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### **Ledwig Dance Academy Company 2020-2021**

We are so glad you're interested in joining Ledwig Dance Academy's Company (LDAC). Our competitive dance team is a great way to further one's dance abilities and learn to work with others on a team.

Your child's dedication is important to the Company. When joining a team, your commitment is for the whole year (August-May). You are committed to attending all practices, working on your dances away from the studio, and attending all performances and competitions. We work as a team and need all members for the team to succeed.

Parents are also very involved when their child is an LDAC member. Dancers need their instructors at dance class to push them and continually help them set goals for themselves. They can only achieve these goals at a quicker rate with practice at home. This is where parents come in. We want you to encourage your dancer to practice at home. It also helps when you sit down with them for a few minutes each day to work on their dances and skills.

Your child will experience excitement when they master that new skill they have been working on for a while or are put in front of the formations in the dance. They will also experience disappointment – when they set a goal that they didn't meet by the end of the year; or when they want to move up in company every year but aren't quite ready yet. It's a great life skill to learn that the answer isn't always going to be yes.

Please remember that we are a dance family. We are to encourage one another and be a part of a team. Do not talk down to another dancer, parent, or director. If there is an issue it is to be addressed with Ms. Stephanie immediately.

Because we believe that dancers improve when learning from various teachers/choreographers, we attend conventions and/or travel to other states as a learning opportunity. Every other year we take a trip. The years in between we attend conventions. Trips are not required but highly recommended. The students must be 11 years or older to attend and must be in a ballet and jazz class. For conventions we take our intermediate, junior, and senior teams. More information is listed below.

Please read this packet carefully and through its entirety. There is a fees list and important dates sheet included. We schedule meetings, practices, and payments which will be available on the calendar. We will also send out a calendar once dates are finalized.

## 2020-2021 Teams/Requirements

We have 4 teams a part of our LDAC:

- Tots (Beginner)
- Intermediates (Intermediate)
- Juniors (Intermediate-Advanced)
- Seniors (Advanced)

**NOTE - We may add or remove any team if circumstances change.**

Students are placed in groups by audition only. Auditions are held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> via Zoom. There is an audition fee of \$10/dancer. This fee is due at the time of auditions. Any students who miss the audition can schedule a private audition on another day.

### Costumes

- All company dancers will need costumes for their dances. Prices are listed:
  - Tots (2 costumes) - \$55 plus tax
  - Intermediates/Juniors (2 Costumes) - \$55 plus tax each
  - Seniors (3 Costumes) - \$55 plus tax each

### Classes

- All company members must register for their designated weekly company class. Below is listed the classes required for the companies. We require regular dance classes, so they get their technique in.

**Tots** - Ballet/Tap/Jazz Class, Company Class

**Intermediates** - Ballet/Tap/Jazz, Strength OR Flexibility, Company Class

**Juniors & Seniors** – Ballet (twice weekly), Jazz, Lyrical/Contemporary, Strength, Flexibility, Company Class

### Summer Requirements – Due to Covid-19, this is subject to change

- All Tot company members are required to register for and attend two summer classes.
- The Intermediates are required to take two summer classes. Juniors and seniors are required to take THREE classes.
- All company members are required to attend the August choreography company classes. This class is not included in the required classes.

### Attendance

- All company students are allowed ONLY 4 absences combined from regular required classes and company classes. This is in affect from September-December.
- From January through the end of competition season (March or April), only 2 absences are allowed from regular classes and company classes.
- To be counted present the student must be in class for 75% of the class time.
- Make-up classes or private lessons are to be scheduled for anyone who is absent more than what is allowed.
- In the event that more than the allowed number of classes are missed for any reason, the dancer may be pulled from a dance for one competition.

## **Accounts**

- Accounts are to be up to date always. This includes company fees and regular dance class fees. Your account should never be more than a couple of weeks past due. Late fees of \$10 will be applied to all fees where payment is more than a week late. No exceptions will be made.
- Students will be dismissed from company if account is more than one month past due.

## **Fundraising**

- We offer several fundraisers throughout the year.
- Most are optional.
- There will be one fundraiser that will be required. Details will be posted soon.

## **Competitions**

- We attend 2-3 competitions a year. Competitions are mandatory unless otherwise stated.
- Competitions usually fall between the months of February and April.
- Specialty numbers are not required to attend more than one competition but are welcome to.

## **Special Performances**

- The LDAC members perform at least once per year in the community. Performances are mandatory and you are notified as soon as possible.

## **Specialty Numbers**

- Company dancers have the option to do a specialty number (solo, duet, trio). Please note: We do allow dancers ages 4 & under to do a specialty number at competitions. This is due to the fact that we do not start competitive groups until age 5.
- Dancers must be approved for a specialty number before picking music and a choreographer. Dancers are required to submit a short essay (6-8 sentences) with an explanation to why they want to do a solo.
- Choreographers must be staff at Ledwig Dance Academy. Outside choreographers must be approved by the director.
- Music must be approved by Ms. Stephanie before starting.
- Specialty numbers must be started by November 1<sup>st</sup> to allow time for practice.
- The choreography fee is \$85 and your specialty number will not be started until this fee is paid in full. Lessons to learn the choreography are the cost of a private lesson, \$40.
- Dancers doing a specialty number are REQUIRED to take a minimum of two one-hour private lessons before competition.
- In order for your dancer to compete their number in recital they must achieve one of the following:
  - 8 hours of private lessons (with an LDA staff member) and a score of 85% or higher at competition.
  - 1 hour of private lesson (with an LDA staff member) and a score of 96% or higher at competition.
- We do not make exceptions to participating in recital.

## **Communication**

- We communicate via monthly LDAC newsletters and text messages. Read your newsletter! It will have all of the information you need to stay up to date on payments and important dates. We send newsletters out on the first week of each month – check with your dancer.
- All members are required to sign up for our convenient text updates. Text @ledc to 81010. The service is free and helpful to us both!

## **Dress Code**

- For company practices, all members must be in black fitted dancewear.
- Tights are not required for company classes.
- Jazz shoes are required for ALL groups.
- Intermediate and Tot groups will need black tap shoes.
- Juniors and Seniors will need lyrical toe paws.
- Hair must be up and away from the face.

## **Behavior**

- Company members are to be on their best behavior at all times.
- They are to display respect for their fellow dancers and directors while in class.
- If any teacher feels a student is disrespecting the teacher, students, or environment, the student will be asked to leave.

## **Conventions/Trips – This is on hold due to Covid-19**

Every other year our studio takes a trip to a dream dance destination – New York, Disney, etc. Dancers must be 11 years or older and enrolled in a ballet and jazz class. Dancers must also be approved before planning to attend – this is open to non-company dancers as well. Not all students will be allowed to go due to ability/experience. Usually those with several years in company are able to attend without any problems. Those who are newer to competitive dance may struggle as they don't have the experience. Trips are not mandatory but are highly recommended.

## **Company Fees**

Company can get very costly which is why we have all of our fees listed below. Please note that regular dance fees are not included in these fees (Example: tuition, recital costumes, etc.). Budget accordingly as paying late WILL NOT be accepted.

### **Tuition/Month**

- Monthly company tuition costs \$35 for tot and intermediate members and \$45 for junior and senior members. This will be added to your monthly tuition for regular classes.
- The cost is more due to the choreography, extra practices (starting in January), and planning time.

### **Other Fees**

- Drop Fee –If you must drop company for any reason, there is a \$25 drop fee due within 7 days of the drop day.
- Costume Fees – All dancers will need costumes for company dances.
  - \$55 (Per Costume)
- Privates (If Needed) - \$40/Hour
- Competition Fees – Competition fees vary depending on competition. Here is a rough estimate:
  - \$65-\$85 Group Fees/ Dance
  - \$95-\$140 Solo Fees
- Choreography – It takes time and talent to choreograph a solo/duet/trio. We charge an \$85 choreography fee due before the first practice. Private lesson fees will apply to teach the dance to your dancer.
- Jacket – All company members are required to have a company jacket which costs between \$80-\$90
- Performance Tee – All company members are required to have a performance tee which will cost \$25-\$30.
- Shorts – Company members will need black booty shorts - \$12-\$18
- Nude tights – We sell nude tights which they will need for competition and recital - \$12
- Leotard – A plain black leotard is needed to wear under dance performance clothes at local performances.
- Earrings – Dancers will need performance earrings. We sell them for \$13 plus tax.

## **Required Skills**

The skills listed below are requirements for anyone hoping to join the company. We take into consideration that some skills can be learned in a few classes. However, most skills will need to be learned before auditions.

All dancers, ages 8 and under, will audition for the tot and/or intermediate competitive groups. We look for dancers who are focused, love to dance, and want to learn more.

Any dancer age 7-8 can be considered for the junior company depending on skill level. If they meet the required skill level needed for junior company, they will be given the option to dance with the junior co. for the new season.

### **Junior Company**

- Double Pirouette (prep from 4<sup>th</sup> & parallel)
- Leap (right & left)
- Russian
- Calypso
- Chainé Turns
- Pique Turns
- Control of arms & upper body

### **Senior Company**

- Double Pirouette (prep from 4<sup>th</sup> & parallel)
- Leap (right & left)
- Russian (right & left)
- Chainé Turns
- Pique Turns
- Calypso
- Circular Disk
- A la second turns (3 consecutive & single or double pirouette finish)
- Control of arms & upper body

**Ledwig Dance Academy**  
**Elite Dance Co. Auditions**  
**May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

Dancer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

How many years & where have you been dancing?

\_\_\_\_\_

What classes do you take? (Ballet, Jazz, Tap, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to join our company?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What company group are you hoping to be a part of?

\_\_\_\_\_

What will you do if you do not make the group you were hoping for?

\_\_\_\_\_

Please read the following statement carefully and sign:

"I have read and understand the LADC Information Packet for the 2020-2021 dance year. I agree to everything stated in the packet and will follow all rules and guidelines set out by the LADC."

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dancer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_