

FALMOUTH DANCE ACADEMY
STUDIO CONTRACT 2020-2021 - COMPETITION CLASSES

PARTICIPATION:

Thank you all for your new or continued participation on our Falmouth Dance Academy Competition Team! Our competition team selection is based on the following criteria: technique, potential, commitment, level, enthusiasm, attitude and behavior in class, attendance, and stage presence. As the studio director, dancers are placed by instructors and will be invited into the appropriate classes under the direction of the studio director.

ATTENDANCE AND TIME COMMITMENT:

This is a TEAM. Just like organized sport teams, this group of dancers require all to attend practices, classes, and rehearsals. Absences will not only affect the individual dancer, but the competition team as a whole.

Each dancer is allowed up to **three (3) unexcused absences** from Company classes and rehearsals. **Excused absences receive prior approval from the director; advance notice of absence does not mean it is excused.* The following are considered “excused” absences:

- Death in the family
- Scheduled school programs or performances required for credit.
- Wedding or religious dedication of your or a member of your family.
- If you are seriously ill or infectious.
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Dancers will watch class/rehearsal in the case of injury or mild illness. These same rules apply for all other classes.

Punctuality is just as important as attendance, **please be on time and prepared for class.** Two (2) occurrences of tardiness will count as an unexcused absence.

Students should not miss more than **five (5) of any one class** per dance season; after which, the dancer may be dismissed from the competition team. Dance requires consistent ongoing training, and dancers who excessively miss classes will not be able to perform at the same level as those who have attended all classes regularly.

Being a member of a dance team is a privilege and comes with responsibility. Personal accountability is essential for a successful season, and commitment to your other classmates is a vital component of this success. When a member of the team is not present, it negatively impacts your entire team.

Regular attendance in all dance classes is EXPECTED of competition members. Excess absences from ANY one dance class may be cause for dismissal from the competition team. No refund of payment shall be given in the event of dismissal.

Competition Team classes for the 2019-2020 Dance Season are as follows:

- Mini Competition Team: Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Ballet, Open Acro
- Petite Competition Team: Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Ballet, Open Acro
- Junior Competition Team: Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Ballet, Hip Hop, Acro
- Senior Competition Team: Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Ballet, Hip Hop

Additional classes offered include:

- All Recreational Class
- Speciality Groups (Small Groups, Solos, Duos, trios, etc.)

Extra Rehearsals/Specialty Group Routines: Extra rehearsals occur in lieu of competition season. Extra rehearsals are an additional cost per rehearsal; the rate is \$10 per hour/per session-no more than \$20 or 2 hours for each class. Specialty groups such as small groups, solos, duos, trios, are a privilege and do not have priority to their primary classes to their prerequisite classes. As these are extra, they do not have priority to their primary class schedule. With that, if there are overdue balances, for primary classes, students are NOT PERMITTED to attend specialty rehearsals of any kind.

****Rehearsal times for these routines will be outside of their regular class time. There are extra fees per these rehearsals for the instructor/choreographer's time. All specialty routines will be decided upon by the instructor and the director and are not at the request of the students or parents.*

COMPETITIONS AND CONVENTIONS

The competition team will attend 2-4 competitions/conventions throughout the dance season. Please be aware that becoming a competition team member will obligate you to these competitions/conventions. All competitions are held on weekends and are **FULL DAY** and possibly **FULL WEEKEND** commitments. Competition management does not send the performance date and time to the studio until 5-7 days prior to the event. Dancers and parents will need to be available for the entire weekend until we know a final schedule.

There are also occasions when our teams are asked to perform at local events such as town festivals, school shows, community events, etc. These performances may or may not have participation fees depending on the caliber of the event. These events are fun, educational, and great team building experiences when preparing for competitions and our annual recital.

Extra rehearsals may be called approaching a performance or competition. Extra rehearsals will be held when the studio's schedule permits and will be communicated ahead of time. Students and parents will be notified of any additional rehearsals at least one week prior to the date. We will make our best efforts to schedule additional rehearsals well in advance

COURTESY & RESPECT

All competition dancers will be held to the highest standard of conduct. Communicating negatively about anyone in or outside our studio will not be tolerated. Competition team members are expected to show courtesy and respect to all instructors and other students. Bullying is **NOT** tolerated in any shape or form and, if necessary, is handled appropriately with the presence of teacher, the studio director, parents, and any other authoritative figure necessary. Any student who exhibits repeated negative or disrespectful behavior will be asked to leave the competition team. Dancers are always respectful, supportive, encouraging, and are positive in spirit, attitude, and behavior.

DRESS CODE

All competition team members must wear appropriate dancewear to every class. Forgetting dancewear, shoes, proper hair and/or wearing inappropriate clothing is not acceptable.

Black Leotard, pink tights, and appropriate footwear for each class is mandatory. Spandex or form-fitting shorts are optional and must be approved by the instructor. Hair must be securely pulled up for all class, a bun is mandatory for ballet. Sweatpants, sweatshirts, excessive clothing, and dangling jewelry are not permitted while in class.

COMPETITION/CONVENTION APPAREL: It is MANDATORY for all competition members to have their FDA Competition jacket for competitions, conventions, and all performances.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Tuition for company members starts out as the established competition rate. It is mandatory that all competition members attend their prerequisite classes. Falmouth Dance Academy accepts cash, credit/debit, or checks for tuition payment. We ask that you provide two forms of payment on the financial agreement provided in your registration packet.

Competition dancers will attend at least 2 competitions this year. Please be aware that competition dates are subject to change and entry fees are determined by the competition. We allow payment plans for tuition but require that all competition dues be paid in full by competition deadlines. Additional performances (local events, or festivals) may or may not have participation fees depending on the caliber of the event; dance teachers will inform parents and participants if necessary. **PLEASE NOTE-** Competition dancers may also have the opportunity to travel to locations overnight or even over a weekend. Please be aware of any extra expenses that may occur.

Late fees/returned checks: It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to keep track of the student's balance. All balances should be paid on time to avoid a late fee charge of \$10 each month it occurs. There is also a \$30 fee charged to accounts for returned checks and a \$10 fee for declined cards. If three (3) months of a student's balance is unpaid, the dancer will be able to attend, but not participate, in classes.

Drop-outs: 30 day written notice via mail or email to FalmouthDance@yahoo.com is required of any dancer who would like to terminate their contract. A \$200 fee applies to any student who drops out of the competition team during the dance season, for instructors to re-choreograph and rearrange the competition routines.

HAVE FUN!!

Don't forget to have fun! You'll gain a lifetime of great memories and friendships during this time together so enjoy every second! We strive to make this the most positive and rewarding experience for our dancers and look forward to having another incredible and exciting dance season!