



2025-2026

COMPETITION TEAM INFORMATION

This packet includes information on our award-winning competitive program and auditions for the 2025–2026 season

***Please contact our Competition Director,
Kim Dercks, with any questions:***

kimdercks@gmail.com



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IMPORTANT DATES	
Wednesday, April 30 th	Informational Meeting via Zoom at 7 PM <i>*must attend ONE meeting*</i>
Sunday, May 11 th	Informational Meeting via Zoom at 7 PM <i>*must attend ONE meeting*</i>
Sunday, May 18 th	Open Studio 12-3 PM <i>*OPTIONAL for dancers*</i>
Monday, May 19 th	Open Studio 5-7 PM <i>*OPTIONAL for dancers*</i>
Wednesday, May 21 st	Auditions <i>*dancers will sign up for only ONE audition day*</i>
Thursday, May 22 nd	Auditions <i>*dancers will sign up for only ONE audition day*</i>
Thursday, May 29 th	Competition Team Placements Announced
Thursday, June 5 th	Signed Contracts & Deposits Due
Monday, June 30 th	Mandatory Team Meeting via Zoom at 7 PM
Monday, July 7 th	Summer Classes <i>Begin</i> <i>*mandatory for all competition dancers*</i>

2025-2026 INFORMATIONAL MEETING

**** All NEW and RETURNING parents should attend *ONE* meeting****

Wednesday, April 30th at 7 PM

Sunday, May 11th at 7 PM

MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM

ZOOM LINK WILL BE EMAILED TO CURRENT COMPETITION FAMILIES

PLEASE EMAIL KIMDERCKSGMAIL.COM FOR ZOOM LINK

Informational Meeting Agenda

1. Program Expectations
2. Program Structure
3. Time Commitment
4. Audition Details
5. Financial Investment

Heart of the Valley Dance Academy

920.462.4479 - info@hotvdance.com - www.hotvdance.com

COMPETITION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Any dancer (ages 5 +) interested in becoming part of a competitive dance team environment may audition. Classes are geared towards the serious dancer who shows potential for growth, those who are enthusiastic and passionate about dance and those who are driven to work hard, practice and be part of a team. Dancers must also adhere to our team contract throughout the dance season.

SEASON

Our season runs from September through early May, ending with our year end recital in May. Actual competitions take place February – April while Nationals are held in June. We will be attending **four** mandatory regional competitions and **one OPTIONAL** competition this season. These may be held in Green Bay, Stevens Point, Madison, or the Milwaukee area. Our nationals competition is optional and may be held in the Minneapolis, Wisconsin Dells or Chicago area.

CLASSES

Dancers can audition for only the styles of dance they wish to participate in. Participation in at least one group routine is mandatory for all dancers to be eligible for a solo, duo or trio. In addition to the classes a dancer auditions for, ONE ballet and ONE stay strong class is mandatory for all competition dancers (*please see the note below regarding an exception for our youngest team members*). Staff will place dancers in these classes based on age/ability.

Competition classes meet on Sundays. Some solos, duos and trios may have their classes scheduled during the week based on studio and instructor availability. Groups meet for 45 minutes each week, duets and trios meet for 30 minutes each week and solos meet for 30 minutes every other week. Ballet classes are one hour each week and the stay strong class is 45 minutes each week.

NOTE: Our youngest competition team members (generally Pre K – 1st Grade) will have their ballet and stay strong classes combined into a one-hour class to better meet their needs. When audition placements are announced, we will also clarify the dancers who will fall into this category for the combined ballet/stay strong class.

Some dancers, based on skill scores during the audition process, may be required to take a mandatory turns and leaps class during the dance season. This will be determined by creating an average score based on all dancers auditioning. Anyone falling below the average score will be required to take a turns and leaps class to help elevate those skills.

Participation in at least two summer classes is also mandatory for dancers on the competition team. **One of those classes must be a ballet or PBT class.**

ATTENDANCE

Dancers are allowed **four** absences from each class over the course of the dance season. Practices held the week before a competition are **mandatory** for all dancers. Any dancer missing a mandatory practice due to illness will be required to turn in a doctor's note. Of the allowable 4 absences, no dancer shall exceed one absence per month from Jan to May. Any dancer with five or more absences from performance-based classes may be removed from the group. Any dancer with five or more absences from a ballet or stay strong class will be required to make those classes up at another time during the week. Dress rehearsal and our annual recitals are also **mandatory** events for our competition team members. When possible, injured dancers are expected to observe class.

2025-2026 AUDITION DETAILS

There will be short 20 second combos in tap, jazz, lyrical and hip hop that dancers will need to learn and perform at auditions. There will be three different levels of routines to coincide with the audition groups. Dancers only need to learn routines in the styles they plan to audition in.

All audition routines and skill demonstration videos will be posted on our website on Monday, May 12th.

We will also upload a sample of the audition scoresheet so there is complete transparency regarding what skills dancers will need to demonstrate and what dancers are being scored on during the audition process.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT AUDITIONS

Warm Up & Stretch
Flexibility & Skill Checks
Perform Short Routine in Groups

OPEN STUDIO

We will be holding two open studio sessions for dancers who would like to work with our staff on audition combos or skills they may need extra work on. This is NOT mandatory for dancers to attend, but this is great for anyone looking for extra practice prior to auditions.

Sunday, May 18th : Noon – 3:00 PM

Monday, May 19th: 5:00 – 7:00 PM

AUDITIONS

Wednesday, May 21st OR Thursday, May 22nd

Dancers should sign up for their audition group based on their grade for the 2025-2026 school year.

DANCERS ONLY NEED TO SIGN UP AND ATTEND ONE AUDITION TIME SLOT

<u>AUDITION TIME SLOTS</u>		
Day	Grades	Time
5/21 or 5/22	Pre K – 2 nd	4:00 - 5:30 PM
5/21 or 5/22	3 rd – 5 th	5:30 - 7:00 PM
5/21 or 5/22	6 th – 12 th	7:00 - 8:30 PM

LINK FOR AUDITION SIGN UPS

WHAT EACH DANCER MUST TURN IN ON AUDITION DAY

1. Completed Registration Form

2. \$20 Audition Fee

3. Solos/Duos/Trios Only:

Letter explaining why you would like the opportunity for one of these limited routines.

LINK TO COMPETITION REGISTRATION FORM

What To Bring For Auditions

1. Dancers must dress in plain black clothing. Leggings, tanks, fitted shirts, etc. are all acceptable. Clothing should be fitted so we can see body lines during auditions.
2. Hair must be secured back in a bun (low or high is acceptable).
3. Proper shoes for the style(s) of dance you are auditioning for.
4. Water bottle
5. A positive attitude and strong work ethic!

Placement: Placement on our team is determined by our staff based on technique, ability to pick up choreography, age, attitude & performance during previous season (if dancer is a returning member).

RESULTS ARE FINAL

AUDITION RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THURSDAY, MAY 29th

(EMAILED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS AND POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE)

CONTRACTS, REGISTRATION FEE (\$50) & DEPOSIT (\$200) ARE DUE ON THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

Failure to return these items by the deadline will result in your dancer(s) not being placed in our competitive program. This \$200 deposit will go towards dancer's accounts at the end of our dance season unless the team contract has been breached. In that case, the \$200 **DOES NOT** go towards the balance of the account and will be used for the added expenses we incur for having to re-choreograph or re-stage routines and added administrative expenses.

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FINANCIAL INVESTMENT

2025-2026 Competition Program Payment Schedule

CLASS FEES

29 Weeks of Classes

Classes	Annual Payment	Installment Payments			Monthly Payment
		Payment 1	Payment 2	Payment 3	September - April
	September 30th	September 15th	January 15th	March 15th	Due 1st Week Each Month
Solo	\$492	\$164	\$164	\$164	\$61.50
Duet	\$492	\$164	\$164	\$164	\$61.50
Trio	\$402	\$134	\$134	\$134	\$50.25
Groups	\$378	\$126	\$126	\$126	\$47.25
Ballet (1 HR)	\$324	\$108	\$108	\$108	\$40.50
Stay Strong (45 MIN)	\$300	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$37.50
Ballet/SS Combo (1 HR)	\$324	\$108	\$108	\$108	\$40.50
Audition Fee	\$20	Due when registration form is submitted for auditions.			
REGISTRATION FEE Per Dancer	\$50	Due with team deposit to reserve spot(s) in classes			

SHOE FEES*

Due at the time of purchase

Style	Cost
Ballet	\$24
Lyrical 1/2 Sole	\$24
Student Tap	\$26
U-Shell Tap	\$31
Jazz Tap	\$60
Jazz Boot	\$40
Hip Hop Sneaker	\$54
* prices may increase during the year *	

TIGHT FEES*

Due at the time of purchase

Size	Style	Cost
Child	Footed	\$7.50
Child	Convertible	\$9.50
Child	Footless	\$9.50
Child	Stirup	\$9.50
Child	Fishnet	\$14.00
Adult	Footed	\$8.50
Adult	Convertible	\$10.50
Adult	Footless	\$10.50
Adult	Stirup	\$10.50
Adult	Fishnet	\$16.00

COSTUME FEES

Due October 19th, 2025

Size	Cost
Child Small	\$80
Child Medium	\$80
Child Large	\$90
Adult Small	\$90
Adult Medium	\$90
Adult Large	\$90
Adult X-Large	\$95
Adult XX-Large	\$100

Please note: costume prices are based on current estimated pricing. Staff may reach out to classes to receive approval of costumes that may go above these amounts.

Please note entrance fees are PER COMPETITION that is attended. We are attending four regional competitions this season.

ENTRANCE FEES

Due December 15th, 2025

Class	Cost
Solo	\$180
Duet	\$110
Trio	\$105
Small Group	\$85
Large Group	\$85
Media/Reg Fee	\$20-\$40

Only if we attend a competition that charges this media or registration fee

ADDITIONAL COSTS MAY INCLUDE: MAKEUP, JEWELRY, STUDIO JACKET, ETC.

MUTIPLE FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES ARE OFFERED TO HELP OFFSET COSTS

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2025 SUMMER CLASSES

6 WEEK SESSION

CLASSES RUN FROM JULY 7TH – AUGUST 14TH

ALL CLASSES ARE 45 MINUTES IN LENGTH

\$85 PER CLASS

All dancers on our competitive team are REQUIRED to participate in our summer dance program. Dancers must take at least TWO classes. One class MUST be a ballet or PBT class, while the other class(es) can be of the dancer's choice.

Summer classes are a great opportunity for dancers to try a new style or simply continue to work on improving their skills. Registration is currently open for our summer session. Register soon to secure your spots in your preferred classes. Some classes are already near capacity!

[LINK TO SUMMER SCHEDULE](#)

[LINK TO SUMMER REGISTRATION FORM](#)



2025-2026 Competition Team Contract

Please read the following contract carefully as it's imperative that both parents and dancers understand the commitment, time, rules, and expenses that are required to be a successful, contributing member of this team.

INITIALS **Parents/Dancers have read, understand and agree to the following participation guidelines upon their competition team acceptance:**

_____ I recognize by returning this form and deposit, I am accepting my placement in the following classes (write classes below):

_____ If at any time after **June 5th, 2025** I decide to drop any of the above classes, I understand I forfeit my deposit.

_____ I understand there are only 4 absences allowed per class over the course of the dance season. Attendance at the last practice prior to a competition, our dress rehearsal and recitals are MANDATORY. Of the allowable 4 absences, no dancer shall exceed one absence per month from Jan to May. Any dancer with five or more absences from a performance-based class may be removed from the group. Any dancer with five or more absences from a ballet or stay strong class will be required to make those classes up at another time during the week. When possible, injured dancers are expected to observe class. I will make every effort to be at practice as my actions and choices will affect my entire team.

_____ All tuition, costume, convention, competition entrance fees, recital and late fees are required to be paid in full by the dates set forth by HOTVDA. All payments are the sole responsibility of the competition team member/family. I also understand I am responsible for any travel-related expenses for competitions.

_____ I will follow all the Studio Policies for Heart of the Valley Dance Academy found in our studio handbook. Handbooks can be found on our studio website under team documents.

_____ I commit to always representing Heart of the Valley Dance Academy and our Competitive Team at the highest level. I will be respectful, courteous, kind and compassionate towards dancers and their families from both Heart of the Valley Dance Academy and other studios. This includes online interactions on social media and in person.

_____ I understand that being a part of the Competition Team requires hard work. I will be expected to handle personal critiques and criticism and will work towards continuous improvement of routines and technique. I understand that practice outside of the studio is expected at this competitive level. If at any time during the season a dancer falls behind the rest of the class (meaning the dancer is not performing at the same level or ability as the rest of the class), they may be removed from that class or required to take private lessons at a rate of \$30 for 30 minutes, \$40 for 45 minutes or \$50 for 60 minutes.

_____ I realize that team bonding makes a big overall impact on the success of this program. Dancers are expected to participate in team bonding activities, as much as possible, to help create a strong connection amongst dancers.

_____ I understand that a \$200 deposit and \$50 registration fee, along with this signed contract, is due back to the studio no later than June 5th by 7:00 PM to secure my spot on the Competition Team. Failure to return the contract and/or deposit by the due date will result in removal from the Competition Program. If at any time over the course of the dance season (starting in September and ending with Nationals in June/July) this contract is breached, I understand the \$200 deposit is forfeited. If the contract is upheld, the \$200 deposit will be applied as a final payment to your account.

_____ I have read, understand and agree to abide by the rules listed above and in the studio handbook.

_____ Date _____ Dancer Signature
_____ Date _____ Parent Signature

PARENTS AND DANCERS, PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN WITH \$200 DEPOSIT BY 7PM on JUNE 5TH

*****FAILURE TO RETURN FORM AND DEPOSIT BY DEADLINE WILL RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM PROGRAM*****