



Where Family and Dance  Go Hand in Hand

## **EXPRESSION DANCE COMPANY 2025-2026 INFORMATION PACKET**

### **AUDITIONS**

Elite Company - Friday, June 13  
Performance Company - Thursday, June 12  
Star Performer Company - Thursday, June 12  
Hip Hop Company - Wednesday, June 11

Register online @ [expressiondancestudio.com](https://expressiondancestudio.com)  
Questions? Email [info@expressiondancestudio.com](mailto:info@expressiondancestudio.com)

Expression Dance Company's goal is to teach its team members valuable lessons about teamwork, responsibility, and commitment in a fun-filled and energetic atmosphere. They will perform at local events, competitions, and conventions. Expression Dance Company focuses on technique, performance, expressing one's self through dance, and quality dance education and training taught by highly skilled dance instructors. Dancers will not only have excellent training, they will also become part of our dance family and make great friendships that will last a lifetime!

Expression Dance Company has multiple companies to audition for:  
Elite Company, Performance Company, Performance Company +, Star Performers, and Hip Hop Company.

Each company has something different to offer your dancer. Whether your child's main focus is dance, or if they are only looking to be committed 1-2 days per week, we have a place for everyone.

**BE SURE TO READ THE ENTIRE COMPANY PACKET!**



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When deciding which company your child would like to be a part of, please consider the following:

1. **Time Commitment:** If your child is unable to fully commit to the required schedule and dates, please DO NOT consider that particular company. Committing to each company means that dance is your child's first priority for the days they are required to be there, and takes precedence over any other activities your child may participate in. This means your child should not be missing dance for other sport practices, play rehearsals, etc. Make sure the schedule works for you and your family before committing to the company. Absences will not be tolerated.
2. **Financial Commitment:** There is a big financial commitment when joining Expression Dance Company. Everything is spelled out for you for each group. Remember to thoroughly go over all the fees associated with each company. Besides tuition, you need to consider all additional fees: i.e., costumes, makeup, warm up jackets, required shoes and tights, convention and competition fees, choreography fees, and t-shirt fees. We do our absolute best to give you all of the information before the auditions. Make sure that company is something your family can financially commit to.
3. **Experience:** Please do not ask for your child to be considered for a company they are not prepared for. If your dancer has company experience, Elite and Performance company may be an option. If your dancer has only taken recreational tap, ballet, and jazz, then Performance Company or Star Performers should be a goal. If your dancer has not taken ballet, tap, and jazz, they will only be considered for Star Performers and will be asked to take a full year of those styles of dance to prepare them for the audition the following year.
4. **Placement:** Each dancer is continually evaluated throughout the year in their regular classes and during all rehearsal and performance opportunities. Every dancer matures at a different rate, and the primary reason for placing students in different groups is to bring together dancers who form a cohesive group with similar skill level and maturity. A 16-year-old dancer is very different from an 11-year-old dancer in most cases, but if a young dancer shows extraordinary skill and maturity for their age, they may be asked to dance with a different group than their normal peer age group. You must respect and understand this going into the dance team commitment. Each individual is considered on his or her own merits and all decisions by the directors must be respected. If you would like your



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dancer to only be considered for one particular level, (i.e., Performance or Elite), please mark accordingly in the online registration form. All company placements decisions will be final.

5. **Support:** When choosing to participate in Expression Dance Company, your job is to support your dancer and the studio. If you have concerns, please save them for a respectful discussion with the director. We do not tolerate gossip and teach love and support from the top of the studio down.

### **ELITE COMPANY**

**Levels:** Mini, Junior, Teen, Senior

**Commitment:** 4 days per week

**Classes:** 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz Progression Technique, 1 Contemporary Technique, 1 Contemporary, 1 Musical Theater, 1 Tap, 1 Jazz, 1 Hip Hop

**Convention:** They will attend 1 convention where they will compete all of their routines.

**Competition routines:** Minimum of 6. They will have 1 Jazz, 1 Contemporary, 1 Hip Hop, 1 Tap, 1 Musical Theater Line (Mini/Junior & Teen/Senior) and 1 Elite Production.

**Additional routines:** Dancers can be selected for an additional solo, duo, trio, or small group. Please indicate on your registration form if you would like to limit the number of additional dance opportunities\*. These additional dances will require additional fees and time commitment outside their regular dance schedule.

**Solo Rehearsals:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor. Dancers will be required to sign up for their own time slot.

**Duo/Trio:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor split between the number of dancers. Time slots will be assigned.

**Small Group:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor split between the number of dancers. Time slots will be assigned.

\*Please note that indicating that a dancer is interested in additional routines does not guarantee they will receive one.



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### **OPTIONS FOR DANCERS ENTERING 9th GRADE OR ABOVE**

We understand that it may be difficult for some high school students to commit to full company, so we want to offer the following 3 options for our advanced dancers:

**Option A:** Full company plus opportunities for additional solo/duo/trio/small groups

**Option B:** Full company, NO additional solo/duo/trio/small groups

**Option C:** Modified 3 days/week schedule plus optional additional solo/duo/trio/small groups.

- Dancers will be required to take all of the Elite Technique classes (Ballet, Jumps and Turns, Technique)
- Dancers will compete in the Elite competition routines that are on the days they have class as well as Production
- May be selected for ONE to TWO additional solo/duo/trio/small group

**Mandatory Performances:** They will compete at 5 regional competitions, one Regional convention (all of their dances), they will perform at one Holiday Showcase and perform at Mayslake Retirement Village. They will also have additional performance opportunities. All dates will be given in August if not sooner.

### **PERFORMANCE COMPANY +**

**Levels:** Mini, Junior, Teen, Senior\*

\*Studio will determine if there are enough dancers to form each of these groups

**Commitment:** 3 days per week

**Classes:** 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz Progression Technique, 1 Tap, 1 Choreography, 1 Hip Hop, 1 Lyrical/Contemporary

**Convention:** They will attend 1 convention where they will not compete



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**Competition routines:** Minimum of 5. They will have 1 Jazz, 1 Tap, and 1 Lyrical/Contemporary, 1 Hip Hop. They will also perform in the Performance Company Production. **Additional routines:** Dancers can be selected for an additional solo, duo, trio, or small group. These additional dances will require additional fees and time commitment outside their regular dance schedule.

**Solo Rehearsals:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor. Dancers will be required to sign up for their own time slot.

**Duo/Trio:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor split between the number of dancers. Time slots will be assigned.

**Small Group:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor split between the number of dancers. Time slots will be assigned.

\*Please note that indicating that a dancer is interested in additional routines does not guarantee they will receive one.

**Performance Opportunities:** They will compete at 5 regional competitions, and they will perform at one Holiday Showcase and one Performance at Mayslake Retirement Village. They will also have additional performance opportunities. All dates will be given in August if not sooner.

## PERFORMANCE COMPANY

**Levels:** Petite, Mini, Junior, Teen, Senior

**Commitment:** 2 days per week

**Classes:** 1 Ballet, 1 Jazz Progression Technique, 1 Tap, 1 Choreography

**Convention:** They will attend 1 convention where they will not compete

**Competition routines:** Minimum of 3 (Petite, Mini, Junior) or 4 (Teen, Senior). They will have 1 Jazz, 1 Tap, and 1 Lyrical (Teen and Senior only). They will also perform in the Performance Company Production. **Additional routines:** Dancers can be selected for an additional solo, duo, trio, or small group. These additional



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dances will require additional fees and time commitment outside their regular dance schedule.

**Solo Rehearsals:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor. Dancers will be required to sign up for their own time slot.

**Duo/Trio:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor split between the number of dancers. Time slots will be assigned.

**Small Group:** Dancers will have a required **weekly 30 minute** time slot and will be charged a weekly private lesson fee with their instructor split between the number of dancers. Time slots will be assigned.

\*Please note that indicating that a dancer is interested in additional routines does not guarantee they will receive one.

**Performance Opportunities:** They will compete at 4 regional competitions, and they will perform at one Holiday Showcase and one Performance at Mayslake Retirement Village. They will also have additional performance opportunities. All dates will be given in August if not sooner.

Additional Class options: Lyrical, Hip Hop, Jumps and Turns, Acrobatic Arts

### **STAR PERFORMERS**

**Level:** Dancers ages 3 and up

**Commitment:** 1 day per week

**Classes:** 1 Express Start and 1 Choreography (Petite Level)

**Classes:** 1 Recreational Jazz, 1 Recreational Ballet, 1 Choreography (Mini, Junior and Teen Levels)

**Competition routines:** 1 Jazz routine

**Performance Opportunities:** They will compete at 1 competition. This is a mandatory event. They will also have additional performance opportunities. All dates will be given in August.



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### **HIP HOP COMPANY**

**Level:** Dancers ages 6 and up

**Commitment:** 1 day per week / Pre Pro 2 Days Per Week

**Mini Classes:** 1 Hip Hop Rehearsal, 1 Hip Hop Technique

**Junior Classes:** 1 Hip Hop Rehearsal, 1 Hip Hop Technique

**Teen/Senior Classes:** 1 Hip Hop Rehearsal, 1 History and Foundations of Hip Hop

**Pre-Pro:** 2 Hip Hop Rehearsal, 1 History of Hip Hop

### **MINI/JUNIOR/TEEN/SENIOR**

**Competition routines:** 1 Hip Hop Routine

**Additional routines:** Dancers can be selected for an additional solo, duo, trio, or small group. These additional dances will require additional fees and time commitment outside their regular dance schedule.

**Performance Opportunities:** They will compete at 4 regional competitions and they will perform at one Holiday Showcase and one Performance at Mayslake Retirement Village. They will also have additional performance opportunities. All dates will be given in August if not sooner.

**Additional Class/Company Options:** Star Performers, Performance Company or additional Recreational Classes.

### **PRE-PRO COMPANY/LEGACIES UNITED**

**Competition routines:** 1 Hip Hop Routine

**Performance Opportunities:** 2 Regional Competitions, 3 Hip Hop Conventions: Monsters, World of Dance Chicago, Prelude Midwest, and possibilities for World of Dance Final or Prelude Las Vegas (pending qualifying)

**Additional Class/Company Options:** Star Performers, Performance Company or additional Recreational Classes.

### **Commitment**



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All dancers commit to the Expression Dance Company for the entire dance year, July 2025 - June 2026. Expression Dance Company members are not allowed to compete for any other dance studio or company. Furthermore, company members are not allowed to dance under the independent title at any competitive events. Dancers may perform at school functions. Please remember that being part of Expression Dance Company requires a lot of additional time besides the dancers' weekly classes. Please be sure the time commitment works with your family's schedule.

### **Behavior Expectations**

The team directors have expectations of how dancers conduct themselves both in and out of the studio. We have the same expectations of the parents - to support the team at all times. Parent attitudes and behaviors directly affect others, especially your own children. A child may not be consciously aware of all situations, but they absorb powerful messages from parents. Therefore, it is important that parents remain enthusiastic and supportive of the dancers, instructors, and directors, and respect other dancers and parents at all times. One of our main goals is to teach dancers to respect themselves and others, so parents must model this behavior both in and out of the dance studio. Disappointments will inevitably occur as part of every team member's experience. If a parent has a strong reaction in these situations, so will the child. It is up to you to teach your child how to experience and overcome disappointment. This will prepare them to be a strong, self-confident adult. If you have concerns, please save them for a respectful discussion with the team director, not in front of others.

### **Competitive Dance**

Competitive dance is a popular, widespread activity in which competitors perform dances in any of several permitted dance styles - such as Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Hip Hop, and Tap - before a common group of judges. The competitive dance industry largely consists of *competition production companies* - also sometimes called *dance competition companies* - that conduct regional





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competitions at stops along their annual nationwide tours. Dancers who compete at these regional competitions are usually students ranging in age from about 6 to 18 years old. Dance studios typically arrange for their classes to compete as groups. Advanced dance students often compete solo or in small groups (duo, trio, quad, etc.) in addition to competing with their dance class groups. Competitive dancers must be physically fit, because even short dancers can be physically demanding. Also, dancers must continually train to maintain and improve their technique, balance skills, strength, and flexibility. Competitive dancing requires dedication, as many months may be spent developing and practicing dance routines.

### **Spirit of Competition**

Although the highest scoring dancers are ranked according to their overall scores, dance studios and competition production companies emphasize that dancers are primarily competing against themselves, and thus competitive dance is not so much about competing, but rather an opportunity to:

- \***Receive valuable critiques** from dance professionals. Competition companies provide original judges' scoresheets and critiques, as well as recordings of judges' comments to dancers to help them improve their technique and routines.

- \***Watch and learn** from other dancers. Dance studios often instruct their dancers to spend their free time at competitions watching other routines. Dancers are expected to conform to proper etiquette at competitions. They are expected to be courteous to each other, applaud other routines, not to exit or enter the auditorium during performances, etc.

### **Dance Conventions**

Dance Conventions are regional educational events hosted by professional dancers. They are held on weekends in large cities nationwide - typically in hotel ballrooms - with a stage for instructors to teach from. Many conventions also hold competitions so their attendees can have their routines critiqued by dance professionals. Instructors at dance conventions are usually experts in the field of dance and are either currently working in the industry (i.e., music videos, films,



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commercials, concerts, Broadway, etc.) or have in the past. These professionals sometimes teach at well-known dance studios in Los Angeles or New York. Dance studios participate in dance conventions to learn from the professional dancers who host them. Conventions are a means for dance students and teachers to learn new technique and styles of dance without incurring the expense of traveling to distant cities.

## Communication

Communication is one of the most important aspects of the team. There is a continual need for communication both ways. We communicate with you by email, so it is important to check regularly. Jana Fix is the Communications Coordinator for Expression Dance Company, and her email is [info@expressiondancestudio.com](mailto:info@expressiondancestudio.com)

## Tuition and Fees

**Annual registration fee:** \$25 per dancer or \$30 per family

**Monthly tuition:** All members will be required to have a credit card or debit card on file. Automatic withdrawal of tuition and fees will occur on the first of every month. You will be invoiced on the 15th of the previous month. If you would like to pay with a different method, you need to do so before the first of the month.

Star Performers \$240 / Star Performer Petite \$140 / Performance \$325  
/Performance + \$400/ Elite \$450 / High School Elite \$400 / Hip Hop \$160/  
Pre-Pro Hip Hop \$325

Late Fees: A \$15 Late fee will be applied after the 5th of every month

**Costume Fees:** \$150 per costume, per routine

**Warm-up uniform:** \$125

**Makeup kit:** \$50

**Recital t-shirt:** \$25



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**Choreography fee:** If it is not an “additional” dance (done outside of regular classroom time), there is not a choreography fee *unless it is a guest choreographer*

**Additional dances:** Solo \$700 / Duo & Trio \$400 per dancer / Small group \$300 per dancer / Production \$75 per dancer / Line \$100

**Guest choreographer:** If your dancer is selected for a piece with a guest choreographer, fees may vary based on the choreographer’s rate

### **Additional Dance rehearsal fees**

\*Every week rehearsals for 30 minutes (solo/duo/trios): Solo \$30 per week, Duo \$15 per dancer/per week, Trio \$10 per dancer/per week

\*Every week for 30 minutes (small groups)  
\$8/per week

**Convention fee:** \$175-250 (estimated)

**Photo shoot:** \$95 per dancer

**Competition fee:** \$60 (estimated) per dancer per routine per competition

Travel fee: \$30 per dancer per competition/convention. This fee will be used for the faculty’s travel expenses, time and lodging at competitions/conventions.

**Company Showcase tickets:** \$20 per person

### **Attendance Policy**

\*We are currently updating our absence policy and we will give details as soon as it is finalized.

The absence policy is for the benefit of our dancers. It is unfair and detrimental to the team when they are not fully committed to the company. They cannot improve as a whole company when they are missing dancers. Teachers have to repeatedly go over corrections when dancers miss and it is a waste of everyone’s class time. **When signing the company contract, you agree to make EDS Company your top priority on your required days.**

**Summer Requirements (summer session July 14 - August 15)**



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Elite Company: 12 classes plus Company Intensive  
Performance Company: 8 classes plus Company Intensive  
Star Performers: 4 classes  
Hip Hop Company: 4 classes

Acrobatic Arts camp (June 23-27) - 3 classes  
Full Out Training (July 1-3) - 3 classes  
Jumps & Turns (June 21-25) - 5 classes  
Tap Intensive (July 18 & 19) - 2 classes  
The Dance Recruit: College Prep Intensive (July 28-31) - 8 classes

\*There is also a full schedule of summer classes for company. Please attend class for the age you are on the day of the class.

**Expression Dance Company Intensive**  
**Performance Company - July 28 - August 1**  
**Elite Company- August 2\* - 10**

The mandatory company intensive will focus on Team Building, Technique, and Choreography. If your dancer cannot attend the company intensive, please be aware that if choreography is completed that week, they may not be in that portion of the choreography. The Company Intensive schedule will be given out in June. Please set the entire week aside, however, dancers will only need to attend approximately 4 hours per day.

\*Elite Company should leave August 2 & 3 and August 9 & 10 open for master classes and solo/duo/trio/small group choreography

**Company Contracts**

All dancers will be required to turn in a signed company contract, as well as payment for the summer intensive, NO LATER THAN JULY 14th. The contract will be emailed after the company audition.