

2024-2025 COMPETITIVE DANCE INFORMATION

If you are in 2nd -12th grade, please take the time to read this as rules for the dance team have been revised. *Note: 2nd & 3rd grades are only being offered petite jazz team. 4th and above may apply for any of the teams. (4th graders may be recommended for a year on petite team.)

WHAT IS COMPETITIVE DANCE? A scheduled dance program offered for students wishing to improve dance technique, performance ability, and to spend more time doing what you love! Competitive dancers are pushed a little harder, expected to be more dedicated, and receive more critique from teachers and judges.

HOW DO I JOIN? Submit an application, which is included in this packet. Students will be placed in classes by teacher placement and recommendation.

Classes offered and co-requisites are listed below: (All classes are 45 minutes with the exception of some tech classes (60 or 30 minutes.) Summer Jazz tech. will be required for all teams (exclude tap and petite.) Students will need to attend 4 out of 7 one-hour sessions offered in July & August (dates TBD) for \$5.00 each class. If a student cannot make it to at least 4 of the 7 classes and needs a makeup date –the cost for a make-up class will be \$10.00.

Students in ballet tech. will be *ENCOURAGED* but not required to take a ballet exam in Detroit (possibly in Gladwin if enough students are ready) within two years of taking that level. Exam fees are similar to competition fees. (I will send more info. on exams before classes begin in the fall, so you understand what to expect in ballet tech.) Students not taking exams most likely would NOT move on to the next level the following year.

Newer students may require a few summer private lessons to catch up to the class level before the fall.

CLASS CO-REQUISITES AND REQUIREMENTS

*Consideration for senior and/or advanced teams will be based on teacher's discretion (performance in tech. classes, maturity, **attitude and determination**, ballet level and sometimes school grade. Must be in at least grade II ballet to be on Sr. teams that require more knowledge/mastery of ballet tech.)

1. TAP & CLOG TEAM: Tap Technique
2. JAZZ TEAM: Ballet AND jazz technique and 4 summer sessions
3. HIP HOP TEAM: Co-requisite: Jazz AND ballet technique and 4 summer sessions of jazz tech
4. MODERN TEAM: Jazz AND ballet technique AND 3 out of 4 Modern workshops offered throughout the year. (Workshops held at the studio –dates TBA.) & 4 summer sessions
5. MUSICAL THEATER TEAM: Ballet AND jazz technique and 4 summer sessions
6. POM TEAM: Jazz AND ballet technique and 4 summer sessions
7. LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY TEAM: Ballet AND jazz technique and 4 summer sessions
8. BALLET TEAM: Must be in grade III or higher and have taken an exam
9. PETITE JAZZ TEAM: For 2nd/3rd grade & any beginners. This team will only travel to two competitions. Jazz tech. Required but no summer tech. needed.
10. SOLOS/DUETS/TRIOS/QUARTET: Co-requisites for competition solos: Technique class most suitable toward **your dance**. Private classes are limited; sign up early! Competitions for privates are optional and based on teachers' decision for readiness. Teacher requests will be considered based on seniority and availability. More rules apply for solos –see contract.

**TEAM classes may be divided based on the number of interested students. Put ANY class you might be interested in! ANY type of dance could be divided into Jr/Sr/Int. classes if enough apply!

SCHEDULE: We attend three competitions during the year. I try to work around prom & spring break as much as possible. Exact competition schedules are mailed in the summer as soon as I get schedules from the various competition venues, so that you can mark your calendars early.

COSTS: Payment information is available on our website and will be updated this summer. The more minutes you take of class time, the greater your discount! (Excluding private lessons.) Dancers may need new shoes depending on the teachers' choice. You will be responsible for one extra costume per dance. (Technique classes do not require costumes.) Team costumes range from \$60.00 to \$180.00. We try to keep prices down as best as possible. You will be responsible for paying competition fees approximately \$65.00/dance depending on the competition. (Solos are usually around \$140.00.) Sometimes a hotel stay is necessary. *Team Warm Ups* are not mandatory. Warm ups are approximately \$85.00.

FUNDRAISERS: We have various fundraisers throughout the year. Dancers will have several opportunities to earn money. (Our fall mum fundraiser has been a HUGE success!)

RULES: Competing students must understand that to be in a competition class, they must take their dance instruction to a serious level. It will be the students' responsibility to attend all practices, co-requisites and team classes. If a student is 15 min. late to his or her class, it is considered an absence. If a student misses or is tardy for their technique it MUST be made up within one month in a similar technique class. Students are allowed TWO EXCUSED ABSENCES EACH SEMESTER FOR THE **TEAM CHOREO. DANCE CLASSES**. Once a student misses a third class for any reason (sickness, weather conditions, family or school obligations, etc.) he/she has two options: 1. Schedule a private make up practice at the regular private class rate. Make up privates may be combined with other students (same private fee/student) 2. Be removed from the team. *It is difficult to compete in dances that have not

been rehearsed with EVERYONE present. **IMPORTANT:** Instructors do not have a lot of extra time to do make-up lessons, and ONLY 2 make ups will be available each semester for each team. If more are missed, there are team consequences. (Spring attendance AFTER the LAST competition is allowed to be a bit more flexible.) Please be aware that team placement for the following year is also based on attendance record. Students who may be ready to move up a level but have poor attendance might not move up. Team members are also expected to be responsible, *respectful* students. If a student (or parent) gives any problems to a teacher, they may be removed from the team. Students **MUST** attend all competitions. Students who miss a competition for a foreseen, plannable event (vacation, etc.) will not be allowed to compete or participate in team dances in recital.

****APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 20TH. NEW! \$50 deposit is due with your**

application this year so that I can securely reserve our competitions in the summer with a deposit down. \$45 of your deposit will be held in your account until the LAST competition, and then it will be applied to that. However, if a student DROPS a class for any reason other than an injury or unforeseen emergency AFTER the first day of class, the fee will go towards re-blocking and rescheduling expenses and no longer be available for use at the last competition. (\$5 of your deposit is non refundable to cover clerical cost.) Once you apply, your commitment to the number of dances you are willing to participate in is expected. Prompt and decisive responses are necessary so that I can finish our entire dance schedule to take new enrollment. (Students who have quit after applying don't realize that may result in canceling a class that was already set in our schedule, making it really hard to change the schedule at that point.) We CAN more easily ADD a class, but dropping numbers after we plan on your commitment makes things very difficult. If you have questions, please ask!

Gail Wildfong School of Dance

OFFICIAL DANCE TEAM CONTRACT FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

2024-2025

1. **Must** pay the \$50 deposit with your application. (Refundable at the last competition unless a student drops a class.)
2. **Must** be enrolled in the correct co-requisite classes and attend required extra classes for modern, sr. hip hop, ballet tech. and summer jazz technique (petite team excluded from summer.)
3. **Must** travel to at least 3 competitions (if a competition is missed, dancers understand that they will have consequences that could result in removal from the team, especially for foreseen events.) Petite jazz team must travel to at least 2 competitions.
4. **Must** pay all fees ON TIME, or you will **NOT** be entered to compete!! (This would affect the entire team and the instructor's time and be devastating to the dancer.) Please plan accordingly!
5. **Must** maintain excellent attendance. (ie. Missing no more than 2 classes a session in the competition dance class or a private must be made at the cost of regular private price. More than 4 absences in a team class in one semester results in possible removal from the team as well as not making up missed tech. classes) All comp. and technique classes must be made up within one month of the absence. A tardy of 15 minutes or more is considered an absence in all classes. If an absence is not made up within one month, the dancer will not compete. If summer jazz tech classes are missed, make up class days will COST MORE, and if private lessons are needed, private fees apply.
6. **Must** be a positive role model to all dance students inside and outside of the studio. Misbehavior in class or out may result in removal from the team.
7. **Must** be committed to the team and practice at home (includes technique class practice!)
8. Need supportive parents who are willing to volunteer for chaperoning and fundraising when possible.
9. Parent(s) must be respectful of studio staff inside and outside of the studio and on social media. Disrespectful guardians may result in student removal from the teams, or the parent being removed from studio social media.
10. **Ballet technique students must agree to come to class prepared in the correct attire each week** and commit to learning the material as if they are taking an exam, even if they choose not to.
11. **Must** display good sportsmanship, be able to handle critiques & winning & losing gracefully.
12. Understand that team instructors adhere to the rules, but have the right to make exceptions to any of the rules due to **exceptional** circumstances. Each student is unique and cannot be compared to others.

**We (child and parent) have read the above information and fully understand the responsibilities of being a member of a competition team.*

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

2024-2025 DANCE TEAM APPLICATION & FALL REGISTRATION **Return by May 20 with \$50 deposit**

Dancers Name _____ Years of dance education _____ D.O.B _____
School grade for fall _____ Phone Number _____ Parents Name: _____
E-Mail _____

Number of team dances you are willing/able to participate in (Keep in mind co-requisites) (Don't include solo/duet) _____ *****THIS IS WHAT YOUR \$50 IS COMMITTED TO -Pick the number you plan to stick with!**

Solo/duet/trio/quartet (Limit: 1 private/dancer. High School students are allowed solo/duet) _____

Classes you are interested in taking for competition (**in order of preference.** *Put more preferences than # of classes you are able to take -just in case a class does not fill. Put whatever style you wish for- if we have enough numbers, we can make it a team!)

1. _____	5. _____
2. _____	6. _____
3. _____	7. _____
4. _____	8. _____

Number of days of the week you can commit to _____

List any days that you cannot take class (the more available you are, the better!!) _____

Are you interested in possibly attending out-of-state nationals in the midwest area the summer of 2025? This would most likely require a week stay & fees are usually higher for national entries. (Dates can be given in August.)

Non Team Classes (Please circle any you would like to include):

Combo Pom Hip Hop Acro Lyrical Musical Theater Clog Pointe Class (note requirements) PIANO

IF YOU HAVE BEEN COMPETING FOR 2 OR MORE YEARS YOU DO NOT NEED TO COMPLETE THE REST!

Why do you want to be on the dance team? _____

Why do you think extra technique classes (which are required) are important? _____

What does dedication mean to you? Are you a dedicated dancer? _____

What do you hope to gain from being on the dance team? _____

Please add any other comments/questions/concerns that you have regarding the dance team on the back of this page.