

EMERGING ARTISTS
EDUCATOR
SHADOW PROGRAM



SHOCK
SHOCK DANCE



The Educator Shadow Program is held under the Shock Dance Center Emerging Artists Program which is led by Marisa Dorchock. This program would be guided by Marisa Dorchock and Lindley Mayer Gullidge and is designed to cultivate the next generation of high-quality, well-trained instructors and choreographers within the Shock Dance community. This program provides selected dancers with hands-on classroom experience, professional mentorship and leadership development, while maintaining the elevated standards of our studio who have passion for choreography, educating, and beyond.

WELCOMES



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for participation, students must meet all of the following criteria:

Age & Experience

- Must be 14 years or older.
- Must currently be enrolled in SDC Level 6 Jazz.
- Must be a model student who consistently demonstrates respect, responsibility, and a positive attitude.



BACKGROUND & SELECTION

Background & Selection

- Must have completed at least one full season in the Shock Assistant Program.
- Participation is by **INVITATION ONLY**. Students may not apply; they must be selected and approached by Shock faculty.

PLACEMENT & TEACHING BOUNDARIES

Placement and Teaching Boundaries

- Student Emerging Educators may only assist or shadow in classes Level 3 and below or alongside Katie Gillespie for our Recreational Program.
- Specific genre/class will be selected by staff based on strengths for that particular class
- A Shock staff member must always be present in the room—no exceptions.
- Shadowing Emerging Educators will never replace a staff member or run a class independently until officially promoted to instructor status (see below)



PROGRAM STRUCTURE

1. Shadow Phase – Minimum 6 Months

Emerging Artist Educators will shadow an assigned staff member for a minimum of six months, during which they will:

- Observe classroom management techniques
- Learn curriculum flow and age-appropriate progressions and language.
- Practice taking attendance, setting up the room, and assisting with transitions
- Gradually help demonstrate choreography or technique
- Practice giving simple corrections under staff guidance
- Participate in staff debriefs after class to reflect and review expectations

Progress check-ins will occur every 4 weeks

After demonstrating reliability and readiness during the Shadow Phase, after Month 3, they may take on supported responsibilities, such as:

- Leading warm-ups or across-the-floor (with staff approval)
- Assisting small groups or stations
- Helping manage behavior and class flow
- Leading portions of class when appropriate
- **After the 3 months shadowing, dancer is required to teach a Masterclass, including creating flyers under staff leadership, promote, and complete with feedback given if choreography is the intended route.**
- **IF teaching REC is the route chosen by staff, dancer is required to teach a REC camp class supervised by Katie Gillespie.**
- ****NO PRIVATE LESSONS SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY STUDENTS UNLESS THEY ARE DANCER OF THE YEAR OR HAVE GRADUATED AND ARE APPROVED BY STAFF****



EVALUATION & EXPECTATION

Emerging Shadow Educators must consistently demonstrate:

Professionalism

- Excellent attendance and punctuality
- Proper dress code
- Respectful communication with students, parents, and staff
- **No outside communication with dancers/parents regarding the classroom, progress, etc. Please always direct to Shock staff.**

Leadership Skills

- Ability to maintain a positive learning environment
- Confidence while demonstrating choreography/technique
- A “team player” mindset with faculty and other assistants

Failure to meet expectations may result in removal from the program.



COMPENSATION & FEES

Unpaid Apprenticeship

Benefits to the student include:

- Professional training and mentorship
- Service hours
- Early pathway to teaching
- Priority consideration for future paid positions
- Official completion certificate
- Resume Credits

Once a dancer has advanced by faculty disgression;

- A small stipend per class will be discussed
- Tuition credit
- Shock merchandise discounts

Solo Teaching Opportunities

Students will not receive their own class until:

- They have shadowed and assisted successfully for at least 6 months year.
- Have completed a supervised Master class with approval, DOTY, or taught REC Camp Class
- They demonstrate strong classroom management, maturity, and reliability.
- They have completed additional training (see suggested additions below).
- The class offered is Level 1 or preschool/intro, not a higher level.

Final approval is at the discretion of Shock leadership.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Shadow Training will include:

- Safety and injury-prevention basics
- Child behavior & communication
- Lesson planning fundamentals
- Teaching across age groups
- Studio expectations and professionalism
- and MORE!

2. Students will be required to sign Handbook & Agreement outlining:

- Roles and boundaries
- Attendance policy
- Confidentiality expectations
- A code of conduct
- Consequences for failing to uphold standards



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

3. Parent Communication Policy

Emerging Artist Educators should:

- **Never communicate directly with parents about concerns**
- **Direct all questions to the staff teacher**
- Maintain professionalism inside and outside the classroom

4. Evaluation Rubric

Shock Staff will Provide periodic feedback with ratings in areas such as:

- Confidence
- Teaching voice
- Patience
- Correction technique
- Reliability
- Leadership
- Preparedness

Upon program completion student will receive:

- Feature on studio social media
- A certificate or recognition for completing the Student Teacher Program.
- Opportunity to choreograph a combo during the year with staff supervision