

2022-2023 Ambassadors of Dance Competition Contract

ATTENTION: Please make sure both Parent/Guardian and Dancer read, understand, and agree to the following contract prior to committing to join the Competition Team. All policies were carefully considered and are in place to promote the success of our dancers. ALL rules must be followed or else the Director will enforce appropriate penalties.

Our Philosophy

Dance competitions can be a fulfilling experience for dancers who strive to do their best in the studio and on stage. Competitions provide feedback and critique to help develop and grow skills in performance, technique, and choreography. Performances provide opportunities for our dancers to gain confidence, develop stage presence, show the technique learned through classes, and learn how to work well in teams.

Our goal as competitors is not solely to receive the highest score or biggest trophy, but to challenge ourselves and grow as dancers. All prospective competition team members are expected to work hard, maintain a positive attitude, be respectful to other dancers, and to act as positive role models for our studio. They must be the leadership example in every class they take and demonstrate good sportsmanship at competitions. The Performance Team requires the highest level of commitment and has the most requirements. Team Members are expected to be experienced dancers with a high work ethic, desire to learn, and willingness to be a part of a team. All dancers must be fully committed and follow the requirements in order to remain a competitive dancer at Ambassadors of Dance.

Team Auditions and Placement

Any dancers, ages 8 and up, can make the decision to audition for the competition team. Following auditions team directors will place dancers where they feel most appropriate. Dancers may be placed in full team groups, select small groups, or duet/trio/solos based upon the discretion of the team directors. Dancers selected for small groups are NOT required to participate in them, and may choose to solely compete with the full team groups. Dancers MUST participate in a corresponding genre's group routine in order to compete in a solo/duet/trio of that style. Once selected for the routines, dancers and parents must complete the contract forms before their first routine's choreography date or by Monday, July 25th 2022 whichever comes first.

Attendance Policies and Class Requirements

Rehearsals are mandatory for Team Members unless the team directors advise otherwise. No Team member may miss more than (4) Rehearsals throughout the competitive season (Sept-Apr). Any missed classes must be made up within the month they are missed. We may also schedule extra practices (beyond the normal weekly class) as needed to work on choreography or cleaning for an upcoming event, and we expect all team members to be there if possible. We will try to schedule the extra practices around dancer availability, to the best of our ability. Any student who exceeds the absence limit is subject to removal from the team at the discretion of the team directors. Dancers must be able to commit to the entire competitive season without over-committing themselves in other areas (work, sports, school activities, etc.). Please understand competition commitment also requires attending your ballet and different style technique classes.

No Dancer may miss their routine Rehearsals in the two weeks leading up to a competition event (including extra rehearsals), unless the team director has approved it.

Competition Team Class Requirements:

Members of the Competition Team are required to take the following classes. Any absences from these required classes must be made-up within the same month that the absence occurs. Dancers may "bank" classes in anticipation of future absences. Failure to make-up required classes may result in dismissal from the Team.

At least (1) Ballet Class per week; at least (1) Class per week in each style of dance they are competing in; at least (1) conditioning or leaps and turns class

For purposes of class requirements, Lyrical=Contemporary and vice versa.

2021 Competition Team Summer Requirements:

Members of the team are required to participate in Auditions Saturday July 9th. Choreography will take place in August Cost: \$100 per group routine max. \$300 for multiple routines. Choreography dates TBD based on choreographer's availability.

Decorum

All competition team dancers are to be considered "Ambassadors" of the studio and will, therefore, be held to a higher standard of behavior, participation, and dedication in class and on stage. We expect all team members to be supportive of each other and to exercise good sportsmanship at competitive events, being respectful of the rules, other dancers, judges, teachers/team directors etc. We also expect a higher level of responsibility in regard to care of costumes and preparation for performances. All team members are expected to arrive in full hair and makeup to performances, to wear Ambassadors of Dance apparel to performances

when not in costume, to arrive 2 hours before their first scheduled dance time, and to stay through the applicable Awards ceremony. The team will elect a spokesperson who will represent each routine in accepting awards onstage.

Any team member exhibiting inappropriate behavior or a disrespectful attitude in the studio, online (social media), or at a competition event may be dropped from performances or the team upon director's discretion. Parents will be notified if action must be taken. This includes, but is not limited to disrespectful comments regarding costumes, dances, teammates, events; lack of respect shown to teachers/teammates/parents; and inability to control negative emotions and behave in a sportsmanlike manner.

Costs

Classes: Competition Team Members may take unlimited classes for a set fee of \$215 per month. **PRIVATE LESSONS ARE NOT INCLUDED AND MUST BE PAID SEPARATELY**

Costumes: A costume will be required for each routine. Assume an average cost of \$55 for each new costume. As always, we will strive to maintain reasonable costume costs. Team Members are required to have matching shoe styles, so you may have to purchase additional shoes. Jewelry kits (rhinestone earrings/necklace) may also be a mandatory purchase for new team members – approximate cost is \$30.

Note: Team members may be taught a non-competition dance in each of the weekly classes they take. These dances will be performed at recital. Performance team members may opt out of performing these dances in the recital. However, if they do not opt out, additional costume purchases will be required.

Hair and Makeup: All dancers will be expected to follow class guidelines for performance hair and makeup. Unless otherwise specified by the choreographer this will include: A low ponytail with hair slicked back with a center part, a black smokey eye, eyeliner, false eyelashes, stage appropriate blush, and red lipstick. The dancers are expected to complete hair and makeup independently prior to arriving at the performance.

Competition Fees: Competition fees are generally \$55 per routine per competition. Duets run approximately \$70 each and solos are approximately \$120 each. All group competitions are mandatory. If you cannot commit to all, please do not join a team. Solos/Duets/Trios may choose which events they participate in.

Solos/Duets/Trios

Any interested Team members will have to meet specific criteria (see below). Students may request a specific choreographer. Solos/Duets/Trios/Small Groups will be decided upon Competition Team Auditions. All choreography must be set during the summer.

Costs: Choreography \$180 (includes 3 hours of private class). If more time is required, the cost is \$30 per ½ hour. Just like group dances the more you practice and rehearse your solo the more confidence you will exude on stage.

All solos, duets/trios are required to videotape the completed choreography and practice on their own time outside of their private classes. It is not the teacher's responsibility to make sure the dancer retains the work. That responsibility is on the dancer(s) involved.

Criteria: To be considered for a solo/duet/trio/small group dancer must participate in at least one group dance to be considered for a solo/duet/trio in that same style. Participation in a solo/duet/trio/small group dance routine is a privilege and a great challenge. To be successful, the dancer(s) must have a high degree of skill, commitment, and understand that they are representatives of our studio.

Note: We want all of our dancers to be successful by dancing within their capabilities. Not everyone is a good candidate for a "non-group" routine. There is also significant cost. The competition fees run approximately \$120/dance/event for solos and \$70/dance/event for duets/trios. A separate costume may also need to be purchased. Each dancer must have a good attendance record in weekly classes, strong work ethic, positive and respectful behavior in class and with teachers, motivated self-starter, commitment to practice independently, and excellent showmanship.

Ambassadors of Dance Competition Team Contract

DANCE SEASON: 2022-2023

Today's Date: _____

DANCER NAME: _____

DANCER BIRTH DATE: _____

If you choose to participate on this team, you **MUST** be committed to participate in the competition events (be available for the entire weekends involved Friday-Sunday). We will compete in three events the events/weekends will be chosen by September 5. Exact Days and Times will not be known until the week before the event. If you and your family do not have the flexibility to commit, regardless of other activities/events, then please do not join the team.

We are planning on attending the following regional competitions: Platinum, Inferno, and Starbound.

Optional: (solos/duets only) Inferno

Dance Style(s): (circle the styles you want to compete in)

Tap Jazz Hip Hop Lyrical Ballet Contemporary

For dancers interested in a Solo/Duets/Small Groups, indicate style of dance and requested Style: _____

Choreographer: _____

Total Estimated Comp Fees: \$ _____

(\$55/group routine/event; \$70/duet/event; \$120/solo/event)

Payment enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ Credit _____

NOTE: A deposit of \$55 per group routine, \$70/duet-trio and \$120/solo is required with this application. Competition and costume fees must be paid in full by October 1st in order to register dancers in competition.

WAIVER of LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF FULL RESPONSIBILITY:

Competitors are understood to recognize the risks of physical injury inherent in dance and dance performances and be willing to assume those risks. It is agreed that participants will not hold Ambassadors of Dance, nor any Dance Competition Organization, or their directors or employees liable for injuries sustained or illnesses contracted by them while in attendance and/or performing in any activity at a Dance competition.

Competitors and families understand that videotaping and/or photography is strictly prohibited at competition venues, and that any violation of this policy may disqualify our studio from the competition.

I consent to the use of my dancer's image in photographs and/or video footage for promotional purposes such as studio website and social media.

Dancer Name: _____

Agreed: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian of above Dancer : _____

COMPETITION TEAM COMMITMENT

We have read the Competition Team Contract and agree to participate on the Team indicated above. We understand and agree to abide by all the rules, stipulations, and policies of the selected team. We are firmly committed to the competition weekends indicated and will be available as required.

We understand the competition fees we are submitting with this contract are non-refundable. We agree that any failure on our part to abide by the contract may result in dismissal from the Competition Team. We understand that following the rules is vital to the success of the team and it's dancers

We commit to be motivated, to work full-out in our classes and rehearsals, and to take and implement corrections from our teachers without complaint. We commit to always representing our Team and Ambassadors of Dance in a positive manner.

Dancer Name: _____

Date: _____

Dancer Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

COST EXAMPLE FOR A PERFORMANCE TEAM MEMBER WHO CHOOSES TO DANCE IN 3 GROUP ROUTINES:

(1) Ballet Classes/week, plus (3) additional classes, plus Team Rehearsal class = \$215/month;
Annual cost = $215 \times 9 = \$1935$.

Choreography Week: \$300

Costumes for Competition Dances = $55 \times 3 = \$165$.

Costumes for Recital Dances = $4 \times 50 = \$200$

-- (assumes all new costumes). Other Costs could include shoes/jewelry, etc.

Competition Fees: 3 dances at \$55 each, three events = $165 \times 3 = \$495$.

Overall Total: up to \$3095 for the year

***Fees will vary based upon how many group routines or solo/duets a dancer participates in.