



J & D Dance Academy

11 Sanborn Street Reading, MA 01867

781-942-5990 www.jddaor.com

Casting Day Monday, May 22nd

Upper Elementary/Middle School Fall 2017: 4:00-5:30pm

High School Fall 2017: 5:45-6:45pm

J&D DANCE COMPANY DANCER/PARENT CONTRACT 2017-2018

Invited dancer's should fill this form out with a Parent. Please email it or bring this form to Casting Day.

Dancer Name: _____

Parents Names: _____

Dancer: Age: _____ Birthday: ___ / ___ / ___ Height: _____

Best Parent To Contact and Phone #: _____

E-Mail: _____

Welcome Parents & Dancers!

J&D Dance Company is a special opportunity the staff of J&D love to share with students. We are so excited that you dancer will be joining our team this season - It is going to be great!

This program is designed for our students who truly love all of the things that come with dance, from the classroom to the stage, and who look forward to coming to classes and rehearsals each week. It's a perfect fit for students who are eager to learn, who want to be challenged, and who want to see how far they can push themselves. Through Performance Group, we try to give them every opportunity to do so. Our expectation is that our Company dancers will come to class and rehearsals each week ready to work, that they will remember the choreography from the week before and that they will be open to feedback and corrections. We expect that they will have a positive attitude in class towards their teammates and all of their instructors, and that they will always try their hardest. In return for their nine month commitment to the team, we will do everything in our power to make the hard work fun by being supportive, encouraging, inspiring, by building trust and community and by helping them set goals.

We see competitive dance a something comparable to a team sport they may play in school. Not every kid on the soccer team will turn pro, and not every dance student will go to Broadway but that doesn't mean we don't try our hardest to reach our goals. Similar to sports, through competitive dance they will learn the importance of teamwork, the value of discipline, and the joy that comes from working on something for a really long time and finally mastering it. There are certainly days when it's hard, challenging or maybe even seems impossible. Your dancer may get frustrated they can't do a certain move or that it is taking them longer to learn choreography. This is totally normal and we will do our best to help them stay positive and confident, while making sure they aren't feeling unnecessary pressure or stress. At the end of the season, when they look back on September, it's a guarantee they will see all the progress they have made. That's what it is all about!

We are sincerely looking forward to working with you and your dancer,

Ms. Erica & Ms. Deanna

Required Classes For Company Dancers: All company dancers must take Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary and Technique classes weekly.

Competition Routines: All dancers will participate in TWO full group routines which will rehearse every week.

Additional Competition Routines: All dancers are welcome and encouraged to add additional routines. Please indicate how many additional routines you are interested in doing as well as ideal dance style and group size. We will take this information into consideration but can't make guarantees.

- ▶ In addition to my required two group routines, I'd like to add (circle one): 1 2 3 4 Any
- ▶ I would love to do (circle all that apply): Jazz Contemporary Lyrical Musical Theater Tap Ballet Any
- ▶ I am interested in (circle all that apply): Small Group (4-8 dancers) Duo/Trio Solo Any

The number of dancers planning to participate, the age breakdowns and experience levels will determine how many J&D Dance Company's we will form. We absolutely have the goal in mind of making sure our dancers get the most out of the experience.

Company Monthly Plan Breakdown:

Includes one weekly class in each Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, Technique as well as rehearsal for the two full group routines at \$290/month.

Adding Additional Competition Routines: The special discounted rates to add competition routines are as follows. Small Group-\$40/month; Duo/Trio-\$60/month; Solo-\$80/month

Adding Additional Weekly Classes: if you would like to add any weekly 'non-required' classes (Hip Hop, Tap, Pointe), those additions will be significantly discounted to just \$20.00/month per class for Company members.

Additional Fees: We will compete in three competitions. There will be entry fees for each one. Below we have given you a 'ballpark' figure.

Groups \$40-\$50/competition/routine/per dancer; Duos/Trios \$40-\$90/competition/routine/per dancer; Solos \$100+/competition/routine.

Costumes: Generally between \$80-\$120. We will try our best to recycle costumes whenever possible.

Other: Make-up, tights, shoes, studio attire, headpieces, props.

Parent/Dancer Commitment Agreement:

Please read and initial below:

1. By accepting the invitation and choosing to come to Casting Day I am expressing my desire to be a member of the J&D Dance Company and I will put this commitment first should a conflict arise with another activity. More specifically: We are not saying you can not play a sport or participate in any other activity, you are welcome to do so as long as if a conflict should arise, you put your Performance Group commitment first. I have weighed my pros and cons prior to coming to Casting Day and know at this time I am willing and able to commit to the group.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

2. I understand that I am required to take certain classes at J & D Dance Academy. This will provide the choreographers with quality, well-rounded dancers to work with as well as dancers who share the same dance-related passion, intentions and goals. Company dancers need to be in the studio practicing to be able to have the ability, stamina and technique to 'compete' with the dancers they will come across at competitions.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

3. Taking class with my teammates is extremely important. In order to represent J & D Dance Academy at competitions you must train here. More specifically: If you wish to train in ballroom, bollywood, Irish step dance or another dance style not offered at J & D, or participate on a school dance team/club/play, you are welcome to do so as long as if a conflict should arises, you put your Company commitment first. It would be considerate to inform your instructors of any summer / vacation / master classes you may be taking.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

4. Attendance for Company members in regular classes and all rehearsals will be monitored and brought to your attention should there be many absences. Barring any contagious illness all Company members are expected to be present in all classes and especially rehearsals. If you are physically unable to dance due to a minor physical issue (I.e. ankle sprain, pulled muscle) you are still expected to come and watch, especially rehearsals. We will check in with the parent if a Company member is not present and we have not been notified in advance.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

5. We will attend three competitions between January and May. Competitions are on weekends and you will be asked to reserve the entire weekend until we get the schedule from the competition (usually 1-2 weeks prior). Some competitions will require more driving time than others. Depending on how our season goes, discussions about a National Competition may be initiated.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

6. Occasionally performance invitations come to us. We consider these valuable opportunities for our Company dancers to get out there and perform without being judged. You may be asked to reserve time for these.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

7. Choreography for competitions will be different from recital choreography. Ability, individual strengths, showmanship, age and physical aspects will be showcased to complement the routine visually and technically. Formations and dancer placement in a competition routine is more calculated in order to present a routine that is able to compete with the masses.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

8. I will need a studio jacket and plain black leggings as my travel outfit to wear to and from the above mentioned events. This outfit is also to be worn over my costume while at a competitions while mingling or watching. At no time should you walk around a venue in only your costume (except a dressing room / backstage area).

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

9. Negativity, gossip, destructive criticism and bad attitudes will not be tolerated. While at rehearsal, a convention, a competition, in the community and on social media, I will represent myself and J & D Dance Academy respectfully. I promise to display good sportsmanship at all times no matter how my performance may have gone. At J & D, competitions are used to make us better dancers and give the more committed dancers an opportunity to perform and experience more aspects of the dance world.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

10. Dancers are expected to stay at each competition until the awards ceremony to accept any award given with grace and a smile.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

11. ALL Company members will attend The Nuvo Dance Convention which comes to the Boston area in February. Info will be sent in the Fall. Read about it at GoNuvo.com!

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

Schedule: Soon after Casting Day, we will assign routines and make the schedule. We always try to maximize the time spent at the studio by making this schedule as convenient as possible for our dancers. We will try our very best to plan rehearsals around any known school or religious obligations you may have.

Are there any dates and times that you KNOW you will not be available – ex... wedding, important school event? Note that Saturdays will be utilized for some rehearsals. Please list the dates and times of conflicts or write “None Known” on line below:

Ending Notes for Parents and Dancers-Competitive dance is what you make of it. We would like it to be a fun experience for both the performer and the parent. Don't let yourself get stressed out. Keep things in perspective. Winning a trophy is not the most important thing, being in the front line is not the most important thing. What matters is to grow and learn from your experiences and truly believe you are doing the best you can do! Competitions can make performers reach potentials they never thought possible. It gives performers a sense of unity and teaches them hard work and discipline. On the other side of the coin performers can feel resentment, thoughts of being left out and feeling like they didn't do their best. That is why it is so important for their teachers and parents to turn those negative experiences to positive ones. Tears are for home. Remember, there is never a perfect performance. You will always be more gifted than someone else and there will always be someone more gifted than you! Dance for you, do the best you can do! Don't be jealous, be inspired! Always encourage and be friendly with other dancers and parents at competitions and be especially kind and helpful to your team mates. They are the only people you have to depend on once you hit that stage.

Performance Group members will be dismissed for the following reasons:

- 1- Participating in or association with smoking, drinking, or drugs. We need to lead healthy lifestyles to perform at our best.
- 2-Disrespectful or rude behavior.
- 3- Not paying fees.
4. Excessive absences.

Signature of Dancer

Signature of Parent

Date