



## 2018-2019 Company Packet

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Company Auditions: Saturday, August 18th

**Please turn in Audition Forms to the studio BY August 10th**

### **Time Slots**

Level I-I.V - 10:00 AM

Level II - 1:00 PM

Level III/IV - 3:00 PM

### **Company Directors**

Emily Hatch

Kristen Knapp

### **Company Instructors**

Amanda Gohring

Keeli James

### **Guest Instructors**

Tori Carney

Alexi Grant

### **Team Levels**

Minis

Petites

Juniors

Teens

Seniors

## AUDITION INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

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- Auditions will be held Saturday, August 18th. Time Slots and Info are on front page.
  - If you will be out of town that weekend, video applications will be accepted no later than 10:00pm on **Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**.
- **Prior Company experience does not ensure you a spot for the upcoming year! We want our girls to strive to strengthen and grow each year.**
- Please arrive to prep camp and auditions with a black leo, bun, and black booty shorts or leggings with Jazz, Contemporary, and Ballet shoes.
- Must participate in Company Prep Week (August 13th-17th) as dancers will be learning various combinations that they will use for their audition (\$175 for the week). Minis - \$50
- Dancers need to attend intensive for their ballet level
- Please bring a water bottle and snack.

## REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN A COMPANY TEAM

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- Mini's - must be enrolled in at least (1) class at RDA.
- Petites-Seniors - must be enrolled in a ballet, jazz, and/or technique, as well as an elective class at RDA. Drill team will be considered as an alternative for a jazz and/or technique class. However, taking an extra technique class could be beneficial for your dancer.
- We will have team practice once a week. Specialty groups will practice twice a week. **Mini's will practice twice a month - please refer to 2018-2019 working calendar.** Please refer to the company policies and procedures for unexcused and excused absences.

## SKILLS

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- **All dancers must have at least 2 years of experience to be on Company, excluding Mini's.**
- Dancers will need to show pirouettes, chaines, pique turns, around the world kicks, chasse step leap, and splits (all 3) in addition to the combinations they will learn.
- Dancers will be given the chance to perform an improv across-the-floor combination to allow the judges to see any other skills they might have.

## TEAM INFORMATION

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- Teams will be formed based on similar skill levels, with age taken into consideration as well.
- Teams will each be given (2) group dances they will learn.
  - The style of the 2 dances will be determined after tryouts as the judges will have a better understanding of group dynamics and skills.
- Team practice days and times will be determined with the upcoming Fall Schedule
- Company is a commitment for the entire season. Therefore, each dancer is expected to complete the full season in each dance they signed up for. Should a dancer decide they do not want to participate in a Company dance they will forfeit the opportunity to compete with a solo, duet, or trio the following season.
- The cost for Company is \$100/month per dancer (studio sibling discount is applied to total monthly fee).
  - Being a member of a Company team is a privilege that not every dancer will experience this year.

- Team practices run longer and are more challenging than an average recreational class.
- The extra monthly fee covers any extra practices, choreography, rental space, Company instructor wages, guest instructor wages, and administration expenses.
- Mini Company fee is \$35 a month.

## SOLOS, DUETS, TRIOS & SPECIALTY DANCE INFORMATION

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- Dancers with a level of intermediate and up may audition for more than one solo. Multiple duets, trios and specialty dances are offered.
- Specialty dances are audition-based groups that will practice 3 Fridays a month for one-hour classes. These pieces are ideal for dancers who have a strong level of commitment and availability to practice and perform when scheduled.
  - Applicable for Juniors-Seniors only
- All solos, duets, trios, and specialty dances will be eligible by audition only. There will be a space on your audition form to request which dances you would like to audition for. **This does not guarantee you a spot.**
- All music picked for solos, duets, and trios must be approved by the instructor and/or director. **Must be appropriate! A list of suggested and pre-approved songs will be available upon request.**
- Group and Specialty music will be picked by the instructor
- 2:30 min max time for solos, duets and trios and 3 min max time for group dances

## COMPETITIONS

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- RDA will participate in 4 Regional Competitions and 1 National Competition - Mini's will perform in 2-3 competitions.
- We will announce optional competitions/conventions dates if/when the opportunities become available.
- 2019 competition dates are NOT released to the general public or studio owners until further into the 2018 year. Therefore, we will not have definitive dates to announce until Fall. These dates and competitions are subject to change over the summer. Below are tentative dates that we do currently have:
  - Tremaine (Applicable for Specialty Groups and any Solos, Duets, and Trios available to attend)
    - Feb 2nd 2019
    - They do limit number of dances allowed to participate, once announced we will determine an appropriate way to decide what solos, duets, trios attend
  - Talent on Parade (Minis Attend)
    - DFW - February 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>
  - Starpower
    - DFW - March 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>
  - Legacy (Minis Attend)
    - SMU in Dallas - April 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>
  - Starquest (Applicable for Specialty Groups and any Solos, Duets, and Trios available)
    - Irving, Tx - April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>
  - Revolution Talent
    - DFW - May 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>
  - Legacy Nationals (Minis Attend)
    - DFW - July 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

**\*Judges Critiques from each competition will be available upon request. Please allow up to a week to deliver them to you via email.**

## COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

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- For these performances, extra practices may be required at no extra charge.
- More information about these performances will be provided as the studio is informed. *Note: we will try to give parents and dancers an adequate amount of time in advance to prepare and make arrangements for these performances. Unfortunately, the studio may only find out a week or two before the designated performance time for some events - please allow yourselves to be flexible in these plans as best as possible.*
- Dates are subject to change:
- **Royse City Fun Fest - October 20th (Pending time finalization)**
  - Mini's and Petites only
- **Dancing and Desserts - November 2nd, 2018**
  - Applicable for All Company Dancers
- **Rockwall Spring Show - Date TBD**
  - **Applicable for All Company Dancers**
- **End of year Recital - June 1st**
  - All company members will perform solos, duets, trios, groups, and specialty group dances at Recital.

## ATTIRE

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### Class

- Ballet: Black leotard, pink tights, pink ballet shoes, and hair in a bun. Any dancer that does not comply with the dress code will be required to perform an exercise of the instructor's discretion.
- Company: Black top or leotard or RDA shirt with shorts or pants.

### Competition

- Dancers: RDA jacket and warm up pants (you may wear costume underneath jacket if you choose. However, there will be a changing room for us but it will not be private, so please wear appropriate undergarments), with make-up and hair completely done for first scheduled dance.
- If you have multiple dances in one day, bring ALL costumes, tights, shoes, and accessories needed.
- Please either wear nude undergarments or no undergarments with your costumes and ballet attire.
- Nail polish needs to be nude colored or French tip.
- Parents: Something comfortable as these things can last hours

**It is important to remember that these girls represent the studio everywhere we go!**

## LATE POLICY

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### Class

- A 5-minute grace period is allowed as Rockwall ALWAYS has traffic. If the dancer arrives any later than 5 minutes, she will be disrupting the class as she enters.
  - Before the dancer enters the classroom, they need to crack the door open and see if it is ok with the teacher to enter.
- Parents must let the office know via email if a dancer will be missing either class or Company practice.
  - If a dancer misses a ballet class they must either do a make-up in another ballet class or a technique class
  - The email will go into your file to keep track of all absences and tardies.
- Each dancer is allowed 3 unexcused absences.
  - Unexcused Absence: forgot, travel, party, etc.
  - Excused Absence: school event, sickness, funeral, wedding, etc.
- Students may have 4 excused absences from team practice per year.
  - After 4 unexcused missed practices, students will need to schedule a private to make up anything they have missed, in addition to having a meeting between the dancer, Ms. Emily and the parent
  - Company is a commitment and needs to be a priority for dancers, it is director discretion to ask someone to leave Company if they fail to comply with attendance policies
  - Parents fees will be discounted in accordance with holiday schedules.

## Competition

- It is IMPERATIVE that each dancer arrives at the time we tell them, with make-up and hair COMPLETELY finished
  - Hair is not a discussion, it is determined beforehand by the instructor based on the dance style as well as how much time they have between dances
  - You MUST have the correct tights, shoes and all costume pieces at every competition
- Competitions can run up to an hour and a half early, which is why we always try to be there 1.5 hours in advance in order to have ample time to stretch, warm up, and run through dances.
- IT IS UNFAIR, STRESSFUL AND DISRESPECTFUL TO THE OTHER DANCERS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS TO CONTINUALLY BE LATE TO THESE IMPORTANT EVENTS.
- Each dancer will be allowed 2 tardies to Competitions.
- After 2 tardies, the parent will be charged a \$25 fee PER TARDY and the dancer will not be allowed to perform anything other than the group dances at the next competition

## CONDUCT

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**Please remember that is a privilege to be a part of RDA's Company as not everyone who auditions will make it.**

### Class

- Each dancer should be respectful and courteous to their instructors and other classmates.
- Entering class late on a consistent basis is considered disruptive and disrespectful to your classmate's and instructor's time.
- If a dancer is acting out and being disruptive, she may be asked to leave the class.
- If a dancer has been asked to leave the room or sit out three times, a meeting will be scheduled with Emily and the parents.

### Competition

- Whether win or lose, we want to see our girls do it with humility!
- RDA Company members should always encourage and congratulate each other, we are building lasting relationships through team bonding.
- Each dancer should be respectful and courteous to other instructors and dancers at competitions.
- Learning how to encourage and cheer others on in a competitive setting is a valuable life lesson.

- We want to see our dancers encouraging other dancers at competition.
- It is never okay to badmouth or be disrespectful to another dancer, instructor, or studio.
- While we do want to win, competitions are also about team bonding, appreciating other dances, and learning from judge's critiques.

## TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

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**This will be an opportunity for any members of our Teen Company who are ages 15 and up as of September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

### Class assistant

- As a studio, we want to see our dancers continue to improve and grow. One of the best ways to do that is through an assistant teacher program!
- We want our dancers to begin training how to teach dance which will teach them many valuable lessons, as well as allowing them to grow as a dancer.
- Some of the classes that we want assistants for include our Combo Classes, Level I, Beginner, and Level 1.5.
- Teacher assistants will receive a 10% discount off their monthly tuition - sign-up sheet will be available after auditions.

## BIG SIS/LIL SIS

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- Each dancer will be paired with a Big or Lil sis at our Company Lock-In (date and time below).
- Dancers will write each other encouraging notes before Competitions, get each other small gifts (\$10 or less), etc. It is okay if you want to go over \$10 during the holidays.
- For the Big Sis, it is a valuable learning experience to help out a younger dancer, encourage, nurture and be there for her.
- For the Lil sis, it will provide a role model in dance, as well as in character, and provide encouragement as these girls face new challenges each day.
- If you are unable to see your Big/Lil sis before any competition, you may leave your gift or note at the front desk and we will be sure to get in contact with them for you.

## COMPANY LOCK IN

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- Date: September 8<sup>th</sup>
- Time: 5:00PM-11:00PM
- Every dancer MUST attend!
- Big & Lil sis will be announced
- Pizza will be provided by RDA
- There will be a sign-up sheet for other items such as snacks and drinks

### Company Group Pictures - Tank Fees Due

- We will be taking pictures Wednesday August 22nd. Please wear stage make up with whatever color lips look best and hair down.
  - Minis - wear white
  - Petites - wear red
  - Juniors - wear blue
  - Teens - wear green
  - Seniors - wear yellow
- Pictures will be taken at Harry Meyers park beginning at 6:00pm
- Pictures Orders due by the end of Pictures

## COSTUMES

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Catalogs - **We will not be wearing two-piece costumes during competition - if there is a two-piece costume, a mesh insert will be required.**

- Weissman
- Curtain Call
- Revolution
- Costume Gallery
- Dancewear Solutions
- Art Stone
- Glamour
- Discount dancewear
- Kelle (more expensive)

## COMPANY PRICING BREAKDOWN

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### DUE AT COMPANY CHOREOGRAPHY CAMP - **AUGUST 27TH-31<sup>ST</sup>**

- Choreography Intensive schedule will be announced on Monday the 20th along with audition results
  - The intensive will go from Monday August 27th - 31st, If we need some more practice time we will schedule it for September 1st
  - Choreography intensive will cost:
    - Mini's - \$25
    - Petites, Juniors, Seniors - \$40
    - Add \$10 for each specialty dance participating in

### Solo, Duet, Trio Pricing Per Instructor - **Due at instructor discretion**

- **Solo, duet, trio fees (Ms. Emily)**
  - \$250 (duets and trios will be split by dancers)
  - Includes 4 total hours of privates - can be split up however
  - Additional Private Lesson \$75/hour
  - Payment accepted: cash, check, DSP Parent Portal
- **Solo, duet, trio fees (Ms. Kristen)**
  - \$50 for 30 seconds of choreography (ex: 2 min dance is \$200)
    - This includes a 1 hour private to teach it, all other sessions are at the private lesson rate
    - \$25 additional fee for assistance in selecting music
    - \$30 additional fee for music cuts
  - Private Lesson \$60/hour
  - Payment accepted: cash, check, PayPal
  - All privates must start and end on time
- **Solo, duet, trio fees (Ms. Tori)**
  - **Solos**
    - 1 min and 30 sec. solo is \$200
    - \$50 for every 30 sec. after that.

- Teaching time for a solo is 1 hr 30 min.
- Duets
  - 1 min and 30 sec. duet is \$250 (split between 2 people)
  - \$50 for every 30 sec after that
  - Teaching time is 2 hours
- Trios
  - 1 min and 30 sec. duet is \$300 (split between 3 people)
  - \$50 for every 30 sec after that
  - Teaching time is 2 hours
- Privates \$50 for 1 hr
- **Solo, duet, trio fees (Ms. Amanda)**
  - Deposit of \$100 is due upon selection of music and scheduling studio time.
  - Solo: \$250
  - Duet: \$125 per dancer
  - Trio: \$90 per dancer
  - This fee includes: helping with selecting music, cutting music, and 4 – 1 hour in studio rehearsals. Any rehearsal needed after 4 will be an additional \$40/hour per rehearsal.
- **Solo, duet, trio fees (Ms. Alexi)**
  - 300 solos
  - 350 duet trio (split between dancers)
  - -includes one two hour private to learn choreography: additional privates need to be scheduled after if the whole piece wasn't learned
  - -privates \$65/hour
  - -cash check Venmo

## DUE BY **SEPTEMBER 22ND**

- Company Jackets - range from \$55-\$75 + tax
  - We will be ordering new jackets this year, as we have used the same jackets the last 2 years. You are not required to order a new jacket.
- All Costumes will need to be paid for by this date
  - You may spread them out however you like, as long as all costumes are paid BY SEPTEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>.
  - Costume prices range from \$60-\$100 per costume.
  - Sometimes costumes require special tailoring, which will be on the parent to handle.
    - Ms. Emily will communicate with the tailor and tell them what we want. The parents will need to drop off their costumes and pick them up when ready.

## MONTHLY AND SPECIALTY FEES

- Petites-Seniors - \$100/month
- Minis - \$35/month
- Specialty Dances are priced as follows:
  - \$50/month for (1) specialty dance
  - \$40/month for (2) specialty dances
  - \$30/month for (3) specialty dances
- These fees will be charged on the 1st of each month with your monthly tuition.

## COMPETITION FEES



- General Competition fees for EACH competition are:
  - Solo - \$130
  - Duet - \$75 per dancer
  - Trio - \$55 per dancer
  - Group/Specialty dance - \$50 per dancer

**Average Bulk Competition fee BY type of admission** - If you have multiple types of admissions, please add accordingly

- This is calculated by solos, duets, trios, or groups multiplied by how many competitions we attend.
- $\$130 \times 5 = \$650$
- $\$75 \times 5 = \$375$
- $\$55 \times 5 = \$275$
- $\$50 \times 2 = \$100 \times 5 = \$500$

**Competition fees will be added to accounts on October 5th, 2018 and will be COMPLETELY due BY January 31st, 2019.**

- There will be a \$50 late fee charged to any account that has a Company balance AFTER January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- If certain arrangements need to be made, please contact Mrs. Emily and we will see what we can do.

## Dress Rehearsal

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### NO ADDITIONAL FEE - January 12th 2019 (Date To be Finalized)

- We will rent out the ballroom at Chandlers Landing and set up a full dress rehearsal for all Company dances
  - Full make-up, hair, costume, props, etc
  - Teachers will judge and provide scoresheets (mock competition)

Our goal at RDA is to create beautiful dancers with correct technique. This is why Ballet is such a huge priority here. If our dancers want to continue doing this later in life and not simply end in high school, they MUST have Ballet! Company is not for the faint of heart. It is a huge monetary and time commitment. Please take these things into consideration when contemplating auditioning for Company. Company is only for those dancers who want to take their training to the next level by attending competitions and conventions to receive feedback about how to improve as a dancer. We love our Company members and give them every opportunity we can to help them achieve their dreams. We cannot wait to see you at auditions!