For Immediate Release

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Tanner Dance Classes Start January 3
Modern dance classes for kids and adults offer tuition discounts and options for students with disabilities

University of Utah, December 16, 2016 – The University of Utah Tanner Dance Program is now accepting new students for the spring 2017 semester. The program offers creative dance, ballet, hip hop and visual arts classes on the University of Utah campus in the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex. Creative dance classes are also held for elementary school-age students in satellite locations in Bountiful, Brigham City, Park City, Ogden, Sandy and South Jordan thanks to partnerships with community centers, schools and University of Utah satellite campuses. University of Utah employees receive 15% off class tuition with their UCard by registering over the phone or in person.

Tanner Dance classes focus on the development of the whole child. Dancers develop creative dance technique through traditional modern and ballet exercises. In addition, they exercise their creativity and imagination as they explore the elements of dance through age appropriate movement. Dancers are given opportunities to improvise, engage in creative problem-solving, and grow in cognitive, social and emotional ways as they interact in each class. One parent said of Tanner Dance classes:

Next year I plan to have [all my children] dance here, and I feel so blessed to have found a place that reflects the values I want to instill in my [children], a place that honors character and goodness. It truly is the happiest place to dance!

Ballet and hip hop classes give dancers further technical training while helping them maintain a love of dance. All creative dance classes have live accompaniment by experienced and engaging musicians to expose dancers to a variety of musical genres. Kindergarten and older classes will participate in a performance in May at Kingsbury Hall as part of the annual spring Tanner Dance Studio Show.

Tanner Dance also offers a series of Dancers with Disabilities classes for students ages 3 and up who have physical and/or cognitive disabilities. The tuition for these classes is subsidized by various private and government funding sources, and students can also pay for tuition through the Department of Services for People with Disabilities funding allocations. These classes include appropriate technique exercises for the whole body, and dancers explore shape, space, rhythm, and movement quality among a supportive community of teachers, volunteers and friends.

Adults may take a beginning/intermediate modern dance class set to live music on Tuesday nights. This class is taught by a former professional dancer and provides energizing cardio movement appropriate for a variety of ages and ability levels. All classes begin on Tuesday, January 3 and run until Saturday, April 28, with a week off at the end of March. Students can learn more about classes and register online at www.tannerdance.utah.edu, by calling 801-581-7374, or by visiting the Tanner Dance side of the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex at 1721 Campus Center Drive.

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About Tanner Dance

Confident that the use of wholesome creative activity allows young people of all ages to develop alert minds, healthy bodies, and strong character, Virginia Tanner established the Tanner Dance Program in the 1940s. Her founding philosophy has become an enduring legacy of almost eight decades. Today, the program complements and extends the University of Utah’s mission of teaching, research and service, serving more than 40,000 students annually on campus and at satellite locations, as well as in elementary schools and community centers throughout Utah. The program moved into its new home in the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts & Education Complex in February 2014.