

OFFICIAL
PREMIERE DANCE
COMPANY

COMPETITIVE BALLET ENSEMBLE
HANDBOOK

2018-19

PREMIERE DANCE COMPANY

COMPETITIVE BALLET ENSEMBLE

AUDITION/PLACEMENT

Required company auditions will be held on Sunday, May 20th 5:30-6:15 P.M. The audition is open to students ages 11 & up. Dancers must have at least 3 years of ballet training. Students should arrive 30 minutes early to the audition already warmed-up and ready to dance. Please arrive with the audition form completed (to follow). Leotard and pink tights is required audition attire. Students should wear ballet shoes, and bring pointe shoes, if they have them. The audition will consist of exercises at the barre, across the floor and a ballet combo that will be taught. Many factors will be considered while evaluating each student such as attitude, attentiveness, technical ability and performance quality.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Competitive Ballet members are **required** to enroll in certain classes to ensure proper training.

Summer Course Requirements:

- 1) Attend at least 4 weeks of Technique, Stretch and Strengthening (June 19-July 26th) - \$125 for entire summer session
- 2) Attend at least 4 weeks of Summer Ballet classes (2 classes per week=8 total) *Ballet classes may be taken at Premiere or a pre-approved summer institution.
- 3) Attend summer dance choreography sessions (dates TBD based on student conflicts provided)
- 4) Attend rehearsals on Wednesday, August 22nd and Wednesday, August 29th (fee included with choreography fee)

* Please let us know on your audition form what conflicts you have over the summer.

School year classes (Sept-May)

Competitive Ballet members are required to take:

- 1) Three ballet classes per week AND pre-pointe or pointe. At least one of these classes must be taken at Premiere. We will need to approve your outside ballet classes if also training at another facility.
- 2) Ballet Ensemble rehearsal class (Wednesday's 7:30-8:15 OR Wednesday's 8:15-9:00). This class will be an additional \$45 fee per month in addition to your regular monthly tuition.

*** Once competition date has passed, the class will be a ballet technique class, and will run through the end of May.

The first rehearsal month of Ballet Ensemble will begin in late August (Wednesday, August 22nd and August 29th) before regular classes begin on Sept. 4th.

COMPETITIONS

- YAGP in Dallas or Kansas City (date TBA. It will likely be in early February, and will be announced as soon as YAGP announces their dates in mid-June)

ACCEPTANCE INTO THE COMPANY

A Ballet Ensemble cast list will be announced via email on Monday, June 25th. All casting decisions are final. Please do not contact the director regarding casting concerns.

In order to accept your spot into the company, you must pay the following, and also return your signed company contract by July 1st:

- 1) Choreography and August rehearsal fees (\$225 per dancer)
- 2) PDC Warm-up Jacket (\$130)

Amounts due by August 1st:

- 1) Costume fees including custom ballet costume and two pairs of pink tights (TBA, approximately \$200-300 if we are able to choose something less expensive, we will do so)
*Dancers will need to provide Capezio hanami canvas shoe (or pointe shoes, if needed)

Amounts due by September 1st:

- 1) Competition (\$55 per dancer) and YAGP Workshop Fees (\$100 per student)
- 2) Solo competition fees are \$120 per dance if interested in taking a Ballet solo

CONTRACT WITHDRAWAL

After contracts are signed and due on July 1st, should you recognize that you are unable to uphold your contract agreement, a withdrawal fee of \$500 will be due. We spend many hours configuring group dancers, formations, choreography, etc for a certain number of students. If that needs to change after it has been planned, it is extremely difficult for both the dancers and teachers, and always results in additional rehearsal time to make these changes. WE ASK YOU TO STRONGLY CONSIDER YOUR COMMITMENT LEVEL TO YOUR TEAM BEFORE SIGNING YOUR CONTRACT, AND ACCEPTING YOUR SPOT, TO AVOID ANY WITHDRAWALS.

EXPECTATIONS

In addition to regular attendance, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and respectable manner that extends, not only to their instructor, but also to their fellow students. Bickering, bullying, disrespect and cliques will absolutely not be permitted. This extends to all parents as well. All students are expected to support their fellow students both in class and outside the studio. Furthermore, students must possess and display an exceptional work ethic that is imperative to excelling in dance. Because company members are role models to other students, it is of the utmost importance that students adhere to all policies. A student may be removed from the company at any time during the season if these policies are not met.

It is very difficult to make everyone happy and it is imperative that parents/guardians trust that Stephanie has every child's best interest at heart and does her best to be fair and amicable in all situations. Therefore, all dance and company related decisions made by Stephanie are final and must be respected by all company members as well as their parents/guardians. If there is a situation or question that a dancer or parent/guardian feels needs to be addressed, a meeting must be scheduled to address the situation. Problems or concerns will not be discussed during class time or during competitions. Also, any disrespectful action toward any dancer, parent or instructor is unacceptable and may result in immediate dismissal from the company.

Students must follow the dress code, be prepared for class/rehearsals with all shoes, props, etc. and arrive 10 minutes early to warm-up and review choreography prior to class. The qualities that Stephanie looks for in a "Premiere Dancer" should always be present: dedication, discipline, passion, respect and camaraderie. As such, company members are required to support other company members by watching other groups at each required competition. All dancers must stay for awards and wear Premiere Dance Company jacket. We are a team at Premiere Dance Company, and a proud example of what a great dance company can be.

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