

Studio I Dance Team

Criteria/Commitment Information

1. Dance Team Criteria/Auditions

- a. Dancers must have been enrolled at Studio I for a minimum of 1 year (Sept-Aug).
- 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: \$6 per audition class (each class is 25 min)
- d. Each dancer must audition in the age division he/she is on the day of auditions (unless pre-approved by Artistic Director, Beth Ith):
 - i. Ages 7-9yrs (Jazz only)
 - ii. Ages 9-12 yrs (Tap, Jazz, Lyrical, Modern)
 - iii. Ages 12-18yrs (Tap, Jazz, Lyrical, Modern, Hip Hop)
- e. **Appropriate Audition Attire:** Black Leotard with Black Dance Pants or Black Booty Shorts. Or you can just wear a black leotard and any color tights. **BOYS** (tap, jazz, lyrical, modern): Black Dance Pants and a plain Black Tank Top or Black Fitted Shirt. **Hip Hop Attire (only):** Any color warm-up pants, basketball shorts, sweat pants, t shirt or tank top. Hair **MUST** be pulled back for Auditions. *Please talk to *Beth Ith* if you have any questions*
- f. **Audition Day:** At auditions, the dancers will be given a dance combination and broken up into groups to perform. Each Choreographer has the discretion to place the dancers on team, where they see fit, with Artistic Director's approval. A letter will be mailed out notifying each dancer if he/she has made our Dance Team. Not everyone who auditions for the team will make it.
 - 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. Studio I requires each dance team to have a minimum of 5 dancers. If only 4 students score high enough to make a Team, Studio I will offer the Team, but the rehearsal fee will increase. Any Team with less than 4 students will need to follow the Private Lesson Requirements.

2. Dance Team Commitment

- a. Dance Team is a year long commitment starting in the Fall and continuing through Summer Classes. Dance Team members are required to take Fall and Summer classes, at Studio I, in the discipline that they compete in, as well as the other required classes.
 - i. Tap, Jazz, Lyrical, and Modern members must also be enrolled in a Ballet Class (2 ballet classes if placed in level III or above).
 - ii. All Petite, Junior, and Senior Jazz and Lyrical Teams must also enroll in a Turns and Progressions Class at Studio I.
 - iii. Hip Hop members are required to be in either a Jazz or Ballet class, in addition, to their Hip Hop class.
- b. **Absences:** Each dancer is only allowed to miss 4 Dance Team classes from Sept-June, no exceptions. The last dance team rehearsal of the year (in June) is Mandatory, unless excused by a Required school function. The Artistic Director needs to receive notice of Any absence at least 1 week before rehearsal. Do not call the day of rehearsals. If we continue rehearsing dance team classes in the summer, a new policy will be assigned. All dancers must Attend/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 Artistic Director, Beth Ith. 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) dance team classes, the choreographer has the right to omit them from current sections of the dance team dance. Also, sitting out/watching dance team classes 3 times (non-consecutively) will result in 1 marked absence (towards your allowed 4 absences). Doctor's notes need to be given to the Artistic Director when injuries/severe illnesses occur. Private lessons may also need to be coordinated with choreographer.

- i. All dance team 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 must be attended, or the dancer will need to also sit out of that upcoming 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 Artistic Director, Beth Ith.
 - d. Alcohol, cigarettes, and drugs are not tolerated. Use of these items will result in probation or dismissal from Studio I's Dance Teams.
 - e. Dance Team members are not allowed to compete with any other dance studio.
- 3. **Dance Team Fees-** Dance Team classes are \$6/hr and held weekly for 1 hour (usually on Fridays), Any Dance Team that contains only 4 members will need to pay \$10/hr. In January, all classes are changed to 30 min rehearsals on Friday nights, if possible. Fees are paid regardless of attendance, unless they conflict with a competition. All rehearsal fees and absences that conflict with a competition are waived.
 - a. **Extra Dances:** All Dance Team members are required to participate in the Opener and Finale dances for our Spring Recitals. There is an extra fee and weekend rehearsals (usually starting in March). A schedule will be given out at our January Parent meeting.
 - b. **Competitions:** Studio I usually attends 5-7 competitions and 1-2 dance workshops per dance year, including one big trip either at Spring Break or in the Summer. All competitions are voted on at the 1st parent meeting in September and fees are due 6 weeks prior to every competition/workshop. The "Big Trip" is assigned on a rotating basis between the Disneyland Performance, Seaside Competition, Las Vegas Competition.
 - c. **Performances:** The Dance Team is required to participate in our Woodinville All Fool's Day Parade (March or April). We also like to perform at local fairs, community events, and local schools. Participation is mandatory, unless pre-excused through Artistic Director, Beth Ith.
 - d. **Dance Team Outfit:** All team members are required to purchase a Studio I Dance Team Jacket and matching warm-up pants.
 - e. **Costumes:** Dance team costumes are usually retail or made by a dance team parent or grandparent. We rarely order from costume books. All hand-made costume payments will go directly to whoever makes the costumes.
- 4. **Solos, Duos, Trios, Private Small Groups-** All Dancers must have at least 1 year of Dance Team experience in the specific style of dance for which their solo, duo, trio or private group corresponds. Ballet opportunities are subject to Artistic Director's approval. If your dancer would like to do any special dance such as a solo, duo, trio, or small group, he/she must be committed to private lessons every week until the dance is finished. They must also continue rehearsal privates a minimum of every other week (subject to choreographer's approval) throughout the competition year (Jan-May). Every week rehearsals are strongly recommended. Solos, Duos, Trios, and Small Groups are all a big commitment and expense. If the dancer and you (parent) are not willing to put in the time and money, please don't do them.
 - a. **Private Lessons-** Private Lessons need to be pre-paid and pre-arranged (1 month in advance) with your specific teacher. Teachers do not get paid for their private lessons, unless the dancer has paid, so please Pre-Pay. 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 \$60/hr, \$30/half hour, and \$15/15 min. It is divided among the number of dancers within your private lesson. Private Lessons are pre-paid to Studio I.
 - b. **Choreography Fee-** There is a one time choreography fee for solos, duos, trios, and private groups of **\$150**. 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 amongst each other.
- 5. **Student Choreography-**please refer to our Student Choreography Criteria letter, or Beth Ith, to see if your dancer is eligible.

Studio I Dance Team is a year long commitment and therefore you and your dancer must be willing to commit to us for the entire dance year (Fall 2008-Summer 2009)

Last updated August 2008