

HIGHLAND ★ PARK DANCE COMPANY

Highland Park Dance Company
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Solo, Duet, & Ensemble Information 2023-2024

General Information

Thank you for considering a solo/duet/ensemble this coming contest season. This is a significant commitment that should not be entered into lightly. This is a 100% optional *supplement* to Team and it is by no means required or expected.

Timeline

May 2023

- If interested in competing a solo/duet/ensemble this coming season, you will indicate so on your tryout registration form. You do **not** need to prepare anything special for tryouts. The judges will assess your technique and performance at the same time as team tryouts in order to determine if you will be extended an invite to compete a solo/duet/ensemble.
- When you reach this item on the online registration form, parents and dancers should be in agreement and on the same page about your response. (The person filling out the form should not check "Yes" without full knowledge and approval from **both** parent **and** dancer).
- If you're interested in doing a duet/trio/etc. alongside other dancers, please communicate with those other dancers before submitting their names. In other words, do not list on your tryout form that you would like to do a duet with Susie if you haven't spoken to Susie about it.

Summer 2023

- Reach out to an instructor to request choreography. You may choose any instructor you would like. Keep in mind that you will pay an instructor one lump sum for choreography and then additional fees for lessons (between now and through contest season) to learn and then polish the dance.
- Consult with your choreographer to determine your preliminary selections for:
 - Style of dance (Jazz, Lyrical, etc.)
 - Song
 - Costume
- To accept your solo/duet/ensemble, dancer(s), parent(s), and choreographer will need to sign and submit the contract to info@hpdance.com.

Summer & Fall 2023

- Schedule lessons to meet with your choreographer to learn and clean your routine.
- Dancers must submit their costume choice to Casey for written approval. Once approved by Casey in writing, submit your costume choice, color, and size to the office for ordering. More information below.

- At some point before we break for Christmas, dancers must schedule a time with Casey to perform their choreography (in costume if possible) for approval. Casey may require changes or minor adjustments. Choreographers will not be present for this meeting, so dancers should feel free to be 100% honest sharing their thoughts regarding their routine thus far with Casey.
- Dancers may ask for choreography adjustments all the way through the end of October at no extra charge. After October, re-choreographing will cost an additional fee. Dancers, please be very open and honest **early** if there is anything in the routine that isn't working or needs to be changed.

Spring 2024 (Contest Season)

- Dancers may be asked to compete these solo/duet/ensemble routines at separate competitions **instead of** (i.e. in addition to) the competitions that teams are attending.

Cost

The base price for a routine is set by each choreographer individually. Included in that amount is typically 1) the choreography and 2) the music file. Once the choreographer is paid, the routine then belongs to the dancer. Teachers then typically charge an hourly rate to teach/clean the routine.

Additional costs to be collected that are NOT included in that amount above:

1. **Costume fee.** Costume purchases will be made through the studio. The fee will be added onto your Contest Fee in the spring.
2. **Contest entry fees.** Each contest host (ADTS, Crowd Pleasers, Showtime, MA, etc.) charges a different amount per entry. Solos are usually \$110-\$125 per entry. Duets are usually \$175-\$195 per entry (split between both members). Trios/Small Ensembles are usually \$185-\$205 per entry (split between all the members). These fees will be added onto your Contest Fee in the spring.
3. **Administration fee.** \$50 per dancer, paid to HP Dance, will go towards costume processing, contest registration, and contest day staffing. The fee will be added onto your contest fee in the spring.

Costumes

Costume purchases will be made through the studio. We have accounts with [Weissman](#), [Kelle](#), [Costume Gallery](#), [Glamour](#), and more, however, you are not limited to that list of companies. If you would like to order a costume through another vendor that requires studio authorization to purchase, let us know ASAP so we can request an account.

Browse online and email your choice (include color and size) to caseycsinclair@gmail.com for approval (also CC info@hpdance.com). Once Casey approves the costume in writing, we will place the order for you. Be sure to make your costume selection as soon as possible (no later than Christmas break) in order to allow enough time for the item(s) to get approved and to arrive in time for alterations if needed. For an additional fee, some teachers offer rhinestoning as an optional service.

All HP Dance Co. dancers are required to wear full body tights for every performance.

Contest Day

Since your choreographer might also be a team Director, please remember that her *team* comes first on competition day. For your solo/duet/ensemble, please come prepared with all of your own costume items, makeup, practice music, etc. Familiarize yourself with the contest schedule and know exactly when and how you need to be dressed, when you should be practicing, and when you compete. Have your music ready on your own devices so you can practice on your own. You must be ready to take full ownership of this routine without overly relying on your choreographer for every detail, since she will be prioritizing her team(s) first that day if she is a team Director.

Conclusion

This extra routine is to be treated as *extra*. Solos, duets, ensembles will always come behind the team in priority. If at any point your team director feels your priorities have shifted away from your team and serving your teammates, your extra routines may be removed from one or more contests.

TO BE FILLED OUT AFTER TRYOUTS, AFTER YOUR DAUGHTER HAS BEEN OFFERED AN EXTRA ROUTINE:

By signing, you acknowledge that you have read this entire contract and will abide by the policies of the HP Dance Co. program.

Dancer Signature

Parent Signature

Print Choreographer Name

Choreographer Signature

Once signed by all parties, please submit the completed contract digitally to info@hpdance.com and CC caseycsinclair@gmail.com as well as your choreographer.