

TINY & MINI COMPETITION DANCE TEAMS

We are very excited to announce the **21st** year for the Dance Expressions competition dance teams. Our goal is to provide an introduction to the exciting world of competition dance for our Tiny & Mini team (4 competitions). We take it up a notch with our extension teams (6-7 competitions). Team life is a bigger commitment than a regular dance class and it takes both the dancer and parent commitment for the entire group to succeed. Please read on and take into consideration these things to think about before making this commitment. I would advise a team folder for all handouts including this one to refer to later on in the year. Any veteran team mom will be happy to answer questions of our new prospects.

Tiny Expressions Primary Team (K-3rd grade) & Mini Expressions Elementary Team (4th-6th grade)

Tiny team will compete in the Jazz category & Mini team will compete in Jazz & Pom categories

A second B team~ There is a possibility a second team will be chosen. This could be a Mini B **OR** a Junior B team. The B team is open to dancers that could range from 5th-9th grade that we feel have the potential but just might not be ready for the select division. We want them to have the same experience of a Jazz routine plus Pom or Hip Hop in order to prepare them for either the next level the following year or to continue progress for future auditions. It is also always possible a 4th grader might remain with the Tiny team or a 7th grader makes the Mini A team. Choreographer Miss Brienne and her team last year were super successful & worked so hard this past year.

EXTENSION teams...

Other optional additions to be considered for~ **OFFICERS for the Tiny and Mini A team will be chosen at the end of August by audition & will compete separately at all Showcase contests and all 3 studio contests. Their rehearsals are separate and primarily in Sept/Oct/Nov/Dec on the weekend. LYRICAL will be no more than 12 dancers consisting of members of either Tiny or Mini team & will compete at all Showcase contests and all 3 studio contests. MUST be enrolled in year-round ballet. Hip Hop will be no more than 15 dancers that are also members of either Tiny or Mini team. They too will compete at all Showcase contests & all 3 studio contests. Lyrical and Hip-Hop rehearsals are separate and primarily in August/Sept/Oct/Nov/Dec twice a month. The expectation that they work on their own, keep up and attend all rehearsals is extremely important. We will only rehearse as necessary & if staying at an elite level we will eliminate when possible. Ms. Lori will instruct the Lyrical group and Miss Torre will choreograph the Hip-Hop routine. Both routines will be assisted by a student teacher.**

Read on for further information

Take a look at the 2022-2023-class schedule to see if the team timeslot fits into your schedule. The team will work on fundamentals of competition dance and putting together a competition Jazz and/or Pom routine. Extension teams will work outside that time slot, yet occasionally run their completed show in that class.

We will require that each team member take an additional studio class to further dance skills & technique, this is mandatory, and we cannot make exceptions! Tiny's~ your required 2nd class is to be a jazz or ballet. It is also highly recommended that you take one of the technique/leaps/turns non-recital class. Mini's~ your required 2nd class can be jazz or ballet but to be considered for the Lyrical team, ballet is required all year long. We do offer a "take 3 classes, receive the 4th free" option.

Also, taking a summer class is now required for team kids to get to the level we strive to be at (or several private lessons if vacations interfere with a consistent summer class). Whether this is ballet with Ms. Chelle or a class in any other style, we need to require this to push to the level of our competitors. In addition to these requirements if they receive an asterisk next to their name after auditions, they need at least two 45-minute private lessons with a recommended teacher over the summer. They grow so much in a private lesson. In the winter months we will add 4-5 additional practice times on a Friday/Saturday/Sunday closer to competition time. We will have access to a gym for a few practices. Good attendance is mandatory for both their dance team & other classes and for the benefit of all involved. When you fill out your registration form, please indicate which team & optional groups you are trying out for.

Must have registration form filled out and turned in prior to tryouts!!! They will not be able to try out if we do not have the registration form turned in, \$35.00 reg. fee paid, classes chosen for the year (can be altered afterwards), summer form completed & on the desk prior audition night of Tuesday, May 24th. Turning everything in during the in-studio rehearsal week would cross that off your list.

TEAM COMPETITION DATES-

We normally compete at 3 Showcase America Dance competitions & 1 studio competition. The extensions groups will have the additional contests listed below.

Tentative dates & contests:

- *Butler Homecoming Halftime performance *TBD* 9-30-22 (rehearsals are in team class plus Tues & Thurs that week at the BHS field)
- *One studio contest for our Tiny and Mini jazz plus extension groups, *TBD* (typically President's Day weekend)
- *Possible new circuit contest in January for all teams to replace Centerville
- *Pageant (for those that are soloists) January 20-21, 2023
- *(Showcase America) TENTATIVE Centerville Invitational- Sunday, February 26th, 2023 (all routines)
- *(Showcase America) Tipp City Invitational~ Saturday or Sunday, March 11th, 2023 (all routines)
- *(Showcase America) Senior Expressions Invitational "STATE" - Saturday, March 18th, 2023 (all routines)
- *2-3 Studio circuit contests for officers, lyrical and hip hop in February, March, April or May *TBD* by end-summer
- ***Officer lines only in 2022-** two December "solo" contests 12-4 (Butler) and 12-10 (Centerville) unless a studio contest comes up.

***Officers Tentative**-Showcase National championships April 2nd. Uncertain if this tradition will continue due to the officer line category dwindling☹️ ** this particular weekend is the start of our studio and the VBCS spring break.

***Contests can last anywhere from 5 hours to 10 depending on how many teams enter. We only do a few so it needs to be your priority. All team members will be required to stay for awards.

COST- Always APPROXIMATE

Cost per for the Tiny team class is \$50.00 a month; Mini team class is \$60.00 a month **(2 instructors per team)**

IN ADDITION---Each individual will be ordered the following items...costs are approximate. You will receive an order form at auditions.

Returning member costs will be lower since they have many items.

- Costume or costumes depending on # of routines you are in (jazz shoes for team, dance paws for lyrical) \$75.00 each approx. NEW Dance shoes
 - order/pay for @ open house in Aug \$50.00 approx. in total
 - Hip Hop shoes ordered on own in the fall \$60.00 approx.
- 4-5 competition team and optional parent shirts/tanks \$15.00/\$20.00 each
- Studio logo jacket & team black leggings \$80.00 & \$30.00
- Make-up \$20.00 approx.
- Garment bags (order on your own @discount dance)
- Showcase America entry fees (each dancer contributes toward group entry fees) \$40.00 total depends on # of dancers
- Showcase America elite entry fees (each dancer contributes toward group entry fees) \$35.00 total depends on # of dancers
- Any studio circuit /entry per routine you are in \$55.00 each
- Mini Pom rental fee \$20.00
- Officer \$200.00 approx.
- Lyrical 200.00 approx.
- Hip-Hop \$200.00 approx.
- Gym rental \$50.00 depends on # on team
- Accounting fee (Pam Drewry handles all team accounting) \$30.00 Ledgers handed out 3 x's a season

OFFICERS/HIP HOP/LYRICAL FEES -include additional choreographer cost, studio usage & split of Showcase contest fees for your category.

****NEW PAYMENT SCHEDULE/NEW ACCOUNTING as of 2019**

~payments starting July 1st will be made out to Dance Expressions & will be mailed C/O Pam Drewry 720 Bay Brooke Ct. Vandalia, OH 45377. You will need to pick up your payment coupons following auditions on a designated date. Mailing payments will be accompanied by a specific payment coupon.

As of 2020----->NO DROP OFFS! Therefore, no CASH or VENMO. CHECKS ARE BEST.

***Tuesday, May 24th with audition form AND \$150.00 check**~If your child is trying out for the team you will need this **start-up fee \$150.00** to start your TEAM account. This will be refunded or ripped up (with permission) if your child is not selected for a team. You will turn in your team sign-up form and contract and check to the studio before Tuesday, May 24th in order to audition. When you turn this into the desk your check will be stapled to the form and will wait to be deposited until after audition lists are posted. You cannot audition that evening without all forms and check plus studio registration form and registration fee. This is so we are not chasing forms all summer.

***BY JUNE 10th TURN IN YOUR MEASUREMENTS/TEAMWEAR ORDER FORM (you will receive audition night) to the following team moms;**

Monicalynsmith@yahoo.com Tiny team

Gallup08@yahoo.com Mini team

Mcbridegirls@att.net Juniors and if we have a Junior B until we find a mom to take over.

Cathy79@woh.rr.com Seniors

Contact them via email and figure the best way to give your paperwork.

***JULY 1ST~ \$150 2nd team payment due plus please add an additional \$100.00 for Elite Hip Hop and \$100.00 for Elite Lyrical.**

***SEPTEMBER 1ST ~\$150.00 3rd team payment due to be mailed in & \$100 if you are on either Elite group PLUS \$100.00 if you were chosen as a Mini or Tiny Officer.;**

***OCTOBER 1ST \$150.00** to be mailed in if you are on either Elite group. ADD **100.00** if were are chosen as a Mini or Tiny Officer.

As Pam adds our chosen costumes in Sept/Oct to your ledger & starts to add entry fees etc you will receive your first ledger and then will know if you will continue to pay a monthly fee of \$100 or the total sum split by the next few months.

PLEASE NOTE* PLEASE NOTE*PLEASE NOTE* These fees may or may not cover your team expenses. Our fees are based on previous year but not an exact Science. Receiving your ledgers from Pam several times in a dance year will help you know where you stand. We are lucky to have her & love this consistency for all 5 groups. Your final team statement will come out by Feb. 1st with any balance or credit due or due back to you by March 1st. We will start individual fundraisers in September and any money earned will go toward class tuition.

Parent commitment- Please understand that team members missing too many classes or important gym rehearsals will **not** dance at a competition. Family vacations or other activities that interfere with a Jan/Feb/March rehearsal are not excused. You cannot make these up with a private lesson. It affects the entire team, not just your child. Zoom does not replace a rehearsal. There is a no tolerance policy. If you miss a contest for a reason beyond illness/death in family, you will sit out your next team performance. Again, it affects your hardworking teammates. Please make sure you can commit before your tryout. In Jan/Feb/March the leaps & turns class will become an extension to the Mini timeslot. If you are not in the leaps class this will become a 30-minute class cost for those months. You will receive the gym schedule as soon as I can make arrangements with the schools, however, please be flexible because we are at their mercy. If you quit the Tiny or Mini team mid-year you will not be permitted to try back out & are still responsible for all fees. Competition parents will be asked to help with things such as fundraising, being a room mom at competitions, assisting with costume accessories, hosting a team/parent get together etc. I appreciate all of your help. We have a fantastic family organization.

AUDITIONS are Tuesday, May 24th K-3 4:30-5:30, 4th-6th 5:45-7:15, 7th-12th 7:30-9:15.

***if you were one of the Senior team Tuesday night dancers this past season, please arrive stretched and ready to go by 8:15 please.**

Please wear any style of form-fitting dance wear (crop top/leggings, leotard/booty shorts, leotard, tight top/bike shorts etc dance shoes of choice, hair & make-up glam @ the studio. Tights optional.

When you dress to impress you are already in a dancer/performer state of mind.

During the audition several judges will observe the dancer as if they were in a dance class. They will be doing various leaps, turns and jumps. They will also learn a short dance routine; a small hip hop and lyrical portion will be taught as well. They will be judged on technique, flexibility, ability to learn quickly & showmanship while performing.

***a separate evaluation form will be filled out by teachers/coaches you have had this past season at the studio.

They will be rating you 1-10 in the areas of;

Maturity (handles constructive criticism, works well with others, emotional strength)

Work Ethic & focus (pushes self, excited to learn, knows material in class but focused, does not distract others)

Attendance (good attendance in ALL classes, ALL practices...required 2nd class means you must be **in** class, on time to events & classes)

Technique (growth in this area)

Attitude (passionate, excited, positive energy)

*New dancers will obviously not go through this portion of the process

Results will be posted on studio door at 9:15 p.m. and on studio facebook page 😊

*****IMPORTANT**- All dancers that audition will receive a sizing/team gear form THAT NIGHT. If they make the team, you have **until June 10th** to turn in to your team mom. This is also your confirmation that you accept your position on the dance team. If I do not receive your form and payment, I will assume you have changed your mind. **PLEASE PUT THIS ON THE CALENDAR. Late fee of \$15.00 will be applied if you have to be contacted.**

The decision of the judges is final. If you are able to commit to everything mentioned above, please turn in sign-up portion of this form with your startup fee. Reminder you must register with the studio, pay registration fee and do not forget about summer ballet registration. This is required if trying out for a team that requires this OR if you are a soloist. Only one contract is required between team and solo commitment.

SOLOISTS~ Just a sidenote on how the solo opportunity comes about. We watch the kids all year for attendance, work ethic, technique, growth, performance ability, flexibility, memory, exceptional behavior in all classes, quiet & willing to work. The family must be in good standing with the studio with tuition and commitment. The soloists selected each year will receive an invitation in April and/or May. It's not something we can ask everyone to do. Please understand.

GOOD LUCK AT AUDITIONS

Lori

Tiny and Mini Audition sign-up form~~~

I _____ along with my son/daughter _____ understand the time commitment, money obligation, attendance policy and audition process. If I quit the team for any reason, I understand I am obligated to pay for any and all items ordered and that I will not be able to tryout for the same team in the future.

NAME _____ EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ADDITIONAL PHONE _____

CIRCLE TEAM AUDITIOING FOR~

Tiny Expressions or Mini Expressions
optional-> Lyrical optional-> hip hop

GRADE for 2022/2023 _____

SCHOOL YOU ATTEND _____ BIRTHDATE _____

I have been on this particular team for at least one year and I plan to audition for an officer position at the end of August~ YES or NO

I am currently a soloist YES or NO

**I am in 5th/6th grade on or would like to be considered for the following: circle or highlight.
(see Junior/Senior team paperwork for details)**

- Junior team (Open and Hip Hop)
- Junior Contemporary
- Junior Small group jazz (cannot take more than 9)
- Teen All Ages
- Senior Pom

Willing to be a team member on Junior B instead of Mini's. YES or NO

Willing to be a team member on Mini's AND Junior B. YES or NO

DANCER
SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT
SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Dance Expressions Competition Cast Agreement

By signing below, you agree to the following terms:

- I have read the team and/or solo guidelines and understand the costs and payments required to be a member of the Dance Expressions Competition Cast.
- I have read and agree to adhere to the rules involving conduct and behavior including the requirement that each dancer/parent always maintain a positive attitude in all studio classes, lessons, competitions and when representing Dance Expressions at any function.
- I agree that all dancers and parents are expected and required to support and encourage all team members and work together as a team.
- I agree that all dancers must represent the team in a positive manner and that any behavior of the dancer, which reflects negatively on the team, may lead to the immediate dismissal from the team and any group or solo.
- I agree that all dancers and parents will be respectful to all dancers, teachers, and faculty inside and outside of the studio. This includes refraining from negative comments about the studio, teachers, faculty, dancers and/or parents including in person, phone, texts, Internet and all social media sites.
- I agree that all dancers and parents are to respect the professional decisions made by the teachers and staff.
- I agree to abide by the attendance requirements set forth in the attendance policy.
- I agree that all competition, contest, costume, lesson and all fees paid by the dancer/parent are non-refundable once paid by the dancer/parent regardless of whether the dancer participates in any competition or contest and regardless of whether the dancer remains a member of the team/group through the end of the terms of this agreement unless this contract is cancelled in accordance with the terms set forth below.
- I agree and understand that failure of the dancer/parent to follow all team rules, policies and procedures including but not limited to the rules set forth above may result in the dismissal of the dancer from the team and any solo, duo, trio or other group choreographed and/or connected with Dance Expressions. I understand the decision to dismiss a dancer is in the sole discretion of the Director of Dance Expressions.
- I agree that if my child/dancer is dismissed from any team, group or solo or my child voluntarily quits any team, group, or solo (other than by reason of moving more than 25 miles from Dance Expressions, disability, or death) I remain responsible for the remaining ledger/tuition/team fees until the end of the terms of this Agreement.
- If my child can no longer participate by reason of the dancer moving more than 25 miles from Dance Expressions (or if Dance Expressions relocates more than 25 miles from the dancer's residence), disability or death, all prepaid and/or future fees and costs will be proportionally divided and I shall only be responsible for the period of time my child actually participated in the team, group or solo and that any refund necessary under this provision shall be made within 30 days of notice of the reason for cancellation.
- I agree and understand that all decisions regarding participation in competitions, contests, team functions, groups, including all solos, duos, trios and teams, are in the sole discretion of the Director of Senior Expressions.
- As the legal parent or guardian, I release and hold harmless Dance Expressions by Lori Jene, Inc. ("Dance Expressions"), its owners, agents, employees, and all instructors, teachers, choreographers working on behalf of Dance Expressions from any and all liability, claims, demands, and causes of action arising out of or related to any loss, damage or injury that may be sustained by the dancer and/or the undersigned, while in or upon the premises or any premises under the control and supervision of Dance Expressions or in any lesson, meeting, competition, practice for any team, group or solo or in route to or from any such lesson, meeting, competition, practice or the premises of Dance Expressions.
- Dance Expressions, including its owners, agents, and employees, is hereby granted permission to take photographs of the dancers to use in brochures, websites, posters, advertisements and other materials.
- All information and material of a personal or private nature that is acquired directly or indirectly from parent shall be returned to the parent by regular mail within 30 days after the expiration of the contract or after the expiration for any reason of the dancer's participation in the team, group or solo.
- All costuming and accessories/props borrowed from Dance Expressions and/or a staff member must be returned within 7 days of team dismissal and/or end of season.
- I understand that I, the parent/dancer, have the right to cancel this Agreement until midnight of the third business day after acceptance of the dancer on the team, group, or solo. In order to cancel, I understand I must give written notice of cancellation by hand delivery, mail or email to Dance Expressions.
- I agree that this Agreement remains in effect from June 1 of 2022 to May 31, 2023 or until the season concludes after the chosen Nationals summer event.

Student

Date

Parent

Date

Dance Expressions

Date