



## Arlington Mini and Petite Performance Company Guidelines 2022/2023

### Purpose:

The purpose of the Performance Companies is to promote teamwork and dedication to the art of dance, to provide additional opportunities for our students to perform, and to further our students' technique, artistry, and athleticism as dancers. Although we plan to work hard and always do our best, it is not about winning at competitions. All participants and parents of participants are asked to keep in the spirit of teamwork and encouragement, rather than the spirit of competition, in all that we do.

### Performances and Competitions:

The Mini and Petite Companies will compete in two regional competitions and have at least one special community exhibition in addition to the annual recital. The schedule will be set by the start of rehearsals in September. **Participation in all scheduled competitions and community events is mandatory.** The only excused absences will be for death in the family or severe injury or illness. Additional workshops, optional competitions and performances, and various DMA scholarship auditions will be made available to company students who are interested. Anything added to the schedule after the start of rehearsals will *not* be mandatory.

**All Company members are required to attend in-person, for all classes, rehearsals, and events in the 2022-2023 school year, unless scheduled by the studio to be virtual.**

### Company Eligibility and Requirements:

**Mini Company** competes in the styles of ballet, tap, and jazz and is open to all students between the ages of 6 and 9 on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> that have at least one full year of prior dance experience and are enrolled in the Mini Company Core Technique class in addition to the weekly Mini Company Core Rehearsal. Please note that you must be enrolled specifically in the the Mini Company Core Technique class, not other level 1 Ballet, Tap or Jazz classes.

**Petite Company** competes in the styles of ballet, tap, and jazz and is open to all level 2 students between the ages of 7 and 10 on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> that are enrolled in a level 2 ballet, tap, and jazz technique class.

**Petite/Mezza Lyrical Co** is an optional additional company open to all Petite and Mezza Company members who are enrolled in a level 2 or level 3 lyrical technique class.

**Musical Theater Production** is an optional additional company open to any Mini, Petite, Mezza, Junior, Senior, or Elite Company members. We would love to have as many dancers as possible join this group to achieve a true Production feel! This is also a great opportunity for you to be a part of something really big and exciting as well for "Bigs" and "Littles" to bond and dance together! 😊

**PURPLE POWER Hip Hop Crew** is open to all students who are enrolled in a ballet and/or jazz technique class and a level 1 or 2 Hip Hop class. You do NOT have to be enrolled in core companies in order to participate in CREWS.

**Competitive Solos, Duos, Trios and Custom Small Groups** are available at normal private lesson rates plus competition entrance fees. Please see the final page of this document for details about payment and scheduling of competitive Solos, Duos, Trios. All students participating in competitive solos/duos/trios must also be registered in a Core Company or Crew.

**Audition-Based Competitive Duos, Trios, and Small Groups** are open to all interested company students that are in a Core Company and at least one additional company (Production, Petite/Mezza Lyrical Co, or PURPLE

POWER Hip Hop Crew). The number of groups, styles, and make-up of each will be determined by the choreographers after the audition process and will be based on the number of students who choose to audition, the strengths and abilities of those who audition, and the vision of the choreographers. Any who audition must agree to accept whatever decisions the choreographers make about your group placement. You will have the option to specify how many placements you are willing to accept. See the extra page at the end of the Company Guidelines for more info.

## **Class and Rehearsal Attendance Requirements:**

**Regular attendance** in weekly technique classes as well as at company rehearsals will be an important part of building a company of dancers who work well together both onstage and off and an important part of helping each dancer reach his or her highest potential and goals. As such, the following attendance requirements will be in effect:

- Company members may not miss more than 4 of any particular technique class in a school year or more than 2 of any particular technique class in a row. If you make-up in the closest level within two weeks of the missed class, the absence will not count toward your maximum.
- Company members may not miss more than 3 rehearsals per company between September and December, and no more than 3 rehearsals per company between January and May. One additional miss MAY be excused in either or both semesters at the director's discretion ONLY in the case of severe illness, injury or family emergency.
- Any company member missing 2 rehearsals in a row or using an additional excused absence within a semester may, at the director's discretion, be required to attend and pay for a 30 min. private lesson to make-up the missed material.
- If a student misses a rehearsal for any reason, they are expected to watch the rehearsal video prior to the next rehearsal and get any missed material. This, however, does NOT constitute as a make-up or mean that it is okay to miss more than 3 rehearsals.
- Any company member missing more than the allowed absences in the September to December semester will automatically be removed from the affected company or companies for the remainder of the school year regardless of situation or reason. This is not meant to be punitive but it is impossible to properly rehearse and prepare dances when company members are not in regular attendance. It is in no one's best interest to have students stressed about their own or their teammates' attendance and preparedness. If a student is unable to fulfill the attendance requirements within the first semester, that simply means that company was not a good fit for their schedule or commitment level this school year.
- Any company member missing more than the allowed absences in January to May may be removed from the affected company or companies at any time at the director's discretion and/or may be allowed to continue on a probationary status if it is determined to be in the best interest of the company as a whole. Students allowed to continue on a probationary status may be required to attend and pay for a 30 min. private lesson to make-up missed material and will be asked to write a letter explaining the reason for their unexcused absences to their director and fellow company members.
- You may log in to your parent portal to see your attendance records at any time. It is your responsibility to make sure your attendance records are kept up to date by scheduling any make-ups through the desk and keeping in good communication with your directors. Any discrepancies/concerns should be addressed within two weeks of the missed class/discrepancy or as soon as possible.
- Coming more than 5 minutes late to rehearsal or more than 10 minutes late to a class (also leaving more than 5 minutes early from rehearsal or 10 minutes early from class) will be counted as ½ attendance credit. Coming to observe while injured or sick will count as ½ attendance credit. All company members are expected to come ready to work full out at every rehearsal and technique class. If you/your student have an ongoing illness or injury that may prevent you from consistently working full out in class and

rehearsals, please speak to the teacher/director as soon as possible and we will work with you as best we can.

- We reserve the right to pull students from dances at any time if requirements are not met and/or to disallow participation in companies the following year if requirements are not met.
- All Minis and Petites are encouraged but not required to attend at least one weekend workshop or convention throughout the year in order to expand their dance horizons and to take class with nationally and internationally renowned teachers and meet other dance students from the greater DC area. Options will include:
  - Sept. DMA – Date and location TBD
  - Nov. DMA – Date and location TBD
  - Jan. DMA – Date and location TBD
  - Other non-DMA Workshops – also TBD

## Rehearsals:

Mini Company Core – Wednesdays 4:45-6:00pm (Technique) / Thursdays 4:45-6:00pm (Rehearsals)

Petite Company Core – Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm (Ballet, Jazz, Tap)

PURPLE POWER Hip Hop Crew – Mondays 7:00-7:30pm

Petite/Mezza Lyrical Company – Sundays 1:00-2:00pm\*

Musical Theater Production – Sundays 12:00-1:00pm\*

*\*Approx. 2/month to be scheduled in conjunction with Sunday privates. See company calendar for exact dates.*

As much as possible, rehearsals have been scheduled such that they occur immediately after a corresponding technique class and/or other rehearsal. Any students who are not in a technique class immediately preceding their company rehearsal should arrive at least 5 minutes early to stretch and warm-up on their own. Teachers will go over self-warm-up exercises the first week during rehearsal. This warm-up time is important to avoid injury and to be ready to work full out in our limited rehearsal time.

## Costs & Equipment:

The participation fee for the 2022-2023 school year is \$1590 (\$159/per installment) for the core company (Ballet, Tap, and Jazz companies all together), \$450 (\$45/per installment) for any additional company, and \$550 if you are doing PURPLE POWER Hip Hop Crew ONLY (\$55/per installment). Your participation fee includes:

- All rehearsal time
- Kick-off Event
- Holiday Social
- End of Year Party
- Company t-shirt
- Costumes, including all accessories & tights (Students will be responsible for providing their own shoes which may or may not be the same as those used in your technique class.)
- All competition entrance fees
- Musical Theater Production is \$490 (\$49 per installment) because they will compete in all 3 competitions, not just the 2 for Minis and Petites.

You may pay in full at the time of registration, split into 10 equal payments corresponding to regular tuition installment payments, or pay a deposit equal to one installment payment at the time of registration then pay the balance before the October installment is due. In addition, first time company members or those who need a new warm-up for any reason must purchase a company warm-up, pricing at end of document, due at the time of registration. Fundraising opportunities will be available to help off-set these costs –ask Miss Suzie for details.

**Withdrawal:** Performance Companies and Crews are a full school year commitment to your team. If you must withdraw prior to Dec. 31, the standard 2 week notice applies. If withdrawing after Dec. 31 all company fees are still owed through the end of the year. This is not meant to be punitive, but to cover actual costs incurred based on the planned number of students in each company and as such, is owed regardless of the reason for withdrawal.

### **Competitive Private Lessons:**

All competitive private lessons (solos, duos, trios, custom small groups) are charged the usual private lesson rates (\$44 per half hour solo, \$30 per person per half hour duo, \$25 per person per half hour 3+) but will be charged for 12 total rehearsal hours spread over the school year and billed in 10 equal installments to coincide with regular tuition installments. This will vastly cut down on the amount of time and energy it takes both you and us to keep up with private lesson billing and all parties will know from the beginning of the year how many hours of rehearsal they are getting.

For students doing 30-min once per week privates, this works out to 24 lessons over the course of the school year, allowing ample wiggle room for cancelations due to teacher absence, student absence, etc.

For students doing Sunday lessons, exact schedule will be worked out with your teacher but the goal is to do 1-2 hours in September (short month), 2 hours in October, 2 hours in November, 1-2 hours in December (short month), 2 hours in January, 1 hour in February, 1 hour in March, 1 hour in April, 1 hour in May (if needed to get to 12).

\*Please note that doing two solos is generally reserved for students in level 4 or above and with multiple years of competition experience.

\*Please note that only graduating seniors are guaranteed to be allowed to perform their solos in recital.

**In order to complete your company registration, all company members must sign the virtual Company Contract using the link below:**

**<https://app.jackrabbitclass.com/regevent.asp?xID=5348225&orgid=535010&internal=1>**

# **Welcome to the team!!! 😊**

**If you have any additional questions, please directly contact our Performance Company Administrator Miss Suzie at [misssuzie@perfectpointe.com](mailto:misssuzie@perfectpointe.com)**

*(If you are interested in audition-based opportunities, see next page)*

## Audition-Based Competitive Duos, Trios, and Small Groups

Audition-based duos, trios, and small groups are open to all students registered for a Core Company and at least one additional company. The number of groups, styles of dance, and the make-up of each group will be determined based on the number of students who choose to audition, the strengths and abilities of those who audition, and the vision of the choreographers. All dancers attending the audition must agree to accept whatever placements they are given. You will have the opportunity to specify how many placements you would like.

### Rehearsals, payments, and auditions:

- Audition based duo/trios/groups will attend all 3 main competitions (even if Mini/Petite) and may attend an additional 4th competition at the choreographer's discretion.
- Audition-based duos and trios will be charged normal duo/trio private lesson rates and entry fees will be charged a la carte per competition. Mini/Petite audition-based duos/trios will have 8 total rehearsal hours, Jr/Sr/Elite will have 6.
- Audition-based small groups will have 8 total rehearsal hours and will be charged the same as other Jr/Sr/Elite company group add-ons (Jr/Sr/Elite pricing because you will attend 3 comps)
- Rehearsal schedule TBD (may be over the course of several months, or in two long sessions)
- Payments can be spread out over the course of the school year, or paid in full upfront.
- Rehearsals may be scheduled on school holidays, during studio breaks, or on Sundays. You will have the opportunity to list potential conflicts on your audition form.
- Auditions will be held in October. Date and time TBD. There is a \$25 fee for the audition class.