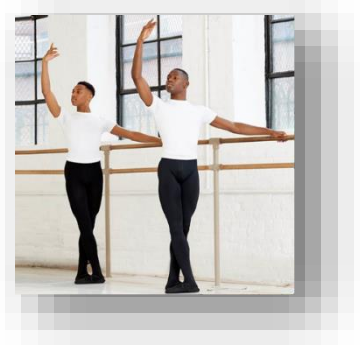




DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM SCHOOL

2026 SUMMER INTENSIVE DRESS CODE

“The DTH Look”



While our Founder, Arthur Mitchell, was a male dancer, the impact of the equity promised by the Civil Rights Movement, raised in his head a question; a question inspired by the experimentation of one of his dancers; a female dancer who boldly dyed her tights and shoes to match her brown skin tone. From that point on, the up to five different flesh tone tights and shoes of the female Dance Theatre of Harlem (DTH) dancer would be both applauded and reviled for decades. Now, 56 years later, the rest of the world has caught up to Dance Theatre of Harlem, where all shades have always mattered. The classic “DTH Look.” View our [short video](#) *Many Hues, One Line – Dance Theatre of Harlem Innovates Matching Skin Tone Tights & Shoes*, to learn the true history of flesh tone tights.



TIGHTS: Students taking Modern and African must take class in bare feet, so it is necessary to purchase “transitional tights.” Students are expected to wear tights without runs or holes.

FOR FEMALES: The DTH School (DTHS) requires all female students wear flesh tone tights, slippers, and/or pointe shoes to match as close to the student’s natural skin tone as possible. This will prevent a break in the visual “line,” from the top of their head to the tip of their toes.

LEOTARDS: The uniform for all levels consists of a black leotard with a white DTH logo. DTH uniforms can be purchased through third party vendor Movimiento Harlem, movimientoharlem@gmail.com, 646-678-2193 or on the [website](#). Direct link to leotards can be found [here](#).

FOR MALES: The male uniform for all levels consists of a fitted white dance top. No regular tee shirts. Tights/leggings must be black, coupled with a dance belt (older boys), and black Ballet shoes.



HAIR: Female students must wear their hair swept back and up in a secured ballet bun. Bun placement should be at the crown and NOT forward close to the hairline at the forehead. Braids are accepted but should not exceed a length much lower than the shoulder. The thickness of the braids should allow for a safe, secure, appropriately sized ballet bun that does not move. Females with short hair must keep their hair neat, secure, and away from the face.

Male students must wear their hair neat and short. Long hair must be secured back and away from the face without heavy facial hair.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS: Wellness Wednesdays was inspired by the need to mitigate injuries which tend to occur during summer intensives. On Wednesdays, students have morning dance classes. After lunch, they will engage in fun, creative, community-building activities.

OTHER CLASS ITEMS: The dress code attire is maintained for all classes.

- For Jazz footwear is Ballet Slippers or Jazz shoes.
- Modern and African are barefoot.
- Females should wear a short Lapa skirt over the dress code leotard. Lapas will be available for purchase at DTH.
- Males can wear African pants over their tights. African pants will be available for purchase at DTH.
- **Students should bring a yoga mat and two (2) yoga blocks.**

No leg warmers, sweats, shorts, head coverings (except for religious observance), multicolored leotards, etc. are allowed during class.

Jewelry is dangerous while dancing and should not be worn in class. Only stud earrings are allowed for in person class.

Nails must be kept trimmed for all students.

We recommend that students have more than one set of DTH uniform, and that uniforms be cleaned and not reused across multiple days.

**For any DTH School Dress Code questions, please contact
registration@dancetheatreofharlem.org**