



Community Performance Troupe Orientation

Updated September 2023

Thank you for your interest in the ASAO Elite Performers!

To audition, dancers must perform improvisation routines to various types of songs and in a wide range of styles. Dancers must also demonstrate advanced skill level and choreography retention, in both group and individual settings. At the conclusion of auditions, dancers are invited to enroll in the group they have been chosen for. This prestigious invitation comes with great commitment!

Dancers on the Community Performance Troupe and Pas de Deux Team must also enroll in Ballet or Jazz recreational classes.

Under special circumstances, a late invitation or younger opportunity to audition to the team may be presented by the studio owners. Accommodations for late/younger registration will be made accordingly.

Etiquette

As a member of the team, you will be considered one of ASAO Dance's Elite Performers. Elite Performers are held to a higher standard than recreational dancers, due to the extensive commitment and type of events they are participating in. Dancers must have good standing in attendance, classroom etiquette, and company ambassadorship.

It is at the discretion of the studio owner to determine a dancer's eligibility to remain on the team. As an ambassador of the company, dancers agree to uphold the values and morals of the company in all aspects. Defamation of the company, its staff and students, or immoral behavior, in public or on social media, will result in removal from the ASAO Competition Team. There will be no tolerance for negative attitudes, bullying, or poor sportsmanship in the dance studio or at ASAO Events. If a dancer is found acting in a manner found to be disrespectful, he or she will be removed from the ASAO Competition Team.

ASAO is a dance company that prides itself in being an all-inclusive, positive resource for dancers and families. **Any parents or responsible parties found to be discussing our program negatively will result in termination of that dancer from the program.** We do not promote gossiping or permit dancers to speak negatively of other studios while on our premises or at any ASAO coordinated functions. Bullying, by dancers, families, or guests will not be tolerated. Bullying is defined at the discretion of the studio owner. ASAO owner, Ashley Burger reserves the right to dismiss dancers and family members from functions and future program enrollment/attendance without any advance notice or explanation.

Dancers should expect to wear a black leotard, black shorts, and tan tights / tan jazz shoes to competition rehearsals. Dancers should arrive at competitive events in their team warmups with hair neatly arranged, unless otherwise specified.

Financials

\$150 Warm Up Fee (Dancers May Reuse Warmups if in Satisfactory Condition)

- Community Performance Troupe (Audition Required) Due Sept 1st
 - Minimum Age 7
 - \$800 Training Fee
 - Does not include Convention or Dance the Magic Fees
- Pas de Deux Team (Audition Required) Due Sept 1st
 - *Specialty Division of Community Performers
 - Minimum Age 10
 - \$500 Training Fee
 - Does not include Convention or Dance the Magic Fees

Dancers may be responsible for private lessons as needed, at the discretion of the studio owner.

Shoes, rehearsal wear, hair/makeup needs are the responsibility of the dancer. There may be specific requirements by style/category/age. Dancers are required to have a clean, neat pair of Sunlight Tan tights for performances. Dancers are also required to have Maybelline New York Matte SuperStay Lipstick in shade 80/Ruler. Performance Troupe / Pas de Deux Dancers will be required to have neat, clean all black athletic tennis shoes.

Attendance

Dancers that must miss rehearsal or their required recreational technique course have up to 5 excused absences during the season. Excused absences are those for Academic Obligation, Illness/Quarantine, and Family Emergency. It is the responsibility of the dancer to learn the material missed before returning to the next rehearsal. If the dancer does not know the material by the next rehearsal, that absence becomes unexcused. There will be a zero-tolerance policy for unexcused absences; dancers with an unexcused absence will be removed from the ASAO Elite Performers. *Beginning 2024: Dancers are also required to be in attendance if rehearsals are held via zoom.*

Dancers that have exceeded the absence policy in the previous season will be placed on a probationary period. Dancers on probation are not permitted to have more than 2 excused absences in the first semester.

Dancers must display an understanding of timeliness for events. Due to the nature of the event scheduling, it is imperative that dancers display timeliness in their rehearsals, team practices, and recreational classes. Therefore, tardiness will count as the excused/unexcused absence.



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Dancers are required to attend all events as disclosed at the time of auditioning. Additional events may be offered throughout the season and are optional to participate. Dancers that have specific conflicts disclosed prior to auditioning may be excused at the discretion of the studio owner. Parents are responsible for dropoff and pickup at all events. Dancers ill on performance days should notify Ashley at 906-440-0479 as soon as possible. Electronics should be packed away at events, unless permission is given to reach out to parents.

Communication

Responsible parties are added to a Facebook Chat Group for reminders and urgent communications. The majority of Troupe contact will be via email. All conflicts of interest must be disclosed by the Sunday registration deadline after auditions to qualify for discretionary scheduling.

Media

Photos and videos taken will be sent via Facebook Chat Group. Parents are encouraged to take photos and videos and send also!

Transportation & Lodging

Transportation to and from the events are the responsibility of the parent. Each dancer is welcome to coordinate with one another, but it is expected that the parents will manage finances and make sure dancers have everything they need on the packing lists. All day of expenses are the responsibility of the parent and NOT INCLUDED in the participation fee.

Should you wish to send your dancer with another parent, please discuss meal/fuel costs with THAT parent. ASAO staff will not be responsible for communications or intermediary discussions regarding these topics. It is the responsibility of the DANCER PARENT to have adequate items packed, which includes enough healthy food for the entirety of the event.

If any dancers will be traveling to/from studio events without a parent/guardian, the studio will require a signed medical release for the unaccompanied student to always keep them easily accessible. Please inform the studio director if your dancer will be traveling with another family.

Hair/Makeup/Costuming

Costuming is selected by the studio owner only. Dancers are given the opportunity to vote for songs and costumes during the first rehearsal. Songs and costumes will not be changed once choreography has begun. Hair & Makeup will be dance professional, with a tutorial provided by the studio owner. Dancers must make their own arrangements to have hair and makeup completed to a satisfactory standard ½-2 hours before their stage call time (depending on the event), unless a group event is pre-arranged. Costumes will be altered by studio administration; there is no fee for costume alteration. Dancers are responsible for bringing their costumes/warmups to events; failure to have adequate uniform may result in removal from the troupe.

Conflict of Interest

It is not uncommon for dancers to cross-train with other sports. Scheduling for Elite Performers must be the main priority for all team members. All scheduling conflicts must be disclosed by the deadline for online registration.

MANDATORY EVENTS FOR COMMUNITY TROUPE MEMBERS

Dancers must be in appropriate Elite Dancers dress code for these events: natural hair color, nude or clear nails, no piercings or tattoos showing.

- **August** Elite Performer Social & Media Day
- **September** Team Bonding Activities
- **October** Area Halloween Celebrations (Historically Pickford Trail of Treats & Downtown Sault Spooktacular)
- **November** Downtown Sault Parade of Lights
- **December** Madrigal Hospice Fundraiser Elite Performers Holiday Party
- **January** Seasonal Social Media Educational Series
- **February** 24/7 Dance Convention (Additional Fees Apply)
- **March** EUP Reads, ASAO YouTube Book Series
- **April** Local Pop-Up Performances National Dance Week Activities End of Season Social

Additional Rehearsals may be scheduled for above listed events. These are also mandatory; dates will be released as early as possible. Any scheduling conflicts MUST be presented by the deadline, otherwise dancer will be removed from the team. See **Attendance & Communication** for further details. It is not uncommon for ASAO to receive requests throughout the season for dancers to volunteer/perform; anything not on the calendar at this time is not mandatory for team members. New events added to the calendar will be noted.