

MISS LISA'S DANCE EXPRESS & MORE

Competition Dance Team Contract

****Dedication-** Attend all practices....

****Discipline-** Be on time and prepared!

****DESIRE..** To do your best, be your best and BE A TEAM PLAYER!

Congratulations and welcome to the "Performance Family." A lot of fun, hard work and commitment await you. The following are some Competition Team Guidelines that all dancers are accountable for.

Competition requires time, talent, dedication and regard for each other as iteam members. Competition should bring out the best in a student's talent, build self-image, develop personality, character, perseverance, and foster friendships. We urge each dancer to do the best they can.

That is the real win. Each student should compete against herself. We do not want to critique others, but concentrate on improving our own capabilities and talents. All rules will be strongly enforced. Anyone failing to comply by the rules will be subject to expulsion from any competition piece.

REMEMBER

- 1. YOU ARE VERY IMPORTANT*
- 2. YOU ARE NO MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYONE ELSE. Forget negativity, gossip, put downs, destructive criticism and cliques! The studios good reputation in our community and beyond is a reflection of our conduct!*
- 3. All decisions are subject to Miss Lisa's discretion in this contract.*

Basic Criteria:

- Dancer must have at least 2 years of ballet training..*
- Dancer must audition unless Lisa overrides.*
- Competition Team Members who sign this contract are agreeing to a one year commitment to the group.*
- All members are re-chosen annually.*

- Dancers and parent please know it is your responsibility to check the bulletin board & email for upcoming events and important information. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email.
- Parental/Legal Guardian's permission to participate (all agreements, this contract and other liability requirements must be signed and returned before dancer may participate.)

A Competition Team is a team. Just as sports teams require all players to attend practices, a dance Competition Team requires its dancers to attend classes and rehearsals. Absences will hold back not only the individual dancer, but the whole Competition Team as well. Expect some scheduling conflicts, as there is with other sports and activities. If you cannot commit to these obligations, we will be very happy to enroll you in our recreational program (Traditional, regular dance classes which meet once a week- Recital based)

Responsibilities

- Must fulfill your role as a competitive Competition Team dancer for the *ENTIRE* year: July to July.
- Mandatory performances: School and Community Performances, Competition Showcase, 3-4 Competitions, Relay for Life, Crawford County Fair, Christmas Parade.
- Required to take 2 classes per week: Technique class, Technique/Routine class (Mon. 4-4:45)
- Attend extra rehearsals before a performance, if needed.
- Altering, rhinestoning, and composition of costumes for special numbers.
- Transportation to all scheduled events.
- All the financial responsibilities required in order to compete.
- You are required to stay at all competitions through the Awards Ceremony and picture session at ALL competitions. If you do not, you will not perform in the following competition. *WE ARE A TEAM*, not individuals.

Dance should be your first priority aside from school and church. If church conflicts with one of your weekly dance classes, then maybe the dance class commitment isn't a good time for you.

Attendance

- You must be present at all practices two weeks prior to a competition in order to participate

- You must be at the three practices prior to a general performance in order to participate.
- Dancers not willing to abide by this regulation will be taken out of the number for that particular event. Competitive Dance is a team event! Everyone matters! There cannot be any exceptions to this rule b/c it is a team sport/effort and formations will be effected.
- If you are injured, you should still attend your classes and observe.
- Excused only by Ms. Lisa or medical personnel. Call studio when going to be absent.
- Dancers must know all competition/show material prior to the even or they will not be allowed to perform.

Dance Conventions

Competitive Dancers are required to attend the Winter Tremaine Dance Convention or whatever convention Lisa selects.

Tremaine is held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in St. Louis. Ages 6 and up can attend. We spend 2 days learning with some of the best professional dancers in today's workforce. Dance instructors are some famous choreographers and are featured in the latest videos, Broadway, movies, commercials and more. Prices for the weekend are Juniors (6 and up) \$145, Teens (11 and up) \$180, Seniors (ages 16 and up) \$180, Parent Observers \$40. This is an awesome opportunity for all girls and instructors to learn some new styles, have a lot of fun and meet new people.

Dress Code:

- Ballet: Leotard or Dance workout top, tights, boycut shorts & Ballet Shirt is optional (above knee!),
- Jazz and Tap: Can wear tight Capri pants as well.
- Shoes: Black Pull-on Jazz Shoes, Dance Paws, Bloch Black Leather Tap shoes (sold at studio)
- Hair must be pulled back tightly for every class

Jazz pants for jazz are not allowed during practices & No T-shirts or baggy pants after warm-up

Competition Hair/Make-up

STUDIO STANDARD

- You will need to purchase makeup from Arbonne.
- You will need to attend a Make-Up Application Class to learn studio standards.
- You will be told how the hair will be worn for the number and will need to make sure your dancers/tumblers head pieces are secure and hair is neat and slicked back.
- No fingernail or toenail polish will be worn at the competition or performances.
- No tattoos may be visible at any performance.
- No jewelry allowed in classes/competitions/performances.

Financial

Tuition for Competition Team members will vary depending on the amount of classes.

Competition entry fees vary depending on the size of the group and which competitions we attend.

The fees are per person and must be paid in advance. Usually \$30-40 per dancer/routine/competition. (Solo, duet, trio fees are higher). The number of routines may vary from 1-4 at each competition.

Mandatory items for Dance Competition Team (we will reuse almost everything every year): Prices may vary slightly from year to year depending on the Competition Team's cost.

- Costumes
- Tights
- Jewelry
- Makeup and Accessories
- Clear Back Bra (if needed)
- Team Warm-ups- Dance Express-Hoodie and Pants
- Dance Backpack
- Dance Garment Bag
- Competition Shirt
- Misc. supplies that may be added as needed.

All orders for any of these items needed must be placed by August 1st. (Order form/prices attached.)

Fundraisers

We will do several fundraisers to help you offset the costs of costumes, classes, conventions, and competitions.

- Sponsors for the Competition Team shirts through the month of August.
- Red Wheel Fundraiser- End of Aug-Cookie Dough and such
- Car Washes, Bake Sales, etc. ñ Summer ñas parents set up

Dancers/parents must participate in scheduled fundraising events in order to receive any benefits from the funds. Commitments to competitive dance can be costly and to counter some of the out-of-pocket expenses, all dancers and parents are encouraged to participate in promoting teamwork and financial assistance for the benefit of the team. Proceeds earned from the fundraisers will go back to the individual dancers who participated: 90% will go to the dancer, 10% will go to the team fund.

Our Dance Express Booster Treasurer keeps a bank account for all these funds. You will use a funds distribution form to request money from your account. If you choose not to participate in provided fundraisers, that is fine, but you are assuming financial responsibility for all your own costs. Those who choose not to participate in particular fundraisers may have a small fee to cover their cost of extra expenses such as Competition TShirt printing. At Fundraisers, you need to wear your team shirt.

There are NO refunds on any fees, tuitions, costumes, fundraisers, and competition fees. If you are discontinued or choose to no longer be a part of the team, your credit balance will be transferred to the overall team account that is used for props, décor and other misc team supplies.

Additional Costs at Competitions:

*Parking fees at competitions \$8-25

* Admission is usually free

*Trophy fee- The studio receives one trophy and the participants received a ribbon. If you want to purchase a trophy for your competitor you can for an additional fee at the competition. Obviously this isn't until after the awards when we see what we have earned. Trophies usually range in price from \$20-\$25.

Ending Notes for Parents:

Competition is a fun experience for both the dancer and the parent. Don't let yourself get stressed out. Keep things in perspective. Winning a trophy is not the most important thing, being in the front line is not the most important thing, and the number of routines you are in does not matter. What matters is to grow and learn from your experiences and truly believe you are doing the best you can do! Being a dancer competitor and teaching dance for many years, I have seen all sorts of situations, please note competitive dance is a very awesome opportunity for dancers to participate in, it makes dancers reach potentials they never thought possible. It gives dancers a sense of unity and teaches them hard work and discipline to name a few. On the other side of the coin dancers can feel resentment, thoughts of being left out and feeling that they didn't do their best. That is why it is so important for their teachers, both you and I, to turn those negative experiences to positive ones! Remember, you will always be more gifted than someone else and there will always be someone more gifted than you!

Dance for you, do the best you can do! Don't be jealous, be inspired!!! Dance Express is a place for dancers to reach their full potential and that can only happen if we work as a team striving for positive energy!

Suspension (I hope not!)

Miss Lisa may permanently dismiss any team member for the following reasons:

- 1- Participating in or association with smoking, drinking, or drugs. We need to lead healthy lifestyles to prevent injuries!
- 2- Failure to perform duties outlined in this contract.
- 3- Infraction to the respect clauses
- 4- Disrespectful behavior or attitude
- 5- Not paying fees
- 6- Any other regulation defined in the above contract.

By signing this contract, you understand.

Being a competitive dancer is a huge financial commitment as well as time commitment. You are required to pay all competitive expenses throughout the dance season. Do not take the decision to b

e a competitive dancer lightly. The signed competitive contract is binding and all conditions of the contract will be enforced.

You agree to attend all regularly scheduled classes as well as extra rehearsals. You understand that excess absences may result in not being able to participate in an event or even removal from the Competition Team. You do not anticipate scheduling conflicts with sports or other activities.

Both dancer and parent have read and understood all that is expected as a member of the Dance Express Dance Competition Team. We understand these rules are created to ensure the absolute best training and the most positive and rewarding experience for all. We are very excited to be accepted as a member of the Competition Team and can't wait to begin!

Student's signature _____ Date _____

Parent's signature _____ Date _____

Signed page (this one) must be returned before auditions in order to be a part of the Competition Team for the Fall. You may mail it to: 1324 Shirley Lane, Festus, MO 63028 or drop it off under the office door at the studio.