

JUNIOR & SENIOR EXPRESSIONS™ COMPETITION GROUPS

We are very excited to continue the success of the Junior (titled “teen” at studio comps) 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. See descriptions below.

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 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 2024-2025-class schedule to see if the team timeslot & ballet timeslot fit into your schedule. Please note that ballet is still the year-round requirement for a junior or senior competition team member. Summer Ballet is typically 5-6 weeks & you must double up if missing a class.

See master class adjustment for advanced ballet again this summer.

SENIOR EXPRESSIONS

Who can audition? 8th -12th grade unless otherwise noted

What can you audition for? 6 options (minimum is 3 Open/Hip Hop/Pom)

(main team timeslot) Lori’s OPEN style on Tuesday’s 7:00-8:15 p.m. alternating with **Torre & Sarah’s HIP HOP**

If you are chosen for the Senior team, these are the required routines along with **Lori’s POM** -to be learned as an extension team in Oct/Nov/Dec. All Senior dancers are automatically on Pom. Junior Elite dancers will be evaluated for Pom but it’s not an option to opt out of this. For strength and training purposes but yet an elite level.

****Extension Team Options****

Rehearsals on weekends, expectation is to learn faster, be stronger, no consistent set weekly rehearsal slot.

Heather’s CONTEMPORARY. The competition routine will be taught in August (TBD) but official timeslot is Tuesdays 8:15-9:30 p.m.

What we want for the older dancers is the Tuesday night 8:15-9:30 p.m. to be structured more as a class. COACHES & GUEST instructors will alternate the senior team class that will condition, strengthen, work on technical body movement, leaps/turns etc. Instructors 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.

There will be occasions where we ask all senior team dancers to stay on Tuesdays until 9:00 or 9:30 to rehearse all routines regardless of if they are in the Contemporary group.

Sarah/Torre’s JAZZ ~to be learned in Oct/Nov/Dec.

Sarah/Lori’s LYRICAL (all ages included could be 5th grade & up) -to be learned in Oct/Nov/Dec. This will remain our strongest technical group. It could fall in the “teen” level at a comp but is referred to as a senior team level in our eyes.

JUNIOR EXPRESSIONS ELITE

Who can audition? 5th-9th grade (possible 10th graders)

What can you audition for? 4 Junior options (minimum is 2 Open/Hip Hop)

(main team timeslot) Sarah OPEN & HIP HOP Monday’s 7:30-9:15pm 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****

Rehearsals on weekends, expectation is to learn faster, be stronger, no consistent set weekly rehearsal slot.

Heather’s CONTEMPORARY. The competition routine will once again be learned over the summer (possible week 2 or 3 of Aug. TBD).

Heather small group JAZZ -no more than 8 or 9 dancers (possible Aug/Sept)

Lori’s Sr. POM to be learned in Oct/Nov/Dec. All of our Senior dancers are automatically on Pom. Junior Elite dancers will be evaluated for Pom but it’s not an option to opt out of this. For strength, power, speed and training purposes but yet an elite level.

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.

ALL routines~ Will of course have randomly scheduled Thursday/Sunday nights at the gym starting in December or

January through Showcase Nationals (TBD) 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) could be used for an extension team.

When you fill out the audition form, please indicate which teams and 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.

**We require all 8th and 9th graders to always remain on the Junior "teen" level team to keep it strong & as their main team. Yes, they can also audition for this Senior team & yes, a sophomore may be placed on our Junior "teen" team instead of... or as well. They also would have the option to solely return to the previous team they were on. Must be able to balance any and all groups. If you are one of our soloists, team must come first with not only practice but commitment. We would not support more than 1 solo if group routines are not the priority. 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.*

JUNIOR EXPRESSIONS B/Classic Team

Who can audition? 5th-9th grade (possible 10th graders)

What can you audition for? 3 Junior options (minimum is 2 Jazz/Hip Hop)

(main team timeslot) Brianne JAZZ & HIP HOP Tuesdays 7:45-9:00pm If you are chosen for the Junior B Expressions, these are the required routines in a class timeslot. January-March will be a possible ending time of 9:15 p.m. only if necessary.

****Extension Team Options** (*New for 24-25 season)**

Rehearsals on weekends, expectation is to learn faster, be stronger, no consistent set weekly rehearsal slot.

Brianne/Haleigh LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY. The competition routine will most likely be learned over the summer. (possible week 2 or 3 of Aug. TBD or a few Saturdays or Sundays in Sept) an extension team fee will be applied to your ledger to cover what a team class timeslot payment covers.

TEAM 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 all group & individual 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 (or if in advanced ballet replacing with master classes). Those in Ballet IV or V must still be enrolled in summer classes. *All team members must make this team/s their priority.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES Later in the fall the dancers will be given an audition date. We do not give a ton of notice because we do not want this to be all consuming. Every year we do it slightly different in order to keep the older kids on their toes with no assumptions. However, they are evaluated by their coaches/dance teachers. This is based on previous and current year. The team typically gets to vote as well. What are we looking for? A strong work ethic, good attendance in all classes, strong technique & wow factors, going above & beyond outside of team (do you seek other training), great memory, gets along well with others, congeniality, gets to know all teammates, past behavior/demerits is a factor & must have a passion for team during the good and harder times. Who is eligible? Returning dancers that are the oldest on the team, which varies each year. More specifics given to them in the fall.

COMPETITION / PERFORMANCE DATES- Tentative & subject to change

*Butler Homecoming October halftime show for 2024 TBD

*1-2-3 Butler Basketball games in Dec or Jan or Feb & possible college Bball game performance in Jan/Feb (Jr. Elite/Seniors)

*Hollywood Dance Jamz Convention~ optional for any team kid in Feb 2025

*(Showcase) Tipp City Invitational "Dayton Regional" ~ Saturday, March 8, 2025 (all teams, all routines)

*(Showcase) Senior Expressions Invitational "STATE" – Saturday or Sunday, March 15/16th, 2025 (all teams, all routines)

*2-3 Studio circuit contests in either February, March, April or May (all Jr B and Elite and Senior routines)

*(Showcase) National championships (TENTATIVE...to be pondered based on date and location (Jr Elite/Seniors)
Please do not make spring break plans until we ponder our bit of time off within that prep for Showcase Nationals.

**** PAYMENT SCHEDULE & REQUIRMENTS TO TRY-OUT**

Your first payment (start-up fee) of **\$150.00** will still be due (with your returned, filled-out team forms) 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 again 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 & charged on July 1st

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

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

Your 5th ledger payment of \$200.00 is due & charged on October 15th (because studio tuition comes out every 3rd of the month)

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

AND SO ON until team is to be paid in full by APRIL 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 our accountant Pam Drewry 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 may reach out to individuals to discuss a stopping point in the fall if you see you are almost there in Oct/Nov based on credits.

A declined TEAM portal payment charge will unfortunately mean a \$25.00 late fee being applied if not corrected within the portal within 24 hours. We cannot go back in the portal and try and charge a dozen cards every day for weeks. This has to stick.

***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, our chosen costumes in Sept/Oct, contest entry fees & any other team expense.

TEAM INFORMATION should include the following: This informational packet, team contract, permission/tryout form (make sure you are printing all-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 to the desk 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 DAYS prior as well. If we need to adjust your classes after that we can do that, but we need all team kids secured in classes with their spot saved.

(new) Team Spirit Wear directions for ordering online will be coming soon. NO more papers to fill out, everything we use or will require will be online like this past fall's studio spirit wear process. You will have a deadline. This season you will pay for these when ordering, it will not be going on team ledger. There are many required items so please make sure you order everything needed for the year at this time. Once it's closed you cannot order or re-order.

We will announce team mom liaisons after auditions, you'll have a team mom to reach out to with questions on team wear etc.

Extension team -AUTOMATIC APPLIED fees (these will be listed on your ledger; your payments pay them off) lump sums are based on numbers we had in the previous year, when that changes the lump sum may change. Per Dancer.,,

Senior Pom~ Lump sum of \$75.00-\$100

Sarah/Torre Senior Jazz ~ lump sum of \$100.00

Lori/Sarah All Ages Lyrical ~ lump sum of \$100.00-\$125.00

Heather Jr. Contemporary~ lump sum of \$100.00 -\$125.00

Heather Sr. Contemporary~ lump sum of \$100.00

Heather Small group Jazz ~ lump sum of \$100-\$125.00

Bri/Haleigh Lyrical/Contemp~lump sum of \$100-125.00 (same as the other previous extention teams, depends on #of dancers chosen)

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. Same as 23/24

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 Wednesday May 22nd...(Junior/Senior) 4:15-6:00, (Tiny) 6:15-7:15, (Mini) 7:30-8:45

If you are of Mini age & want to be evaluated for Juniors, you attend the Jr/Sr timeslot and the Mini timeslot.

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.

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

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- Team Gear~ new this year, you will receive instructions when the Accelerated Sports link goes live in & you will now go to their website and choose your sizes and pay in full. This will consist of required and optional team wear, warm-up jacket, tank tops etc. Returning members will have much of what is required. We will be getting a brand-new jacket this year. Please make sure to pay attention to *REQUIRED vs *OPTIONAL. All 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 in the shoe to help those overused feet is something that we think will help prevent injury. Consider buying for your jazz practice shoes.
- Required Jr Elite/Seniors-Golf Outing TBA Homestead in Tipp City July 14th, 2025~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. This is reserved for the teams where the dancers are on multiple groups & need the profits to help with fees.
Homestead Golf Fundraiser Chairperson Melissa McBride, Melissa can be reached at McBridegirls@att.net
- Recital fundraiser – in progress please see Angie Grimes for info. *this is for your own individual accounts. If your child does not make the team, you have the option to donate it to a friend on the team or it will go into team funds. Please understand that.
- Flamingo Flocking summer fundraiser TBD– typically successful but parents have requested year off. 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 is used for extra gym fees and usually poms. Without this fundraiser, please understand more of the Invitational profit must be held back, rather than distributed for this. This is a year for new poms.
- Senior Expressions March Invitational – ALL Junior Elite 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 & 2023 but less this past March. Profit to benefit both Junior and Senior dancers for Nationals (hotel rooms, hospitality/dressing room, catering which is typically buffet b'fast, Pizza night, Boxed lunches, gifts like shirts and keychains etc.) this was approximately \$5600.00 in 2023, less in 2024 since KAR was subbed in. 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 still successful this past March yet down \$8,000 due to the loss of those teams & a few Butler rental required bills went up. This will be discussed at end of summer mtg. ALL must attend invitational meetings and supply 2 workers for set up and day. Individual profit from this is for returning members and will be the start to your new ledger. If you do not return to the team any individual profit would go in the general team funds.

- 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 Lori, Melissa, Jenny Schroeder
Accountant Pam Drewry
Team Liaison for all 5 teams~ Melissa McBride

Junior & Senior Coaches/Choreographers
Lori, Sarah, Torre, Heather, Brianne & Haleigh

~~~ **MUST BE TURNED IN, in order to audition along with your \$150.00 team startup fee PLUS other pre-audition requirements 7 days prior. YOUR CHILD CANNOT COME IN THE AUDITION ROOM IF THIS IS NOT TURNED IN. YOU MUST HAVE SIGNED UP FOR SUMMER AND FALL CLASSES & PAID THE FALL REGISTRATION FEE PRIOR TO AUDITIONS.**

**\*IF YOU ARE A SOLOIST, THAT PERMISSION FORM MUST ALSO BE TURNED IN SO ALL THINGS CAN BE ORGANIZED AND COMPLETE PRIOR TO TRYOUTS.**

**IN ADDITION, PLEASE FILL OUT THE AUDITION CHART AT THE STUDIO.**

## 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 all my summer requirements. I will be registered for my 2024-2025 studio team & classes (can be adjusted later). I will include my \$150.00 start-up fee paperclipped to this & to the signed team contract. (if on multiple teams, I understand I only need one contract). I am turning in my solo paperwork (if selected) as well. I understand everything is due 7 days prior to my audition.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 24-25 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

INTERESTED IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING~ circle anything & everything you wish to be evaluated for

Junior Elite Hip/Hop & Open main team

Junior Elite Contemporary

Junior Elite Small Group Jazz

Senior Hip Hop & Open main team

Senior Pom (required for all senior team dancers & juniors will be evaluated but cannot opt out)

Senior Contemporary

Senior Jazz

Senior Lyrical (formerly known as "all ages")

Junior B Jazz/Hip Hop main team

Junior B new Lyrical/Contemporary

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 and to support all required fundraisers that benefit the team expenses.
- I agree that any rules that apply will be followed and if not, a demerit may be issued. A certain number of demerits will result in a consequence to be completed by the dancer.
- 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, solo/duet/trio.
- 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/Coach of the teams.
- 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 2024 to May 23 of 2025 or until the season concludes after the chosen Nationals summer event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date