*** ***

**2020/2021**

Company Information,

Audition Requirements & Info,

TDA Class Requirements, Competitions, Costs, Etc.

1. **What is the goal of Poise Dance Company?**

The goal of Poise Dance Company is to be a group of dancers within the TDA who are passionate about dancing and want to commit the time and energy to progress to a higher level. We want Poise to be like a family where the dancers support each other, love each other, and often choose to spend time together outside of the studio.

1. **When does my child audition?**

Poise auditions will be August 8, 2020, Time TBA

1. **How does my child audition?**

Dancers will audition in person at TDA. They will attend a class and will be judged on dance knowledge, dance technique, flexibility, skills, effort, and attitude. They will then learn a short dance combination. They will be evaluated on speed of learning, facials, and performance quality. Teacher recommendation also plays a part in our decision. We look at things such as class attendance, maturity, work ethic, and attitude.

1. **How do I know if my child is ready?**

Dance companies are not for everyone. Dancers can attend TDA from 3 through 18 years and never participate in the company. Companies are for those who are passionate about dancing and want to put in the extra time and commitment that goes with it. Your child’s current dance teacher would be a great resource. If you have questions on how your child works in class and if they would be a good candidate, you can ask for a time to talk to your child’s teacher or the assistant teacher. Good indicators that your child is ready to audition:

* My dancer practices dancing and stretching at home.
* My dancer enjoys going to dance class every week.
* My dancer wants to dance even more than he/she does now.
* My dancer is a hard worker and would be a good asset to a team.
* My dancer expresses interest in being in a dance company and understands the responsibilities and commitment involved.

1. **What if my child is not ready?**

Again, not every child is a candidate for a dance company and that is fine! It is harder to get into company for the first time when a dancer is older. This is because many of the company dancers have danced together or have had company training for many years. The younger the dancer, the better chance of making a dance company. Dancers must meet or exceed the level of the current company for their age level.

1. **What types of dance routines will compete?**

We will highlight our dancers’ best skills. Potentially, Jazz, Tap, Ballet/Lyrical and

Hip-Hop.

1. **Summer Class requirements.**

Company members will be encouraged to enroll in Dance Technique classes at TDA. Attending the Summer Intensive at TDA is also highly encouraged!

1. **How will my child progress?**

In a perfect world, dancers who begin in the same company would progress together each year until they graduate. However, some dancers progress faster than others and will be promoted to more advanced company before the rest of their group. It is common for dancers to remain in the same company and dance with the same group for several years. This has to do with the ability to count music and stay on the beat, blend with other company members, stage presence and performance ability, dedication to work diligently at home as well as at the studio, and the ability to take correction with a “can and will do” attitude. Dancers who struggle in these areas for an exceptional amount of time may be asked to step down from their company and transition to recreational classes. If your current company dancer struggles in these areas, you may want to invest in some private lessons and/or set up a meeting with her/his company teachers and Mrs. Stacia to discuss their specific path.

1. **How many competitions will Poise attend each year?**

Poise will participate in 2 Regional competitions in 2021 and 1 National Competition.

\*A parent will be required to travel & stay with dancer overnight & during the duration of competitions.

\*\*Parent will be responsible for all travel & hotel cost for dancer & self.

1. **When can my child do a solo or duet/trio?**

Students in the company will only compete in group dances, unless they are asked by an instructor, to do a solo/duet/trio. Dancer’s work ethic, attitude and attendance is a big deciding factor.

1. **Are there special dress code requirements?**

Poise dancers will use Jazz dress code requirements for all company classes and rehearsals. \*Costumes and shoes will be purchased for competition.

1. **Is this like Dance Moms?**

NO!! Just like our recreational classes, all of our company costumes and music selections will be tasteful! Although our dancers are trained as professionals, our dancers are still children and will never be put on stage in inappropriate costumes.

In addition, we will encourage our moms to be supporters of all the TDA dancers, not just their child. We want to operate as a big dance family. We are all here for the kids!

1. **Poise Dance Company members will be required to dance exclusively with TDA.** Company members will not be allowed to dance or compete with any other local dance companies/studios. The exception is company participation in Master Classes held at other facilities, and/or attending dance conventions. Company members should not be involved in any musicals or plays that will interfere with regular required dance classes or company rehearsals.

**Audition, Class & Attendance Requirements**

Audition Requirements

1. Dancers must be 7 to 17 years of age as of September 1, 2020 to audition for the Poise 20/21 team.
2. All dancers who audition for Poise need to have a minimum of 1 year of dance training or be invited to audition. Dancers are selected based on age and dance ability. Company level placement is up to the instructors.
3. Those who audition do not have to be a current student of TDA at the time of auditions, but will have to enroll as a TDA student and take required regular classes, if she/he is accepted into Poise.
4. All who audition should know, understand and agree to the time & financial requirements of Poise dancers and parents. Parents & dancers are required to sign Poise contract upon acceptance into the company.

Attendance Requirements

1. All who audition must be available to attend the **2021 Competitions** listed below.

A parent must drive dancer to and from competition cities and stay with dancer at all competition events.

**Encore Regional Competition – February 12-14, Austin TX**

**Showstopper Regional Competition – April - TBA, San Antonio, TX**

1. **Poise Company members must have regular class attendance at all TDA classes and Poise Company classes & Rehearsals!**

Just as sports teams require all players to attend practices, we require our dancers to attend classes, rehearsals, and competitions.

If a dancer has more than the allowed absences, she/he will be dropped from the competition routine and/or dropped from the company.

If a dancer misses a competition (other than death in the family or extreme illness), that dancer may not be allowed in company the following year.

Poise members should not auditions for plays or musicals or any other sport or activity that interferes with regular TDA classes or Poise classes/rehearsals.

**\*Exact attendance policy will be given upon acceptance to Poise.**

1. **All Poise members are required to attend Choreography Weekends for Group Routines. September 12-13 and September 19-20…**Times TBA

\*If a company member misses choreography weekend she/he will be excluded from the routines learned that weekend.

\*\*All solos, duos & trios will schedule dates to learn choreography with instructor.

1. There will be some required Saturday rehearsals. Dates TBA at Poise meeting.

Class Requirements

1. Poise Dance Company will consist of Junior company members and Senior company members. **Class requirements for each, are listed below.**

Regular TDA classes have multi class discounts. Company class costs are in addition, to TDA tuition.

* **Junior Company Members must be enrolled in the following weekly classes.**

**3 hours of class/week…**

* 1 hour Poise Company class
* 1 hour of Dance Technique class
* 1 of the following classes: Ballet, Jazz or Hip-Hop

Additional classes are highly encouraged!

* **Senior Company Members must be enrolled in the following weekly classes.**

**4 hours of class/week…**

* 1 hour Poise Company class
* 1 hour of Dance Technique class
* 2 of the following classes: Jazz, Ballet, or Hip-Hop

Additional classes are highly encouraged!

**See Estimated Company & Regional Competition cost below.**

National Competition information will be given at Poise meeting. Plan on National entry fees being slightly more than regional competitions and length of competition being 3-5 days. The same costumes will be used for National Competitions. Regional routines must qualify for Nationals.

**Estimated Company & Regional Competition Cost**

TDA will provide Sponsorship letters for Company members to send to family/friends to raise money. Fundraisers will also be utilized to offset costs for both individual Poise members, and The Dance Academy. All company members and parents will be required to fundraise to cover TDA expenses or will have a dollar amount (TBD) to pay out of pocket.

\*Individual fundraising will be optional. More details discussed after Poise team is selected.

**The following estimated costs are in addition to regular monthly TDA class tuition.**

**Estimated Company Cost**

* Company Class Tuition (monthly)…..$25 Monthly (except competition months)

\*Competition Months………………..$50 March & April

* Company T-Shirt/dance top………....$25 required
* Company Jacket………………………$75 required

**Choreography Weekend Group Routines…$50-$100 each dancer,** **each group routine**

**Choreography Costs - Solos, Duos & Trios –** Includes 3 hours of teaching choreography. Private lesson fees will apply for rehearsals, after the initial 3 hours.

Solo $30/hr., Duo $40/hr. ($20 each dancer), Trio $51/hr. ($17 each dancer)

* Choreography Duos…………………..$125 each dancer
* Choreography Trios…………………..$85 each dancer
* Solo…………………..........................$250

\*Each Poise Co. member will be given a list of routines and exact amount of entry fees & costumes. Parent & dancer will make the choice whether to participate in all routines.

\*\*Dancers being offered Solos, Duos & Trios can decide whether or not to accept the routine.

**Regional Competition Cost**

**\*We will attend 2 Regional competitions.**

Entry fees will be for **EACH competition and EACH routine** your dancer competes.

* Entry fees are per routine…………….$70 group routine/each dancer,

$140 solo, $80 duo/trio – each dancer

* Costumes……………………………….$50 -$75 each Routine (minimum 1 costume)
* Shoes……………………………………$20-$50 each Routine (depending on shoe)
* Hotel costs……………………………..$100-$215/night – 2-3 nights (Host Hotel)
* Additional minimal cost will include tights, a makeup kit, earrings, etc.

\*Parents may choose to carpool & share rooms at competitions with other dancer/parent to lower costs. Max 4 persons per room.