

# BIG CITY DANCE CENTER

## COMPETITIVE COMPANY 2023-24 Welcome to BCDC 23rd year Competitive Season!

### Open Audition 1: Monday, June 19, 2023

- 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm All dancers 8-11 years old
- 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm All dancers 12-13 years old
- 7:00pm-9:00pm All Dancers 14 years and up

### Open Audition 2: Tuesday, August 15, 2023

- 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm All dancers 9-12 years old
- 7:00pm-8:00pm All Dancers 13 years and up

\*ages as of September 1st

\*\* please contact us for a private audition should the above not work for your schedule

### Kick off Parent Zoom Meeting: Monday, August 14, 2023

**6:30PM**

**(NEW FAMILY ORIENTATION)**

**7:15PM (ALL FAMILIES)**

## MISSION OF COMPETITION GROUPS

To promote the art of dance through competitive dance with a strong emphasis on teamwork and technique. The company is meant to bring the dancers closer together. The competition groups are for those individuals who wish to take a more intensive approach to dance.

## AUDITION PROCESS

On June 21st or August 15th, any dancer eight years or older are welcome to audition for Big City Dance Center award winning, nationally recognized competition group. Dancers will receive a number that they will wear throughout the audition. The dancers will execute dance skills across the floor and learn a short center combination. They will perform for the judges their short dance combination in small groups of four. Please call the office at 248-960-0057 should you need to arrange a private audition.

The new company members from the audition will be notified **via email the following morning of the audition**, if they were chosen for the exciting 2023/2024 competition year. If picked for company, a parent must attend an informative zoom meeting Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6:30pm. Your non-refundable commitment fee of \$175.00 is due on or before this date. By exception only, dancers can commit later in the summer; however, the commitment fee will be \$200 and the director will not be placing the dancer in any small group numbers and/or possibly guest choreographed numbers.

# DESCRIPTION OF COMPETITION GROUPS

## STARS OF TOMORROW TEAM

Ages 5-9 years old

A competition team designed for all Big City students ages 5-9 years old who would like an introduction to competitive dancing. It is designed to be the stepping stone into company or a starter program for competing. The Stars of Tomorrow will learn one jazz routine and compete it in three local competitions during the winter competitive season March 2024 – May 2024. We may add more competition dances to the stars with small groups, depending on interest. Stars will dance mainly on Mondays/ Tuesdays. There is no audition process for this program. All young dancers welcome!!!

Stars Parent Zoom Meeting: Monday, August 21, 2023 at 7:00pm

Stars Fees Competition costs and tuition structure:

\$ 65 competition fee per competition

\$ 115 costume including trims, bows etc.

\$ 95 shoes and tights

\$ 90 Competition jacket

\$ 113 Stars 1 per month: Ballet, Jazz technique, Stars 1 Jazz competition class

\$ 242 Stars 2 per month: Ballet, Jazz technique, Acro class, Stars 2 Jazz, Tap, Hip hop competition classes

Stars Dance Requirements:

Summer: no requirement

Fall: Minimum: Stars 1-One Ballet class, one Turn & Leap class, and the Stars 1 Jazz dance rehearsal class per week during our fall session. Stars 2- one Ballet, one Turn & Leap, one Acro class, Stars 2 jazz, tap and hip hop rehearsal classes

## THE COMPETITION COMPANY

Ages 9 thru 19 years old

Being a part of Big City Dance Center's Competition Company requires a strong commitment from dancers. It is typically a 3 day per week program. Dancers must commit to attending all rehearsals and training classes unless ill, family emergency or graded school appearances. The company is required to participate in all studio appearances including but not limited to: Walled Lake Memorial Day parade, South Lyon Pumpkinfest, Walled Lake market days, a Piston 1 / 2 time show and any other special appearances.

## THE TIME COMMITMENT

### Technique:

The Big City staff places your dancer for all technique classes such as: ballet, tap, modern/conditioning and turn & leap jazz classes according to their ability and age. These training classes will occur Monday thru Thursday. Young dancers may be taking classes Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Dancers are expected to make-up training classes if they are missed. All company dancers will take the following for minimum weekly technique training:

(2) 1.5 hour ballet classes

(1) Jazz technique turn and leap classes

(1) Modern class

(1) Tap technique class

(1) Acro/Conditioning class

Every company dance will have a specific rehearsal time throughout the week and continue the entire year. I.E. Turning Pages Lyrical Sr small group Mondays 6:30pm -7:00pm

The company is given notice if classes are cancelled, extended or added via the company email. Dancers may only miss competitive dance rehearsals only for major reasons such as contagious illness, family emergencies and graded school events. Dancers must take private lessons if missing company classes (no matter the reason) after one absence per semester.

#### **(4) Weekend Extra Rehearsals:**

Longer rehearsals should be expected closer to competitions or appearances. In October, we will set 4 weekends aside to hold extra rehearsals at the studio to get our competitive dances ready. Please set these weekends aside as rehearsals are mandatory. You will have a specific schedule of which dances we are rehearsing and how long, etc. one week prior to each super weekend.

Dancers must be flexible with their schedules around competition. Three weeks prior to competition, attendance is absolutely mandatory. Our rehearsals take precedence over outside commitments. In rare cases, the director will excuse dancers from competition rehearsals. If dancers miss rehearsals three weeks prior to competition, including extra rehearsals, the dancer will be staged out of numbers that were missed. The dancer will be staged back into that number for the next competition. Parents will not be reimbursed for the competition entry fees as they are non-refundable.

### **Other Extra Programs:**

#### **"FIRST STEP" COMPANY MEMBER**

All young dancers 8-10 years old will be introduced into the company by performing three competition dances. They will also be required to take two ballet classes, one turn & leap class, one modern/stretch class, one acro gymnastic and one tap class. In total, they will take 9 classes per week totaling 7-8 hours per week. The director may agree to additional dances based on certain circumstance. The First Steppers are only at the studio approximately 2 days per week.

#### **PRE PROFESSIONAL COMPANY**

Company members who want more are welcome to apply for our pre professional dance company by August 18, 2023. Interested parties will fill out an application and turn it in to the front desk. The pre professional member is required to commit to the program for 10 months. In addition to the regular company schedule, pre professional members will be required to train more hours, attend one additional outside dance convention/competition, and as an option participate in Youth American Grand Prix competition. There are more costs associated with this program for training hours, convention, competition entry fees, travel fees, etc. Please email us for more information on the pre professional company.

### **THE COST OF COMPETITION COMPANY**

#### **NON-REFUNDABLE COMMITMENT FEE:**

\$175 if paid on for before August 14, 2023

\$200 if paid after August 14, 2023

#### **WARM-UP CLOTHING**

All competitors are required to purchase a warm-up outfit of: one company tank top/T-shirt, one company jacket. You need not purchase these items every year. Orders are taken and paid for by September 15, 2023.

#### **COSTUMES**

Female costumes range from \$50 - \$200. Male costumes are typically street clothes purchased through local stores. We have private designers that create most of our competition outfits. In some instances, costumes from previous years are re-used for a group piece. If you are renting a costume for a year the cost is \$50 (for the year) to the owner of the costume. Their company account will credited. You are responsible for dry cleaning the costume, and damages or misplacement, if it occurs.

## FALL TUITION FOR PERFORMING COMPANY SEPTEMBER 2023 THROUGH JUNE 2024

The company is a specialized focus training program. A significant discount is given to members who join and are accepted in to the program. Big City tuition prices (listed on [bigcitydance.com](http://bigcitydance.com)) indicates for the 5.5 hours of technique training classes tuition would be \$366.00 per month. In addition, each 30 minute competition dance rehearsal class would be an additional \$48 per dance per month. The average company member takes 4 competition dances. Therefore, under the standard studio prices company members would pay on average \$558.00 per month for training classes and competition classes.

Grid Breakdown of normal tuition costs versus being a company member:

Ballet 1.5 hrs	\$73
Ballet 1.5 hrs	\$73
Turn & Leap 1hr	\$62
Tap 1/2 hr	\$48
Acro Conditioning	\$48
Modern/Stretch 1 hr	\$62
	\$366

Competition Dance 1/2hr \$48 Competition Dance 1/2hr \$48 Competition Dance 1/2hr \$48 = \$144

Normal Studio Tuition Prices: \$366+ \$144= \$510

## Company Tuition Price Matrix September through June

### Company Members Technique Base Class fee: \$250/month

Includes: Two Ballet technique classes, One turn and leap jazz technique classes, One modern, Acro/Conditioning Class, Tap technique class, pointe technique classes, one company production class.

**Fast Track Group C Technique Base Class fee: \$260/month** Includes Two Ballet technique classes, One turn and leap jazz technique class, One modern, Acro/Conditioning Class, Tap technique class, turn class, pointe technique classes and one company production class.

### Pre Professional Program technique Base Fee: \$285/Month

Includes: Three Ballet technique classes, One turn and leap jazz technique class, One Modern, Acro/Conditioning Class, Tap technique class, combination class, turn class, pointe technique classes, and one company production class.

**\*In addition please add \$10 tuition per month for every competition dance.**

**There is a 10% discount off tuition for families with multiple dancers**

**Note: INJURIES:** If a dancer becomes injured and cannot participate in competitions you will be charged for competition fees for groups unless staging your dancer out is feasible. In most cases, with a doctors note from you, we will contact the competition companies to assist you in getting a refund for the dances are able to stage dancer out.

## SUMMER INTENSIVE

**AUGUST 16th-30th, 2023**

**\$375.00**

The company is required to participate in the summer intensive. Company students are required to take minimum 25 classes. All dancers will be assigned to levels in their core classes. Dancers may choose their own elective classes. You have some flexibility if you are traveling and unable to make some of the intensive. We can make sure your summer intensive schedule compliments your summer travels!!The dancers will be observed in class for placement of competition dances. Family discount 10% for multiple dancers.

# COMPETITION ESCROW/SAVINGS ACCOUNT

**Eight monthly payments (separate from STUDIO tuition) will be collected to pay for items such as competition costumes, competition fees, dance conventions, props, etc.**

Instead of asking for lump sums of money in the winter to pay for your entry fees, competition fees, etc.; we have a formula for competitors to make 8 monthly payments held in an escrow account. This way you can budget "competition" associated costs into your monthly budget. The director draws from these funds when fees are due for competition, costumes, shoes, etc.

This formula is a GUESTIMATE not the final and actual cost of everything that will be spent with regards to competing. It varies from year to year if we are slightly over or under this amount.

Your eight monthly payments are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month beginning in September. A late fee of \$10 will be assessed to your account after the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month. An additional late fee will be added of \$15 if you are beyond 20 days late. Your final company payment is due on April 15, 2023. If you have a balance, national fees will be deducted from the credit balance. Any credit thereafter will be transferred to your studio account; zeroing your company savings account for the year. If you have a balance due, it must be provided no later than MAY 1, 2023 in addition to national competition entry fees that are not included in your 8 payments. Please understand that Big City is a small business and not a bank. Parents have to provide the funds on a timely basis for their child to participate in this activity.

## FORMULA FOR 8 ESCROW/SAVINGS COMPANY ACCOUNT

The following is the formula that is used to calculate your costs for competing. It is based on everything associated with attending a dance competition.

### FIRST COMPETITION DANCE

Average costs of costume	\$160
Rhinestones/Trims:	\$25
National Entry fee:	\$75
Shoes (1 pair):	\$55
Misc. Props/Parade Tee/Nationals party:	\$75
Dance Convention (2):	\$590
Rehearsals/Stage rental:	\$100
3 Regional Competition Fees:	\$195
National prop transport/coaches fee	\$50
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Budget for 1 <sup>st</sup> dance:	\$1325 / 8 months: \$166

### EVERY COMPETITION DANCE THEREAFTER

When adding additional company numbers after the first one, only the costs are considered:

Average costume: \$160

Rhinestones/Trims:	\$ 25
National entry fee	\$75
3 Competition fees:	\$195
	\$455/8 = \$57

The following is a typical scenario for a company member:

My dancer is in 3 company dances. What is my monthly escrow/savings company payment?

First Dance: \$166

Second Dance: \$ 57

Third Dance: \$ 57

Monthly payment: \$ 280.00 per month beginning September 15<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>

At anytime you may request an account ledger or log into your online accounts to view/monitor what we have charged to your accounts.

**THE DANCE SEASON IS SEPTEMBER 2023 THROUGH JULY 2024(national trip). IF YOUR DANCER IS UNABLE TO FINISH THE SEASON, YOU ARE FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR 10 MONTHS TUITION, 8 ESCROW PAYMENTS, \$200 RE STAGING FEE AND ALL COMPETITION RELATED COSTS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO NATIONAL ENTRY FEES. IF ANY DANCER IS INJURED AND UNABLE TO COMPETE, YOUR COMPETITION FEES ARE NON REFUNDABLE, AS INDICATED BY THE COMPETITION COMPANIES. DOCTORS NOTE MUST BE PROVIDED FOR ALL INJURED DANCERS FOR DOCUMENTATION PURPOSES.**

### **PLACEMENT IN COMPETITION DANCES**

You will be emailed a request for placement sheet at the first parent meeting scheduled for August 14, 2023. Parents are asked to consider expense of each number and confirm the number of dances your child can participate in including guest choreography. Being in guest choreography is OPTIONAL as additional costs are associated with their dances (i.e. travel cost to get them to Michigan and their service fees). By August 30, 2023, your dancer will be issued a placement schedule based on your written commitment to number of dances. Your dancer's first 4 dances will more than likely be lines and large groups. No requests are considered from parents or dancers. Our goal is to give your dancer a well rounded subject schedule. Dancers are placed according to a number of different things; mostly considering their overall training and experience as they grow at Big City. No late joiners to company will be eligible for guest choreography or small groups unless a spot should open up.

### **COMPETITIONS THE COMPANY ATTENDS**

All competition groups attend three local competitions. These event are held on the weekend and take place around the metro Detroit areas. These competitions occur February 2024 – May 2024. You will have actual dates for the four competitions we are attending by September 25, 2023. All soloists are encouraged to enter these competitions. Solos/Duo/trios may also enter other competitions on their own.

### **TWO DANCE CONVENTIONS**

We require all company members to attend TWO dance conventions/competitions. They are weekend

dance class events that mainly occur January-March 2024. The cost of the convention is approximately \$295. Dates and conventions TBD. In addition, we compete and showcase 10-15 dances. Group Entry fees are approximately \$65 per dancer. Your entry fees for conventions will be charged to your studio account. Please provide funds for convention competing on or before 30 days after the convention event. Keep in mind most guest choreographer dances compete at the conventions.

## **NATIONAL COMPETITIONS**

The company attends one out of state national competition. All company members are required to attend nationals. There is rehearsal for nationals between the recital through nationals. Please keep that in mind when making summer family vacation plans. Our national plans will be decided by September 2023. I will propose 3-4 national options and we will take a vote (teachers and parents) on the best place to attend a nationals. We have historically attended "drivable" nationals.

## **COMMUNITY APPEARANCES**

In previous seasons, we have appeared at Piston Basketball home games, movie premiers for Jeff Daniels, and South Lyon, Wixom & Walled Lake community events. All appearances are considered mandatory unless a special exception is made by the director.

## **PROPER ATTITUDE FOR COMPANY MEMBERS**

Big City Performing Company has a terrific reputation for well disciplined, friendly dancers that work hard. We believe the specific ingredients to our success are:

- • Work hard in rehearsals
- • Set specific goals for the year and dedicate ourselves to them
- • Treat each other with respect and care
- • Respect the discipline of the art of dance
- • Attend your ballet and technique classes; make them up if you miss them
- • Be respectful to our fellow competitors
- • Appreciate any awards we are given
- • Listen to your teachers as they are attempting to lead you
- • Try your best at every performance
- • Have a perfect attempt at perfect attendance
- • Have fun, we are a family!

## **PARENT COMMITMENT**

Parents play a strong role in the success of the group every year. The most important aspect a parent contributes is the positive support to the dancers and teachers. As a parent you are responsible for:

- Making sure your dancer arrives on time to all competitions and events
- Providing funds for competing on a timely basis
- Working one recital show
- Work one committee
- Participate in potluck food for competitions & extra rehearsals when applicable
- Sell one business ad or one full page personal ad in recital program
- Serve on one competition prop committee

All parents are expected to set the example for the children regarding great sportsmanship and

professionalism during public events. Any dancer that terminates their year before the national commitment date for any reason will be charged a \$200.00 re-staging fee/administrative fee to their account, national entry fees and 9.5 months of company tuition. The dancer terminating their commitment is required to give his/her costumes within 5 days of termination to be borrowed by a replacement dancer for the groups they are in. The group costumes will be returned within 5 days after national competition to the terminated dancer. Should the terminated dancer fail to loan the group costumes to the replacement dancer, the terminated dancer's account will be charged \$175 per costume in addition to the above fees.

## **DANCE CLASS/REHEARSAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPANY**

Competition rehearsal classes are not training classes. Therefore, all competitors must take specific training classes to keep up with their technique. The following is the minimum requirement for various groups.

Company: Required: SUMMER INTENSIVE AUGUST 16th – AUGUST 30th Minimum 25 classes  
FALL SESSION SEPTEMBER 2023 – JULY 2024(national trip)  
Classes: 6 hours of technique: Two ballet classes, one turn & leap class, one tap class, one acro conditioning, one modern/stretch & conditioning, pointe class for older dancers plus all company dances

## **SOLO/DUO/TRIOS AVAILABLE TO COMPANY MEMBERS**

\$30 per 1/2 hour private paid to the private teacher for solo continuous weekly solo/privates  
\$30 for technique only privates. These are the occasional or one time private lesson one on time with teacher  
\$30 duo or trio (split among members) paid to the teacher

\$ 5 per 30min private rental fee  
\$ 12 Administrative fee per solo/duo/trio added

Note: Duo/ trios(split among members) for renting space and all administrative costs associated with entry fees.

Solos and duo/trios: are approved by the director only. These separate commitments require a special attention to working hard in technique classes and practicing on your own. Solos, duo/trios must be arranged through the director no matter what teacher you are working with. Our guest choreographers are available for choreography at separate fees. Please discuss private lessons with Lisa Fruchey.

The director reserves the right to change or amend the rules at anytime throughout the year to enhance the program.

## **2023/2024 Company Calendar**

June 22, August 15	New Company Audition Opportunity (attend either one)
August 14, 2023	Company Parent meeting 6:30pm, commitment fee due
August 16, 2023	Summer Intensive begins
August 30, 2023	Receive fall company placement, please register for fall
September 6, 2023	Fall classes begin including company classes
September 15, 2022	First company payment due
January/February 2023	Piston Half time performance (during the week)
January/February 2023	Dance Convention TBD
March 2024 – May 20234	3 regional dance competitions
April 15, 2024	Last of 8 company payments Due



May 1, 2024  
June/July 2024

Balance, if any, of company accounts due  
National competition: Parent to vote on preference.