*The Studio and The Creative Company present…*

**SWEET PETITE AND DOLLS DANCE TEAMS 2018-19**

*Dancer/Parent Policies and Contract*

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*Welcome to The Studio’s 2018-19 Competitive Dance Tryouts! Sweet Petites and Dolls are groups composed of The Studio’s 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. Sweet Petites and Dolls must take 1 hour long Hip Hop/Jazz Class and 1 hour Ballet/Lyrical Class commonly ran on Monday evenings. In addition Dolls must take 1 Technique and Training Class**. 2 classes are $120 a month, 3 classes are $165 per month.** Technique class is strongly encouraged for Sweet Petites**.** Any additional competitive classes, including tap will be $35 per month. If your competitive dancer chooses to register for a regular recreational class in addition to this schedule, your cost would be $30 for that class.
2. Dancers must attend 2 regional dance competitions, and 1 national competition. This is a nationals year for The Studio. We attend 1 national (out of state competition) every other year. We are hoping to do so this season with our Sweet Petites and Dolls. Regional competitions run $50-$75 per dance, per entry. National competitions run $75-$100 per dance, per entry.
3. Dancers will ride in the 2018 Pumpkinfest Parade.
4. Dancers will take a 2.5-3 hour choreography session, for each routine, on 1 weekend Sept-Nov. The cost for choreography is $80 per dance. They will also have an additional 3 hour rehearsal prior to their first completion that is no additional charge.

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**SHOES**

Shoes will be fitted by Dancewear Gallery in our studio at the first parent meeting August 20th from 3:00-8:00pm. Members can expect to purchase a pair of ballet slippers, jazz shoes and contemporary shoes. These will be specific styles and brands. We ask that all students are sized on this day. Each pair of shoes ranges from $15-$45.

**COSTUME COSTS**

Dancers will need to purchase 2-3 costumes. Costumes are $130 apiece.

**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 $60-$90. Warm ups from past seasons may also be worn this season.

**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.

**AGE BREAKDOWN**

The age break down for Sweet Petites is 5-7 years old. Dolls is 7-12 years old. Your child must be turning the lowest age of the breakdown by December 2018, 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 one week out of eight) if necessary. Please notify us at least 3 weeks 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 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 calling the front desk and leaving a message. 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 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. They may also choreograph the child to be off stage during certain parts of a routine the child is unable to master due to absences

 The following lists the dates and the events planned for this year’s competitive dancers. These dates are tentative, however we do expect them all to go through. A solid calendar of events will be given to you at the first **“Parent Meeting/Registration” Monday, August 20th at 5:00PM.**

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

These fall dates are mandatory for all dancers. If for some reason you cannot attend please discuss it with Tara.

**Auditions Wednesday, August 8th 4:00PM**

**Please wear dance attire and bring shoes and a water bottle along. Dances may audition in bare feet, a ballet slipper or a gore boot. Hair should be pulled back in a ponytail or bun. Auditions will run 1.5 hrs to 2 hrs. The audition is private, and FUN!! If you have not yet registered to audition we ask you do so by Friday, July 27th. Auditions are $75.**

**Registration/Shoe Fitting Mon, August 20th** Shoes 3:00pm-8:00pm/Meeting 5:00pm

**On this date you will register and pay for your child’s classes and shoes, along with having them fitted for their shoes. Please bring check or cash along. If you cannot attend, you will need to get your shoes on your own at Dancewear Gallery and and set up a time with the front desk to register.**

**Pumpkinfest Parade Sat, September 29th 9:00AM**

**COMPETITIONS 2019**

Listed below are the mandatory 3 regional competitions and 1 national event. With it being early in the season dates below are tentative. The Studio reserves the right to change these events

**ON POINT DATES TBA CHELSEA, MI OR GRAND RAPIDS, MI**

 **OR (WAITING FOR DATES TO MAKE FINAL DECISION)**

**BRAVO April 12th- 14th  WALLED LAKE WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL, WALLED LAKE**

**GROOVE May 3rd-5th WATERFORD MOTT HIGH SCHOOL, WATERFORD**

**NATIONALS: GROOVE July 7th-11th  HILTON MYRTLE BEACH RESORT -Myrtle Beach, SC**

**EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES**

**\*Our main communication with parents is conducted via email. Please check your email 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 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 the month.** Should the tuition arrive to The Studio or be paid on or after the 2nd 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.

**\*Parents help backstage at 1 Holiday Show and 1 Production/Recital.**

**\*Sweet Petites and Dolls families have the option of participating in our Boosters program if they choose.**

**\*Please be very 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. Please remember not to post frustration with scores or anything else.

**\*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. They will have a 15 minute break in between classes.**

**COMMITMENT**

Members are expected to stick to their commitment through the entire dance season beginning August 20th, 2018 and ending July 2019. **Should you decide to drop out, you are still responsible for all payments Aug 2018-July 2019. 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.

**AUDITION COMMUNICATION**

**Results will be posted on the front door of The Studio by Sunday, August 12th.** 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!

 **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 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 and good luck!

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**We have read The Studio’s 2018-19 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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_