



## Momentum Dance Arts Competitive Company Information Packet

*Competition requires a greater level of commitment to dancing.*

**Dancers,** as part of Momentum Dance Arts Competitive Company you are expected to be committed to your classes, dancing full out and working hard for your teachers. Those who listen to every correction and apply themselves in every class and rehearsals will succeed. Remember to show respect to all teachers and staff, your parents, and all students at the studio. We are all in this together and want to create a successful team!

**Parents,** Our competitive program requires a positive atmosphere from all involved. Cooperation between all parents is expected at all times. Please show respect for staff members, other parents, and all dancers. A positive and enthusiastic outlook on this program extends to your child. Negative comments and feedback can be harmful to your child's progress and education.

**Auditions:** Both new and returning members ages 6 and up will have to audition in order to be considered for the 2021-2022 MDA Competitive Company. You must be present at both the choreography session and the Company audition to be considered. The non-refundable audition fee is \$20 (CASH OR CHECK ONLY) and will help compensate our choreographers and judges for their time. This will be a closed audition. There will be no observers allowed in the dance room. If you are late, you will not be allowed to audition. We suggest arriving at least 15 minutes early. The audition for ages 11 and up will consist of a Jazz, Contemporary, and a Hip Hop routine, Ballet Barre, and Improvisation. The audition for ages 6-10 will consist of a Jazz routine, Ballet Barre, and Improvisation. Your dancer will also be brought in to answer a few questions from our judges.

### June 5th

#### **Choreography Session (Upper Studio)**

9-10:30am Ages 6-10

11-2pm Ages 11 and Up

\*Parents/Students will be allowed to video the routines at the end of day one.

### June 6th (Closed to Observers)

#### **Team Auditions (Upper Studio)**

9-10:00am Ages 6-10

10:30-12:30pm Ages 11 and Up

**There is a \$20 Audition Fee due at time of application, Due May 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**What to Wear and other Audition Details:** Dancers must wear solid black dance attire for the Jazz and Contemporary portion of the audition but may wear an outfit of choice for Hip Hop. Tights are not required. Hair must be secured in a pony tail or bun for all styles.

Dancers will be adjudicated on their flexibility, technique, performance quality, and their ability to pick up on choreography quickly (memory). Dancers must obtain a specific score in order to be accepted onto the team.

Dancers must be recommended by the majority of the judges for a solo in order to be invited to compete a solo. No solo recommendations will be given for novice/intermediate level entry ages 10 and up.

Routine requests will be submitted with your audition application. This will give you an opportunity to select the number of routines you are financially able to commit to should your dancer be selected for the Competitive Co. PLEASE REMEMBER, it is not appropriate to ask for your dancer to be in more routines or question placement. All decisions made are in the best interest of the dancers and the team as a whole.

**What Happens after the Audition:** Dancers will receive an email announcing if they have been accepted onto the MDA Competitive Company by Tuesday, June 11th. A meeting will be scheduled with our families to go over routine selections and expectations. Your completed contract will be due July 1st to accept your spot on the Company. This can be emailed to [Momentumdancearts@gmail.com](mailto:Momentumdancearts@gmail.com) or brought into our office. If you are not a current MDA dancer, and are selected for the team, you will be placed on probation until the end of our choreography week.

## **Your Time and Responsibilities**

**Ages 6-10: Will rehearse 1-2 hours a week (usually Wednesdays) and will participate in Company Conditioning and Technique classes. Required: 4 Competitions, 1 Convention. Will have (1) mandatory Production Routine.**

**Ages 11 and up: Will rehearse 3-4 hours a week (usually Wednesdays and two Saturdays a month) and will participate in Company Conditioning and Technique classes. Required: 4 Competitions, 2 Conventions. Will have (1) mandatory Production Routine.**

Most events will take place in Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, or surrounding areas. They will also be required to attend all community events/performances (Approx. 2). The Competitive Company season commitment will be August-May.

## **ALL COMPANY MEMBERS,**

- Mandatory Choreography Boot Camp is Scheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the entire week open. Company Boot Camp schedules TBD.
- Your studio time will be increased. We will do our best to group classes together to minimize days at studio.
- Parents must attend a private mandatory meeting to discuss routine selections, dancer expectations, and goals with the Competitive Company Directors.
- Dancer will give all teachers respect during class, by not talking back, coming prepared, having hair their secured away from their face and in the proper dance clothes.
- Dancers will respect their teammates by not talking and/or gossiping about each other. This will not be tolerated. We are a team. Any violations to the contract will be notated and after the third occurrence, your dancer will be placed on probation and may lose their spot on the team.
- Specific dances will be by invite only and at the discretion of the choreographer depending on age, level, ability, or a certain look they may need to fulfill a part in their routine. It is not appropriate to ask to be included in extra dances.
- Last minute withdrawals from any competition will not be tolerated. Serious injuries or family tragedies are the only exceptions. All entry fees are non-refundable due to each competition's policies.
- All competition scheduling is set by the competition itself; not our studio. Any requests to alter specific days and times of performances cannot be accommodated and will not be accepted.
- During the competition season, dancers are prohibited from altering their hair color involving any color that is not natural such as bold streaks, blue, red, green etc., permanent hair accessories such as feathers, colored extensions etc. are not allowed. No body piercings or tattoos are allowed while competing. Absolutely no nail polish allowed while competing. No jewelry allowed unless otherwise specified.
- Level placement, music selection, choreography, costuming and spacing of all group routines are at the choreographer's discretion and are not up for discussion. These decisions are made from many years of teaching experience. All staff members are passionate about our competition team. We take pride in every student and every dance routine. All decisions are made in the best interests of the dancers. Inappropriate and demeaning parent and/or student comments will not be tolerated.

- All dancers are required to attend their group photo sessions.
- All dancers are required to enroll in certain technique classes throughout the dance season. Additional technique classes may be required for your dancer.
- Dancers must train exclusively at Momentum Dance Arts while under contract. All outside, supplemental training should be presented in writing at to the Company Director, approved, and will be added to the team calendar to ensure there are no Company conflicts.

**Mandatory Summer Classes:** In an effort to maintain the dancer's technique, they must train during the summer. If your dancer is training outside of the studio, please let us know ASAP so we can log their hours. We would like all dancers to participate in at least 25 hours of training this summer.

Our summer classes will consist of Company classes specifically designed to work on technique and goals for our upcoming season.

If available, we ask that everyone in our Company participate in our Ballet Intensive June 28<sup>th</sup>-July 1<sup>st</sup> and our Film Workshop June 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Fall Class Requirements:**

(Ages 11 and Up) per week:

- One 1.5 hour Ballet Class
- Two 1 hour Company Conditioning and Technique Classes
- One 1 hour Jazz Class
- One 1 hour Contemporary Class
- One 1 hour Tap Class
- One 1 hour Acro Class
- One 1 hour Hip Hop Class
- One 1 hour Pointe Class – by teacher recommendation
- Minimum of 3-4 hours of weekly rehearsals
- Total Required Classes = 13 Hours per Week (Approximately)

(Ages 6-10) per week:

- One 1 hour Ballet Class
- One 1 hour Jazz/Tap Combo Class
- One 1 hour Acro Class
- One 1 hour Hip Hop
- Two 1 hour Company Conditioning and Technique Classes
- Minimum of 1-2 hours of weekly rehearsals
- Total Required Classes = 7 Hours per Week (Approximately)

**\*All Competitive Company members ages 11 and up will be required to assist at least (1) hour per week.** This is an integral part of being a Company member. These leadership roles allow our older Company members the opportunity to gain teaching experience and help to instill qualities that will help nurture their relationships with the younger members of our Company.

**Attendance Policy:** Proper attendance is an essential component of the dancer's education and progress. All classes are dedicated to technique and/or choreography. A dancer who misses class and/or rehearsal may hold back the progress of the entire team. When a dancer is absent from a choreography class, they are expected to learn the choreography prior to returning to the next class and may be required to take a private lesson. All dancers are allowed no more than 3 absences from a choreography class. Although dancers are allowed 3 absences, we encourage perfect attendance. Dancers should only be absent if it is absolutely necessary. Attendance will be monitored closely in all classes. There are no "make up" classes for any missed choreography sessions. Private lessons will be mandatory to make up for missed rehearsals and at the expense of the dancer. Dancers must be in attendance the week before and after any regional event.

**Competition Showcase:** Our Competitive Company showcase is usually at a venue in which all team members will be responsible for selling tickets. This date is TBD but will be in early February.

### **Financial Obligations**

All team members will have a separate competition account that will keep track of all competition expenses and credits. All competition entry fees, team attire, and costumes will be billed as an installment payable August-March. All accounts must be paid in full by April 1st. Any funds left over by April will be credited to your dance class tuition account; any balance will be collected at this time.

#### **Monthly Competitive Company Fees: \$75/Mth**

Company members will be provided with additional Dance Conditioning and Technique classes. This fee will go towards these extra technique classes and routine rehearsal/cleaning hours.

**Choreography Fees:** Your choreography cost will depend on the number of routines your dancer is selected for and is due by August 1st. If you are selected for a solo and you schedule your rehearsal with the choreographer prior to our Boot Camp week, your solo fee will be due at the first choreography session.

#### **Groups:**

10 Plus Dancers: \$65/Dancer

4-9 Dancers: \$75/Dancer

Duo/Trios: \$375 Split Evenly

Solos: \$350, \$275 Second Solo (5 total Scheduled Rehearsals, 3 to learn and 2 to clean)

#### **Admin/Staff Travel/Transport Fee: \$50/Dancer/Competition-Convention**

As part of the Company, you will be required to pay this fee for each Convention/Competition you are participating in. This fee pays for instructor/choreographer's travel expenses, administrative time coordinating events, and any prop transport costs.

#### **Competition Entry Fees:**

Solos: \$130

Duet/Trios: \$75/Per Dancer

Sm. Groups (4-9 Dancers): \$65/Per Dancer

Large Groups: \$65/Per Dancer

**Convention Fees:** These fees vary for each convention so we will budget \$275 as the average cost of this training.

**Team Attire Fee:**

Competitive Company New Members: \$250

Competitive Company Returning Members: \$100

This will include a team jacket, shirt, bag (new members), and warm up gear. If you are a previous team member, your team fee will cover new warm up gear.

**Costume Deposits:** Per Dance: \$100

We will try to reuse costumes when possible but will hold the costume deposit until all costumes are ordered. Any funds not used will stay in your competition account until April. We will use costume deposits to defray the cost of any accessories needed and prop builds as well. Any remaining funds will get credited to your dance class tuition account.

**Extras:**

- Travel expenses, shoes, accessories, tights, and make up will be your responsibility.
- Competition/Convention entry fees are non-refundable.

**Monthly Solo Rehearsal:** All soloists will be required to attend at least one monthly solo rehearsal with their choreographer for 45 minutes. The fee will be \$35/rehearsal. You may request for additional rehearsal hours if you desire. The choreographer may also request more rehearsal time throughout the season if the monthly rehearsal isn't enough.

**Competitor's Obligations:** All competitors will be required to rehearse during their scheduled time slot as well as practicing throughout the week on their own time. Dancers should have a copy of all competition music. When becoming a member of the Company, it is with the understanding that their being a member of the Company comes before ALL other activities in which they may be involved. We suggest that dance be their only activity as competing can be time-consuming especially as competition dates get closer. Committing to outside activities has a strong effect on the student as well as the other team members, when a student is absent. Remember the Company is judged as a TEAM when competing, and one student with bad attendance hurts the entire TEAM. If any student or parent feels they cannot see this commitment through, we suggest they bow out of the competition team before the season begins.

**Fundraising:** All team members must be responsible for their own fundraising. Any funds raised for the Company must be given to the Director to apply the appropriate credits to each account. Sponsorship forms will be handed out if your dancer would like to solicit donations from local businesses. These sponsors will be given advertising options on our website and in our end of the year recital programs. The director must first approve all fundraising activities.

## **Estimated Minimum Company Expense Forecast**

### ***Competitive Company (Ages 6 and 10):***

<b>Fee</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Choreography Fee (Due Aug 1st)	\$65
1. Admin/Transport Fee	\$250
2. Team Monthly Fee	\$600
3. Team Attire (May be less if Returning)	\$250
4. Costume Deposit(s)	\$100
5. Competition Entry Fees	\$260
6. Convention Fees	\$275

Total Cost (Items 1-6): \$ 1,800

8 Installments Sept-April: \$225

Estimated Monthly Class Cost: \$175/mth

### ***Competitive Company (Ages 11 and up):***

<b>Fee</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Choreography Fee (Due Aug 1st)	\$65
1. Admin/Transport Fee	\$300
2. Team Monthly Fee	\$600
3. Team Attire (May be less if Returning)	\$250
4. Costume Deposit(s)	\$100
5. Competition Entry Fees	\$260
6. Convention Fees	\$550

Total Cost (Items 1-6): \$2,125

8 Installments Sept-April: \$266

Estimated Monthly Class Cost: \$255/mth