



St. Charles Dance Academy
Performance Company Handbook
2022-2023



Welcome to the 2022-23 St. Charles Dance Academy Performance Company! We are looking forward to an exciting and uplifting year of learning, relationship building, and performing.

2022-2023 Staff

Allison Cole, Dance Academy and Company Instructor and Choreographer
Katisha Muhammad, Dance Academy and Company Instructor and Choreographer

Rosie Edwards, Dance Supervisor
E: redwards@stcparks.org
P: (630) 513-4334

Communication

All official communications regarding the Company program will be to/from the Dance Coordinator at redwards@stcparks.org (update coming soon). Occasionally you may receive videos/music from stcparksdance@gmail.com.

Opt in to occasional text reminders:

- 1) Email redwards@stcparks.org telling us you want to receive text reminders, with your cell phone number
OR
- 2) Text @gh987eb to 81010

Company Parent Jessica Dirck runs an unofficial, private facebook group for our Dance Company. Helpful updates, reminders, tips, and photos are posted here. Please contact her to be added.
Jdirck2011@gmail.com

Becoming a Member of the Performance Team

Placement Auditions are held in May and September. Placement on Performance Teams is based on the following criteria:

- Dancer is enrolled in at least 1 Recital Program class
- Dancer is age 5 or older as of September 12, 2022
- Maturity, enthusiasm, attitude, behavior, and performance abilities at auditions
- Ability to pick up and retain choreography at auditions
- Ability to attend majority of rehearsals and performances

Performance Team Requirements

- Placement decisions and registration instructions will be sent via email within 1 week from auditions
- September-May – perform at community events and Park District Showcases. No competitions.

REQUIRED: 2 classes weekly

-1 recital program class of your dancer's choice. (Level 1 = Ages 5-6. Level 2 = Ages 7-9. Level 3 = 10+.)
Email snewman@stcparks.org for class recommendations for your dancer.

- Weekly Performance Team rehearsal as placed after auditions.
 - Performance Team 1 – Tuesdays 5-5:45 with Ms. Samantha
RES \$465/NR \$515
 - Performance Team 2 – Mondays 6:15-7:15 with Ms. Katisha
RES \$525/NR \$575

The fees above include 1 costume, all weekly rehearsals, and all performances. Payment plans are available.

*** NO CLASS OCT 31, NOV 21-26, DEC 22-JAN 4, MAR 27-APR 1**

Dress Code

- Sweatpants and jackets may be worn at the beginning of class, but should be removed after warm ups for proper technique assessment and movement capabilities.
- Form-fitting dance or athletic wear is required. This includes but is not limited to: Sports bra, leotards and tights, leotard and ballet skirt (no stiff tutus) athletic leggings, shorts, capris or pants, yoga pants, athletic tank tops or t-shirts.
- A nude sports or performance bra is a good investment for those needing support under their leotard or costumes, but is not required.
- Hair must always be pulled back and secured out of face during rehearsals. Bun preferred.

Shoes

- Nude Jazz Shoe

Attendance, Commitment, and Behavior

- Please come to rehearsal on time and prepared!
- Attendance and punctuality are important aspects of membership on the company teams. If multiple practices or performances are missed or chronic lateness becomes a problem, it may affect the dancer's participation in future performances.
- **It is the dancer's responsibility to learn any missed choreography**, whether this be via video from rehearsal, learning from a co-team member, or purchasing a private lesson with the instructor.
- Practicing at home will help immensely as dancers work to remember and retain choreography between rehearsals and performances!
- When a dancer is late to practice, for their own physical safety and to avoid injury due to not properly warming up, they may be asked to sit out and warm up/stretch while they observe.
- Dancers must bring water bottles to practice.
- Phones must be secured in dancers' bags and may not be accessed at any point during rehearsal.
- Our rehearsals are 45 min-one hour long, so please do not send dancers with snacks.
- If you are going to be absent from a rehearsal or performance, please email the Dance Coordinator at snewman@stcparks.org as soon as possible.
- Dancers should put forth their best effort to learn and improve by paying attention, being respectful of their instructors and peers, and being open to and applying corrections to their dancing.

Company Picture Day

-Sunday, October 16 at Pottawatomie Community Center

-Dancers should wear spaghetti strap black tank top or leotard and black leggings.

Individual Headshots

- Inside, on backdrop, from the shoulders up

Group Photos

- Weather permitting, will be taken outside. Full group and all small groups.

Event Dates

The Performance Team will perform 2-3 pieces during the 2022-2023 season. Schedules are subject to change. There are sometimes additional performance opportunities that arise throughout the year; these will be communicated via email.

Performance details, such as call times, event location and performance times will be shared via email once distributed by the event directors. This typically happens about 1 week prior to a performance.

Please ensure your dancer(s) arrives at the specified call times on time to avoid missing performances.

Event	Date
Scarecrow Fest – Lincoln Park, St. Charles	Friday, October 7, 12:00pm
St. Charles Electric Lights Parade	*likely Saturday, November 26, 5:30 pm
Dance Academy Winter Showcase- Haines Gymnasium– <i>likely, recital classes only</i>	Sunday, December 18
Dance Company Showcase – Haines Gymnasium	Sunday, January 29
February Performance	TBD
March Performance	Likely Geneva Commons, one of the first 3 weekends of March
St. Charles Park District- Amazing Race	Usually at the end of April
Dance Academy Spring Recital – Norris Cultural Arts Center	Saturday, May 13

Costumes

Dance staff will measure all dancers during rehearsal times. Instructors choose costumes. Costumes are ordered based on dancer measurements and costume company size charts, allowing for growth.

Costumes will be distributed as received.

Costume care: Once received, label all costume pieces and shoes with your dancer’s full name. Store and transport costumes in a garment bag to avoid any damage.

For the first few performances, dancers will not have a costume and will wear coordinated outfits. Details will be communicated to parents via email.

Tights: Each dancer will receive one pair of performance tights for the season, included with the costume fee. If dancers need additional tights, please **fill out a pink apparel form**, and submit it with payment at the Pottawatomie Community Center front desk. Orders are placed the 1st of each month.

Shoes: You will need nude colored jazz shoes. (Example of style below.) You can purchase these on your own, or through the dance coordinator. Orders are placed on the 1st of every month.



Team Spirit Wear

St. Charles Dance Company logo apparel (with personalized name options) will be available soon after the season begins. Information will be sent with details as soon as we have them. Purchasing apparel is encouraged, but entirely optional.

Hair and Makeup

Dancers will be required to be in full stage make-up and hair for all performances. Please see pictures below for reference. Makeup creates a professional, cohesive looking group, and ensures that dancers' features are visible on stage.

If masks are required for a performance, dancers only need to do eye makeup.

Hair:

This may change, but one common choice is a middle part, low center bun.



Makeup: Silver eyeshadow on lid, black matte eyeshadow in crease and corners, black mascara on top and bottom lashes, black eyeliner, blush in cheek hollows, dark mauve lipstick.



Dance Sibling Program

Many Performance Team events also include Competition Team dancers, so you will get to know dancers and parents quite well. Facilitating these relationships, Performance Team Dancers will be paired with Competition Team dancers to act as “dance siblings.”

This is a fun way for our Performance Team dancers to get to know the Competition Team dancers, bond, show team camaraderie, support one another, and help each other at performances and practices. It’s also a good way for Performance Team dancers to be “mentored,” and for you, the new Dance Parent, to learn about the program through other parents!

Pairings generally purchase or make small gifts for each other for holidays and year-end, as well as making signs of encouragement at competitions. Reminders for these events will be emailed. Sibling pairings can also help each other in additional, unlisted ways. :D

Please fill out this form with your dancer, so “siblings” can get to know each other better!

<https://tinyurl.com/22-23DanceSiblings>

Sibling pairs will be announced at a later date.

ONE CALENDAR TO RULE THEM ALL

September 12 – classes start
October 7 – Scarecrow Fest
October 16 – All Company Picture Day at PCC
October 31 – no classes
November 21-26 – no classes
November 26 – Electric Light Parade
December 18 – Winter showcase- likely only recital classes
December 19 – during 5-6 pm group rehearsal, Holiday Party. Performance Team invited.
December 22-January 4 – Winter Break. Classes resume Jan. 5
January 29 – All Company Showcase
February 3-5 – Competition Team- Dance Idol
March 24-26 – Competition Team- Imagine Dance Challenge
March 27-April 1 – Spring Break. Classes resume April 3.
April 21-23 – Competition Team- Turn It Up Dance Challenge
May 8 – Last Day of classes, if no make-ups needed
May 12-13 – Rehearsal and Recital
May 15 – 5-7 pm- All Company- Year End Celebration

We are excited for the new season of Performance Teams! Thank you for your support!