

Spotlight Performing Dance Company Information and Rules

“Our goal this year is to create a group of dancers who are supportive and helpful to one another in development of their skills and ability to express themselves through movement.”

For every Company dance class you are in, the cost is \$7.00 (per student). This is a group effort! Company classes are very important so please try to avoid being absent. If you must miss a class, please call the studio and let us know that you will not be attending practice. If, however, you miss too many practices you will be removed from the Company. Everyone must realize that this is different from a regular class. There is more discipline, dedication, and time put into the Company.

We are planning again to rent out the theater and have a winter team show. It will be good preparation for the upcoming competitions. We are planning to have it sometime in January. Some Company dances that perform in this show may not perform at the studio recital, so treat this show as a recital. Because the theater is not free we will be asking that a \$50-\$100 non-refundable Company Fee be paid. This will cover the renting out of the theater. If you do not pay this your child will not be allowed on Company.

We will have a company meeting for all company parents. Day and time TBD. All company parents must attend.

All dates/times/set schedules will be sent via email!

Everyone who is a part of Company is required this year to purchase a jacket, earrings, necklace, and hair clip. Returning students you must check your jewelry and make sure there are no diamonds missing. If your jewelry has any diamonds missing you must purchase a new one.

Spotlight Website: www.spotlightdancestudioofpinckney.com

Email: spotlightdancestudioofpinckney@gmail.com

Sara's Cell: 734-777-9306

Kayla cell: 517-899-2670

Marcie Cell: 734-637-1518

*Emails on updates and reminders will be sent out so computer access is recommended.

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Class Rules

The only time that a dancer is asked to sit or leave the room is if they come in with a bad attitude or they are not wearing the appropriate clothing/shoes. If you are caught rolling your eyes, making rude comments to the teacher or to the other students, or not trying your hardest, you will be asked to leave the room. You will be responsible for learning the choreography on your own time. Note from Sara "I will yell, and I will push you to your limit as a dancer. It may make you upset or angry...leave it in the room. If you cannot handle it, you should not take the Company classes."

Ballet- All girls must wear:

A black leotard

Pink tights

Pink canvas ballet shoes

Black booty shorts are allowed

NO jazz pants, capris, bright colored shorts, tank tops, sweaters, skirts, gore boots, foot thongs

Hair: in a bun with bangs pulled back

Ballet- All guys must wear:

Black tank

Black basketball shorts

Black gore boots

Technique-All girls must wear:

Foot Thongs or Gore Boots

Anything that is not baggy

Hair- in a bun with bangs pulled back

Technique- All guys must wear:

Jazz pants or basketball shorts

T-shirt that is not baggy or tank

Gore boots (no hip hop shoes)

If you are in any other classes (assisting, hip hop, lyrical, tap, jazz, extra ballet) these rules apply there to! Remember you are representing the Company. FOLLOW THE RULES! If dancers make a hip hop or lyrical dance they are required to take a rec class hip hop or lyrical. Dancers MUST be at these classes! They are just as important as a company class...if they skip they will not be in company lyrical and hip hop classes the following year.

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Things to look forward to:

- *Jazz Technique and ballet class in the summer
- *Convention – Kids artistic revue – in October
- *The team show in January
- *3-4 Competitions (Feb-May). Money for competitions must be paid by due dates. If you do not pay on time, the dances your child is in will be pulled (no refunds). If we have to pull a dance because you did not pay then you will be removed from the Company. Also do not ask if we have received the times and days of when your child performs at the competition. Times and days will be sent. Sometimes the competitions have times and days posted on their website; however, until they give us the final sheets, those are just an estimate. So parents please wait until Sara or Kayla gives you the dates, not another parent. And parents please do not spread information before Sara and Kayla have approved. For competitions you should have the entire weekend (Friday-Sunday) marked off your calendar. When we are at the competitions and are asked to perform again, you must stay and perform again, you cannot leave. The kids do not have to stay for awards. However, if there is a chance of them performing again, they will have to stay for the whole time.
- *Recital in May
- *Pinckney Art in the Park
- *Company pool/lake party
- *Nationals (either June or July)
- *Company dance practices
- *Christmas Party
- *Company brothers/sisters
- *End of the year mock elections
- *Week long intensive (week before nationals) \$85.00. This is mandatory
- *Other events that may be added throughout the year
- *Company handprints on the wall. You must be a part of company for an entire season. If you drop out before the year is over your handprint will be erased.

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Trophies and cash awards

All trophies that are won (including solos) belong to the studio. We, however let the soloists keep their trophy and plaque (since there is one dancer and one trophy). All other trophies that are won go to Spotlight Dance Studio to display in the window. If you would like your own trophy you can purchase them at the competitions.

All checks/money that are won (including solos) belong to the studio (which is why the studio name is written on the checks). It belongs to the owner for bringing the students and the choreographer for making up the dance. We have, as a studio, decided to give back a portion of the money to the dancers to help lower their cost for the next competition. If you decide to leave the studio or quit the company you will not receive any split of the money. We have to pay taxes on the money won which is why we want it to go towards Spotlight things (convention/competitions). We hope you understand that the money that is earned is given to you as scholarship money not a cash prize. It is not a personal award it is a company award, even if you are a soloist.

Extra Opportunities

If at a competition a dance gets selected for a special opportunity, such as a chance to compete at a World Competition, we will put it out to a vote to see whether or not that group wants to go and do that extra event (keep in mind that extra opportunities like this will cost money). Ultimately, the teachers will make the final decision.

Emotional Cool-Off Period

We do our best to treat everyone fairly and with respect. But, unfortunately there are events that can upset a dancer or parent. It's normal to want to address this immediately, but we have found that if emotions are running high, things are said in the heat of the moment which many times were not the intent.

We ask that when there is an issue, you please wait 48 hours before fully discussing it with us. This gives everyone time to reduce the emotional feelings and allows for a more reasonable solution

Other summer and fall stuff:

Everyone who would like to be a part of the company will be required to take a ballet and jazz technique class in the summer. We will place you in the level you need to take. You cannot jump up a level (unless we move you up).

We are always trying to improve the quality of the dancers; therefore, Spotlight Performing Dance Company members are required to take the following fall classes:

- *Jazz technique
- *ballet
- * company dance class

Please remember hip hop, tap, and lyrical are not required classes for company (unless you are in a company lyrical/hip hop). Make sure you can afford doing both company and regular classes if you are signing up for them.

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Competitions/Performances for 2018-2019

*October – KAR convention

Suburban collection showplace

\$99.00 per dancer (estimate)

*3-4 Regional Competitions (mandatory) - costs for competitions are an estimate going off of last year's costs.

Solos: \$100-\$120

Duets/trios- \$50-\$70 (per dancer)

Groups- \$50-\$60 (per dancer)

*Nationals are more expensive

*1 Team Show (mandatory)

-In late January. Some company dances that perform in this show may or may not perform at the studio recital in May. All solos, duets, and trios will perform in only the team show, not at the recital, unless they receive 3 platinum trophies competing in the elite category. Because the theater is not free we are asking for a \$50-\$100 non- refundable fee per student. This will cover the cost of renting the theater.

*Festivals (mandatory)

-Art in the Park

*1 Nationals Final Competition

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Rules and Regulations

All company practices start in September

*Other activities or performances may be added.

Students must arrive 2 hours before their scheduled time to perform at competitions with their hair and makeup done.

Parents must stay in the audience at competitions. Do not follow your child around! Students are to remain with their group at all times until Sara, Kayla or Marcie excuse them or take them to their parent. If the students need help changing (which they shouldn't) the parent can come help them change but must return to the audience.

Parents:

Parents should get a binder and keep all papers in it. Parents should print off important information emailed to them as well as the information on the website.

What can our dads do? We always need dads around. Usually we have heavy props that need moving on or off the stage as well as to and from the shows. Please let us know if you will be at all of the competitions to help with this.

Competition Rules:

Be polite at all competitions and performances. Students and parents watch what you say...you never know who is listening. Remember you are representing Spotlight Dance Studio.

Company music CD's are \$5.00 for a CD with all songs on it. Give a list of all dances you want. Include regular classes!

An extra \$10-15 per dance will be added to the competition price for each regional/national competition. This will be used to pay for the teacher's time at the competition.

Every student must have a garment bag to put their costumes in. Students are not allowed to just stuff their costumes into their dance bag. Remember they have to last all year. Put your name on EVERYTHING!

Ballet rule!

Ballet helps to improve dance technique (legs, feet, upper body, and strength). Ballet is MANDATORY, therefore, if you miss more than 3 ballet classes you will be asked to make it up either by coming to another ballet class (company or rec class) or paying for a private.

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Parents-

We hope you are all just as excited for the start of this year's company season as we are. Here are a few things that will make this experience fun and exciting.

- 1) Absolutely NO videotaping or photography allowed at the competitions. The entire studio will be disqualified if you are caught...so don't do it! Some competitions do allow photography...we will notify you ahead of time if they do.
- 2) Please arrive to the competition at the time that WE give you. Have hair and makeup done before you walk through the door so we can start rehearsing the dance and hopefully get a chance to mark it onstage. If you need hair/makeup done for you please arrive at least a half an hour before scheduled time of arrival.
- 3) The teachers have a lot to think about throughout the entire weekend. We appreciate that you want to help out and want to be involved with all of the preparations, but in reality you are making it more stressful for us and the kids. The dancers respond better to just our instruction rather than a group of parents trying to give out instructions. If you would like to help out, the best way that you can do that would be to sit in the audience and cheer for our groups! This goes for when we are rehearsing and after a dance! Please stay in the audience. So please hold off with all of the "celebrating," "hugging," "high-fives," and "picture-taking" moments until we release the kids back to you (in the audience).
- 4) We understand that you are very excited to see everyone in costume with hair and makeup done...but please realize that we are here to compete. Trying to get everyone together either before they go on or after they come off stage makes it hard for the dancers to concentrate. Before a competition the dancers want to rehearse. Trying to take group pictures keeps them from rehearsing. After a dance is performed the dancers are trying to either relax or change into their next costume and prepare for that dance. Again trying to take group pictures keeps them from focusing on what they need to do. So please if you want to take group pictures wait until recital or ask them to put costumes back on (when their day is over). Don't stress the kids out even more! Our main concern is safety, so we will always be in a group. From the dressing room all the way to the backstage and back to the dressing room...we will be in a group! If there are any problems, a teacher will let you know.
*Dancers need to focus as a team...parents involvement disrupts that focus. Thank you.

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