



## Dance Company Commitment Criteria

Becoming involved in any sport requires a certain level of commitment, but becoming great at anything requires a higher level of commitment and at times sacrifice. As a Dance Company Member, your child will have access to additional instruction and support of the studio, the opportunities to perform and compete, and be an integral part of all MNDA Recitals. Dance Company membership is a high honor and great accomplishment in a dancer's life. There are financial and time commitments involved for this distinguished membership and the associated privileges.

### **Pre-Requisite for Membership:**

This year, we will accept student transfers into Dance Company. Dance Company members will only be selected through the Audition process. This is not meant to be an intimidating process, rather a positive and encouraging experience to build confidence and provide the audition skills they will need in the future. While it is not guaranteed that all students auditioning (as it is an open audition) will be accepted into the Company, it is guaranteed that all students auditioning will be awarded apprenticeship status at minimum. Apprenticeship allows the opportunity to be involved in more dances in the recital and considered for additional performances and permitted to join us at dance conventions.

### **Time Commitments:**

Classes: Dance Company Members will be required to be enrolled in at least two regular dance classes at MNDA during the Fall/Spring season. Attendance shall remain at 90% in order to obtain and retain skills and choreography. While making up absences in a different class is allowed per studio policy, it does not negate an absence for purposes of this commitment because the dancer is still missing information pertinent to their individual development/performance as a company member.

It is highly recommended that dancers continue classes during the summer to maintain their endurance and skill. We understand that this may conflict with summer vacation plans and we do offer make-up classes during the summer.

Monthly Company-Only Classes: Dance Company Members are privy to Company-Only classes that will occur one weekend a month. These classes provide both "master class" style technique lessons and are the forum for learning Company-only dances that will be used in various performances/competitions/recital. The length of these classes will range from 1-3hours depending on the age group and also by style of dance. For example, if our age 5-6 year old company members are only in ballet and tap, they will likely only take ballet and tap for 1.5 hours; however, our teens who are involved in Jazz, Ballet, Contemporary, and Tap will likely have class for the full 3 hours. We will not necessarily teach all styles in the same weekend either. These classes are mandatory and only an excused absence due to contagious illness will be permitted.

Ad-Hoc Company-Only Practices: Additional time commitment may vary year to year depending on the amount of competitions, performances, and conventions the Company plans to attend.



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There will be additional practices required as we approach Competitions and Performance dates, ideally these will be weekend practices as well.

#### **Parent Involvement Commitments:**

The success of our dancers does depend upon the level of support our parents provide. Parents of Dance Company Members are obligated to ensure that their child is delivered to classes, practices, and events on time and in proper attire. MNDA Dance Company Moms/Dads will be required to provide at least two hours of volunteer service to the studio during Competition/Recital season. (A maximum of 2 hours can be rolled over to the following year, for example if you volunteered backstage 8 hours in 2022, then you can skip volunteer efforts in 2023, but would be required again in 2024 to fulfill the minimum requirement). Only one parent/guardian/grandparent is required per student to perform these volunteer duties. Volunteer duties vary in range from tasks at the studio, chaperones at performances, working fundraisers, Stage Mom at recital, and various other tasks related to supporting dance events. The Dance Company will largely be guided initially by the input of parents and students, so please do attend any and all meetings and read all emails. If you fail to satisfy your volunteer requirements for the year, your account will be charged a Volunteer Opt-out fee.

#### **Financial Commitments:**

In addition to normal class, annual registration fees, and recital fees, Dance Company Members will be required to pay the following fees:

Fee Detail	Amount	Due Date
<b>Membership Dues</b> (includes Monthly Classes, T-Shirt, three Ad-Hoc practices)	<b>\$315 per year</b>	<b>50% due by 7/1/2024 100% due by 9/1/2024</b>
<b>Additional Ad-Hoc Practice Fees</b>	<b>\$15 per hour</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Costume Fees*</b> (this is an estimate assuming 2 standard costumes)	<b>~\$120 per year</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Competition / Convention Fees*</b> (This is an estimate assuming 1 convention and 1 competition. Competition Solos/Duets/Trios are additional fees.)	<b>~\$600 per year</b>	<b>50% due by 10/1/2024 100% due by 1/1/2024</b>
<b>Team Building Events*</b>	<b>~\$20 per event</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Volunteer Opt-Out Fee*</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>TBD</b>

Apprenticeship Financial Commitments are as follows:

Fee Detail	Amount	Due Date
<b>Membership Dues</b> (includes Occasional Classes, T-Shirt)	<b>\$75</b>	<b>50% due by 7/1/2024 100% due by 9/1/2024</b>
<b>Ad-Hoc Practice Fees</b>	<b>\$15 per hour</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Convention Fees*</b> (this is an estimate assuming 1 convention)	<b>~\$300 per year</b>	<b>50% due by 10/1/2024 100% due by 1/1/2024</b>



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<b>Team Building Events*</b>	<b>~\$20 per event</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Volunteer Opt-Out Fee*</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>TBD</b>

\*Costume Fees: The Dance Company will be required to have additional costumes for the various venues that they will perform. Where possible, we will utilize Recital Costumes from past or current year. These fees can be kept low if Moms are willing to sew costumes☺.

\*Competition and Convention Fees: Each Dance Competition or Dance Convention sets their own fees. We will choose to attend the events that satisfy our overall goals for growth and experience. Competition fees begin with a base rate of \$60 for company participation and will increase if students desire to enter small group or solo pieces. Competitions and Conventions typically cost between \$200-\$450 per individual student and vary from 1-5 day events.

\*Team Building Events: We want our Dance Company Members to have a team bond and enjoy being part of a special group of dancers. We plan to have a “lock-in” or “slumber party” at the studio and one additional TBD event in order to make these dancers feel at home at the studio and with each other. Fees associated with this event are mainly to cover any rental cost, food/beverage, staff support, and activities/favors.

\*Volunteer Opt-Out Fee: This fee will only be charged to parents who decide that they cannot fulfill the minimum required volunteer hours.

**Payment plans can be put into place for Membership Dues, but 50% is due upon Dance Company Contract Signature no later than 7/1/2024. All estimated costs will be confirmed prior to the required payment due dates.**

**Anticipated 2024/2025 Company Member Schedule:**

- **Auditions Jun 1<sup>st</sup> 2pm**
- **Results Email Jun 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- **Dance Company and Apprenticeship Induction Meeting – Jun 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm – Parents and Students Welcome, Celebration and What to Expect, Discuss Potential Conventions/Competitions**
- **Summer Company Classes/Practices:**
  - **TBD upon team formation to accommodate various family’s vacation plans**
- **Fall Company Classes/Practices:**
  - **Sat Aug 17<sup>th</sup> – 9:30am-11:30am**
    - **Apprentice and Petite Company -9:30am-10:30am**
    - **Junior Company -10:30-11:30am**
  - **Fri Sep 6<sup>th</sup> – 5-6pm**
    - **Petite Company -5-6:00pm**
    - **Junior Company -6-7pm**
  - **Sat Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – 1-4pm – Ad hoc Practice**



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- **Petite Company -1-2:30pm**
- **Junior Company -2-4pm**
- **Sun Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – 2-4pm**
  - **Petite Company -2-3:15pm**
  - **Junior Company –2:45-4pm**
- **Fri Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – 4-6:30pm (Ad-hoc Practice & Fall Ball)**
  - **Petite Company -4-4:30pm**
  - **Junior Company -4-4:30pm**
  - **Open to public, hosted by Company: Fall Ball 5-6:30pm**
- **Sat Nov 16<sup>th</sup> – 1-3pm**
  - **Petite Company -1-2pm**
  - **Junior Company -2-3pm**
- **Sat Dec 7<sup>th</sup> – 1-4pm**
  - **Petite Company -1-2:30pm**
  - **Junior Company -2:15-4pm**
- ***Dance Convention - Jan 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> (Revel)***
- ***Sun Jan 5<sup>th</sup> - 4:30-5:30pm (Ad-hoc Practice)***
  - ***Petite Company –4:30-5:30pm***
  - ***Junior Company –4:30-5:30pm***
- **Sat Jan 25<sup>th</sup> – 1-3pm**
  - **Petite Company -1-2:15pm**
  - **Junior Company –1:30-3pm**
- **Sat Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> – 1-2:30pm**
  - **Petite Company -1-2pm**
  - **Junior Company -1-2:30pm**
- **Sat Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2-5pm**
  - **Petite Company -3:30-5pm**
  - **Junior Company –2-3:30pm**
- **Sat Apr 5<sup>th</sup>– 1-3:30pm**
  - **Petite Company -1-2:30pm**
  - **Junior Company -2-3:30pm**
- **Sat Apr 26<sup>th</sup>– (Ad-hoc Practice)**
  - **All Levels – 1-2:30pm**
- **Fri May 9<sup>th</sup> – 4:30-5:30pm**
  - **All Levels – 4:30-5:30pm**
- **Conventions and Competitions:**
  - ***Dance Convention (Houston) - Jan 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> (Revel)***
  - ***TATD (Houston) - ~June 20<sup>th</sup> TBD***
- **Performances:**
  - **Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10am-2pm – HEB Kids Day At Spring Valley Village**
- **Recital – May 17, 2025 ~4pm**