

EPIC FX Company Contract
Information and Agreement for ALL Levels of Company
2022-2023

Congratulations on your interest in the EPIC FX Dance Company. As a Company member, you will have opportunities that not all dancers receive such as special performances, conventions, studio social events, and more. A lot will be required of you, but you will also see the rewards for your hard work. As a member of the EPIC FX Company, you must agree to all of our policies and carry them out for the entire upcoming dance year. Please read the following information carefully and decide for yourself if you will be able to commit to these rules. We appreciate your hard work, and we look forward to continuing to nurture your love of dance.

If you agree to the following rules, both dancer and parent must sign the last page and return it by September 13, 2022.

Behavioral Expectations:

Responsibility

Dancers are now at a level that requires a certain amount of responsibility. If you are going to miss a class, you **must call, text, or email** the studio. (We are expecting our older dancers to be responsible for themselves and not to rely on their parents to take care of their responsibilities for the- this also applies to getting information to their parents in a timely manner.) The Company Level dancers at EPIC are representatives of the studio as well as role models for our younger dancers. To that end, we expect them to conduct themselves accordingly. We are aware that we are expecting a lot from our dancers. The rules that we are instituting this year, will not only help with dance but should help them grow to be mature, responsible adults. Commitment to the Company level takes effort from both parents and students. We believe the dedication and discipline will pay off in many areas of life.

Maturity

EPIC strives to promote a high behavioral standard by its staff members as representatives of the studio. We expect no less from our Company dancers. This is extremely important. Our Company dancers are not only role models to our younger dancers in the studio, but they are also representing EPIC to the community. Any member of our Company levels not conducting themselves accordingly at the studio or at an event will be addressed by a member of the EPIC staff. We appreciate the support we know the parents will offer in the event that a problem does occur. Any member who cannot correct their inappropriate behavior will be removed from the Company. Our behavior standards apply to parents and family members as well. Dancers must also be coachable and able to take corrections. Getting and making corrections is how we improve!

Studio Etiquette

Proper attire and attitude is expected by everyone at EPIC. Please arrive early so that you are dressed and ready to begin your class at the proper time. Be aware of studio rules and lead by example. **Cell phones are to be silenced when in the classroom.**

Teamwork and Support...ONE TEAM

It is VERY IMPORTANT that our Company dancers work together and support each other!! Please be courteous and considerate of all dancers at our studio. This includes ALL dancers- not just company members. Please don't speak negatively about any person, decision, or action taken within the studio. Negative energy from the dancer or parent will not be tolerated. If you have a concern, please direct your concern to the proper person who can help you. Negative, slanderous comments voiced throughout the studio or to other parents will not be tolerated. Please refrain from gossiping.

CLASSES/REHEARSALS:

Class Requirements for Company Members

Each level will have required classes to take each week. The dancers will have technique classes and well as rehearsal classes where they learn and perfect choreography. SEE SEPARATE SHEET FOR REQUIREMENTS

Company Class Dress Code

Dancers must wear all black to company classes and rehearsals. They may wear tan or pink tights, but leotards, jazz pants, Capri pants, or jazz shorts must be solid black. Hair should be secured in a ponytail, French braid, or bun. Technique classes will have different dress code requirements.

Attendance

Attendance is VITAL to your dance education. It is very simple; if you aren't in your class, YOU ARE MISSING TECHNIQUE AND CHOREOGRAPHY! If you are not attending ALL of your required weekly classes, you are in violation of this agreement. A third unexcused absence in one semester will be considered "excessive". A parent meeting will be required. If the attendance problem is not corrected during probation, you will be removed from Company. It is important for your safety and progression as a dancer that you attend class regularly. The Company is for those dancers who are focused on DANCE. Although, we love that you participate in other activities, it is a hindrance for the entire class when one person consistently misses. Please call when running late or missing class. Please keep in mind that if choreography is being taught, you may be excluded from the piece if you are not in class. It is up to you to learn missed information. Excused Absences= mandatory school events and illness. ***If you miss the last rehearsal before a performance, you will not be allowed to perform at that show...NO EXCEPTIONS!***

We go to great lengths to get information to you ASAP for planning purposes. PLEASE check your calendars and write in dates. We need to know about conflicts immediately so that we can plan around them, if possible. This is a TEAM activity. PLEASE do not wait until the week of a performance to tell us about a conflict. Doing so hurts the entire team!

NOTE: Dancers not attending Ft. Bend ISD...our holidays are mainly set up by Fort Bend's district calendar. Please make us aware of conflicts ASAP. For example- We understand that Spring Breaks may be different weeks. Absences will not be excused unless discussed ahead of time. (Needville will be set up around Needville school calendar.)

Extra Rehearsals

Every attempt will be made to keep extra rehearsals to a minimum. However, when a great opportunity comes up, we want to do our best. We will give notice to the dancers asap. We will send out emails, and post it on the BAND app as soon as possible. We will do our best to allow ample time for planning whenever possible. We would love to have 100% attendance every time, but we understand that situations come up. Graded school functions, illnesses, and religious or extended family events are things we consider as excusable absences for extra rehearsals. Please do your best to make all rehearsals a priority. We will do our best to post music and videos of rehearsals in BAND. Please use those resources and practice!

Performances! VERY IMPORTANT!

Dancers/Parents must be aware of dates, times, and performance details. The information will be available: posted in BAND, discussed in classes, and sent via e-mail. There are no excuses for not knowing when to be where. PLEASE be diligent about details. PLEASE be on time. Performing with members missing is very frustrating for everyone. Be a team player and arrive on time and prepared. Most performance venues are on a tight schedule. If we are not there and ready to go on time, we miss our chance. We cannot stress the importance of this awareness enough! **Also, Company dancers are expected to be at every performance. If you are unable to perform, please be respectful of all members and give as much advance notice as possible.** One missing dancer affects everyone!

A no call/no show for a performance may result in dismissal from the Company. Being late to a performance may result in the dancer not being allowed to perform. **If a dancer misses warm-up, she will not be allowed to perform.**

QUITTING: *Of course we strongly discourage dancers from quitting mid-year. Company is about learning dance, but it is also about learning life skills such as dependability, teamwork, communication, and perseverance. Problems and tight spots come up through the year. Please talk to us! Most situations can be fixed without giving up on the commitment you have made to the team. Quitting at any point after auditions causes team stress, but that stress is tripled during the year for everyone. Big/Lil is messed up; the team bond takes a hit; choreography has to change; staging is redone; competition fees and numbers are skewed; budget has to be realigned...it creates quite a mess. To combat the quit culture, we may implement a "reconfiguration fee" for anyone who quits the team during the course of this contract without making a logged attempt to fix any problems that have materialized. No refunds for any fees paid will be given.*

MORE GENERAL INFO:

Year End Recital

All Company level dancers are expected to participate. Many of the costumes and accessories that you buy for performances during the year will be used once again! Date TBD. It will be in May or June 2023.

Recital Pictures

You do not need to purchase the class pictures, but you must be in them! We will also do separate group pictures (CO, JRCO, JRB, SRCO, MINI), and we will take one pictures of all levels together.

Choreography

All music, routines, dances and any choreography or ideas that are presented to dancers during class are to remain confidential and should not be discussed, taught, or given to others outside of EPIC Center for Dance. Our teaching staff puts great effort into creating original material for our dancers; it is never to be shared outside our studio or used in competitions other than those entered by EPIC. Any EPIC dancer competing solos in outside competitions will have the support of our staff, but we ask that you inform us of this prior to the event. **Director Privilege:** *Although all Company members will perform at some point in the year, not every dancer will be cast in every routine. The Director reserves the right to cast performances as she sees fit based on the needs of the performance venue and the strengths of the dancers. If a dancer is not ready to perform (timing issues, memory problems, behind in technique, etc.), the Director reserves the right to pull that dancer from the routine.*

Costumes

As always, we will do everything possible to keep the costs to a minimum. Some parts of the costumes may be paid for by the studio and will remain studio property. (A damage deposit will be due of \$25-\$40 if a new costume is loaned out to a dancer. That fee may be reapplied to other expenses once the costume is returned without damage.) Other parts will be yours to keep. Please do not wear costumes for anything other than performances until the routine is no longer active. Damaged pieces will not be allowed on stage, and it is often difficult to replace costumes in an emergency. Please label EVERYTHING that is yours in a hidden place on the garment. Obvious tags will need to be cut out.

Summer Study

Summer study is VERY IMPORTANT to our program. EPIC will offer intensives & classes in June & July. If, however, you wish to participate in another summer program locally, you must first talk to Brandy. She can help you determine how and where you can benefit in the event that you desire additional training. Summer classes are required for continuing dancers. TATD attendance can count as part of your summer requirement. Company members are required to attend Choreography Camp in August/ September. Summer classes and rehearsals are required for Nationals preparation.

Financial Obligations

~~Company members must turn in a non-refundable \$25 admin fee with their signed contracts.~~ Aside from the yearly registration fee, recital expenses, and monthly tuition, Company members are required to buy "uniform" pieces and costumes. They will need additional tights and shoes. Additional fees may include: big/lil sister gifts, conventions, hotel expenses, competitions, and other incidentals as they arise. Dancers may be kept out of performances if the family's account is in arrears.

Demerits/ Probations

The Company will have a demerit system that should encourage members to remain aware of and uphold their rules/obligations. Excessive demerits will lead to probation or dismissal from the Company. The Director will determine when a demerit will be given. The Director also reserves the right to place a member directly on probation for severe infractions. SEE SEPARATE DEMERIT SYSTEM PAPERWORK

OTHER ITEMS: Fundraisers, Parent Committees, Team Moms, Competition Clause, Injury Clause SEPARATE PAPERWORK

Closing

We are very excited about the upcoming year. It is thrilling to see the improvements and discoveries our dancers make over the course of one year. We are looking forward to seeing more successes in their dancing lives as well as more developments in their overall maturity as they head into their young adult years. Thank you for allowing them to share these moments with us!

The Company Director reserves the right to modify/ add to this agreement as necessary for the benefit of the Company.

EPIC FX Dance Company

2022-2023

Information and Agreement

Signature Page

I have read and understand the EPIC FX Company Contract, and I consent to the responsibilities and information outlined in the Company Information and Agreement Contract. I have reviewed the financial obligations as well and am aware of all projected dates and fees.

I received the ~~Demerit System information~~, Class Requirements Sheet, Additional Contract Information, Projected Calendar of Events, and Projected Items to Order.

Name of Dancer: _____

Signature of Dancer: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Date: _____