

# Rhythm & Soul

## Performing Company

### Commitment Information

#### 1. Performing Company Criteria/Auditions

- a. Dancers auditioning for Rhythm & Soul Performing Company must enroll in Rhythm & Soul dance classes.
- b. All dancers must have minimum of 3 years dance training (start counting at age 4), and at least 1 year experience in the discipline that they are auditioning for (2-3 years is recommended). Dance Team is *not recommended* to dancers with, only, Combination Class or Beginning Dance experience.
- c. Audition Cost: \$7.50 per audition class (each class is 30 min) \***Auditions are held Annually in June\***
- d. Each dancer must audition in the age division he/she is on the day of auditions (unless pre-approved by Director):
  - i. Mini Company Ages 7-9yrs commit to 1-2 Groups: Jazz, Tap
  - ii. Petite Company Ages 9-12yrs commit to 1-3 Groups: Jazz, Tap, Lyrical
  - iii. Junior Company Ages 10-13yrs commit to 1-3 Groups: \*Jazz/Lyrical, Tap
  - iv. Senior Company Ages 13-18yrs commit to 1-4 Groups: \*Jazz/Lyrical, Contemporary, Tap

*\* Junior and Senior Jazz/Lyrical Groups are a Combined Commitment, unless otherwise placed by Choreographer.*
- e. **Appropriate Audition Attire:** Black Leotard or Black fitted Camisole Tank, Black Dance Pants or Black Booty Shorts. Tights are optional. **BOYS:** Black Basketball shorts or Black Dance Pants. Plain White or Black Tank Top or T-shirt. Girls: Hair **MUST** be pulled back for Auditions.
- f. **Audition Day:** At auditions, the dancers will be given a dance combination and broken up into groups to perform for the choreographer. Each Choreographer has the discretion to place dancers on Teams, where they see fit, with Director's final approval. An Email will be sent out notifying each dancer if he/she has made our Performing Company. Not everyone who auditions for the may make the Performing Company. All Team placements are Final; no discussion.
  - i. Team placement is based on technique and style, ability to pick up choreography, ability to dance within the group, and showmanship/stage presence.
  - ii. Rhythm & Soul Performing Company requires each Group to have a minimum of 4 dancers. Any group with less than 4 students has the option to continue with Private Lessons (as a Trio/Duo) or will need to wait until the following year to audition again.

#### 2. Performing Company Commitment

- a. Performing Company is a yearlong commitment starting with the summer session (following auditions) and continuing through the following summer session (the next year) where members are required to take dance classes at Rhythm & Soul Dance Studio.
  - i. ALL Jazz, Lyrical, and Contemporary Company members must be enrolled in their corresponding group style of dance AND a Ballet Class (2 ballet classes if placed in level 3 or above).
  - ii. Tap (only) Company members must enroll in a Tap class AND a Ballet, Jazz, or Turns and Progressions Class at Rhythm & Soul Dance Studio.
  - iii. Petite, Junior, and Senior Jazz and Lyrical Company members must also enroll in a Turns and Progressions Class at Rhythm & Soul Dance Studio.
  - iv. Mandatory 7 days (end of August) **Dance Choreography Camp** to learn Dance Team choreography. \$12/hour. See Beth Ith (Director) for specific Dates/Times. If you need to miss a camp rehearsal, a private lesson is required during Camp week, with your choreographer, for make-up.
- b. **Absences:** Each dancer is only allowed to miss 4 Performing Company Group Rehearsals from Sept-June, no exceptions. The last Performing Company group rehearsal of the year (in June) is Mandatory, unless excused by a required school function; a private lesson may be required as a make-up. The Director and Choreographer needs to receive notice of any absence at least 1 week before rehearsal. Do not call the day of rehearsals. If we continue rehearsing Performing Company groups in the summer, a new policy will be assigned. All dancers must participate in all of their dance classes the week prior to a competition/performance, unless pre-excused due to illness/school/family function by the Director. Make-up classes may be required.
- c. **Injuries/Severe Illness:** If an injury or severe illness occurs and your dancer is forced to sit out (and watch) Performing Company group rehearsals, the choreographer has the right to omit them from current sections of the group dance. Also, sitting out/watching Performing Company group rehearsals 3 times (non-consecutively) will result in 1 marked absence (towards your allowed 4 absences). Doctor's notes need to be given to the Director/Choreographer when injuries/severe illnesses occur. Private lessons may also need to be coordinated with choreographer.

- i. All Performing Company members are required to **participate** in all dance classes the week prior to any and all dance team performances or competitions. If a dancer must sit out of class the week before a performance/competition, due to an illness or injury, a make-up class that same week needs to be attended, to participate in the performance/competition.
  - ii. All injuries lasting more than 1 week need to be addressed to doctor and a doctor's note needs to be presented to the Director.
  - d. Alcohol, cigarettes, and drugs are not tolerated. Use of these items will result in probation or dismissal from Performing Company.
  - e. Performing Company members are not allowed to compete with any other dance studio.
3. **Group Rehearsal Fees**-Performing Company Group Rehearsals are \$12/hr and held weekly (Thurs or Fri, depending on how many groups we have) for 1 hour (Sept-Dec). In January, Dance Team rehearsals are dropped to 30 min rehearsals. **Fees are due at the Beginning of the Month, regardless of attendance.**
- f. **Rhythm & Soul Performing Company Summer Commitment Deposit** of \$250 needs to be paid, in full, to Rhythm & Soul Dance Studio, by *Dec 1<sup>st</sup>*. **A Late Fee of \$25 will be applied, per month, that the Fee is not Paid in Full.** This fee will be used as a "drop out fee" if your dancer does not finish their commitment to the Performing Company. Otherwise, it can be credited towards your Summer Dance Tuition or rolled over to the following Performing Company year. This is a *Non Refundable Commitment Deposit*. Dropping out of your Commitment will affect your Future placement on the Performing Company.
  - g. **Group Choreography Fees:** A Choreography Fee of \$30 (per dancer/per group) needs to be Paid (made out directly to Choreographer) on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Choreography Camp. *Ie: Participating on both Jazz & Lyrical Teams would require a total of \$60 choreography.* Front desk will collect the payments and present to Choreographer.
  - h. **Dance Team Outfit:** All members are required to purchase a Rhythm & Soul Performing Company Jacket/Pants.
  - i. **Costumes:** Performing Company costumes are either retail, ordered from costume books, or made by a qualified parent/grandparent. All hand-made costume payments will go directly to whoever makes the costumes. Ordered costumes will need to be paid to Rhythm & Soul Dance Studio.
  - j. **Competitions:** Rhythm & Soul Performing Company attends 6-8 competitions and 2-3 dance workshops per dance year with one "Big Trip" either at Spring Break or in the summer. Optional Extra Competitions avail for solos, duos, trios. All competitions fees are due 6 weeks prior to every competition/workshop. The "Big Trip" rotates yearly between Disneyland (usually Spring break), August Seaside Grand Champions, and then we take 1 year off with No Trip (extra workshop/competition may be added that year). **A Late Fee of \$25** will be applied to any Competition Fee not paid on time.
  - k. **Performances:** Rhythm & Soul Performing Company is required to participate at the CF Walk in May. We also like to perform at community events and local schools, if given the opportunity. Participation is mandatory, unless pre-excused through Director due to family/school conflict.
  - l. **Extra Dances:** All Performing Company members are required to participate in our Opener and Finale routines for our Spring Recitals, which have extra fees and Thursday rehearsals (\$10/hr) (March-June). A schedule will be given out in January.
4. **Solos, Duos, Trios, Private Small Groups**- All Dancers must have at least 1 year of dance team experience before committing to a Solo, Duo, or Trio, unless waived by Director. Dancer's solos, duos, trios must reflect the same style of dance as their group Team. If your dancer would like to do any special dance such as a solo, duo, trio, or private small group, he/she must be on that specific Team and committed to hourly private lessons every week until the dance is finished. They must also continue rehearsal privates with choreographer every week throughout the competition year (Jan-May), but may drop to 30 min rehearsals. Solos, Duos, Trios, and private Small Groups are a big commitment and expense.
- a. **Private Lessons**- Private Lessons need to be pre-paid (to Studio 1) and pre-arranged with your specific teacher. If a dancer fails to come to a scheduled private lesson, without calling to cancel, they will need to pay the teacher for their time. Private Lessons are \$65/hr, \$35/half hour. The fees are divided among the number of dancers within your private lesson.
  - b. **Choreography Fee**- There is a one-time **Choreography Fee of \$150** for solos, duos, trios, and private small groups. The choreography fee is paid directly to the choreographer and needs to be paid on/before the first private lesson. Duos, Trios, and Small Groups divide the \$150, evenly, amongst each other.
  - c. **Student Choreography**-Open to Advance Dancers who are at least 13 yrs old. Please contact Director if interested.

\*Rhythm & Soul Performing Company is a yearlong commitment and therefore you and your dancer  
Must be willing to commit for the entire dance year (Summer-Summer)\*

*Last updated-March 2013*