

Walworth County Cloggers



Midwest Clogging Connection LLC
www.walworthcountycloggers.com

FALL 2009 Welcome

IMPORTANT: FALL is the time to join!! Beginning Clogging classes are offered during the FALL session only!!

If you know *anyone* that is interested in joining, please help get them to the studio this fall. (Or they have to wait another year for a chance to join.)

YOUTH classes held on Sundays at our home studio (WCGC) Walworth County Gymnastics Center in Elkhorn.

New Beginning Tiny Tots meet from 4 – 4:30 pm

New Beginning YOUTH meet from 4:30 – 5:15 pm

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YOUTH INSTRUCTORS:
Alison Brown
Kristin Aune
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Instructors-in-training
Amanda Hammel
Jadrian McCarthy-Ochoa
Shannon Graves

About Us

The Walworth County Cloggers offer first-rate clogging instruction in contemporary style clogging from beginner to competition level in a fun, family friendly club environment. Our low cost program—reasonable lesson fees, no studio attire requirement, optional performing and only one performing uniform for our several shows—is a great way to combine a love for dance with exercise and a team experience.

With the largest youth clogging program in the state (this Fall we have 30 Performance Team



dancers, 15 Pre-Team dancers and 40 Club dancers) and our new adult recreational program, the Walworth County Cloggers continue their commitment to creating a positive clogging experience for our dancers and audiences.

One of the unique things about our group is our instructor staff. We are committed to sharing our love for clogging with our dancers and our audiences. This is not our job – not even our part-time job. It is just a hobby we love! In fact, to be able to continue to offer classes

at such a reasonable rate, we voluntarily give up our time—for class, for shows, for planning and preparing. The other difference between clogging and other dance programs is our team environment. We consider our dancers members of our group—not just a student in a class. Throughout the year, dancers can participate in many 'out-of-the-studio' events, such as shows, parades, workshops, picnics and more, designed to promote teamwork and friendship.

We welcome you to the Walworth County Cloggers!

Clogging 101

Clogging is an art form and very much a part of our heritage. It began in the Appalachian Mountains brought to America by Irish, Scottish, English and Dutch Germans who settled there in the mid 1700s. Influences from our Native Americans, African Americans as well as today's Canadian, tap and jazz dance continued to create the evolving, unique dance form we enjoy today.

The word "clog" means "time" in Gaelic. Clogging is danced keeping time with the downbeat. Clogging differs from tap dancing in one basic way. In clogging, the heel keeps the downbeat.

Many people think clogging is a dance performed in wooden shoes. (English dancers do wear wooden clogs.) Modern cloggers wear a jazz oxford shoe similar to

a tap shoe. However, tap shoes have a single tap attached to the toe and heel while clogging taps have another piece riveted to that piece, therefore considered "double taps" and make more of a "jingle" sound.

Clogging is one of the few dances considered a sport, with dancers forming teams and competing in area, state and national events.

Class Information

The Walworth County Cloggers hold youth classes on Sunday evenings. As a club, not a dance studio, we do not offer several class options throughout the week. Since clogging is our hobby too, the other time commitments in our lives led us to Sundays for regular classes. And since this works for the instructors (and they are the ones giving their time to this) they get to pick the night and time. ☺

As a club, you will notice we have larger classes. We work with the class as a group to create a fun environment where dancers work together as they learn skills and routines.

Arrive a few minutes early for your class and be ready for your instructor at your start time. Wait at the door by our bulletin board and your instructor will open the studio door to let you in.

Wear comfortable clothes – layers during cooler weather as it is often warm in the studio.

Keep your 'stuff' (coats, bags, shoes) in the locker room or observation room. Or you may place them along the back wall of the studio when you enter class (but no food or drinks). Do NOT leave your belongings in the lobby/hall areas.

No water bottles in studio.

NO CHEWING GUM in class –or whenever you are clogging!!

NO RUNNING – in the studio or anywhere in WCGC.

We do not have 'drink and bathroom breaks' during class. If a dancer needs to leave the room for a moment, they may do that.

NO STREET SHOES on the studio floor.

NO FOOD or DRINK in the studio!

Parents can watch through the window (not in studio). Please DO NOT BLOCK HALL traffic. Thanks.

All gymnastics areas are OFF LIMITS!!

"Leave it cleaner than you found it" – pick up trash you see and make sure we leave the space nice when we are done.

Do NOT leave children here unsupervised before/after their class time. While you may leave during their class, we ask that you are there for the start and end of class. With over 80 youth cloggers in the building on Sunday evenings and the birthday parties held at WCGC it can be a busy place. We cannot be responsible for supervising them outside of class.

NEW MEMBERS WANTED!!

New dancers have a "try-it option" – they can pay for just the first month and then pay for the remainder of the session if they choose to continue. We also encourage you to bring a friend to try a class for free.

CLOGGING SHOES

We have used and new clogging shoes. Our used clogging shoes are provided by our clogging families – so we have no control over what sizes are available for sale at any given time. If you are looking for used shoes, Carrie or Shannon can help you look through the shoe bins. If you find a pair that fit, you simply pay the seller (we have an envelope for you to use and we will pass it along to them).

Tiny Tots can wear tap shoes. We have a GREAT tap shoe for only \$20.00 – and it's WHITE so they feel like they are wearing 'real' clogging shoes.

We have new shoes available too. Youth sizes are now available starting at a size 8 ½!! We have two options available.

Freestylers is our preferred shoe as this is a nice leather shoe. Shoe, taps and installation put this shoe at \$69.50.

Kids Stomper is \$65.50. (This shoe has a man-made material that is not as comfortable as the other shoe.)

For more information about shoes...

www.midwestcloggingconnection.com
or contact Shannon



BUILDING CONFIDENCE ON THE DANCE FLOOR AND IN LIFE.

"When you have confidence, you can have a lot of fun. And when you have fun, you can do amazing things." -- Joe Namath

Check out our website for more information about our group.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please give Shannon a call or email. We're here to help you figure out this 'clogging thing'. ☺

At the studio, if you have questions about shoes, session fees, events, etc...please direct them to Shannon or Carrie.

Dancers are encouraged to direct questions specifically about their routines and steps to their instructors. Please do not leave without asking for help if you need it. Most instructors will have a moment or two after class they can help you.