

Reflections School of Dance
Revolution & Dunamis Teams & Emerge Dance Company 2021-22
Audition Application

Audition Number:

Name:

Birthdate:

Address:

Home Phone:

Student Phone:

Parent Phone:

Parent email:

Student email:

** If contact information of both parents of the dancer differs, please provide separate contact information. Consent from both parents is required.*

Questionnaire: To be completed and turned in at beginning of Auditions (use back side if extra space needed)

1. Class or classes you are presently registered for at Reflections?

2. Why would you like to be a part of a Reflections dance team AND how do you feel you can be a positive asset to the team, moving it to the next level of excellence?

3. If you heard a "bad report" from someone or conflict were to arise between yourself and another dancer, instructor, etc. please tell us the steps you would take to deal with it and resolve the situation.

4. Do you fully understand the 12 month contract, policies, level of commitment of being on the Team and are you willing to be held accountable to that? Please mention any concerns you might have.

Signing below signifies agreement to policies and commitment:

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

* Please submit this first page only filled out at the beginning of auditions with payment (company applicants also turn in the Company Questionnaire). Thank-you.

It is with great gladness that we invite you to consider our select dance teams program. For more than 24 years our school has been a leader in dance education in this community. We believe that our success comes as a result of providing solid training and quality service, along with an underlying belief in the strength of our organization.

Each year, we strive to create programs for dancers in our school who show an exceptional interest in dance and desire to be challenged over and above what the regular educational classes may do.

We see our performance team opportunities as privileges. They are for a select group of students who have faithfully trained at Reflections School of Dance and shown an exceptional level of character.

We have created this **handbook** to offer our students and their parents a clear understanding of their commitment and responsibility to the Dance Teams Program.

With acceptance into the Emerge Dance Company, Dunamis or Revolution Team, your first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to your classes, rehearsals, and performances. Strong technique is a key ingredient and class is where you develop that technique. Come to each class ready to learn, without personal distractions. Class time is your chance to focus on yourself and your development, so try to leave your concerns or worries at the studio door. True progress is made when you look at each class, rehearsal, or performance as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your technique to make the most of every class.

Audition Schedule:

2:00-4:00+ Company & Dunamis & Revolution Team – Most Dancers will be done before 4:00 and may call parents for pick up but be prepared to stay until 4. There may be call backs or further questions for individuals.

Audition Cost:

\$20 audition fee for each audition.

Audition Time Exceptions: If you are unavailable Aug 28 and you request special accommodation for a private audition, this must be scheduled before Aug. 21st and completed by Aug. 28. Private auditions require a \$25 additional fee and should be considered the exception to the rule for emergency purposes. Private auditions will be scored by the same standard as all other auditions.

Audition Day Regulations:

Guests, including moms may not enter the classroom during the audition process. Dancers will be working in front of a panel of advisers and although we love you and want to nurture you, we also want you to have an authentic audition experience.

Application questionnaires will be available before the audition online and by email. Individuals will be expected to have their paperwork *completed* (including parent's signature) *prior* to the audition as well as pre-registered for classes.

Please remember that the use of **phones** during the audition process is strictly prohibited. Phone use may resume upon the conclusion of the auditions to contact parents and rides.

Music: Dancers are responsible for their own music. It may be run off an iPod or phone but the dancer must have a working knowledge of her/his own device so they can enable it personally. It should have volume up all the way, paused and ready to hit play (with no time-out / password). Adviser's sheet will be marked for music which is not properly prepared.

Dress Requirements:

1. Black camisole-leotard
2. Black jazz pants or leggings
3. Hair slicked back in a ponytail or bun
4. We expect a clean, polished look and adviser's sheets will be marked for failure to abide by dress code.
5. Proper fitting ballet or jazz shoes

Solo:

Presentation of a 1 minute solo is required. The individual's solo should showcase their greatest strengths as a dancer. Please note that the use of inappropriate music or choreography will result in automatic disqualification. Any questions or help needed may be directed to the Directors.

Self-choreography is preferred. Any help with solos is acceptable however this must be announced just before the solo. Students may inquire to the directors if they wish to hire a teacher for private training.

Group Choreography:

Individuals must be prepared to learn and impressively execute a group lyrical jazz combination as a part of the audition.

Interview:

Individuals auditioning must come prepared to answer a series of questions in their personal interview if requested by the teachers in a call back meeting at the end of auditions.

Commitment:

In the event that a dancer is selected and invited to become a member of one of these groups, commitment is expected. The details are included in this audition packet. Dancers are expected to participate with a high level of excellence and exemplary attitude in all rehearsals and performances over the span of the entire season. (Sept. 1, 2021-Aug. 31, 2022) The only exception for absences is illness with a doctors' note. Bookings of performances and potential traveling dates will be made available in advance.

Some volunteer efforts will be needed from team parents for performances and parties.

Time:

If granted a position on one of this year's teams; the following level of commitment is expected going forward from September 1st, 2021 until August 31st 2022. It is expected members would participate fully in the Summer Program 2021 & 2022.

Team rehearsals are weekly. (Revolution, Thursdays 4:00-5:30, Emerge, 5:30-7:30 and Dunamis Crew, Thursdays 7:30-8:30) Each team member is required to take the Teams/Company Technique class Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 plus at least one other technique class, preferably ballet. To excel in training, it is strongly recommended that dancers add extra classes in their desired dance form. Summer Program & all Workshops / Master Classes are required unless excused.

Each dancer will be considered on an individual basis, but the general placement guidelines are as follows:

Dunamis applicants dance at Level 2-3

14 weeks in the fall for Christmas choreography and performances. Winter and spring rehearsals are for the Benefit Concert, Recital and summer performance prep.

Dunamis will be led by Coach Miss Olivia with guest choreographers visiting.

Revolution applicants at Level 4- 5

14 weeks in the fall for Christmas choreography and performances. Winter and spring rehearsals are for the Benefit Concert, Recital and summer performance prep.

Revolution will be led by Coach Miss Anna with guest choreographers visiting.

Emerge Dance Company /Mission Team

14 weeks in the fall for Christmas choreography and performances. (Decided by group consensus) Winter and spring rehearsals are for the Benefit Concert, Recital and summer performance prep. Mentoring, choreography lab and leadership opportunities. Summer travel opportunity. Unanimous consensus will dictate potential additional convention / itinerant opportunities.

Company will be led by Coach Miss Debbie with guest choreographers visiting.

- Groupings of all teams will be re-evaluated over Christmas break.
- Coaches, Rehearsal Times, etc. are subject to change.

Attendance Commitment:

Attendance for every rehearsal and performance is **mandatory**. Only in cases of illness with doctor's note would an absence be excusable. Anything outside of these (sports, club functions, extracurricular activities, or homework crises) would be considered an unexcused absence. Upon the accumulation of 2 unexcused absences, a meeting will be scheduled with your team coach & possibly parent in order to re-evaluate your commitment. Missing rehearsed choreography will jeopardize your privilege to perform. Choreography will not be re-taught on behalf of a team member's absence; it is the dancer's responsibility to learn missed choreography.

Costs for the Year:

Fundraising Commitment:

\$150 Benefit Performance Fee – Each Team member will be responsible for raising \$150. You will either be provided with 15 tickets @ \$10 each for the Benefit Performance, or raise an equivalent of \$150 in donations. For tickets: the dancer will submit \$150 up front once tickets are made available and they may resell them to family, friends and the community. Extra tickets will be made available as needed. More info to come.

Attire Requirements:

\$275 Costume and Warm- Up Fee

As a part of the team-exclusive dress code; each team member must own (and properly maintain) **one black camisole leotard, pink convertible tights, one pair of full length black jazz pants, black jazz shoes, and pink ballet slippers**. Additional costumes and warm-ups will be distributed by your coach. Costume/Warm-up fee for the year is \$275 due by October 1st. Any pieces that are damaged or lost during the course of the year are the dancer's responsibility to repair and/or replace at their additional expense.

\$15+ Student Showcase Fee - Family style fun afternoon for students to showcase their own creative works. March 2022

Tuition -1 hour for Dunamis, 1.5 hours for Revolution, 2 hours for Company, for rehearsal time plus the cost of the technique classes you choose, *minus* a ten percent team discount. There will be no additional cost for extra rehearsals as needed or for performances. We allow one discount per family.

Schedule Outline:

Tentative Schedule of Venues & Events: In September, a more detailed schedule will be supplied. Please always follow our updated online Calendar here: <https://reflectionsschoolofdance.com/calendar-1>

September: Team bonding, payments due, contracts signed and turned in. Team & Headshot Photo Shoot (during class time). Additional dance photoshoot excursion (on a Saturday?). Complete first performance piece.

October: Christmas choreography

November: Christmas choreography. Veterans Day Parade. Assisted Living Performance.

December: Christmas performance season including Seattle Center House Winterfest, Mill Creek Santa Parade and Reflections "One Uncontainable Gift".

January- April: Choreography and ticket sales for the 2022 **Celebrate Life** benefit performance and possible other winter / spring performances.

March: Student Showcase

May, June: Recital / Summer Prep.

June, July, and August: Summer Dance Schedule, summer outreach performances, and possible (if enough sign up) dance trip. Yay!

Attitude Expectations:

All team members are to abide by Reflections school policies. Dancers with a heart of worship for rehearsals and performances is one of the things that sets us apart from other dance teams, causing us to reach the objectives of why the teams exist. This includes; preferring others over yourself and displaying joy and humility during times of instruction. Dancers are expected to treat their instructors and *each other* with the utmost respect. Arriving late to class, rehearsal or any performance is disrespectful to your team and leaders. "Moodiness" & "tiredness" should be left at home before attending any team related activity.

Students participating in one of our select programs are expected to consistently exercise the same level of character inside and outside the classroom. Disrespect of this organization that you represent will be dealt with briskly and sternly in the form of immediate dismissal from the team. Financial refunds will not be available.

We desire to make expectations clear, realistic and attainable. Once a student has auditioned and accepted an invitation to one of our select dance programs we will expect nothing less than cheerful compliance. As young professionals at work, you will be treated like young professionals and you will be expected to act as young professionals. Dancers may not add to or alter the guidelines according to personal interpretation.

Some statements may seem strong but please know that it is in the best interest of both the teams and individuals that we would state these guidelines and not be afraid to follow through.

- **Dress Code** for performance and pictures is non-negotiable. Make-up, hair, shoes and the way the costume (including accessories) is executed must be uniform for a clean, polished look. No jewelry, Fitbits, or bands of any kind on wrists. Students who choose to create a personal interpretation of the costume will be asked to properly change.
 - For rehearsals, students should be in their blacks with the appropriate shoes for that choreography. Extra layers may be worn for warm-up time but after 20 minutes the students will be asked to remove the extra layers.
- **Lateness** is unacceptable.
- **Missed Rehearsals** is unacceptable.

- **Talking** during class is unacceptable.
- **Bad Report** is unacceptable. We emphasize zero tolerance for gossip which includes texting, group chats and sharing your negative opinions or “feelings” on group outings. One might think that “venting” in the hallway, through social media or texting is a way to calm down but the truth is, this only spreads negativity to those who hear or read your opinions, affecting the moral of the team.
- The standard **Social Media** policy is re-listed below.

We sense that with the increase of media communication, feelings of isolation have rapidly increased to a dangerous level causing young people to feel insecure and unsupported. This is the opposite of any result we would hope to obtain for our teams. We desperately need community and it is our heart to build a safe environment where the dancers can thrive without fear. So, we enforce these safety guidelines with no apology.

Some of the activities included in our rehearsal schedule will include face to face friendship building communication.

*Student and Parent Use of Social Media / Group Texts / Communication:

Use of Facebook, Snapchat, GroupMe, etc. is commonplace. Our policies are intended to provide Reflections School of Dance students and parents with guidelines to eliminate any confusion concerning the use of social communication.

You DO NOT have permission to reveal any information that compromises Reflections School of Dance or the Teams. By that we mean you are forbidden to share personal information about the director, other students, their families, or anything that is proprietary and/or confidential to them or Reflections School of Dance.

- Team members and families do not have permission to share or duplicate contact information from teams list.
- Students and parents should neither claim nor imply that they are speaking on behalf of Reflections School of Dance or Team
- Never post anything that could compromise the self-esteem of another dancer.
- Only the Reflections office has permission to post videos or class rehearsals for training purposes.
- Respect the law, including those laws governing defamation, discrimination, harassment, and copyright and fair use. Parents and students should never post negative comments about other schools or teachers. Ensure that your social networking conduct is consistent with all Reflections policies and values.

Your social networking behavior is representative of Reflections School of Dance and God.

- This includes texts, group chat or any communication from your personal devices.

Disrespect of the above statements and guidelines results in the termination of your position in the dance team.

Please Note: Individual Team placement and choreography placement within teams are done at the discretion of audition evaluators and team coaches. Not every student who auditions is ready or a good fit for a team on any given year. A student may be asked to continue her training and audition again the following year. Once the leaders have made a decision, we would see no reason for a dancer to challenge it but if the dancer were to deem this necessary or would like clarification, this should be done directly with the leader for consideration.

Not every dancer is guaranteed placement in every piece; and in some circumstances, dancers will be asked to understudy. Dancers must trust that leaders are only looking out for what is best artistically, from experience.

Although the dance teams program is a tremendous opportunity we are aware that **it may not be right for every dancer** and we can assist you in decision making.

Reasons why this program might not be a good fit for you:

- You're involved in extracurricular activities that could interfere with your class, rehearsal, or performance commitments.
- You're doing it because you want to keep up with your friends, but you are not passionate about dance nor the commitment.
- You're doing it because your parent(s) want you to.
- You're not fully committed to attending all classes and rehearsals.

Program Benefits

Some of our students do go on to achieve professional careers in dance. For those whom this is not the goal, all students are encouraged to be professional in every aspect of life. This program focuses on educating young people to strive for their personal best in anything they want to accomplish. We achieve our goals for the program by offering young people the chance to:

- gain a sense of balance in life by managing their commitments to both dance and academics;
- participate in a physical activity that enhances understanding of the value of a healthy body;
- develop a sense of confidence when speaking or making a presentation in a public setting, which is also a great benefit in college or job interviews;
- work with mentors who are focused on the students' success inside and outside of the classroom;
- enjoy friendships that could last a lifetime and a sense of belonging to an extended family of fellow dancers, teachers, and parents;
- discover the results of hard work and determination;
- develop a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts and
- gain an understanding of worship in dance and daily life.

In addition, making a commitment to the policies set forth in this handbook teaches our young people that there are boundaries that must be respected in order to succeed here and in life.

*Dancers will be notified within one week of auditions regarding the advisors decisions. If you are invited to be a part of a team, you choose to accept or deny the invitation. If you are unable to commit to the policies and team calendar, acceptance will be denied.

We are excited for you now as you may very well be entering the most rewarding dance year of your life!

Audition results will be emailed within a week of audition day.

COVID-19 Disclaimer:

Please note that we plan and hope to have the full teams experience, as we have every year, however we will be adhering to whatever guidelines are given to us at the start of our season, and for the remainder of the year. This means that there may be less performances this year, a limited number of spots per team, etc..

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time, and know that we will still have a wonderful year even if it may look a little different! ;)

Questionnaire, Company Only:

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

COMPANY - PERSONAL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

Our goal is to conduct all interviews during the auditions individually but please try to prepare these questions and be prepared to answer them thoroughly and succinctly.

We pray that you will be filled with God's expectation and promise as we communicate the vision God is developing here for powerful dance ministry!

One goal of all Reflections Dance Teams is to be a serving ministry as a whole and to promote spiritual growth. In order to help us get to know you a bit better in this regard we ask you prepare to answer the following questions in your personal interview:

1. Describe your own personal faith, relationship, and walk with God.
2. Is your heart open to know more about God, teachable to instruction and correction, and to grow spiritually this year?
3. Do you have a regular home church you're involved in?
4. What does it mean to you to use your talents and gifting to serve, minister, and bless God and others?
5. What is your favorite scripture; and what does it speak to you?
6. If conflict were to arise between yourself and another dancer, instructor, etc., please tell us the steps you would take to resolve the situation.
7. Describe a personality trait you value in yourself and why it is important to you.