

THE DANCE NETWORK

Dance Studio • Performance Companies • Fitness & Personal Training

Performance and Competition Companies 2023-2024 Season

The Dance Network's Company Program provides opportunities for dancers of all ages to receive extensive training while also learning the value of discipline, commitment, and teamwork. Company Members serve as role models for the studio and within the community. They must not only have the desire and dedication to give their best effort during each class, practice, and performance, but are also expected to serve as exemplary students in behavior and technical achievement. The purpose of our Dance Companies is to promote teamwork, dedication, strong work ethic, discipline, respect, technical development, and character. Company Members will gain confidence while developing a strong sense of responsibility and character through performances, competitive achievements, and Company spirit.

We have 6 distinct company levels:

- ◆ Twinkle (recommended age 5+)
- ◆ Glow (recommended age 7+)
- ◆ Spark (recommended age 9+)
- ◆ Ignite (recommended age 12+)
- ◆ Converge (recommended age 9+)
- ◆ Prism (recommended age 16+)

Each Company has different divisions of focus: Ballroom, Hip Hop, Jazz/Contemporary, and Tap. Students who would like to be considered for Company will need to audition for each individual area of focus they are interested in. This allows our Companies and students to devote to their training in as full and immersive a manner as possible.

Auditions

This year's company auditions are Friday, July 28th.

Company Auditions are judged using a point system based on: technique, performance ability, musicality, behavior, and attitude. The points from the audition will be totaled to determine placement. For dancers who were Company Members in previous seasons, judges will also factor in points based on behavior and performance from the previous year.

Please plan to arrive about 15-20 minutes early to complete your audition registration and warm-up before the beginning of your first audition.

Note: Company placements are not determined only by age. Companies are formed based on students of similar levels and goals to create the best environment for dancers to grow, learn, and thrive together as a group.

Audition Schedule:

- **Friday, July 28th**
 - 5:30pm - Jazz/Contemporary Companies
 - 6:30pm - Hip Hop Companies
 - 7:30pm - Tap Companies
 - 8:30pm - Ballroom Companies

Performances, Events, and Other Opportunities

Our Company Dancers are given a number of special opportunities throughout the year not available to our recreational studio dancers. As well, they are always the highlight of our studio showcases! Companies are often invited to perform for special events and organizations throughout the year. We will inform our Company Dancers and families about these opportunities as information becomes available.

Company Members can earn volunteer hours by assisting with Shine!, our Student Choreography Showcase, which is co-produced and coordinated in part by our Companies. Additional volunteer hours can be earned by helping at our booth for the Earth Day Festival each year in April, assisting with showcase preparation, and with other opportunities as well.

Calendar Highlights

A full schedule of events for the year will be available in July, but here are some of the big company events we want you to know about!

- August through June
 - 11th Company Season
 - Regular Company rehearsals
- October – The Voodoo Strut Halloween Performance
- February – Dupree Dance Expo (Competition & Convention)
- March – Nebula Dance Lab's HHII Festival
- April
 - Shine! Student Choreography Showcase
 - Earth Day Festival
- May – Heat Convention & Competition
- June – Series 7 Studio Showcase

Company Requirements

Please carefully read the Company requirements section.

Companies have a Company Fee of \$550 per Member (not per Company) broken down into 5 monthly payments. Dancers who are in multiple companies will need to pay one \$550 Company Fee for the first Company and \$200 Costume Fee for each additional company. We have included a list of what this cost does and does not include at the end of this section. To help offset the Company Fee, we will have a meeting with all new Company Members and families at the beginning of August to discuss fundraising opportunities. We are always willing to explore scholarship opportunities for our families, as well.

Twinkle & Glow

These Companies are for dancers who are looking to get some competition and convention experience while having fun and learning in a team environment.

- **Required classes:**
 - **Ballroom:** At least one ballroom/social dance class, one technique class (ballet or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Hip Hop:** At least one hip hop class, one technique class (ballet or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Jazz/Contemporary:** At least one ballet class, one jazz class, and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Tap:** At least one tap class, one technique class (ballet or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
- **Attendance requirements:** Dancers may not miss more than 5 company rehearsals per Company season (August - June) and no unexcused absences during the months of major performances or competition. Tardiness can affect eligibility.
- **Performance requirements:** All Company Members are expected to attend Dupree Dance Expo in February, attend Heat Convention and Competition in May, and perform in the 2 major studio productions (The Voodoo Strut in October and Series 7 in June).
- **Other performance information:** There are numerous performance opportunities throughout the year and all company dancers are encouraged and expected to perform at as many of these as possible.

Spark

These Companies focus on more rigorous competition and convention preparation. We also provide a training track that helps to prepare Company Members for real world professional auditions and performances.

- **Required classes:**
 - **Ballroom:** At least one ballroom/social dance class, one ballet class, one additional technique class (ballet, contemporary, or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Hip Hop:** At least one hip hop class, one ballet class, one jazz class, and one company rehearsal per week

- **Jazz/Contemporary:** At least one ballet class, one jazz class, one contemporary class, and one company rehearsal per week
- **Tap:** At least one tap class, one ballet class, one jazz class, and one company rehearsal per week
- Dancers are also highly encouraged to take additional classes, such as stretch and conditioning and other styles outside their company focus, to help improve their abilities as a well-rounded dancer
- **Attendance requirements:** Dancers may not miss more than 5 company rehearsals per performance season (September - June) and no unexcused absences during the months of major performances or competition. Tardiness can affect eligibility.
- **Performance requirements:** All Company Members are expected to attend the Dupree Dance Expo in February, attend Heat Convention and Competition in May, perform in Nebula Dance Lab's HHII festival, and perform in the 2 major studio productions (The Voodoo Strut in October and Series 7 in June).
- **Other performance information:** There are numerous performance opportunities throughout the year and all company dancers are encouraged and expected to perform at as many of these as possible.

Ignite

These Companies prepare our dancers to work towards a proficient and professional level, emphasizing versatility and control in advance technique.

- **Required classes:**
 - *At this level, dancers are expected to be taking multiple classes per week in their discipline.*
 - **Ballroom:** At least two ballroom/social dance classes, one ballet class, one additional technique class (ballet, contemporary, or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Hip Hop:** At least two hip hop classes (one should be advanced), one ballet class, one jazz class, and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Jazz/Contemporary:** At least one ballet class, one to two jazz classes, one to two contemporary classes, and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Tap:** At least two tap classes, one ballet class, one jazz class, and one company rehearsal per week
 - Dancers are also highly encouraged to take additional classes, such as stretch and conditioning and other styles outside their company focus, to help improve their abilities as a well-rounded dancer
- **Attendance requirements:** Dancers may not miss more than 5 company rehearsals per Company season (August - June) and no unexcused absences during the months of major performances or competition. Tardiness can affect eligibility.
- **Performance requirements:** All Company Members are expected to attend the Dupree Dance Expo in February, attend Heat Convention and Competition in May, perform in Nebula Dance Lab's HHII festival, and perform in the 2 major studio productions (The Voodoo Strut in October and Series 7 in June).

- **Other performance information:** There are numerous performance opportunities throughout the year and all company dancers are encouraged and expected to perform at as many of these as possible.

Converge

These Companies are competition focused and allow for dancers of all ages to work and learn together. Dancers are not expected to necessarily be working at the same technique level.

- **Required classes:**
 - **Ballroom:** At least one ballroom/social dance class, one technique class (ballet or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Hip Hop:** At least one hip hop class, one technique class (ballet or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Jazz/Contemporary:** At least one ballet class, one jazz class, and one company rehearsal per week
 - **Tap:** At least one tap class, one technique class (ballet or jazz), and one company rehearsal per week
- **Attendance requirements:** Dancers may not miss more than 5 company rehearsals per Company season (August - June) and no unexcused absences during the months of major performances or competition. Tardiness can affect eligibility.
- **Performance requirements:** All Company Members are expected to attend the Dupree Dance Expo in February, attend Heat Convention and Competition in May, perform in Nebula Dance Lab's HHII festival, and perform in the 2 major studio productions (The Voodoo Strut in October and Series 7 in June).
- **Other performance information:** There are numerous performance opportunities throughout the year and all company dancers are encouraged and expected to perform at as many of these as possible.

Prism

These Companies are comprised of semi-professional and professional dancers who are expected to be training rigorously in their discipline while also appropriately cross training to better their own technique and overall self-care.

At this time, our Prism companies are project focused and invitation only. If you are interested in being a part of one of our Prism companies (Hip Hop, Jazz/Contemporary, and/or Tap), please contact us at info@thedancenetworksb.com.

Students auditioning for Ignite Companies may also be considered for our Prism Companies.

Included in your Company Fees:

- Performance costumes and custom company apparel for the season (for students in more than one company, there is a \$200 costume fee for each additional company)
- Access to discounts, including our online swag store, special events, and Master Classes
- Administration fees for competition and other company performance opportunities
- Extra company rehearsals as needed
- FREE space for student choreography and rehearsals
- Personal mentorship for student choreographers

Not Included in your Company Fees:

- Company Jacket (\$50 for a new jacket or \$20 for updated printing)
- Technique classes and regular, weekly company rehearsals
- Private lessons (if necessary)
- Required apparel, such as:
 - Black leggings, nude tights, black performance socks, etc.
 - Tap shoes, black & tan jazz shoes, ballet shoes, dance paws, etc.
- Independent PE fees, as applicable
- Tickets to performances
- Convention and competition fees
- There may also be additional nominal charges for other performance or guest artist opportunities. We will let company families know about these charges as soon as possible. If there are any financial hardships, we are always open to finding solutions to help our families.

Commitment

We understand how busy and demanding a young student's life can be with juggling school, extracurricular, and social commitments. While we love and encourage our dancers to be well-rounded and explore many different interests, we want to emphasize the importance of the commitment to the Company and fellow Members, and encourage that Company and dance be the primary focus of our Company Members over other extracurricular and outside activities.

Many students have experienced a significant amount of stress in the past when trying to juggle Company commitments in addition to competitive sports, mock trial, school plays and musicals, and other interests that can be very time consuming. Before dancers and parents sign their Company Contracts, we strongly advise that you closely examine schedules and discuss what being in Company will mean for your student(s) and family.

We believe Company Dancers can include these other types of activities in their lives, but that the commitment to dance and fellow Company Members should be the first priority!

We look forward to seeing you at auditions!