

JUNIOR & SENIOR EXPRESSIONS~ ELITE COMPETITIVE GROUPS

Facts & Figures

We are very excited to continue the success of the Junior and Senior Expressions Dance teams. These are groups of elite dancers that must be trained in all areas of dance. This is the next level and a step up from the Tiny and Mini Expressions competition programs. There will be certain years a "B" team will be available for either the Mini or Junior level depending on the number of those auditioning.

This is a bigger commitment than a regular dance class and it takes both 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. Take a look at the 2023-2024-class schedule to see if the team timeslot/s fit into your schedule. Please note that ballet is still the year-round requirement for a junior or senior competition team member in level IV or V. Summer Ballet is typically 5-6 weeks & you must double up if missing a class. See adjustment for advanced ballet for this summer of 23.

*We require all 8th and 9th graders to always remain on the Junior team to keep it strong & as their main team.. Yes, they can also audition for the Senior team as well. Must be able to balance the two teams. If you are one of our soloists, team has to come first with not only practice but commitment. We would not support more than 1 solo if group routines suffer. Whether monetary or time commitment we do want our dancers to want more out of team routines rather than 2 or even the 1 solo.

SENIOR EXPRESSIONS~ 8th -12th grade unless otherwise noted.

Lori's Open style on Tuesday's 7:00-8:15 p.m. alternating with Coach Torre & Sarah's Hip Hop on same Tuesday's 7:00-8:15 p.m.

If you are chosen for the Senior team, these are the required routines along with **Lori Senior Pom**-to be learned in Oct/Nov/Dec

Extension Team options

Sarah/Torre small or large group Jazz (TBD) ~to be learned in Oct/Nov/Dec AND " Senior Contemporary Ms. Kathryn McCarty.

The competition routine will be taught in August (Aug 16/17/18 after 4:30 TBD & possibly one of the Aug 29/30 nights).

She is very excited to return for year #2 as one of our choreographers.

What we want for the older dancers is the Tuesday night 8:15-9:30 p.m. to be structured more as a class. Miss Courtney will instruct the senior team class that will condition, strengthen, work on technical body movement, leaps/turns etc. Courtney will then clean the already established routine on occasion. If you do not make this group, as a senior team member you can still take this class. Courtney is great at teaching and increasing our knowledge in Contemporary & I don't want to lose that by always working on a Comp routine.

All-Ages Teen group (6th grade & up) -to be learned in Sept/Oct/Nov. This group is choreographed by Lori & Sarah & will not be a year long set schedule of rehearsals yet depends on the dancers. 2023-2024 going extremely elite. We typically have 2-3 practices during Sept/Oct then 1 a month in Oct/Nov/Dec/Jan. It's always a very strong group with minimal rehearsal. That is still the expectation of the dancers but must remain our strongest technical group.

JUNIOR EXPRESSIONS~ 5th-9th grade (possible 10th grader on certain groups)

Monday's 7:30-9:15pm =Miss Sarah Open & Hip Hop If you are chosen for the Junior Expressions, these are the required routines in a class timeslot. January-March will be a possible ending time of 9:30 p.m. if necessary.

Extension Team options ~ Contemporary=Miss Heather McBride. The competition routine will once again be learned over the summer (possible August 8,9,10 TBD). Heather will of course return home to clean on the occasional gym weekend etc

Small group Jazz with=Miss Heather (Miss Lori is turning this group over to the eager & excited Heather who is ready to take on more) -no more than 8 or 9 dancers (this will be taught on weekend dates starting mid to end of September/October/November)

All Extension teams (Junior and Senior) ~ The # of initial rehearsals depends on the elite group selected & the effort put in at home and in the studio. The schedule is up to the director/choreographer and with few weeks' notice we ask that you make it work.

BOTH Jr and Sr. TEAMS ~ Will of course have randomly scheduled Thursday/Sunday nights at the gym starting in December or January through Showcase Nationals (April 6th, 2024, weekend). Attendance is mandatory for both their team, other classes and all gym rehearsals for the benefit of all involved. An occasional Wednesday afterschool (with notice) was used for an extension team.

When you fill out the audition form, please indicate which groups you are trying out for. In addition, please sign up on the audition chart in the studio & indicate which groups you want to be evaluated for. This helps us with scoresheets. Please note

EXPECTATIONS~ both the dancer and the family are expected to fully support the staff at all times. While you may not agree with every decision made, the experience of each staff member is extensive. Insubordination will not be tolerated. Collaborating with a disgruntled parent or team member is not a role that any member or parent will play. Up to the director on which routines compete where and when. The staff members of Dance Expressions go above and beyond for the individuals and the team as a whole. The best decisions will be made and will be based on what is the best solution, course of action or option/s for the group. Parents are expected to partake in group fundraisers in order for the fundraiser to be successful for all. Payments must be made on time, or the dancer will sit out of performances and late fees will occur.

*All team members must be enrolled in year-round ballet (a pause on summer Advanced ballet w/the replacement being 5 master classes). Please see summer schedule. Those in Ballet IV or V must still be enrolled in summer classes. *All team members must make this team/s their priority.

COMPETITION / PERFORMANCE DATES- Tentative & subject to change

*No Butler Homecoming halftime show for 2023, only even numbered years

*Optional convention REVEL Nov 3, 4, 5 2023 Pittsburgh, PA (who is invited? Level II and III soloists)

*1-2-3 Butler Basketball games in Dec or Jan or Feb. possible college Basketball game in Jan or Feb.

*Hollywood Dance Jamz convention/possible competition (Feb) mandatory for all soloists plus all Jr. Elite/Senior team members

*(Showcase) Tipp City Invitational “Dayton Regional” ~ Saturday, March 9, 2024 (all routines)

*(Showcase) Senior Expressions Invitational “STATE” - Saturday, March 16th, 2024 (all routines)

*2-3 Studio circuit contests in either February, March, April or May (TBD)

*(Showcase) National championships (TENTATIVE...to be pondered) April 6th weekend 2024

Please do not make spring break plans until we ponder our bit of time off within that prep for Showcase Nationals.

* June/July 2024 – team studio circuit Nationals is being pondered, if so one less regional.

****NEW (2023-2024) PAYMENT SCHEDULE & REQUIRMENTS TO TRY-OUT (You will receive a team packet of paperwork)**

Your first payment (start-up fee) of **\$150.00** will still be due (with your returned, filled-out team packet) in form of a **check** made out to Dance Expressions. *This check will be returned to you or torn up with your permission if your dancer is not selected for a team this upcoming year.*

All team fees will be paid through your Parent Portal this year. Portal payments will be starting July 1st and payments will be charged monthly until paid in full. You do not need to worry about registering for Team fees, we will take care of that for you. Payments will be charged as follows:

Your 2nd ledger payment of \$200 is due on July 1st

Your 3rd ledger payment of \$200.00 is due on August 1st

Your 4th ledger payment of \$200.00 is due on September 1st

Your 5th ledger payment of \$200.00 is due October 15th.

Your 6th ledger payment of \$200.00 is due November 15th

Once you see your ledger in Sept/October, we will determine what your monthly fees will be for December-March. Must be at zero balance by MARCH 1st. Your ledger details depend on number of routines you are in, plus any fundraiser credits earned over the summer. All of the above-mentioned payments remain the same regardless of credit. We need consistency and Pam is adding items through January. All returning Jr. Elite and Senior dancers will start the year with an Invitational credit, this does not mean you do not make the payments. That credit and any fundraiser credit helps finish your payment plan early. We can always discuss a stopping point in the fall if you see you are almost there in Oct/Nov.

Several families continuously would skip the summer payments and therefore spent the whole year behind. Repeat-If you are not consistent with payments, aka credit card declined consistently, a \$25.00 late fee will occur. I’ve spent the last 10 years always carrying about \$5,000 in debt into Feb/March & with the fundraisers and payment plan we hope that everyone can remain consistent.

***Studio tuition fees come out on the 3rd of every month; Team Fees come out on the 15th of every month ~**

Pam Drewry, our team accountant, creates an on-going ledger for you. She adds your payments, your credits, your spirit wear order, our chosen costumes in Sept/Oct, contest entry fees etc

(new) TEAM ENVELOPES~ will include the following: This informational packet, contract, permission/tryout form, team spirit wear form, solo forms for returning soloists. You will turn in everything required of you with the \$150.00 check (which we will wait to deposit until after audition lists are posted). You’ll keep this original informational packet but everything else must be filled out and returned in the provided envelope in order to audition **7 DAYS PRIOR**. This is new. We cannot accept any paperwork AT the audition. You must also register for summer and fall classes 7 DAY prior as well. If we need to adjust classes after that we can do that, but we need all team kids secured in classes with their spot saved.

Mcbriagegirls@att.net Juniors and hercs_momma21@yahoo.com

Cathy79@woh.rr.com Seniors

Extension team fees (these will be listed on your ledger; your payments pay them off)

Senior Pom~ Lump sum of \$50-75.00 (depends on # chosen)

Sarah/Torre Senior Jazz ~ lump sum of \$100.00 (but depends on # chosen)

Lori/Sarah All Ages Group~ lump sum of \$100.00 (but depends on # chosen)

Heather Jr. Contemporary~ lump sum of \$100.00

Kathryn Sr. Contemporary~ lump sum of \$100.00

Heather Small group Jazz ~ Final lump sum of \$125.00

→This is for balance of choreography fees, administrative, studio use, teacher/s hourly at rehearsals, props if needed & the additional gym time needed. These above fees are because there is NO monthly Studio classroom tuition so it’s a summarization of what you will be receiving for your \$ amount. Last year we underestimated a few groups, this is now based on the previous number in that specific group.

Monthly STUDIO payments starting in September.

Monday 7:30-9:15 p.m. Junior team \$60.00 per month

Tuesday 7:00-8:15 p.m. Senior team \$50.00 per month

Tuesday 8:15-9:30 p.m. Contemp. Team class \$50.00 per month

Plus ballet class, cost determined by class level and time.

AUDITIONS are Tuesday May 23rd...(7th-12th) 4:15-6:00, (K-3rd) 6:15-7:15, (4th-6th) 7:30-8:45

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.

7th-12th you need a clean look of course but you do NOT have to go over the top (hair/make-up) because of your timeslot.

Meeting POST-Tryouts ~ We will have a pool party or a gathering of families to kick off the season in September/October & go over the season’s schedule, fundraisers and expectations.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Team Gear~ in packet you will now receive your team gear form with required and optional team wear, warm-up jacket, tank tops, shorts etc. Returning members will have much of what is required. All starter Dance Shoes to be ordered and paid for at Open House. We feel jazz shoes are a great shoe to practice in. Using gel pads on heels or ball of the foot are something that we decided will help with injury. Consider buying for your jazz practice shoes.
- Golf Outing TBA Homestead in Tipp City July 8th, 2023 (tentative)~Details to come from Melissa McBride but please note this is full team participation as the course needs at least 25 teams to make it worth closing their course for us. We need the golf outing to be successful for the benefit of all, but this is *for your individual accounts*. Typical profits are anywhere from \$200-\$300 depending on the number of teams we end up with. Each dancer is required to get one team of 4, 1 door prize and 1-hole sponsor & dancer working it. You can get more than 1 of everything of course. Profits are tallied based on these 4 requirements & what you contribute. If you are out of town, Pam just notes that, and the profit is slightly lower. She has always handled the profit calculations.
Homestead Golf Fundraiser Chairperson Melissa McBride, Melissa can be reached at McBridegirls@att.net
- Recital fundraiser – in progress please see Angie Grimes for info. *for your own individual accounts.
- Flamingo Flocking summer fundraiser – super successful last summer. This is a full Jr/Sr fundraiser, but this is for team funds for kick-off parties, fall parties, food, treats, gifts, miscellaneous. Some of this was used for extra gym fees this year and poms.
- Senior Expressions March Invitational – ALL Junior and Senior Parents required to work and attend monthly meetings starting in November/December. This profit is now **crucial** to now pay the balance of all gym practice fees which were substantial in 2022, way less in 2023. Profit to benefit both Junior and Senior dancers for Nationals (hotel rooms, hospitality/dressing room, catering which was buffet b'fast, Pizza, Boxed lunches, gifts like shirts and keychains etc) this was approximately \$5600.00 this year. Depending on amount earned/spent on end of season then a possible startup credit for your ledgers & hopeful scholarship money for our outgoing seniors. Chairpersons Becky Holderman and Kimra Schmidt will reach out to the families in the fall. Thankfully the contest was super successful this past March. This will be discussed at end of summer mtg. ALL must attend meetings and supply 2 workers for set up and day.
- Other Individual Studio & Team fundraisers; Flower Bulb, Charleston Wrap, Bath Bombs, Pampered Chef & any others we can come up with. Soloists/trios benefit from 50/50 raffle held in Feb/March.
- If anyone has ideas on how to fundraise for our dancers, we'd love to hear your thoughts. Not everyone needs or wants to fundraise but for some of our dancers its crucial.

We hope your family is excited to be a part of what we feel is a fabulous dance family. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Director Lori Downey
Studio Registrations Chelsea Hoagland
Accountant Pam Drewry
Team Liaison for all 5 teams~ Melissa McBride
Spirit wear moms~ Melissa McBride (juniors), Cathy Cox (seniors),

Junior & Senior Coaches/Choreographers
Lori, Sarah, Torre, Heather, Brianne (Team B) & guest choreographer Kathryn

~~~ turn in, in order to audition along with your \$150.00 team startup fee along & other pre-audition requirements 7 days prior.

Junior/Senior Expressions Evaluation Permission Slip~~~

I \_\_\_\_\_ along with my daughter/son \_\_\_\_\_ have both read this & the contract in its entirety. We understand the group descriptions, time commitment, money obligation, attendance policy, expectations, evaluation process & pending contract. We understand the decision of the judges & staff is final. I am registered for summer team master classes and ballet if in Ballet V or new to Pointe. I am registered for my 2023-2024 studio team & classes (can be adjusted later). I will include my \$150.00 in the packet. I am returning one contract (even if on Mini's, Juniors and a soloist, I only need one). I am returning my solo paperwork in my packet as well.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 23-24 \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Parent EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer CELL \_\_\_\_\_ Parent CELL \_\_\_\_\_

INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING~ *Juniors must choose junior routines before senior routines*

Junior Hip/Hop & Open main team

Junior Contemporary

Junior Small Group Jazz

Senior Hip Hop & Open

Senior Pom (required for all senior team dancers)

Senior Contemporary

Senior Jazz

All Ages/Lyrical

Are you willing (sophomores) to be in a Junior routine? YES or NO

Are you willing (if you do not make team A) to be on our Junior B/Classic team consisting of Jazz and Hip Hop? YES or NO

DANCER'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS 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 tuition 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/poms 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 May 24 of 2023 to May 23 of 2024 or until the season concludes after the chosen Nationals summer event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dance Expressions

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date