



J & D Dance Academy

11 Sanborn Street Reading, MA 01867

781-942-5990 www.jddaor.com

Placement Auditions Wednesday, May 22nd

Senior Company (grades 9-12) 4:00-5:30pm

Rising Stars Company (grades 3-5) 5:30-6:30pm

Premier Company (grades 6-8) 6:30-7:45pm

J&D DANCE COMPANY DANCER/PARENT CONTRACT 2019-2020

Dancer's should fill this form out with a Parent & BRING it to the audition.

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 loves 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 J&D Dance Company, 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 seem 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 & Ms. Jamie

Required Weekly Classes For Company Dancers:

- Rising Stars:** Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Technique
- Premier Company:** Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, Technique
- Senior Company:** Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, Technique

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. **PLEASE FILL THIS SECTION OUT**

- ▶ In addition to my required two group routines, I'd like to add (circle one): **0 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 dancer participation, age breakdowns and experience levels will determine how many routines we will have. We absolutely have the goal in mind of making sure our dancers get the most out of the experience.

Company Monthly Plan Breakdown:

Includes required weekly classes listed above as well as rehearsal for the two full group routines.

- Rising Stars:** \$275.00/month
- Premier Company:** \$295.00/month
- Senior Company:** \$295.00/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 Non-Required Weekly Classes: If you would like to add any weekly 'non-required' classes (Hip Hop, Pointe etc.), those additions will be significantly discounted to just \$25.00/month per class for Company members.

Additional Fees Associated With Being A Competition Dancer: We will compete in three competitions. There will be entry fees for each one. Below we have given you a 'ballpark' figure. Competition/Costume fees are due mid October.

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 Placement Auditions I am expressing my desire to be a member of the J&D Dance Company. By attending auditions I am confirming that I have read, understand and agree to this contract and am ready to be placed on a team if the directors feel I am a good fit. I am making this commitment now, NOT after I see what routines I have been cast in. I will accept any routines I have been given and work my hardest to make it the best it can be!

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

2. COMMITMENT - I have weighed my pros and cons prior to coming to Placement Auditions and know at this time I am willing to commit to the Competition Team for the 2019-2020 Season. I understand and agree that my commitment to the Competition Team comes first, above any other school activity, sport, or classes I may take outside of J & D Dance Academy. This means that I agree to the following:
- I will not miss rehearsals or weekly classes due to a conflict with another activity that is not required for school or related to religious obligations, long-term illness or injury.
 - If I wish to participate on a school dance team/club/play/etc, I am welcome to do so as long as if a conflict should arise, I put my Competition Team commitment first and not miss rehearsals or weekly classes.
 - Taking class with my teammates is extremely important. In order to represent J & D Dance Academy at competitions I must train at J & D Dance Academy. This means that I agree to train weekly only at J & D Dance Academy in the styles offered at the studio including ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, and musical theater. I agree I will not take classes in these styles at other studios. I understand I am welcome to train elsewhere in styles not offered by J & D such as ballroom, bollywood, Irish step dance, but I will not let this activity interfere with my regular rehearsals or weekly classes.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

3. ABSENCES - I understand that I am required to be in all rehearsals and weekly classes. I agree that Competition Team dancers need to be in the studio practicing regularly to be able to have the ability, stamina and technique to 'compete' with the dancers they will come across at competitions. I understand that when I am absent from rehearsals and classes, it has a negative impact on the team. When I am absent I miss learning choreography, I miss cleaning and I prevent my teammates from practicing lifts, partner work, and transitions to formations. As such, I agree to the following:
- If I am physically unable to dance due to a minor physical/health issue (i.e. ankle sprain, pulled muscle) I will still attend all rehearsals and weekly classes and observe.
 - If I have a contagious illness (ie strep throat, pink eye, etc), I will stay home, notify J & D staff as soon as possible, and will present a doctor's clearance note before returning to class.
 - I am allowed to have a few excused absences during the season. Excused absences include events *required* for school such as National Honors Society Induction Ceremony, SAT Testing, ArtsFest, band/chorus concerts, Nature's Classroom, etc. Other 'excused' absences include: death in the family, hospitalization/surgery, and religious obligations. If I have any events considered to be excused absences wherein I can inform the J & D staff of a date/time ahead of time, I will do so as soon as possible to allow them to plan accordingly.
 - I agree to miss no more than 2 rehearsals per competition routine or 3 classes per weekly class during the 2019-2020 season for reasons considered to be 'unexcused'. 'Unexcused' absences include things like vacations, birthday parties, concerts etc. If I exceed this number of absences, I will either be required to pay for additional private lessons for each absence over the limit or I will forfeit my place on the Competition Team.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

4. LONG-TERM INJURY, ILLNESS, HOSPITALIZATION - In the event that I suffer an injury, illness or am hospitalized and require extensive recovery time (i.e. longer than two weeks) I understand that my participation in upcoming performances or competitions may be impacted. As such, if I am unable to participate in all classes and rehearsals at full capacity for more than two weeks, I agree to the following:
- I am required to bring a doctor's note to the studio giving me full clearance to resume normal activities, before returning to classes.
 - I must be in all classes and rehearsals, dancing at full capacity (with doctor's clearance) one full week prior to competition/performance in order to compete or perform in that event.
 - Directors may re-block dances or put an alternate in my position to prepare for an upcoming performance or competition.
 - In the event an alternate is put in my place, I will be supportive of this person and the team, and will do my best to assist as much as possible. I understand that it's 100% normal to feel sad about not being able to participate, but also realize the impact this may have on everyone else on the team. I will conduct myself with good sportsmanship and do my best to stay positive, focusing on my recovery and all upcoming events.
 - I will give my costumes to the studio for alternates to wear in my place at performances or competitions. My costumes will be returned to me afterwards.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

5. COMPETITION/PERFORMANCE WEEK AND ABSENCES - I understand that my attendance is 100% critical and mandatory one full week preceding a performance or competition. As such, I agree to the following:
- a. I agree that I will not miss any rehearsals or weekly classes one full week prior to a competition or performance for a reason considered to be 'unexcused' as outlined above.
 - b. If I do miss class or rehearsal competition week, for a reason considered to be unexcused, I understand that I will not be allowed to compete or perform in that event. In this case, I will give my costumes for all routines back to the studio for use at the upcoming event, and I will do whatever I can to assist with an alternate filling my position. I will forfeit all prepaid competition fees. If choreography needs to be adjusted and/or extra rehearsals are required to get the team prepared to compete without me, I will be billed for the time.
 - c. If a serious, extenuating circumstance arises the week of a competition (ie death in the family, hospitalization/surgery), I agree to communicate with all J & D staff as soon as possible to determine a plan of action. I understand that these types of circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and that course of action chosen will be what's best for the team as a whole. This may mean that I am not allowed to perform or compete in the event. In this case, I will give my costumes for all routines back to the studio for use at the upcoming event, and I will do whatever I can to assist with an alternate filling my position. I will forfeit all prepaid competition fees. If choreography needs to be adjusted and/or extra rehearsals are required to get the team prepared to compete without me, I may be billed for the time.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

6. SPRING SESSION CLASSES - I understand that I am required to take the post-recital Spring Session classes if I wish to be part of the competition team the following year.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

7. 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 week 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 _____

8. 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 _____

9. 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 _____

10. 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 _____

11. Negativity, gossip, destructive criticism, bullying, cyber-bullying and bad attitudes will not be tolerated by **Company members or Parents**. 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 agree to not use social media, text messages or other digital tools to disrespect or bully my teammates or the J & D Staff. 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. As a parent, I will give only constructive or positive feedback and will refrain from making any negative/destructive comments about any J & D routines or performances in front of or directly to my child. If I truly have concerns about a routine, I will bring them directly to the attention of the J & D staff, remembering that my child may not accurately communicate my concerns on their own.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

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

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

13. ALL Company members will attend The Nuvo Dance Convention which comes to Boston February 7-9, 2020. Reserve this weekend on your calendar. You can read about it at GoNuvo.com! This is a MUCH looked forward to event by our dancers and teachers. The teachers will organize/chaperone dancers as well a carpool plan. This event sells out fast so we will be sending in our registration in the Fall to receive the early bird rate (this was \$255.00 Feb. 2019, 2020 fees not posted as of yet).

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

14. I agree to always remember that J & D Staff have my child's best interests in mind, and that they are doing their best to create a positive learning environment. If I have concerns about something, I will bring it to their attention directly, knowing that they cannot address an issue of which they have no knowledge. I agree to not make assumptions or jump to conclusions, and I will remember that there is often at least two sides to every story.

Dancer's initials _____ Parent initials _____

Schedule: Soon after Placement Auditions, 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. We do try our best to be accommodating with school and/or important family events.

Are there any dates and times that you KNOW at this time which you can share with us – school event dates, etc.? Note that Saturdays will be utilized for some rehearsals. Please list the dates and times of conflicts or write "None Known" on line below:

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 teammates. They are the only people you have to depend on once you hit that stage.

Company 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 by a dancer OR parent.
- 3- Dancers or Parents not abiding by this contract and/or not supporting team directors.
- 4- Not paying fees.
- 5. Excessive absences.

If you quit or are dismissed from the team, you are required to leave your costumes at the studio for another person to fill your spot. This is not negotiable. Your costumes will be returned to you at the end of the season. In addition, any and all competition related fees will be forfeited. If your departure requires routines to be re-choreographed you will assume the cost.

Signature of Dancer

Signature of Parent

Date