

*The Studio and The Creative Company present...*  
**MINI COMPETITIVE DANCE TEAMS 2023-24**  
*Informational Packet and Contract*

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*Welcome to The Studio's 2023-24 Competitive Dance Tryouts! The Studio's Mini Teams are groups composed of our most dedicated and talented young dancers. Members perform in numerous events and shows, serve on the competitive dance team and are known throughout The Studio as future dance stars!*

*The idea behind The Studio's competitive program is to offer dancers serious professional training along with performance opportunities that will be the foundation of their dance education. We strive to do this in a positive structured environment; therefore, we must set forth the following guidelines. Please take the time to read this document carefully. Competitive dance is a commitment that involves time and dedication. Please understand that there are **NO EXCEPTIONS** to the guidelines below. If you feel that you cannot make the following commitments, you may want to reconsider becoming a member. Please be sure your dancer understands the policies themselves.*

## **REQUIREMENTS**

1. Mini teams take a 1-hour long Hip Hop/Jazz Class and a 1-hour Ballet/Lyrical Class commonly run on Tuesday evenings, with Thursdays also as a possibility. In addition, Dudes & Dolls (Higher level mini teams) must take 1 Technique and Training Class. **2 classes are \$180 a month, 3 classes are \$210 per month.** Technique class is also strongly encouraged for Sweet Petites (Lower level mini teams). Any additional competitive classes such as ballet, technique, or recreational classes, will be \$35 per month.
2. Dancers must attend 2 regional (local) dance competitions, and one National competition (out of state). Competitions run \$65-\$95 per dance, per routine entry. Dancers will participate in two dances per competition.
3. Dancers will join The Studio in the 2023 Pumpkinfest Parade and participate in two of The Studio's Holiday Shows and two of The Studio's Recitals/Productions.
4. Dancers will take a 2.5-3 hour choreography session, for each routine, on 1 weekend Sept-Nov. The cost for choreography ranges \$120-\$140 per dance. They will also have an additional 3-hour rehearsal for each routine prior to their first competition sometime Jan-March, which will range \$50-\$70 per routine.

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## **SHOES**

Shoes will be fitted in house. Upon making the team you will receive a date to come in to The Studio and be fitted for your shoes. Members can expect to purchase 1 pair of ballet slippers and 2 pair of jazz shoes (one pair for class and one for the stage). These will be specific styles and brands. We ask that all students are sized on their assigned day which will be announced in the near future. Each pair of shoes ranges from \$30-\$65.

## **COSTUME COSTS**

Dancers will need to purchase 2 costumes. Costumes are \$140 apiece. For makeup, dancers will receive an eye shadow palette and coordinating lip sticks which in total range around \$35-\$65. All costumes and makeup will be used the entire season.

## **WARM UPS**

Dancers will receive a Studio warm up to be worn over costumes at all events and competitions. The total cost will range from \$95-\$120. Examples for sizing will be available at the desk in October. Warm ups from past seasons may also be worn this season.

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## **DANCE CLASS ATTIRE**

Dancers may wear any combination of leotard, booty shorts, sports bra, leggings and/or tights, in your choice of color, for all classes. No loose-fitting clothes, t-shirts, pants or baggy clothes of any sort. Please wear hair pulled back tightly. A bun is our preferred hair style.

## **AGE BREAKDOWN**

The age break down for Sweet Petites is 5-7 years old. Dudes & Dolls is 7-12 years old. Your child must be turning the lowest age of the breakdown by December 2023, to be considered for a certain group. We reserve the right to change the age break down or add a third competitive group at this level if needed.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Competitive dancers may miss 2-3 classes per session (basically 1 week out of 8), if necessary. Please notify us at least 3 weeks in advance if you have a vacation planned. If an absence should occur, the dancer will need to schedule time with another team member to pick up on missed material or have someone video tape the choreography for your dancer and/or schedule a private lesson with the instructor, should they be available. Dancers may not come into class without the knowledge of the previous week's instruction. Therefore, we stress the importance of learning missed material, or simply avoid missing classes.

In case you are unable to make it to class, for any reason please notify us by texting Tara of your absence. This is how we record absences. **Attendance is mandatory at all classes TWO weeks prior to any competition, show or event or the student may not perform in said event.** If for any reason a child does not know a routine, the instructor reserves the right to set up paid private lessons or to pull a child from the piece. They may also choreograph the child to be off stage during certain parts of a routine that the child is unable to master due to absences.

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## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Dancers are required to be in attendance on the following dates. If you have any conflicts, please make us aware on your contract.

### **AUDITIONS      Wednesday, August 2nd 4:00PM**

Please wear dance attire, bring dance shoes or tennis shoes and a water bottle. Hair should be pulled back in a ponytail or bun. Auditions will run 1-1.5 hrs. The audition is private, and FUN!! If you have not yet registered to audition, we ask you do so by Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. You may register on our website or at the front desk Auditions are \$75.

### **DANCER REGISTRATION/FIRST MEETING      Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00PM**

On this date you will register and pay for your child's classes, along with receiving all information for the upcoming season. Please bring check or cash along, or be prepared to pay with credit card on our website. This meeting is for parents only, please.

### **SHOE FITTINGS      September 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, specific group date/time TBA**

### **PUMPKINFEST PARADE      Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> Morning: Exact time TBA**

### **STUDIO HOLIDAY SHOWS      Preferred: Dec 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>      Back up: Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### **PRODUCTION/RECITALS      May 18<sup>th</sup> & May 19<sup>th</sup>      (Tentative)**

# COMPETITIONS 2023-24

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## **ID DANCE COMPETITION**

**April 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, Grand Rapids, MI**

## **PAC (Precision Arts Challenge)**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, Milan, MI**

## **NATIONALS: ID DANCE COMPETITION**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, Myrtle Beach, SC**

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## **EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES**

**\*Our main communication with parents is conducted via email and group text. Please check both weekly.**

**\*The Studio competitive team requires a positive attitude from all involved, especially parents, be it at competitions, events, shows or in the hallways of The Studio.** A good outlook extends to your child.

Cooperation between parents is always expected. Please show respect for other parents, staff and students, along with sportsmanship and professionalism at all events... We are a family, it's all about helping one another and appreciating each other!

**\*Please make sure your dancer arrives on time to all classes, competitions and events. Arriving on time to class means arriving 10-15 minutes prior to the start of the class for the dancer to get settled, get shoes on and to begin stretching out.** As far as competitions we ask that dancers are present, dressed and ready to go 2 hours prior to each dance being performed. Please understand that we are speaking for EACH ROUTINE. Instructors are very busy at competition and often have only a window of time to work with a group before they go on. The team must stay together until they perform. They may not wander the building, go off to eat without permission or take off with friends. The same is true for dance recitals and conventions.

**\*Parents are responsible for helping at 1 Holiday show performance, and 1 May Production/Recital performance.**

**\*Parents are responsible for paying tuition and competition/event fees on time, being by the first of each month.** Should tuition arrive to The Studio or be paid on or after the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month there is a \$10 late fee for the first week, and an additional \$10 is added each week that tuition is not paid, until the tuition is caught up. Should an account become 2 months delinquent, the dancer associated will not be allowed to attend classes or events. A dancer with an overdue balance on their account at the time of Recital will not be allowed to perform.

**\*Please be careful with social media.** Posting of The Studio group routines must be cleared by Tara. Should you choose to post a photo of a group routine or dancer, please give thought to if the picture is technically appealing and presents all dancers in a good light. Please remember not to post frustration with scores or unpleasant thoughts of an event.

**\*Please notify us if your child had an injury or is not feeling well. It's always a good idea to have your child eat something before they attend a long night of classes.**

**\*Parents pay a Studio Boosters fee which covers special events and opportunities for your dancer. This year's Studio Boosters fee is \$50 and is due to The Studio Boosters at our registration meeting in August. Boosters also offer optional fundraisers.**

# COMMITMENT

Members are expected to stick to their commitment through the entire dance season beginning August 2nd, 2023 and ending July 8th, 2024. **Should you decide to drop out, you are still responsible for all said payments, August 2023-July 2024. This contract is binding under the law, and holds you responsible for said payments should you sign it. THESE TERMS WILL BE ENFORCED.** Teams are carefully chosen, with a certain number of children at auditions. If we have a drop out, that spot could have gone to another child. It's also a financial loss to The Studio. At any time, The Studio reserves the right to dismiss a member from our team should they, or the parent, not be able to comply with the terms enclosed within.

# AUDITION COMMUNICATION

Results will be posted on the front door of The Studio by Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Should you have questions, comments, or concerns regarding your child's placement or non-placement on a particular team, please contact The Studio at 248.486.0649. You reserve every right to hear why or why not your child did or did not make a specific team. Please call The Studio to set up an appointment if you would like to hear about their audition. Thank you and good luck to everyone!

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## PLEASE TURN IN THIS ENTIRE PACKETTE AT AUDITIONS

\*Please remember to write down all important dates from this contract onto your calendar before you turn it in, or make a copy.

### NOTES TO JUDGES:

This is an area to list any vacation dates or conflicts you have. We also ask you note how many years your child has been dancing, and let us know if there is anything we should be aware of. Thank you!

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*We have read The Studio's 2023-2024 Competitive Policies and agree to them, should we be placed on a team. We understand that our signatures below commit us to a full season. We understand that if we cannot comply with all the above stated policies, then we will be released.*

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name Printed \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number to Contact \_\_\_\_\_