

WHAT:	<i>Cotillion Class offered by Tulsa Cotillion (five 90-minute classes, plus formal dinner and dance)</i>
WHO:	<i>Full-time Homeschool Students in the Tulsa Metro-area (7th-12th grades)</i>
WHEN:	<p><i>Sunday evenings from 7:00-8:30 PM. Class dates are as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Sunday, January 8th</i> ▪ <i>Sunday, January 22nd</i> ▪ <i>Sunday, January 29th</i> ▪ <i>Sunday, February 5th</i> ▪ <i>Sunday, February 26th</i> <p><i>Final Dinner & Dance will be in early March (date, time and location to be announced)</i></p>
WHERE:	<i>Junior League of Tulsa (3633 South Yale Avenue, Tulsa OK 74135)</i>
COST:	<i>\$215 per student</i>

What is a “cotillion” program?

Cotillion is a class for boys and girls of middle-school age and above, offering instruction in etiquette, table manners, and basic ballroom dancing. Tulsa Cotillion’s program consists of five 90-minute class sessions, plus a formal five-course dinner, dance, and party (lasting about 4 hours). Each class session begins with a 15-minute etiquette lesson, followed by an hour of dancing, allowing our students to incorporate the manners they have been taught in an informal, but structured, social situation. We end each class session with a 15-minute refreshment break, during which the gentlemen serve the ladies, and both gentlemen and ladies can practice table manners and their conversational skills.

What does the Tulsa Cotillion program emphasize?

In our first-year program, Tulsa’s future business leaders and entrepreneurs are introduced to the basics of formal social and dining etiquette while also learning three basic ballroom dances (Salsa, Cha-Cha, and East Coast Swing). Our focus on proper manners and etiquette during each session encourages our students to put those manners into practice over the course of six weeks, allowing them to be comfortable when presented with any social situation. From the beginning, we teach our boys to act like gentlemen and our girls to demand to be treated like ladies. Gentlemen are taught to hold doors and chairs for ladies, to help them with their coats, they are taught how to escort and to serve them, and to always respect and treat them with dignity. Ladies are taught to be gracious and lady-like, and to show appreciation and respect to the gentlemen in their lives. Our etiquette lessons include proper dining etiquette, both formal and informal; polite conversation while dining; the importance of proper social skills, including how to introduce yourself and how to proceed through receiving lines; how to be a gracious guest, host or hostess; the paying and receiving of compliments; holding doors and chairs, and how to help a lady with her coat; the different types of RSVPs; dress codes; cell phone etiquette; and how to behave in mixed group situations, as well as many other areas of social etiquette. We also stress the importance of treating everyone with respect and courtesy.

What is the formal party like?

Formal parties begin with a photo session, and a quick review of our dances. Then we provide an informative demonstration of each course students will be served, using a prototype table. Once the party starts, we dance 2-3 dances between each of the five courses: soup, salad, sorbet, entrée and dessert. Students dance each dance with a different partner, allowing them to dance with multiple partners, and also practice how to graciously exchange partners while on the dance floor.

About Tulsa Cotillion

Tulsa Cotillion was founded in 2009 following in the footsteps of a 60-year old Tulsa tradition of formal dance and etiquette classes taught by Skilly Forsman (“Skillys”). Kurt Claxton taught alongside Skilly for 15 years, and then carried on the tradition once she retired, renaming the program Tulsa Cotillion. Tulsa Cotillion’s ultimate goal is to have our students leave with the knowledge and poise to enter any given social situation with confidence. (Find more information on our website at: <https://tulsacotillion.net/>)

What is the dress code?

For **weekly classes**, the dress code is **business attire**, including:

- *Gentlemen* – Khakis or dress slacks, and collared shirt, with leather dress shoes.
- *Ladies* – Church-appropriate dresses or skirts, dress shoes.

For the **Final Dinner & Dance**, the dress code is **semi-formal attire**, including:

- *Gentlemen* – Suit or blazer, dress slacks, collared button-down shirt, tie, and leather dress shoes.
- *Ladies* – Modest semi-formal dress, dress shoes.

How much does it cost?

This six-week program will cost **\$215 per student**. The class fee includes: Tulsa Cotillion’s program fee, class facility charges, invitations, and the Final Dinner & Dance. (Optional parent tickets for the Final Dinner & Dance will be available for an additional fee.)

What else do parents need to provide?

This year, parents will provide and serve refreshments during one of the five regular classes. Refreshments may be as simple as a selection of store-bought cookies, or include more elaborate fare. Parents will provide refreshments, setup and serve, and clean up afterwards. We will also need a small team of parents to help plan the Final Dinner & Dance, and set up before the event.

How does my child sign up?

Sign up at the link below. Spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis, with an equal number of boys and girls, so sign up as soon as possible.

<https://knowandbelieve.com/tulsa-cotillion-2023/>

Questions?

Please contact Abigail Prescott, at aprescott@knowandbelieve.com, or by text at 918-284-3447.