

2024-2025 MINI COMPANY AUDITION PACKET

MISSION STATEMENT: The Mini Company is a **FUN** program that works to challenge Kindergarten through 2nd Grade dancers to improve their technique, skills and creativity, build teamwork, develop sportsmanship, and provide additional performance opportunities!

MINI COMPANY PARENT MEETING: Tuesday, May 7th at 5:30pm at The Dance Factory. If you are unable to attend the Mini Company Parent Meeting and you have questions before auditions you may email Miss Kara: kara@dancefactorynews.com

MINI COMPANY EXPECTATIONS:

- Arrive at your classes and rehearsals on time, properly dressed, correct shoes and with a positive attitude!
- Practice competition routines outside of class time to be prepared before each class.
- Please inform your teacher when you will be absent from class. Attendance is important for the success of your dancer. Please see our attendance policy in the next section
- Respect your teachers.
- Respect your fellow teammates.
- Be kind and encouraging to other teammates.
- Always try your best!

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- **Mini Company dancers are allowed one absence, per class, per month.** Dancers that miss more than one class per month will be assigned an assistant teacher to make up those classes and catch up. You will be assessed a \$20 per 30 minute fee for these makeup classes.
- Attendance is mandatory the week before a competition weekend!

AUDITIONS:

- **The Audition fee is \$20 and the \$50 registration fee is due upon registration.**
- Mini Company Auditions will be held Thursday, May 23rd, 2024
 - 2024-2025 Kindergarten Dancers = 5:30-6 pm
 - 2024-2025 1st and 2nd Grade Dancers = 6-6:30 pm
- The dancers chosen for the 2024/2025 season will be posted on the website by Friday, May 31st, 2024.
- If a dancer is unable to attend the auditions, or is asked to join the Mini Company after the auditions the \$20 audition fee will not be waived. Please email kara@dancefactorynews.com for an alternative evaluation.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL MINI COMPANY

- All Mini Company dancers will be a part of our **Regional** Mini Company. The Mini **National** program is designed for young dancers who are ready to become a bit more serious in their dance education. We will be selecting dancers for this new program who have shown the ability to stay focused in class for several classes in a row, are excited to practice their dances **outside** of class and who are able to complete the required choreography without the assistance of the teachers or other classmates.
- Dancers that are selected for the Mini National Company will be placed in classes by **skill** level regardless of their age. All dancers are eligible to be a part of our National Company but there may be some instances that our faculty may feel your dancer is not ready. If this situation occurs, we will provide an explanation as to why we feel your dancer may not be ready.
- All program differences have been outlined below. You will indicate on your registration form if you would like your dancer to be considered for our Mini Company National program.

REGIONAL MINI COMPANY

REGIONAL REQUIRED DAYS: TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

REQUIRED CLASSES:

- *JAZZ - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
- *BALLET - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class
- *URNS AND LEAPS - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class

TOTAL REQUIRED CLASSES – 1.5 HOURS WEEKLY [\$66]

OPTIONAL CLASSES:

- *TAP - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
 - *HIP HOP - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
 - *CONTEMPORARY - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
 - *TECHNIQUE - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class
 - Required for dancers enrolled in contemporary
 - *ACRO FOR DANCE - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class
- ** Kindergarten dancers will be allowed to compete in up to 2 competition dances (some exceptions may apply) ALL Kindergarten dancers will be placed in a JAZZ dance. You may choose to enroll your dancer in TAP class if you would like your dancer to compete in an additional dance.
- ** 1st & 2nd grade dancers will be allowed to compete in up to 4 competition dances (some exceptions may apply) ALL 1st & 2nd grade dancers will be placed in a JAZZ dance. You may choose to enroll your dancer in up to 3 additional classes to learn a competition dance - Tap, Hip Hop and /or Contemporary.

NATIONAL MINI COMPANY

NATIONAL REQUIRED DAYS: TUESDAY & THURSDAYS
CLASSES BEGIN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

REQUIRED CLASSES:

- *JAZZ - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class.
- *BALLET - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class
- *URNS AND LEAPS - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class
- *TECHNIQUE - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class
- *TAP - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class.

TOTAL REQUIRED CLASSES – 2.5 HOURS WEEKLY [\$110]

OPTIONAL CLASSES:

- *HIP HOP - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
- *CONTEMPORARY - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
- *ACRO FOR DANCE - 30 MINUTES [\$22]*
 - This is a technique only class

NATIONALS REHEARSALS - \$125 PER REHEARSAL

THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF AN ADDITIONAL DAY NEEDED - MONDAY, WEDNESDAY OR SATURDAY TO ACCOMMODATE OUR NATIONALS ONLY ROUTINES.

- \$125 REHEARSAL FEE WILL BE DUE ON SEPTEMBER 1ST

Dancers will be placed in both Regional and National dances. Combined total of Regional and Nationals competition dances will not exceed 5 routines.

DUOS/TRIOS:

Mini Company dancers who have been on the Mini Company for a minimum of one year are eligible to participate in 1 extra duo or trio.

Faculty will assign duos/trio groups and styles of dance and you will be notified of your placement in late August 2024.

There is a chance that we will not allow some dancers to participate in duos/trios. If this situation occurs we will provide an explanation as to why we feel those dancers are not ready to compete in duos/trios.

Please remember that participating in an extra duo or trio is something that Mini Company dancers must work for. If a dancer falls behind in their group dances or misses an excessive number of classes during the week, the rehearsals for the extra dance will be stopped until the faculty feels the dancer is fully caught up in their group dances.

Parents must play an active role in helping their dancers rehearse at home. These dances will not be rehearsed every week as their group dances are.

Duos/Trios will only be competed at competition only events. Dancers will not compete duos/trios during a convention weekend.

Dancers in our Mini Regional Company will not be considered for solos at this time.

Rehearsals and Fees:

- You will schedule all rehearsals with the teacher selected for your duo or trio. You can estimate two 30 minute rehearsals per month.
- You must be willing to pay an hourly rehearsal fee. This fee will be between \$25-\$50 depending on the teacher's own hourly rates.
- These fees will be paid directly to the teacher and may not be billed through your Dance Factory account.
- The estimated entry fees are \$80-\$135 PER DANCER.
- Extra dance entry fees will be due with all group entry fees.

SOLOS/DUOS/TRIOS:

Mini Company dancers who have been on the Mini Company for a minimum of one year are eligible to participate in 1 extra solo, duo, or trio

Faculty will assign solos/duos/trio groups and styles of dance and you will be notified of your placement in late August 2024.

There is a chance that we will not allow some dancers to participate in solos/duos/trios. If this situation occurs we will provide an explanation as to why we feel those dancers are not ready to compete in solos/duos/trios.

Please remember that participating in an extra solo, duo or trio is something that Mini Company dancers must work for. If a dancer falls behind in their group dances or misses an excessive number of classes during the week, the rehearsals for the extra dance will be stopped until the faculty feels the dancer is fully caught up in their group dances.

Parents must play an active role in helping their dancers rehearse at home. These dances will not be rehearsed every week as their group dances are.

Solos/Duos/Trios will only be competed at competition only events. Dancers will not compete duos/trios during a convention weekend.

Rehearsals and Fees:

- You will schedule all rehearsals with the teacher selected for your solo, duo or trio. You can estimate two 30 minute rehearsals per month.
- You must be willing to pay an hourly rehearsal fee. This fee will be between \$25-\$50 depending on the teacher's own hourly rates.
- These fees will be paid directly to the teacher and may not be billed through your Dance Factory account.
- The estimated entry fees are \$80-\$135 PER DANCER.
- Extra dance entry fees will be due with all group entry fees.

COMPETITIONS AND CONVENTIONS:

COMPETITIONS

All Mini Company dancers must be willing to participate in three regional competitions. All fees will be due three-four months prior to the scheduled competition dates. We will try to select three Competitions in the Kansas City area. Once all of the dates are available for the 2024/2025 season we will determine where the dancers will compete. If you have any date conflicts in 2025, please be sure to let us know when you fill out your registration form.

It is a possibility that our dances may compete on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday. We will receive the competition schedule approximately one week before the competition date.

Estimated entry fees:

Group \$50-\$75 per entry

A \$40 directors/processing fee will be charged for each competition.

CONVENTIONS

1st and 2nd Grade Regional Mini Company dancers are required to attend L.A. Dance Magic convention January 17-19th in St. Louis. It is optional but encouraged for Kindergarten dancers.

The dancers will not compete when they attend the Convention. They will take two days of classes. This will require the dancers to travel and spend the night in a hotel.

Dancers can expect to pay between \$150-\$275 for a convention.

A \$40 directors/processing fee will be added to each convention fee.

COMPETITIONS AND CONVENTIONS:

COMPETITIONS

All Mini Company dancers must be willing to participate in three regional competitions. All fees will be due three-four months prior to the scheduled competition dates. We will try to select three Competitions in the Kansas City area. Once all of the dates are available for the 2024/2025 season we will determine where the dancers will compete. If you have any date conflicts in 2025, please be sure to let us know when you fill out your registration form.

It is a possibility that our dances may compete on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday. We will receive the competition schedule approximately one week before the competition date.

Estimated entry fees:

Group \$50-\$75 per entry

A \$40 directors/processing fee will be charged for each competition.

CONVENTIONS

All National Mini Company dancers are required to attend L.A. Dance Magic convention January 17th-19th in St. Louis. National Mini Company dancers will not compete when they attend L.A. Dance Magic. They will take two days of classes. This will require the dancers to travel and spend the night in a hotel.

Additionally, all National Mini Company dancers are required to attend a second Convention in the midwest. Dancers will attend classes and compete their Nationals dances at this convention. They will take two days of classes. This will require the dancers to travel and spend the night in a hotel.

Dancers can expect to pay between \$150-\$275 for a convention.

A \$40 directors/processing fee will be added to each convention fee.

COSTUME FEES:

General costume fees range from \$150 to \$325 per dance.

Custom made costume fees range from \$250-\$375 per dance. Custom made costumes tend to be more expensive due to extra labor.

Costume fees will cover costume bases, headpieces and accessories. Rhinestones will be billed separately and will range between an additional \$10-\$25. You will be responsible for rhinestoning your dancer's costume or you may pay one of the faculty members to help you. There will be an additional fee if you choose to have someone else rhinestone your dancer's costume!

Costume fees will be broken down into 4 separate payments:

- June 1st - A costume deposit of \$200 per dancer is due
- August 1st - A \$100 deposit, per dance, is due for dancers placed in more than two dances.
- October - January- Once each costume is finalized, dancers will be billed for the remainder of their costume expenses. You will receive an email when your costume fee has been applied to your account. Balances are due upon receipt.

MINI COMPANY EXTRAS:

Dancers may be required to purchase the following items:

- Company Jackets - \$100-\$125 (Highly Recommended)
- Company Makeup - \$25-\$50
- Eyelashes - \$5-\$10
- Chokers - \$35-\$40
- Earrings - \$11-\$15 per pair
- Shoes - \$50-\$85 per pair
- Tights - \$15-25 per pair (dancers must have multiple pairs on hand - tights with holes will not be allowed on stage!)

MANDATORY SUMMER CLASSES:

| AGE GROUP | REQUIREMENTS | NOTES |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Kindergarten Minis | <p>- Four days of camps - you may choose one camp or a mixture of days from any camps listed!</p> <p>- September Intensive: Details TBA</p> | Mini Company dancers are encouraged to dance all summer long! Take as many camps as you can. You must sign up for camps on your own HERE |

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| 1st + 2nd Grade Minis | <p>- Two days of camps - you may choose from one camp or a mixture of days from any camps listed!</p> <p>- Classes on July 16th and 18th</p> <p>- September Intensive: Details TBA</p> | <p>Mini Company dancers are encouraged to dance all summer long! Take as many camps as you can. You must sign up for camps on your own HERE</p> <p>- A \$25 class fee will be assessed to your account automatically for these classes</p> |
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SUMMER CALENDAR DATES

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|-----------------|-----------|--|
| JUNE 24 - 27 | 5-6:30 | Enchanted Princess Coronation Celebration Camp |
| JULY 8 - 11 | 5-6:30 | Fabulous Flamingo Fiesta Glow Bash Camp |
| JULY 9 | 4:15-5 | Mini Acro - Level 2 + 3 <i>[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June]</i> |
| JULY 11 | 4:15-5 | Mini Acro - Level 1 <i>[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If your dancer has not taken Acro with us before they will take this class]</i> |
| JULY 16 | 5:00-5:45 | Mini Acro - Level 2 + 3 <i>[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June]</i> |
| JULY 16 | 5:45-6:45 | 1st + 2nd Grade Mini Classes |
| JULY 18 | 5:00-5:45 | Mini Acro - Level 1 <i>[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If your dancer has not taken Acro with us before they will take this class]</i> |
| JULY 18 | 5:45-6:45 | 1st + 2nd Grade Mini Classes |
| JULY 24 - 25 | TBA | LUX - In house convention at DF by DJ Guthrie *Optional - Additional Details TBA* |
| JULY 24 | 5:00-5:45 | Mini Acro - Level 2 + 3 <i>[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June]</i> |
| JULY 25 | 5:00-5:45 | Mini Acro - Level 1 <i>[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If your dancer has not taken Acro with us before they will take this class]</i> |
| JULY 29 - AUG 1 | 5-6:30 | Ultimate Swiftie Pop Star Extravaganza Camp |
| SEPTEMBER 7 - 8 | 9am-12pm | Mini Intensive - Required for All Minis - Details TBA |

MANDATORY MINI INTENSIVE: Mini Intensive features classes in multiple styles of dance taught by professional choreographers. We will also use this weekend to begin choreography for our 2024-2025 season. All Mini Dancers will be required to attend the Mini Intensive. Our Mini Intensive will be September 7 & 8, 2024 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. [Mini Intensive fee of \\$60 is due August 15th.](#)

Optional Training Camp for 2nd Graders - We will be hosting an in-studio convention called LUX July 24th-25th. The estimated cost to participate is \$325. You may sign up by emailing office@dancefactorynews.com.

MANDATORY MINI COMPANY BACK TO DANCE PARTY: Please save the date!! -- Details TBA -- Thursday, September 5th -- 5:00-6:30 pm. We will be taking group pictures and revealing their company sisters for the year this evening. This is a mandatory evening for both of those purposes!

COMPANY PARTY FEE: All Company dancers will have a Back To Dance party, Halloween party, Christmas party, competition parties before each Regional competition, sister bonding parties and more! In order to keep contributions from each dancer fair, we will be assessing a \$25 Company Party Fee. We love to make our dancers feel special and have fun with their teammates!

- [Company Party Fee of \\$25 is due July 15th](#)

CONCERT DATES AND FEES:

- The Company Concert will be January 4th, 2025 at 6pm at TPAC – [January Concert fee is \\$55 due September 1st.](#)
- June Concerts will be on June 6th and 7th, 2025 at TPAC – [June Concert fee is \\$55 due February 1st.](#)

PARENT ROLES

- Our studio is a drama free zone. Parents are expected to be supportive, respectful, and courteous to all studio dancers, their teachers and their families at all times. This studio will not tolerate rudeness, jealousy, resentment, or disrespect to any fellow studio member, their family, or the teachers.
- Your role is the following:
 - Lift up and support all of our children
 - Teach your child that there is always going to be someone better than they are
 - Teach your child to be happy for others
 - Give a hand to those who may be behind or struggling
 - Stand firmly behind the teaching staff
 - Work with the teaching staff, showing your child that you are behind their coaches

No child is ever “held back,” but instead, encouraged to develop their skills to their fullest. Our goal is for each child to reach their full potential as a dancer and a wonderful human being. The most successful children are those whose parents support their teachers and coaches 100%. These are the ones who do not bad-mouth or question a teacher or coach in front of their children or others, and they are the ones who are realistic about their children and their place on our Company. We all want all of our Company dancers to succeed, but success is not measured by the trophy a child brought home, by the row in which they stand on stage, or by how many pirouettes they can do. Instead, it is measured by the effort that they put forth each day and who they develop to be as a human being. If they give all they’ve got to give and approach life with kindness, what more can anyone ever expect?

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE COMPANY REGISTRATION & PARENT CONSENT FORM](#)

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNTIL YOUR CURRENT DANCE FACTORY ACCOUNT IS AT A ZERO BALANCE. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

| CURRENT CALENDAR AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE DATES 2024-2025 <i>*more dates to come!*</i> | |
|--|---|
| May 7, 2024 | Mini Company Parent Meeting @ 5:30 PM at The Dance Factory |
| Due Upon Registration | \$20 Audition Fee + \$55 Registration Fee |
| May 23, 2024 | Mini Company Auditions - SEE SCHEDULE ABOVE! |
| May 31, 2024 | Mini Company Announced! |
| June 1, 2024 | \$200 Costume Deposit Due |
| JUNE + JULY | Summer Camps |
| July 1, 2024 | \$25 Summer Class Fee Due |
| July 15, 2024 | Company Party Fee Due |
| July 16 + 18, 2024 | Mandatory Mini Summer Classes for 1st and 2nd Grade Minis |
| July 24-25, 2024 | *OPTIONAL* LUX Convention at DF |
| August 1, 2024 | Additional Costume Deposit for Dancers Placed in More Than 2 Competition Routines Due (\$100 per dance) |
| August 15, 2024 | \$60 Mini Intensive Fee Due |
| August 31, 2024 | Solo/Duo/Trio Assignments Announced |
| September 1, 2024 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| September 1, 2024 | National Dance Rehearsal Fees Due (\$125 per dance) |
| September 1, 2024 | \$55 January Concert Fee Due |
| September 5, 2024 | Mandatory Mini Company Back to Dance Party |

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| September 7-8, 2024 | Mandatory Mini Intensive - 9am-12pm Both Days |
| October 1, 2024 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| October 1, 2024 | Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any January Competition/Conventions Due |
| November 1, 2024 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| November 1, 2024 | Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any February Competition/Conventions Due |
| December 1, 2024 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| December 1, 2024 | Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any March Competition/Conventions Due |
| January 1, 2025 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| January 1, 2025 | Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any April Competition/Conventions Due |
| January 4, 2025 | Company Concert Rehearsals and Show (all day!) |
| January 17-19, 2025 | L.A. Dance Magic St. Louis Convention |
| February 1, 2025 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| February 1, 2025 | Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any May Competition/Conventions Due |
| February 1, 2025 | \$55 June Concert Fee Due |
| March 1, 2025 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| April 1, 2025 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| May 1, 2025 | Monthly Tuition Due |
| June 6-7, 2025 | June Concerts |

MANY MORE DATES TO COME!