

## ***Brunswick School of Dance Team***

### ***Company Contract 2025-2026***

#### **Auditions**

The student must enroll in at least 1 other technique class for the upcoming dance season other than the required two of Ballet/Pointe and Dance Conditioning. Dancers who are already members of BSD and ages 10+ by January 1st, 2026 will have to audition for their spot on our higher age-leveled teams, but may still be asked to be part of our younger team as well. Open Auditions are available for dancers coming to BSD from other studios or current members who were unable to attend our in house auditions. Dancer must be ages 7+ for Open Auditions and skill level will determine the placement of these dancers.

The auditions for members of BSD will take place on Saturday, May 24th beginning at 9:00am at the dance studio until approximately 12:00pm. Open Auditions will be held on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-12:00pm. Dancers will be notified by phone call, text or email whether or not they have made the team later that evening. Teams are based on skill sets and some dancers may still need to work in their technique classes throughout the year if they are not placed on a team that season. The dancer and parent must sign a copy of this contract and agree to all terms and conditions and have the contract in hand before or on the date of auditions. If a dancer does not have a signed contract prior to auditioning, they will be ineligible to be on the team that season.

Dancers who are under the age of 10 by January 1st, 2025 and who are already members of BSD will be invited by our instructors to be part of our Magnolia team. Teachers watch dancers throughout the season to see who is loving class, has great attendance, is always showing up with a positive attitude, and is progressing in their dance technique.

#### **Ballet & Dance Conditioning**

Dancers must be enlisted in Ballet classes because it is the strongest and most effective method in polishing a dancer. It provides a strong body to prevent injuries as well as to provide stability. It also develops an intelligent, detail-oriented dancer and helps a dancer understand and perfect all forms of dance. Dancers will be required to partake in their weekly ballet techniques classes. If they are unable to attend their registered class, they must make it up in a level above or below to make up for missed technique. For all missed ballet classes, a dancer must make it up sometime within the month, or face demerits. If a dancer does not fulfill their ballet requirements, they will be demerited for each ballet class they have missed per month. A dancer should be taking at least 4 ballet classes monthly in some format. Any less will result in 1 demerit per missed class each month.

Dance Conditioning is a class in which the dancers work on specific skills for not only their technique, but for their stage presence for competitions as well. This class is mandatory as it drills in on specific skills dancers know and can improve on it for bigger and better results, or skills the dancer does not know and can finally take the time to dive into without disrupting usual technique classes. Dance conditioning will be on 2 separate evenings and the dancer will be required to take one class or they can take both for the price of one.

### **Attendance & Time Commitment**

The dance company is a TEAM, where every member will show respect to one another and absolutely no bullying or any kind will be tolerated. Bullying other members on our team or any other team may result in dismissal from the team with no questions asked. Team members will be required to attend any extra rehearsals which may be scheduled in preparation for performances. Absences within this team not only affects the individual dancer, but will also hurt the Team as a whole. Each dancer will be allotted up to **3 unexcused absences** per year from Company rehearsals. **Excused absences** will not be counted towards the unexcused; however, prior approval from the instructor must be given before the absence. The following are considered “excused” absences and will not be counted towards “unexcused”:

- o Death in the family
- o Scheduled school programs or functions that require a student to be in attendance for credit – Games, unless of a special occasion (ie. Homecoming) do not count as excused
- o Weddings or religious functions
- o Family Summer Vacations/ Planned Family Vacations and Holidays
- o If you or a close family member are seriously ill or infectious

We love that our dancers are also involved in athletic sports within their schools and recreationally, however, a dancer must be mindful of both the teams they are representing. Once a dancer has received their schedule for their other activities, it must be reviewed to be sure we are not missing continuously for the same event. No more than 2 absences in a row will be tolerated for the same activity. On week 3 of an absence due to the same activity, the dancer will receive a demerit. We want as much commitment to both responsibilities as possible and feel that both should be prioritized equally. If a dancer is hurt, or has a mild illness, that dancer is still required to attend rehearsals so they do not fall behind. They will sit, watch, and take notes. We understand when a dancer is hurt and want to take as much care of them as possible, so attendance while being still or stretching is what is highly encouraged.

Company members will be punctual to rehearsals. A Company member who arrives **late 3 times will accumulate 1 unexcused absence**, no questions asked. All members should be arriving early to get stretched out and prepared for rehearsal so we do not waste any time perfecting our dances. Team members will also be monitored within their technique classes to be sure

they are still attending as many of their regular classes to stay a strong active member in the company. Any member who has accumulated more than **5 unexcused absences in their weekly technique classes**, and have not made an effort to make up their unexcused presence will receive a demerit. Dance requires consistent ongoing training, and dancers who excessively miss class will not be able to perform at the same level as students who attend all regular weekly technique classes.

**The week prior to a Competition**, all Company members will be required to be in their weekly technique classes along with the Company rehearsal. Missing Company rehearsal the week prior to a Competition will result in a demerit.

Being a member of this Team is a privilege and comes with big responsibility. Personal accountability is essential for a successful season and respect for all other Team and Studio members is a vital component to that success. When a member is not present or has a bad attitude, it will negatively affect the entire Company. Dismissal from the Team is a real thing; therefore, unexcused absences, bullying, and continued tardiness will not be tolerated and will ultimately result in a member being demerited or even asked to leave the Company.

**Any accumulation of up to 5 Demerits will result in dismissal from the team.** No questions asked. Plus, no refunds for already paid tuition or competition fee will be given. The dancer will also be ineligible to audition for the following season.

### **Acro/Gymnastics**

Dance Acro is highly encouraged, but not required, for a company member to take. Competitions like to see some form of acrobatics or gymnastics within a routine and those routines are scored higher than those that do not have that element.

### **Required Team/Parent Meeting**

Our first meeting as a team is scheduled for **Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 10am**. Rehearsals will then follow in August. Once we have decided groupings for Solos, Duos/Trios, and group dances, we will set up a time schedule for which dances will practice throughout the month. Once the school year begins with the dance studio, we will need to change times to fit within the studio schedule. We will be deciding competitions to attend at this first meeting as they fill up by August the season prior. Reservations must be made for our mandatory competitions as soon as possible, so be sure to bring your calendar books for dates you and your family are unavailable to compete from January 2026- July 2026.

### **Company Dance Commitments**

**\* All dancers will be in Production this season!**

**First Year Magnolia's** will be in their Team Group Dance plus Production but will need to be invited to perform within the Line/Supergroup or any other small groups.

**Second Year Magnolia's** will also be in their Team Group Dance plus Production but will need to be invited to perform within the Line/Supergroup or any other small groups. They are also entitled to take part in Duo/Trios

**Third Year Magnolia's** will also be in their Team Group Dance plus Production but will need to be invited to perform within the Line/Supergroup or any other small groups. They are also entitled to take part in Duo/Trios and a Solo!

**Dance Team Members** (Ages 10+ who have auditioned and made the team) will be in Production, SuperGroup/Line, plus they may also be invited to take part in multiple small groups. They are all entitled to be in Duo/Trios and Solos as well. **First Year Dance Team Members** will be evaluated for Solos and **Fifth Year Dance Team Members** are entitled to take part in 2 solos if they feel they can commit fully to both genres. **Team Understudy's** are awarded a solo for their intense commitment to their team.

#### **Dance Team Tuition Fees:**

- \$40 monthly tuition
- \$25 extra for every solo/ duet/ trio/ group
- Entry fees into competitions will be based on each dancer individually with how many dances they are in
- Until we know how many pieces will be entered into a competition and which competitions we are attending, we will not have an exact price
- Costume Fees will be based upon the dancer(s) and the choreographer to ensure a proper dollar amount and vision to the piece (Prices can range into \$200+ so please be mindful of the number of dances chosen)
- Groups costume fees with cap at \$90/dancer
- **All tuition is due by the 1st week of each month**
  - Any unpaid **tuition that is 3 months behind** will result in a demerit and there will be a meeting set up with the parents to discuss options to assist in payments
- Tuition is combined within the DanceStudioPro Website to have all payments of tuition within the same account.

#### **Boot Camp**

Boot Camp is a Saturday morning rehearsal where our new team comes together to condition, meet their choreographers, and find out their placing into Solos, Duos, Trios, and Groups. **It is MANDATORY** unless cleared for an excused event. This year, Boot Camp will be held on **Saturday, July 12th at the Dance Studio from 9:00am – 1:00pm**

## **Competitions**

The Dance Team will attend **3 mandatory competitions together** as a team in which all numbers will compete. After that, dancers are allowed to search and choose if there are any other competitions in which we are not competing as a team to attend. Then, once a dancer decides to attend a competition outside our 3 mandatory, the other members of the team will also be given the opportunity to attend any competitions brought forward. No dancer will be left out of any competition, but also, no dancer is forced to attend any more than the 3 competitions chosen at the beginning of the year.

Nationals are another, much more expensive, competition that the team can attend. A National Competition is a Competition of which the team has already completed at a Regional Qualifier. Nationals competitions will be chosen by the instructor and parents along with which dances are to be performed. Not all dances will be required to be brought to Nationals. We will discuss this later within the year after our Regional Competitions have been completed. Dancers with 2 solos, may only bring one to Nationals to put full focus on the routine they choose.

Any and all tuition fees must be paid up to date before each competition. Any unpaid tuition fees will result in that dancer receiving a demerit. \*Remember\* 5 demerits result in dismissal from the dance team plus the student will not be able to audition for the following season. If a tuition balance is left unpaid from the prior year and the dancer is to audition for the following season, the dancer will begin the season with a 3-demerit penalty.

## **Rehearsals**

Company rehearsals are closed to any outside guests unless invited in by the choreographer. Therefore, no parents, siblings, or kin may sit in and disrupt rehearsal time as it is very valuable.

## **Understudy**

It is required for our dances to have an understudy who learns the dance in case one of the original dancers somehow finds themselves incapable of performing at competitions. This dancer will perform a solo regardless of years on the team to ensure they will compete at all competitions.

## **Past Studio Tuition**

Tuition to the dance studio must also be paid in a timely fashion. To be a member of this team, you must be a member of the dance studio first and tuition to the studio is a top priority. If any tuition to the dance studio for monthly technique classes is unpaid for more than 3 months, a 1 demerit penalty to the student will be given. Each month that follows with a past due balance will have the same penalty up to 6 months overdue. **After 6 months past due studio tuition**, the student will have to resign their position on the dance team.

## **General Information on Competition**

The Brunswick School of Dance Team will take part in 3 competitions per season. Being a member of the Company requires you to be at the competition regardless of injury or illness. If you cannot perform, you will cheer on the rest of your Company members with pride. All competitions are on weekends and are an all day and sometimes all weekend commitment. Competitions do not send out the performance schedule until at least a week prior to the event, therefore, you must be prepared to spend your entire weekend in competition mode. Once we find out when the dancers will be performing, everyone will be informed to help better balance your weekend.

Extra rehearsals may be called prior to a competition if necessary. Extra rehearsals will be mandatory unless there is a prior commitment that deems within the “excused absences” list. Costumes, Hair, Makeup, and Jewelry at competitions must all be exact! Therefore, a dancer who has an issue abiding by the rules of what will be worn at competition will be asked to not perform and to sit in the audience and cheer on their team members. There will be no toleration of backtalk of any kind.

Costumes will be chosen by the choreographer only. The choreographer knows what type of dance they are trying to portray and their choice of costume will help translate their story best. Therefore, all dancers must understand that although they may not love their costume, they will respect their costume and they will still care for the costume accordingly. **Missing a dance competition is absolutely unacceptable.** A penalty of **2 demerits will be given to a dancer for each dance missed in which they perform and 1 demerit for each dance they miss in which they do not participate in and were required to watch.** Dancers are required to be present for All Group Dances and All of their Sister’s Dances. Dances are based upon each student’s involvement and it is very difficult for the rest of the team to have to work double time for another team member who chooses to be absent. The only way to miss a competition and not accumulate demerits is by prior consent. The excuse must be valid and must warrant absolute demand for the dancer to not be present.

## **Nationals**

We may attend a National Competition or one of the Regional Competitions we attend. We will decide as a team, which Competition we would like to attend and which dances are to go to Nationals. Not all dancers are required to perform at this particular competition, but it is highly encouraged to take part in the event as there are usually multiple extra opportunities for advancement at Nationals Competitions.

## **Disney**

Every 5 years our dancers will have a year to dance in the most magical place on Earth... Disney World! At these 5-year marks, our dancers will only participate in Local Regional competitions and then attend Disney where they will dance in a parade down Main Street, USA and Dance

their group routine on stage in Disney Theme Parks. This is an amazing opportunity for all dancers and we will truly be looking forward to this in 2027!!

### **Courtesy & Respect**

While at a competition, members will be held to the highest standards and will not act in bad behavior. Communicating negatively to other members of your company or towards any other studio will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from the Company. Company members will be required to show courtesy and respect to all Teachers, Performers, Helpers, and Parents. Any member who exhibits negative and disrespectful behavior will be asked to leave the competition immediately and will not participate in that day's performances. Further action may be taken depending on the severity of the situation. All company members should always be poised, respectful, supportive, encouraging, and positive in attitude and behavior.

All company members will take into full consideration the wellbeing of those students of B.S.D. who are not in the company and/or did not or could not audition for the company or make the company. Therefore, no negative or arrogant talk of the company and its happenings will be discussed during normal dance technique hours. Members will not be able to show their performance dances before, during or after technique classes until the first competition. No video recordings of dances will be posted on social media until after the first competition. If a question needs to be answered, please wait until classes are over and discretely ask to speak with the teacher to discuss any issues or concerns. We do not want other students feeling inferior to anyone else and we also do not want competition dances to be seen before they are ready to be performed. We do not want dances to be copied and/or performed in a different event before they are to be judged.

If dancers are having problems with another member of the team, the parent of that child should address the matter with the parent of that other child before approaching the Coaches. We want to be sure that things are handled at the source and only IF the coaches need to get involved, we would appreciate being left out of the drama. The Coaches are here for the dancers to advance in their dances first and foremost! If the drama continues and starts to hinder other dancers and their dances, the dancer/dancer(s) in question will be pulled from the next competition, ABSOLUTELY NO QUESTIONS ASKED. \*

### **Dress Code**

All Company members will attend rehearsals dressed appropriately in dance attire, including tights and shoes, at all rehearsals. Tights are required and any form of dance wear is allowed as long as the dancer is comfortable and able to move freely. If a company member shows up without tights or their dance attire, it will be considered a tardy presence. **Three (3) events in which the dancer is not prepared to perform within class will result in 1 unexcused absence.** If any of the following are not met, the student will be charged with a tardy:

- Leotards

- Hair must be out of the face
- Shoes must be worn depending on the dance piece being performed
- Tights with booty shorts
- Leggings
- Appropriate dance attire
- No loose jewelry
- No cut off shirts exposing their stomachs within class time

### **School Grades**

All Company members will be required to maintain at least a **“C” average** in all school courses. School grades are majorly important and we will not have any Company member’s grades dropping. Any Company member whose grades slip below a “C” average will be put on Probation. During that time, the dancer will still attend rehearsals; however, their main focus will be on boosting their school grades before they will be allowed to practice and perform with the company again. They will take notes as needed for the dance they are in and if there is no improvement in grades, the Company Understudy will perform in their place. Students will bring in their progress reports and report cards to show they are staying on top of their school work. If a probation period lasts longer than 6 weeks, that Company member will have to speak with the Teacher to see what the issues may be in their schoolwork and may possibly have to forfeit their spot on the team to focus on their school curriculum.

### **Drugs & Social Media**

The Brunswick School of Dance Team will follow an absolute zero tolerance towards drug use. This includes any and all uses of nicotine products, cigarettes, and illegal drugs. Any proof of use of any kind of drugs, the student in question will be immediately released from the team and no tuition paid or competition fees will be refunded.

Social media will be monitored that none of our team members are acting out in negative manners. Any dancers who exhibit explicit behavior through social media while representing the Brunswick School of Dance Team will be notified. The parent will be notified first then depending on severity may be charged with a demerit or dismissal from the team.

### **Parent Involvement**

At the first meeting of Brunswick School of Dance Team, on **Saturday, July 19th at 10:00am**, you will be required to stay to discuss how the season will be run, what dances your dancer will partake in, what the financial obligations will be, we will also discuss how fundraising will run that season. Chair members of each fundraiser may be necessary and discussed or voted on per event. Anytime there is an issue and you cannot speak to Mrs. Leigh Anne, there will be a form to be filled out and placed in the box on the front desk. It will be dealt with in 24 hours of the concern at hand.



## **Fundraising**

After our first meeting, we will discuss how fundraising will be distributed/run for that season. Dance Moms will be chosen and the fundraising may begin. Fundraising is not required, however, if you do not participate, you will not receive any profits. This is your opportunity to make the financial load much lighter. Please invest your time and efforts wisely.

## **2025-2026 Competition Dance Opportunities:**

### ***MAGNOLIA TEAM:***

**First Year Magnolia Dancers** may have up to 5 total Group dances. These dances include the Mandatory Magnolia Team Dance plus Production then any invitation to smaller groups

**Second Year Magnolia Dancers** may have up to 6 total dances. These dances include the Mandatory Magnolia Team Dance, Production, plus any invitation to a small group or Duo/Trio

**Third Year Magnolia Dancers** may have up to 7 total dances. These dances include the Mandatory Magnolia Team Dance, Production, plus any invitation to a small group, Duo/Trio, and Solo!

### ***OLDER TEAMS:***

All dancers, ages 10+ who have auditioned and made the team will be in the Production and Super Group/Line.

All Dancers are allowed to have up to 10 dances in any accumulation of Groups, Duo/Trios, and Solo(s)

**First Year Dance Team Members** will be invited to perform a solo only if the choreographers feel the dancer is prepared. Otherwise they can take part in all Groups or Duo/Trios they have been invited to up to a max of 10 dances.

**Fifth Year Dance Team Members** may take part in 2 solos as part of their 10 total dances they can perform on the team. The solos will be in 2 different styles and choreographed by 2 different choreographers.

There are several group dance opportunities for each age dancer within the company.

**Production is required for every dancer.** All other groups are by invitation only.

## **Finally**

Don't forget to have fun!!! As a member of the Company, you will gain new knowledge into the dance community and make great memories and new friendships. As long as you take this opportunity to create a positive experience full of new adventures, you will come out with such a rewarding and incredible outlook on yourself and others.

### **Company Contract Agreement 2025-2026**

Please sign and return this page to ensure that you are aware and plan to abide by all the rules of the contract to be part of the Company. Contract must be returned before the end of auditions on Saturday, May 24th, 2025 for returning students and June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 for new students/open auditions.

Without a signed copy of this contract, your dancer will be ineligible to be an active member to the Company. Keep the rest of the contract for you to reference in the future.

Both parent and dancer have read and understood all that is to be expected of them if they were to be casted as a member of the Brunswick School of Dance Team. We understand that these policies were put in place to create a fair and healthy environment for all to dance in and to ensure the best possible experience for everyone. Both parent and dancer are aware and understand that failure to meet the conditions of this contract will result in termination of the Company.

Dancer's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer's D.O.B.: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer's Current Weekly Technique Classes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact for results of audition:

\_\_\_\_\_