



The Elite Dance Center

Company Contract 2014-2015

Placement

Placement in The Elite Dance Company is based on the following criteria: technique, potential, commitment level, enthusiasm, attitude and behavior in class, attendance and stage presence. We place students together in groups that we feel will work best together in rehearsals and performances. Company members are selected by instructors and will be invited into the appropriate Company class.

Attendance & Time Commitment

A dance company is a team. Just as sports teams require all players to attend practices, dance companies require their dancers to attend all classes and rehearsals. Absences will not only affect the individual dancer, but the Company as a whole.

Each dancer is allowed up to **three (3) unexcused absences** from Company classes and rehearsals. **Excused absences receive prior approval from the director; advance notice of absence does not mean it is excused.* The following are considered “excused” absences:

- Death in the family
- Scheduled school programs or performances required for credit
- Wedding or religious dedication of you or a member of your family
- If you are seriously ill or infectious

Dancers will watch company class/rehearsal in the case of injury or mild illness. These same rules apply to all other classes.

Punctuality is just as important as attendance, **please be on time and prepared for class.** Two (2) occurrences of tardiness will count as an unexcused absence.

Students should not miss more than **five (5) of any one class** per dance season; after which, the dancer may be dismissed from the Company. Dance requires consistent ongoing training, and dancers who excessively miss classes will not be able to perform at the same level as those who have attended all classes regularly.

Company members must be present in ALL their classes and rehearsals the week prior to every performance and competition.

Being a member of a dance company is a privilege and comes with responsibility. Personal accountability is essential for a successful season, and commitment to your other company members is a vital component of this success. When a member of the company is not present, it negatively impacts your entire team. Please do not consider being a part of The Elite Dance Company if missing a trip to the mall with your friends is going to be an issue, or if you expect scheduling conflicts with other sports or activities.

Regular attendance in all dance classes is expected of Company members. Excess absences from ANY one-dance class may be cause for dismissal from the Company. No refund of payment shall be given in the event of dismissal.

Company classes for the 2014-2015 dance season are as follows:

- **Jazz Competition (A)**
- **Jazz Competition (B)**
- **Jazz Competition (C)**
- **Company**

Company members are required to take Ballet Technique, Ballet, Leaps & Turns, Jazz, Contemporary and Acrobatics. These classes are in addition to the weekly team practice.

Jazz Competition (A) members are required to take Ballet Technique, Ballet, , Leaps & Turns, Contemporary and Acrobatics. These classes are in addition to the weekly team practice. (However, if you are on "Jazz" Competition, the team practice will suffice as their jazz requirement.)

Jazz Competition (B) and (C) members are required to take Ballet and Leaps & Turns. These classes are in addition to the weekly team practice.

*****Ballet Technique and Acrobatics are strongly encouraged for all competition/company members***

The Elite Dance Company will attend 2-3 competitions/conventions throughout the dance season. Please be aware that becoming a company member will obligate you to these competitions and conventions. All competitions are held on weekends and are a **full day** and possibly **full weekend commitment**. Competition management does not send the performance day and time to the studio until 5-7 days prior to the event. Dancers and parents will need to be available for the entire weekend until we know whether you are performing Saturday, Sunday or both.

There are also occasions when our teams are asked to perform at local events such as LA UNBOUND company shows, Capezio Dance Day at the Madrid Theater, and local school festivals. These events are fun, educational and great team building experiences.

Extra rehearsals may be called approaching a performance or competition. Extra rehearsals will be held on Saturdays, Sundays or at other times that the studio's schedule permits. Students and parents will be notified of any additional rehearsals at least one week prior to the date. We will make our best efforts to schedule additional rehearsals well in advance.

Courtesy & Respect

All Company members will be held to the highest standards of conduct. Communicating negatively about anyone in or outside our studio will not be tolerated. Company members are expected to show courtesy and respect to all instructors and other students. Any student who exhibits repeated negative or disrespectful behavior **will** be asked to leave the Company. Elite dancers are always respectful, supportive, encouraging and are positive in spirit, attitude and behavior.

Dress Code

All Dance Company members must wear appropriate dancewear to every class. Forgetting dancewear, shoes, proper hair and/or wearing inappropriate clothing is not acceptable. The dress code for the Dance Company is as follows:

Black leotard, Tan tights, and Tan slip-on jazz shoes. Jazz pants or form-fitting shorts are optional and must be approved by the instructor. Hair must be **securely** pulled up for every class. Jewelry is not permitted while in class.

Financial Commitment

Tuition for company members varies depending on the number of classes they take. It is mandatory that all Dance Company members attend a weekly Company class as well as their prerequisite classes. Students will not be charged for additional rehearsals.

Elite will attend (2) competitions and (1) convention this year. The base cost of this year's competition and convention entry fees is \$550 (includes costume for routine, to be used in the Recital as well.) We allow payment plans but require that **all fees be paid in full by October 1st**. The first installment of at least \$100 is due at registration as a deposit and is non-refundable.

Please Note: Company dancers may also have the opportunity to travel to locations overnight or even over a weekend. Please be aware of any extra expenses that may occur.

Drop-outs: A \$250 fee applies to any student who drops out of the Company/Competition team during the dance season, for instructor to re-choreograph and rearrange the competition routines.

**Specialty group routines, including solos, duets and trios, may be asked to compete. Rehearsal times for these routines will be outside of their Company class time. There are extra fees per these rehearsals for the instructor/choreographer's time. All specialty routines will be decided upon by the instructor and director, and are not at the request of students or parents.*

Elite may also partake in other performance opportunities throughout the year. These performances may or may not have participation fees depending on the caliber of the event.

It is mandatory that all company members have Elite warm-ups, competition shoulder bags and garment bags for competitions/conventions/performances. Warm-ups cost approx. \$120 (jacket w/dancer's name and pants). Competition and garments bags are approx. \$45 each. Dancers must wear their warm-ups upon arrival and when leaving all competitions, conventions and performances.

Finally...

Don't forget to have fun! You'll gain lifetime of great memories and friendships during this time together so enjoy every second! We strive to make this the most positive and rewarding experience for our dancers and look forward to having another incredible and exciting dance season



The Elite Dance Center Company Agreement 2014-2015

Please sign and return this page. Keep the Company contract for your reference.

Both dancer and parent have read and understood all that is expected as a member of The Elite Dance Company. We understand that these policies are created to ensure the absolute best training and most positive and rewarding experience for everyone. Both dancer and parent understand that failure to meet the conditions set forth in this contract could result in the dancer's dismissal from The Elite Dance Company.

Dancer's Printed Name: _____

Dancer's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Printed Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____