*The Studio and The Creative Company present…*

**SWEET PETITE AND DOLLS DANCE TEAMS 2016-17**

*Dancer/Parent Policies and Contract*

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*Welcome to The Studio’s 2016 Competitive Dance Tryouts! Our Sweet Petite and Dolls are groups composed of The Studio’s most dedicated and talented dancers young dancers. Members perform in our 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 over 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. Sweet Petites and Dolls must take one hour Hip Hop/Jazz Class and one hour Ballet/Lyrical Class commonly ran on Monday evenings. In addition Dolls must take a 45 minute Technique and Training Class**. 2 classes are $110 a month, 3 classes are $145 per month.** Technique class is strongly encouraged for Sweet Petites**.** Any additional classes, including tap will be $35 per month. If you choose to register for a regular rec class your cost would be $70 bi-monthly.
2. Dancers must attend two regional dance competitions. This is a Nationals year for the studio. We attend one National (out of state competition) every other year.
3. Dancers will take a 2.5-3 hour choreography session running $40 per girl. They will also have an additional 3 hour rehearsal prior to their first completion that is no additional charge.

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**Attendance**

Competitive dancers are allowed to miss three classes per session (one week out of eight), if necessary. Please notify us in advance if you have a vacation planned. If absence should occur, the dancer will need to schedule time with another team member to pick up on missed material. You may also have someone video tape the class for you if you prefer**. Dancers may not come into class without the knowledge of the previous week’s instruction**. Therefore, we stress the importance of learning missed material. In the case you are unable to make it to class, for any reason please notify us by note, email or phone. **Attendance is mandatory at all classes TWO weeks prior to any competition, show or event or the student may not perform in the 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. The following lists the dates and the events planned for this year’s competitive dancers. Please understand these events are tentative, and may change. A more detailed breakdown will be given to you at the first **“Parent Meeting/Registration” Monday, August 22nd at 4:30PM. This is also the date where you will register your child for classes and fit them for all of their shoes.**

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**Competitions/Conventions**

WITH IT BEING EARLY IN THE SEASON, WE ARE AWAITING DATES/LOCATIONS FOR SOME OF THE EVENTS WE WISH TO ATTEND. WE WILL NOTIFY YOU OF THIS INFORMATION AS SOON AS IT’S RECEIVED.

We will choose two of the following:

Applause

March 3rd-5th  **Detroit, MI**

**The EDGE**

**March 17th-19th Detroit, MI Nationals: Hershey, PA July 4th-8th**

**OPTIONAL CONVENTION**

**DANCEMAKERS**

February 17th-19th **ROYAL DEARBORN HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER**

**SHOWS/PERFORMANCES**

**Pumpkinfest - Saturday, September 24th-Parade 9:00am**

**Studio Holiday Shows - Dec 3,th 4th or Dec 10th - 11th (One date only)**

**Production/Recitals - May 2017**

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**Age Break Down**

The age break down for Sweet Petites as 5-7 years old, and Dolls as 7-12 years old. Your child must be turning the lowest age of the breakdown by December 2016, 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 we find it necessary.

**Dance Class Attire**

Please wear leotard and tights, in your choice of color, for all classes. Dance skirts and booty shorts are allowed. No loose fitting clothes or baggy clothes of any sort. Please wear hair pulled back tightly. A bun is our preferred hair style.

**Shoes**

Shoes will be fitted around the first parent meeting on August 22nd anytime between 3:00-8:00pm. Members can expect to purchase a pair of ballet slippers, hip hop shoes, paws and jazz shoes. These will be specific styles and brands. We ask that all students are sized on this day. Please be prepared to pay for your shoes at this time. If for some reason you cannot make the meeting please contact Tara. Each pair of shoes ranges from $15-$45.

**Costume Costs**

Dancers will need to purchase two costumes. Costumes are $110 a piece.

**Competition and Convention Costs**

The average cost for each competition dance is $35-$55 per event. The average for a convention is $150-$300. A competition is where dancers compete against other schools, for top honors. A convention is where dancers take lessons from the very best instructors in the US.

**Warm Ups**

This year Sweet Petites and Dolls will have their own warm up. More details will be given out in the future. Approximate cost will be $40-$60.

**Commitment**

This word cannot be stressed enough as you make the decision to participate in competitive dance. Members are expected to stick to their commitment through the entire dance season beginning August 22nd, 2016 and ending June 30th, 2017. **Should you decide to drop out, you are still responsible for all 8 ½ months of payments This contract is binding under the law, and holds you responsible for the said payments should you sign it. THESE TERMS WILL BE ENFORCED.** Teams are carefully chosen, with a certain number of girls at auditions. If we have a drop out, that spot could have gone to another girl. 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.

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**Code of Conduct**

1. **Respect all team members, instructors, and parents.**
2. **Always give 100% effort. Try your best even when something is new or difficult.**
3. **No negative comments to, or about anyone. Members do not talk behind each other’s backs. This will result in immediate suspension from the team. This includes negative comments about any other studio or dancer from another studio. THIS RULE ALSO APPLIES TO PARENTS.**
4. **Please maintain the most respectful attitude outside of class. Remember that dancers outside of competitive dance look up to you and you must serve as an example.**
5. **Come to class prepared. Be sure you’ve eaten, and bring proper shoes.**
6. **Tell your instructor if you are feeling sick or have an injury before class.**
7. **Support each other. Not everyone will get to shine at the same time, but we’ll all have our chance.**

**Parent/Staff Audition Communications**

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.

Each dancer is required to audition on **Wednesday, August 17th, at 3:00PM** where they will be taught routines, review technical aspects, and then audition. Auditions will run to approximately 4:00PM. Please wear leotard and tights and have hair pulled back neatly. Dances may audition in bare feet, a ballet slipper or a gore boot. Do not go out and buy new shoes, we will be purchasing specific brands at the first meeting. Auditions are closed. **Results will be posted on the front door of The Studio by Thursday, August 18th.** If you and your dancer have read and agree to the information in this contract, please sign below and **return this entire packet at your audition on Wednesday evening.**

Good luck to everyone!

**REMEMBER-**

The first parent meeting/shoe fitting and registration take place on **Monday, August 22nd. The meeting is at 4:30pm.** Dancers may be fitted for shoes from 3:00pm-8:00pm.

**If you have not yet registered to audition we ask you do so by August 1st, 2017. Auditions are $75. Late registrations must speak to Tara. Thank you!**

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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.**

**NOTES TO JUDGES:**

**(REGARDING DATES FOR NEXT YEAR YOU ARE UNAVAILABLE, ALONG WITH ANYTHING WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF ABOUT YOUR CHILD’S EXPERINCE OR TALENT)**

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**We have read The Studio’s 2016-17 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 can not comply with all the above stated policies, then we will be released.**

Parent’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dancer’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_