

The Artistic Dance Company

Competition Company Information Packet

Dancers and Parents,

We are excited that you are looking into joining our ADC Competition Company! Company dance can be a bigger time and financial commitment, but we believe that it is truly one of the best things that can help not only improve a dancer in their training, but friendships and life lessons that will stay with them as they journey through life.

It is our mission to provide a safe environment for any and all persons to learn and grow, not only as dancers, but as people. We promise to encourage the love of dance, while inspiring self-confidence, discipline, and the importance of hard work. Our main priority is to provide quality instruction in dance and create a loving environment. Respect, loyalty, and integrity are key elements in our program that are cultivated through work ethic, attitude, and teamwork. Commitment is the key element to each individual dancer as well as the team as a whole. We try to instill the importance of respect, loyalty, integrity within our competition teams. Your dancers acknowledge that when they commit to the season they are committing fully to be present with their team throughout the whole season.

This packet contains the basic information about our season and how everything flows. We know that this can feel like a lot, but we are here to answer any and all questions you have to make this a wonderful experience for both you and your dancer!

The Artistic Dance Company: A Basic Overview

Q: Is my dancer ready for Competition Company?

A: We require that each dancer interested in auditioning for our Competition Company has either: taken a minimum of 1-2 years of recreational classes in the styles of ballet, tap, and jazz, or has competed with our Competition Company, Crew, or Tiny Team before. Prior to team placement, staff may evaluate your dancer and suggest an additional semester or different competition placement before joining our team to acquire the basic skills needed for the Competition Company!

Q: How long does a normal competition season run and what does it look like overall?

A: Our season begins with placement auditions in late May/early June. This is a very simple process where your dancer will be with others their age to demonstrate certain dance movements and learn a simple dance combination. This helps our staff evaluate where your dancer is in their technique journey and allows us to determine which level and groups they would fit into the best. We then begin summer sessions and schedule our Choreography Clinic. Our Choreography Clinic is typically the last week of July through the first two weeks of August where our dancers learn their routines for the season. When the Fall Session starts, we begin “cleaning” each routine. Our dancers begin a new schedule, continue to take classes and attend routine blocks to work on their dances in order to be ready for competition. We typically go to one convention in the Fall and one convention/competition in January. Then starting in February we go to one competition a month ending with nationals in June. This ends up being 5 regionals and 1 nationals competition.

Q: How many dances will my dancer be in?

A: That is completely up to you! Once you receive placement on the team, you will fill out a Routine Request Form that lets us know how many dances your dancer is willing to be in, if they would like the option of a solo, if there are any major schedule conflicts, etc. We do require your dancer to be in

at least 2 group routines (including production) to be eligible for a solo. We also require all dancers, except our minis, to participate in our production routine, so please keep that in mind. If your dancer is joining our team for the first time, we typically place them in 1-2 routines (not including production).

Q: What are the different levels in the Company team?

A: We have six levels inside our Company Competition team, keeping age, ability and commitment level a priority. We do our very best to keep class times manageable for families. We also take into account homework and early bedtimes for younger students. It is very difficult to accommodate everyone, but we make a huge effort to work with parents and students in scheduling.

The Artistic Dance Company has five levels in our competition team, prioritizing age, ability, and commitment. The Studio Owner and Competition Director have the final say on level placements and will not accept parent feedback, as these decisions are thoughtfully made with the overall team and individual dancer development in mind. **NOTE:** The level dancers train at in our studio doesn't determine their competition level, as this system is for training purposes only. Therefore, the level your dancer trains at in the studio may be different from their competition level.

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- **LEVEL 3** is designed for Teen to Seniors, practicing 3-4 days a week, not including extra scheduling for solos/duets/trios.

- **LEVEL 2** is designed for Junior and Teen dancers, practicing 2-4 days a week, not including extra scheduling for solos/duets/trios.

- **LEVEL 1** is designed for Petite dancers, practicing 2-3 days a week, not including extra scheduling for solos/duets/trios.

- **MINIS** is designed for dancers ages 5-7, practicing 1-2 days a week, not including extra scheduling for solos.

- **TINY TEAM** is designed for dancers 3-5, practicing 1-2 days a week.

- **AGE GROUPS**

Within the studio, Seniors are age 16-18, Teens are age 13-15, Juniors are age 10-12, Petites are age 7-9, Minis are age 5-7, and Tiny Team 3-5. Age requirements for competitions may vary.

- **CLASS REQUIREMENTS BY LEVEL**

These are the general technique classes expected each week for your dancer's level, **IN ADDITION** to all routine classes. **NOTE:** Dancers in any level can take extra classes in a higher level if their schedule allows, which is encouraged for those wanting to advance their training.

Level 3 (3 ½ hours of technique)

30 min: 1 Strength, Conditioning & Flexibility Class

2 hours: 2 Ballet Classes

30 min: 1 Tap Class

30 min: 1 Leaps, Turns, & Jumps Class

Level 2 (2 ½ hours of technique)

30 min: 1 Strength, Conditioning & Flexibility Class

1 hour: 1 Ballet Class

30 min: 1 Tap Class

30 min: 1 Leaps, Turns, & Jumps Class

Level 1 (2 ½ hours of technique)

30 min: 1 Strength, Conditioning & Flexibility Class

1 hour: 1 Ballet Class
30 min: 1 Tap Class
30 min: 1 Leaps, Turns, & Jumps Class

Minis (*1 ¼ hour of technique*)

15 min: Leaps, Turns, & Jumps
30 min: 1 Ballet Class
30 min: 1 Tap Class

Q: What am I looking at financially for the season?

A: The four main fees that you will have during the year are: tuition, choreography, costuming, and competition fees. Our manager will keep you up to date on your balance, and our staff will send out schedules and reminders when payments are due.

- TUITION: Tuition is due during the first week of each month and varies per dancer. The rate is calculated based on weekly class hours, plus any group dances, solos, duets, or trios. Dancers will have one monthly tuition rate for June and July (summer), and another monthly rate for August through May. Individual tuition rates will be communicated via email after auditions and before the start of summer classes (for the summer rate), and again at the end of summer classes before fall classes begin (for the August - May rate).

- CHOREOGRAPHY FEES: Each dancer will only be charged the minimum amount required to cover the costs of the choreography. Payment for Production choreography must be paid to the studio. **ALL OTHER** choreography fees must go directly to the choreographer either by cash or check on the scheduled day of choreography. An **approximate** breakdown of choreography fees for each dancer is listed below. Please note that prices may change and vary.

Solos: \$250 per dancer

Duets: \$150 per dancer

Trios: \$100 per dancer

Small Groups: \$100 per dancer

Large Groups: \$50 per dancer

Production/Line: \$100 per dancer

- COSTUME FEES: All group and production costumes have a fixed rate of **\$100**, which includes extra accessories, tights, rhinestones, appliqués, hair pieces, etc. The ADC staff will order these costumes. Every dancer will receive a new pair of earrings, with clip-on options included. Minis/Petites will receive 2 pairs of tan tights. Juniors//Teens/Seniors will receive 1 pair of tan tights if required. Specialty tights like black or tan fishnets will be given out if required, 1 pair per dancer.

For solo, duet, and trio costumes, the choreographer may ask for your dancer's opinions. However, the choreographer will make the final decision. The Costume Coordinator will order these costumes unless specified otherwise. Costumes for solos, duets, and trios will be **at cost** and may exceed the \$100 costume fee.

- COMPETITION PRICING

An **approximate** breakdown of competition fees at each competition is below. Please note that prices vary depending on the competition.

Solo: \$140 - \$180 per dancer for each routine

Duet: \$75 - \$90 per dancer for each routine

Trio: \$75 - \$90 per dancer for each routine

Group Dance: \$60 - \$85 per dancer for each routine

Studio Fee: \$40 per dancer for each competition

We hope that this was helpful in learning about being a member of The Artistic Dance Company's Competition Company! The friendships that forge and life lessons learned on this team are

truly like none other. We have graduated many of our team and studio that go on to either work in this industry or excel at their current jobs because of the things they have learned while dancing and being a part of a team. Please let us know if you have any other questions and we look forward to talking with you further!

Thank you,

Sophia Wilson

Owner of The Artistic Dance Company

Assistant Competition Dance Director - Costume Coordinator - Instructor

Alysa Anderson

Creative Director of the Artistic Dance Company

Competition Dance Director - Instructor

Katie Berkon

Studio Manager