



STAGETEAM COMPANY OFFICIAL HANDBOOK 2020/21

The Company program is for dancers who wish to enrich their dance experience through elite training, challenging choreography, travel to local, mainland, and US competitions/conventions and more which may include summer dance trips and audition opportunities. Company requires a high financial and time commitment from families, and members are expected to be the role models for everyone at the studio while inside the studio walls and out. The benefits to this program are endless as so many life lessons and life skills are learned throughout each dancer's journey. This is a perfect program for the dancer who is looking to take their training to the next level, and if they so desire, prepares these dancers for a professional career in dance.

Time/Financial Commitment Level:

This program requires a high time and financial commitment from dancers and their families, though we do our best to tailor our program to suit the dancer rather than the other way around!

Minimum Hours/Week:

Juniors - 2.5 hours

Inters - 4 hours

Seniors - 5 hours

Required Classes:

We highly encourage dancers to take more than what is listed here. Ballet Tech, PBT, and Conditioning are technique based, non-performance classes. All Company dancers may choose to add additional classes to their schedule which opens up more opportunities for the year end show, competitions, and choreography.

Juniors - Comp Ballet Tech, Jazz, PBT

Inters - Comp Ballet Tech, Jazz, choice of Ballet Tech OR Perf, choice of PBT OR Conditioning

Seniors - Comp Ballet Tech, Jazz, choice of Ballet Tech OR Perf, PBT, Conditioning

Optional Classes:

Juniors - 2nd Ballet class, Tap, Acro, Hip Hop, Modern, Modern Stage

Inters - 3rd Ballet class, Tap, Acro, Hip Hop, Lyrical, Contemporary/Modern, Modern Stage, Pre-Pointe/Pointe

Seniors - 3rd Ballet class, Pre-Pointe/Pointe, Tap, Acro, Hip Hop, Lyrical, Contemporary/Modern, Modern Stage

Tuition & Fee Schedule:

- Registration Fee - \$42.00 before July 1, \$52.50 after July 1
- Tuition Fees - based on hours danced per week as per tuition chart below, with additional 5% Company discount! Tuition can be paid in full year (due September 1, 2020), half year (due September 1, 2020 and February 1, 2021) and monthly (1st of each month September 2020 - June 2021) payments. Tuition payments are accepted via Pre-Authorized debit or Visa/Mastercard only. Visa/Mastercard payments are subject to a 3% processing fee.
- Choreography Fees - \$325.00 + GST per solo, \$150.00 + GST per duet or trio, and between \$50.00-\$100.00 per group (depending on how many dancers register for a group).
Choreography fees are due September 15, 2020.
- Costume Fees - costumes range from \$75.00-\$120.00. Dancers will need a costume for each of their regular classes that performs in the year end show, and for each competitive routine. With additional routines comes additional costumes... and additional fees! Each fall our studio will hold a costume swap & rental day where dancers can bring in their old costumes for others to swap or rent. Although some routines will require new costumes, and we may not always be able to find enough/the correct sizes of old costumes, we highly encourage the use of old costumes (especially for solos, duets, and trios) to reduce costs for families. Competition costume fees are due October 1, 2020, and year end show costume fees are due March 1, 2020.
- Competition Fees - range from \$30.00-\$60.00 per group, \$50.00-\$75.00 per duet/trio, and \$75.00-\$100.00 per solo. Competition fees are due November 15, 2020.
- Convention Fees - range from \$200.00-\$350.00 USD per event. Students will NOT be required to compete at conventions. Competition fees at conventions range from \$30.00-\$75.00 USD per group, \$50.00-\$75.00 USD per duet/trio, and \$150.00-\$200.00 USD per

solo. Convention fees MUST be paid in US cash or money order. No Canadian conversions will be accepted.

- Summer trips and other additional opportunities are TBD due to COVID-19.
- Fundraising is a great way to save money! Fundraising can be organized by parents and families. If a parent has an idea for a fundraiser, they may bring it to the Director's attention and the Director will happily distribute information to dance families.

Competition Choreography:

- Competition choreography will incur a separate fee. This fee varies greatly based on the number of routines your dancer is registered for, how many dancers are in each group, and if your dancer is selected for a trio, duet, or solo. This fee is due by September 15, 2020.
- Company dancers will learn their competition routines outside of the regular timetable. This may be on Friday evenings or Saturday mornings/afternoons. This does not mean that your dancer is committed to an "extra class" every Friday or Saturday - competition routines are set in a certain number of hours by the choreographer and once it is finished, competition routines are ran between classes.
- Company dancers may be called into the studio on a Friday or Saturday for a rehearsal before an upcoming competition if extra time is needed for a particular routine. Rehearsals will be no extra cost to dance families.
- The competition routine schedule and fees are set once each dancer has registered for their groups of choice and choreographers have been organized.
- Company dancers must register for competition routines that they wish to participate in.
- Dancers may only register for groups that are in the same styles that they are taking in classes. For example, if Amanda age 9 is taking Ballet Tech, Jazz, and Lyrical, she may sign up for Ballet, Jazz, and Lyrical routines but not Hip Hop or Tap. Dancers do not have to sign up for all routines they are eligible for; i.e. Amanda may choose to compete Lyrical only.
- Dancers may sign up for group and solo routines of their choice. Dancers may sign up for trios and duets but will be placed with dancer(s) at the choreographer's discretion.

- Dancers are limited to 2 solos per dancer from VIREO choreographers. Solo choreography is expensive, not to mention it racks up the competition fee bill! Therefore, we highly encourage that money going towards extra classes, private lessons, or group routines instead.
- With the Director's permission, dancers may have a solo set by a guest choreographer. Payment for guest choreography is between dancer and choreographer, and has nothing to do with the studio. The dancer and the Director must get permission from the choreographer to compete or perform that routine under VIREO.
- Dancers may NOT compete choreography set by themselves, another dancer, volunteer, or TA unless approved by the Director. Student choreography will require an application to be filled out and accepted - you can find this document on our website by the Teachers' Assistants information.

Attending Competitions:

- Company dancers attend 1-3 Island competitions per year. This is TBD as of June 1, 2020 due to COVID-19. Competition dates will be released to parents by September 1, 2020 and fees will be released to parents as soon as all competition choreography is organized, COVID-19 depending. If for any reason due to COVID-19 this changes, we will let parents know immediately.
- Competition fees range from \$30.00-\$60.00 per group, \$50.00-\$75.00 per duet/trio, and \$75.00-\$100.00 per solo. Competition fees are due November 15, 2020.
- Competition fees are dependant upon how many routines your child is entering. For example, a dancer who is in 2 groups and 1 trio will have less expensive fees than a dancer who is in 8 groups and has 3 solos.
- Parents are responsible for getting their dancer to the competition and dancers are considered in parent care while attending competitions. Carpooling is a fantastic option! Teachers attend by choice out of pocket, and are not paid by dance families for this time.
- Most competitions will not require a hotel but hotels may be more cost effective instead of driving back and forth. It is up to parents to book hotels if necessary, although VIREO will provide an itinerary for each event including the suggested hotel.
- Team jackets or VIREO wear is mandatory to be worn at all times at competition venues except, of course, when dancers are on stage!

Company Trips and Extra Opportunities:

- The benefits to being a part of Company include the extra opportunities provided to dancers, such as Convention Trips, CLI Studios class days, potential audition opportunities, and the possibility of summer trips i.e. a summer intensive at a prestigious studio in Los Angeles, New York, attending a National Finals etc. For the 2020/21 season, opportunities may change due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Our Company program travels to the US or US Conventions held around Canada 1-2 times per year. Please note that this may change for the 2020/21 season due to COVID-19. We will still do our best to provide Company dancers with as many elite opportunities as we can if we are unable to travel to the US.
- Our Company US Convention trips give dancers the opportunity to learn from other amazing dancers and from North America's most knowledgeable dance professionals.
- While parents are welcome to attend conventions, we travel together and stay together as a team. Please note this may change based on how many Company dancers are attending the trip. If the attending instructors cannot take everyone, parents will be required to attend.
- Parents will be required to attend auditions, National Finals, and summer trips if the Company attends any.
- Many lessons are taught on these trips. We have spent countless hours with dancers on these trips teaching valuable life lessons. Travelling with a team without your family teaches respect for your teammates and chaperones, responsibility for yourself, your belongings, etc. and accountability, as well as lots of opportunity to learn about money and spending, managing personalities and team dynamics, and of course independence.
- These trips have given dancers memories to last a lifetime and a forever dance family.
- Perhaps the biggest benefit to these trips is the opportunity to participate in convention classes. The events we travel to are some of the most top notch, elite, and professional events in the United States and Canada. The convention/master classes are taught by world-renowned professional dancers/teachers/choreographers and they share infinite amounts of wisdom and insight about the professional dance world and how it relates to life. The convention classes are the highlight of our competition events.

- Dancers participate in real dance auditions and have the possibility of being selected for scholarships for dance and talent agencies, university level dance programs, some of the best summer intensive dance programs in the US and Canada, as well as scholarships that reduce fees for the event the following year. Some of our dancers have successfully auditioned and been selected out of hundreds of dancers as scholarship winners.

Behaviour Expectations:

- Competition Team dancers and parents are expected to behave respectfully and appropriately. Competition Team families are asked to sign a contract that must be handed in before official enrolment into the Competition Team program. This contract outlines the behaviour expectations for dancers and parents, and outlines the fee schedule. We know that the majority of our dance families are fantastic, however this contract is in place for a reason and that is to protect the integrity and well-being of our studio, programs, staff, dancers, and dance families. Thank you for understanding!

Thank you for your interest in the Stageteam Competition Team program, and we look forward to dancing with you in 2020/21!