

Dance Team
Standards of Attire for Children & Adults

*Philip Fithian wrote in his journal, “Virginians are of a genuine blood,
they will dance or die!”*

- **All natural fabrics** – wool, linen, cotton, etc. or accepted satin or silk substitute. NO obvious poly ester materials, zippers, Velcro that is visible, etc., and as much as possible the period correct prints and fabric colors. Please do the research.
- **Hair style or wig** appropriate to the time period of the day and the time of day. The time period RCHS covers are 1760-1820. **The time period depends on the particular event we are participating in.** Check with the Dance Instructor if you have a question., or the Event Coordinator.
- **Hats** appropriate to the time period being portrayed. Examples: **1770-** men’s cocked hats, ladies ‘round eared’ caps, ladies flat or low crown brimmed straw or wool felt hat.
- **Dance shoes** – Soft flexible dance shoes work best for the men. The Dance Instructor can provide an example of the style of shoe appropriate for the gentleman to wear. The Dance Instructor also has a source for these shoes or you may purchase them at dance supply stores. Ladies dance best in heels – if appropriate to the **time period being portrayed**. They can be 21st century shoes converted to 18thC with buckles and/or ribbons. Our Dance Instructor understands all ‘feet’ are not the same and the Dance Instructor is willing to work with us to find an acceptable substitute.
- **Make up** – The “natural” look please if you are wearing 21st century makeup. Mascara, blush, lipstick are acceptable if worn in an “unassuming manner.” Make up was worn in the 18thC but make sure what you wear is appropriate for **whom** you are portraying and **what** you are portraying. Do your research first.
- **Nail polish** – is not appropriate. If you have to wear polish make sure to keep your hands covered with gloves.
- **Jewelry** – make sure that it is appropriate to your persona/station and also to the time of day (morning/evening).

Very Important: Appropriate “**Dress of the Day**” – our manner of dress (dress style, hair, hat, etc) portrays whatever **time period** we are doing **that day**, and that the **style** of dress be correct for the **time of day –daytime or evening.**

If you are unsure of your fabric, hat, hairstyle, etc. please check with the Dance Instructor or someone that has been designated **before** the day of the performance. When we are doing a function for ourselves our manner of clothing is not that important. **When we are in the public eye “on stage” we need to be the best personification of the 18th century that we can possibly be. **You must be a current paid member of RCHS to participate on the demo team. ****