

## Overview

This is a simple, easy-to-follow guide that outlines our program. All of the details are clearly and carefully presented.

### Admission Process

Dancers are selected to participate in Austin Dance Company's Impact Performance Team through an audition and interview process. Dancers do not need to be currently registered in the program in order to register. Auditions for the 2010-2011 season will be held at the Jester Village location in May 2010 and June 2010. Additional audition times may be accommodated by contacting the studio office. Dancers are required to register for an audition appointment with the office.

Dancers will be evaluated on technical skill, dancer's manners and work ethic. Overall, we are much more interested in a hard-working dancer who is willing to give 100% effort than a dancer with natural turnout or flexibility.

Dancers who are currently on dance team will be given priority placement. In order to reserve your dancer's spot for the following year, current dance team members must return paperwork and deposit no later than April 2010.

### Parental Involvement

All Impact Performance Team parents are required to follow the studio's Code of Conduct. We expect full participation and support of the studio's programs. As such, we are a no-gossip zone. Gossip and negativity of any kind will not be tolerated. Parents are required to support the dance team in a minimum of three events over the course of the school year. We rely on the support of our dance families and appreciate your involvement in your child's commitment to dance.

### Accelerated Program

Dancers on Impact will accelerate at a much quicker pace than recreational dancers. Dance team is a big commitment and requires the genuine commitment of the student and the parents. It is an expensive, time-consuming, exhausting endeavor; however, it will ultimately lead to great reward. Please carefully read the contents of this manual and thoughtfully consider your decision to join ADC's Impact Performance Team.

**We strive to make every experience a wonderful memory for the dancer and their family!**

**2010 – 2011**

## Impact Performance Team Info Packet

Please read this carefully! It clearly outlines all of the dance team events and requirements.

### Team:

A group of people who share the same interests and all work together to achieve the same goals.

### Our Mission:

Our mission is to offer professional dance training in all genres of dance. We strive to expose young aspiring dancers to opportunities that will enhance their dance knowledge and training. We will work as mentors to dancers, and give them ample opportunities to perform dance as an art form. We will nurture dancers in a positive, structured environment.

### ADC Impact Performance Team Mission:

The main objective of the studio's Impact Performance Team is to give dancers who want to take dance to the next level adequate technical training and a variety of opportunities to perform their art. Impact Performance Team will also serve as a guide for older dancers on their path to a professional career or college. We will achieve these goals by requiring that each student train in a wide range of technical dance classes, participate in many different performance venues, attend professional dance performances and maintain a sincere love and passion for dance and all of its forms.

### ADC Faculty Mission and Purpose:

We understand that each child and young adult possesses different learning styles and progresses on different timelines. The ADC faculty is absolutely committed to understanding these differences and nurturing each student regardless of her learning style and/or natural ability. Some students are born with certain favorable or ideal physical and anatomical body characteristics, such as turnout, hyper mobility in joints, musicality, etc. Although these characteristics are certainly a bonus, they do not make an automatic professional dancer. Dancers turn professional when they have learned how to affect an audience emotionally through movement. This is the goal for all of our students, regardless of their long-term goals in dance. We as teachers are here to pass on our enthusiasm for dance to your children and your family. All that we require from the students is a genuine love for dance. All that is required of the parents is trust in our abilities as teachers and support of our vision for your children.

“We all have the extraordinary coded within us, waiting to be released.” – Jean Houston

Impact Performance Team Structure

Dancers on team are grouped by age and ability.

ADC Minis – Approximately Kindergarten – 1st Grade

ADC Petites – Approximately 2nd Grade – 4th Grade

ADC Juniors – Approximately 5th Grade – 8th Grade

Elite – a special group within Impact dedicated to achieving the highest technical skill

Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is a Convention?**

A dance convention is a weekend event where master teachers from across the country hold classes - usually in a hotel ballroom. Conventions are awesome for young dancers. Not only do they get to see other dancers from other studios, they also get to see great professional dancers, at the top of their field, perform and teach. These master teachers inspire young dancers as well as give them great role models. They will have classes in tap, jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, musical theatre and a chance to audition for national scholarships. Conventions also host a competition at night, where the master teachers comprise the panel of judges. We generally do not perform at competitions hosted by the convention group because our intention for the weekend is gaining and strengthening technique instead of performing.

### **What is a Competition?**

A competition is a performance event wherein dancers are adjudicated. Dancers are ranked or scored according to a panel of judges. These scores can vary dramatically from one competition to another. Competitions are a wonderful platform for dancers to perform their art on a professional stage with an audience. However, ADC maintains that we are not a competition studio. We place emphasis on training rather than competing. Henceforth, we spend the bulk of our education hours training students in the proper technique, rather than drilling a certain dance over and over again and focusing on tricks. We maintain that a training studio serves dancers to a greater degree in the long run.

### **What is the benefit of taking weekly technique classes?**

Dancers who commit to technique classes on a weekly basis will develop as dancers at an accelerated pace. We have spent a lot of time thinking about ways to cut tuition costs but still provide the absolute best training for dancers. We keep our costs at an absolute low while still providing the best classes and customer service.

### **What does my dance tuition entail?**

All ADC Impact Performance Team members study under our highly trained, professional teachers. We believe that our teachers are the best in the Austin area. They are experienced, great with kids, loyal and dedicated to teaching dance. We have done our best to make tuition rates affordable, while supporting our high-quality teacher salaries.

“Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.” – George Bernard Shaw

### **What exactly will my child be performing?**

Dancers on team will be learning and performing two dance routines for conventions, competitions and community events. Routines will be learned in the summer at the ADC’s Choreography Camp. The style of dances (jazz, ballet, hip hop, lyrical, etc.) will depend on the group. These dances will be specifically created for each dance team group and will incorporate all of the technical elements required to perform at competitions and conventions. There will be an opportunity to audition for additional dances. Placement in one of these elective dances will be by the sole discretion of the team director and ADC staff.

We feel that a well-rounded dance education is essential. Dancers should be training in the core curriculum: jazz, ballet, and tap. Because we feel so strongly about this ‘triple threat’ approach, we are offering a unique opportunity to our dance team members for the 2010-2011 season. Dancers will be taking class in all of the aforementioned disciplines.

### **Summer Commitment**

Team commitment in the summer months is very minimal. ADC maintains that our students should enjoy a break during the summer. However, learning choreography for competitions and maintaining essential dance technique are crucial. Impact Performance Team members are required to participate in ADC’s Dance Intensive (1 week of full-day camp in August) and ADC’s Choreography Camp. Both are held during the month of August to allow for family time in the other summer months. Additional camps and training are optional.

### **Required Weekly Dance Classes**

ADC Light Minis: 1 Dance Team rehearsal class, 1 Jazz class. Weekly commitment: 1.5 hours. Monthly tuition: \$99

ADC Minis: 1 Dance Team rehearsal class, 1 Ballet class, 1 Tap class and 1 Jazz class. Weekly commitment: 4 hours. Monthly tuition: \$179

ADC Petites: 1 Dance Team rehearsal class, 2 Ballet classes, 1 Tap class, and 1 Jazz class, 1 Turns, Leaps & Condition class. Weekly commitment: 5.5 hours. Monthly tuition: \$209

ADC Juniors: Dance Team rehearsal class, 2 Ballet classes, 1 Tap class, 1 Jazz class, 1 Lyrical class, 1 Turns, Leaps & Condition class. Weekly commitment: 7 hours. Monthly tuition: \$249

Elite: By Director recommendation ONLY. Dance Team rehearsal classes, 2 Ballet classes, 1 Tap class, 1 Jazz class, 1 Lyrical class, 1 Turns, Leaps & Condition class, 1 Pre-Pointe class. Weekly commitment: 7.5 hours. Monthly tuition: \$279

Dance Team classes for 2010-2011 will be held on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday. Additional rehearsals will be scheduled on an as-needed basis for Saturdays. Please note that Yuletide Magic rehearsals and Disney rehearsals will be held on Saturdays. Schedules with exact class times for next year will be distributed in late April 2010.

### **Recommended Dance Classes**

We are pleased to offer a special discount program to dance team members this year! Dance team members are eligible to take any

additional classes at ADC for absolutely no additional cost. We believe in a well-rounded dance education and welcome dance team members to take class in any additional classes for no additional tuition.

### **Rehearsal Class Uniform:**

Black leotard (any style) and pink or tan tights. Black jazz pants (not with big legs) or jazz shorts are acceptable for dance team and jazz class. Any color ballet skirt may be worn (optional) for ballet class. Jazz shoes (available at Capezio) and pink ballet slippers are required. All hair must be away from face and pulled back into a ponytail or bun. Team dancers who are not dressed appropriately may not participate in class.

### **Dance Team Warm-ups and Bags:**

All dancers must have ADC Impact Performance Team Warm-ups for the 2010-11 season. Dancers must wear these warm-ups over their dancewear at conventions, competitions and other performing events. We will be ordering warm-ups in early fall 2010.

### **Attendance Policy:**

All team members must demonstrate good attendance at all required classes. All appointments, birthdays and vacations need to be worked around team rehearsals. Any team member may not miss more than one afternoon of class in any one month – this will be considered an excused absence. All absences must be reported to the ADC office by calling 795 – 1962. Any absence that is not reported to the ADC office ahead of time will be considered unexcused and will not be tolerated. Dancers who are not feeling well or have an injury are encouraged to participate by watching the dance class/rehearsal and taking notes. No excuses will be accepted. The team director and ADC staff have the right to dismiss any team member for attitude, attendance or discipline problems. Dance takes dedication and hard work. You have to be there to get better.

### **Prompt Arrival to and Departure from Class:**

Dance team members are expected to model ADC's Dance Policies and Procedures as well as exemplary Dancer's Manners. Dancers must arrive on time to class and must be picked up promptly after class. Dancers who arrive in excess of 10 minutes will not be allowed to participate in class. Late dancers will observe class and take notes on the dance lesson. ADC does not provide a babysitting service for dancers before or after class. Please make travel arrangements to ensure that your child arrives and departs dance lessons in a prompt manner.

### **Parental Involvement:**

All successful groups rely on parent help. Parents of dance team members are required to help out if needed (costumes, props, performances, competitions and recital). Parents will be assigned to work at three dance team events for the year. All Impact Performance Team parents will be required to help out with the end-of-year dress rehearsal and recital.

### **Performance Participation:**

Impact Dancers are required to participate in ADC's Yuletide Magic performance series, consisting of performances at local community centers as well as Austin's Annual Trail of Lights. Dancers will pay for a holiday costume for this performance as well as the tuition associated with the extra rehearsals.

The highlight of the dance calendar year is always ADC's June Recital. Dancers on team are showcased during this big concert.

Dancers on team are required to purchase a recital costume and perform in each 'Required Class' in which they are enrolled. Recital costumes are purchased in September each year.

### **Solos:**

Dancers on Impact Performance Team are eligible to learn and perform a solo, per Ms. Carissa's approval. Dancers working on a solo will meet for a weekly .5 hour private lesson and perform at scheduled dance team events. Additional tuition requirements related to soloists include: \$110/monthly (private lesson), \$200 (choreography fee), \$85 (costume) and competition fees. Solos are an excellent way to grow as a performer!

### **Duet/Trios:**

Dancers on Impact Performance Team are eligible to learn and perform a duet/trio, per Ms. Carissa's approval. Dancers working on a solo will meet for a weekly .5 hour private lesson and perform at scheduled dance team events. Additional tuition requirements related to soloists include: \$45/monthly (private lesson), \$200 (choreography fee), \$85 (costume) and competition fees. Duet/Trios are an excellent introduction to performing onstage in a small group ensemble!

### **Schedule of Events**

All team members must attend all events. Dancers will be given exact dates as soon as ADC is given these dates. Typically the calendar is distributed at the beginning of the year. We expect all families to plan around these events as all dance team members are required at all events. When one person on the team is absent, the whole team suffers. Dancers on team participate in 2 conventions and 2 competitions during the year. Additionally, dancers are required to participate in the 2 main studio performances – Yuletide Magic in December and Recital in June.

Fees associated with Yuletide Magic and Recital are not included in Impact Performance Team fees. Yuletide Magic and Recital fees are collected during the month of September. Dancers on team may opt to pay these fees in advance, if they so choose.

Additional performances may arise over the course of the year and the ADC will notify dance team families immediately if there are any changes/additions to the calendar. We will also be performing at community events and festivals as well as local retirement homes and hospitals. Exact dates for convention and competitions will be available in fall 2010.

### **Cost Overview**

We have provided an approximate cost overview for your convenience. Should an unexpected cost arise, we will notify you immedi-

ately. We feel that it is important to have all of the costs associated with team delivered in a clear and concise manner at the beginning of the year. We believe that it is important to know all of the costs up-front so that our families may plan and prepare in advance.

“The brain simply believes what you tell it most. And what you tell it about you, it will create. It has no choice.” Chandler Fuller

**Impact Performance Team Fee includes, but is not limited to:**

ADC Warm-ups, ADC Dance Bag, Performance Makeup, Costumes, Performance Shoes, Conventions, Competitions, ADC Staff at team events, Convention/Competition administrative fees, Spirit Gifts, Dance Team Parties.

Total Impact Performance Team 2010 – 2011 Payment: \$1,365

A deposit of \$625 is due on April 12th, 2010. Summer registration is due no later than May 1st. Dance Team fees and dance tuition are non-refundable. The Dance Team balance is due August 1st at the Impact Performance Team Parent Meeting.

Dancers who return their paperwork and deposit by April 1st, 2010 will receive a FREE GOODY BAG!!

Dance Team Communication

The studio will frequently send updates and notices via email. Please make sure that your current email(s) are on file with the office.

There are 2 email accounts that we frequently use:

General ADC Studio Email [staff@austindanceco.com](mailto:staff@austindanceco.com)

Dance Team Email [adcdanceteam@yahoo.com](mailto:adcdanceteam@yahoo.com)

Please feel free to communicate to use via either email account. We always welcome your feedback. If you have a question or concern, please contact the ADC office directly. We are always happy to schedule a convenient appointment time with you.

Office Hours M – TH 9:00 am – 12:00 noon and 2:00 – 6:00 pm

Ms. Carissa’s Office Hours TH 2:00 – 3:00 pm

We look forward to a terrific year of Impact Performance Team!

“A bird does not sing because it has an answer – it sings because it has a song.” - Proverb