & Children's Dance Program

MS. ALICIA

This month, our dancers will explore the dance concept of SIZE! Size helps children understand how their movements can be big, bold, and expansive or small, focused, and contained. As dancers experiment with making their movements different sizes, they strengthen body awareness, coordination, and control while encouraging creativity. This skill not only makes their dancing more expressive and dynamic, but also helps them learn how to use space in meaningful ways.

“Sneak Peek Week” begins Sept. 21

Children’s and Teen classes, mark your calendars for our first **Sneak Peek Week** of the year beginning Sept. 21! During this special week, families will be invited into the classroom to get a glimpse of what their dancer has been learning and watch them proudly “show off” a new skill they’ve been working on. **New this year: We’re excited to include our Teen classes in the Sneak Peek fun, too!** We can’t wait to welcome you into the classroom and celebrate your dancer’s progress!



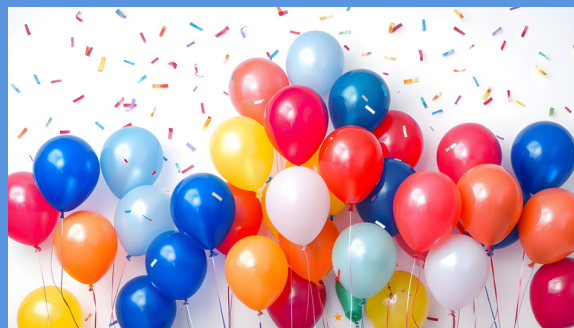
Leveled & Teen Dance Program

MS. AMY

We Teach Dance to Make Great Kids

At Maranatha, we often say, “We don’t teach kids to make great dancers; we teach dance to make great kids.” Of course, we want our students to grow in technique, artistry, strength, and confidence, but we believe the lessons learned through dance reach far beyond the studio. Discipline, perseverance, humility, responsibility, teamwork, and learning to encourage others are just as important as perfecting a pirouette. That’s why we are especially excited about the growth of student leadership at Maranatha. We are so proud to welcome over 40 students into our **Student Teacher Education Program (S.T.E.P.)**, where dancers have the opportunity to grow not only as dancers, but as leaders who serve, encourage, and invest in younger students. We are also excited to offer our **STAR Leadership Class**, and registration is now open! This class is a wonderful opportunity for students (8th grade and up) who are ready to take their leadership skills to the next level and learn what it means to lead with confidence, humility, and a servant’s heart.

We believe that the greatest measure of our success isn’t simply how well our students dance. It’s who they are becoming along the way. Our hope is that the lessons they learn at Maranatha will follow them long after they leave the studio and equip them to become leaders who make a difference wherever God takes them!



September Birthdays

Jalyssa S
Olivia O
Brighton F
Isabel P
Sophia D
Paityn O
Iona M
Isabell T
Aidan A
Salma M
Braelyn M
Alexa M
Paisley R
Abigail G
Mahalah H
Denise M
Sophia R

Katie S
Elizabeth W
Elle S
Leah D
Lilah R
Mackenzie B
Luna N
Rylee D
Lyla S
Mary Q
Gabriella P
Aubriana D
Selah B
Arwen B
Makenna M
Maislyn G
Everleigh M

Staff: Ms. Paula | Ms. Rafaela



Our first FUN week kicks off the **week of Sept. 14** with “**Getting to Know You: Wear Your Favorite Color!**” Dancers are invited to wear an accessory in their favorite color to class as we learn more about each other and meet new dance friends.

Please remember: proper dance attire and shoes are still required.



Did You Know? Maranatha is an ongoing partner with the Love Does School in Burkina Faso!

Maranatha Dance has had the privilege of being a long-time partner with the Love Does School in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Many of our studio families helped launch this partnership by contributing to the clean water project in 2019. In 2023, Pastor Deme - the headmaster of the Love Does School - visited our studio and shared with our students. Since that visit, both a primary and secondary school have been built!

The new school year in Burkina Faso begins on October 1st. Last year, the school welcomed over 260 children, and we anticipate even more students joining this season.

In the months ahead, we'll be sharing more about Love Does, the Burkina Faso school, regular updates, and some tangible ways for your family to get involved!

Check out the video to the right to learn more about what Love Does has been up to recently. >>>>>

A portion of every student's tuition helps support the school. Let us know if you would like information about how your family can be more involved.



For more information about the Burkina Faso school, visit www.maranathadance.com/burkinafaso



[Love Does 2025 Overview](#)