

## **SENIOR DANCE TEAM REQUIREMENTS**

*This team is for ages 14+. These ages are guidelines only, dancers will be placed on the team that best fits their ability and exceptions may be made to accommodate younger, qualified dancers.*

### **REQUIREMENTS**

1. All **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM MEMBERS** need a minimum of **3 years** of dance training in the style dance they are wishing to compete in.
2. The SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM will meet at least once a week for each style of dance (tap, jazz, hip hop, contemporary, musical theater and/or lyrical). Additional practices may be held and will be at the discretion of the instructor(s). We will do our best to give you ample notice of any additional rehearsals.
3. **ALL SENIOR TEAM MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A BALLET and JAZZ CLASS at SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY DURING THE REGULAR DANCE SEASON.**
4. **ALL SENIOR TEAM MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A BALLET, JAZZ and STRENGTH/FLEXIBILITY class at SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY DURING THE SUMMER.** A substitute strength class can be done outside of Synergy with prior approval by Kari.
5. Dancers are required to take a corresponding technique class in addition to competition team rehearsal. Regular attendance\*\* for technique classes is required. If a dancer does not attend technique class on a regular basis, he/she will be removed from competition routines or from the team entirely. Please see ATTENDANCE POLICY.
6. **ALL SENIOR DANCE TEAM** members are required to attend Master classes that are in conjunction with piece setting.
7. The **SENIOR SYNERGY TEAM** will compete with their team at 4-5 competitions during the 2023-24 season:
  1. TREMAINE INDIANAPOLIS-**January 26-28**-*JW Marriott Indianapolis.*
  2. LADM CHICAGO-**February 23-35**-*Hotel TBD but most likely The Westin O'Hare, Chicago*
  3. TREMAINE CHICAGO-**March 8-10**- *Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel & Conv. Ctr.*
  4. TREMAINE NATIONALS- **July 6-11**-*The Renaissance at SeaWorld, Orlando, Florida.*
8. **SOLOS, DUOS AND TRIOS** may have a choice of what competitions they compete at. Final decision is at the discretion of Kari and/or instructors.
9. **SMALL GROUP MEMBERS, SOLOISTS, DUOS** may compete at additional competitions that the rest of the team does not attend. This is decided within each group and individual dancer.
10. **EMAIL and TEAM APP:** Regardless of the dancer's age, whoever is financially responsible for the student is *required* to have an email address on file AND belong to our TEAM APP. The vast majority of our TEAM information (particularly last-minute information) is disseminated via email AND our App. Videos, photos and our team calendar will be maintained on our TEAM APP.
11. Dancers are expected to perform in recital with their technique class and their competition team. This is done so that we may maintain the same number of students in the technique class and showcase the accomplishments made during the year. Due to timing of costume changes and length of show, not all competition pieces may appear in the Summer Showcase.

*\*\*Regular attendance is defined as not missing more than 3 technique classes PER session.*

### **THE FOLLOWING ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL TEAM DANCERS:**

1. **SUNDAY** Rehearsals or another day of the week dancers **must wear all black**.
2. **ATTEND EVERY** team rehearsal during the week prior to any competition. The exception for this will be if the team or teachers are out of town or at another competition.
3. **ALL JANUARY and FEBRUARY REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY**. The only exceptions are illness, injury or death in the family.
4. Re-staging rehearsals when needed. These occur when a dancer is ill, has a family obligation or leaves the dance team and is unable to participate in an upcoming competition.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

*The **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** is a ONE YEAR commitment. If a dancer chooses to leave the team at any point during the 2023-2024 year for any reason, there will be a penalty of **\$300** to cover the cost of the instructor's salary to re-stage performance pieces.*

1. **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** members are required to attend all team class times as well as their corresponding technique class. They are expected to come dressed and on time.
2. Dancers will be allowed to make up technique classes during another similar class (please see Kari or website for class times and for approval); however, all classes must be made up within that same month.
3. Team members will be allowed to miss **three (3) pre-approved rehearsals**. Exceptions to this would be student/family illness, family death and pre-approved school functions. If a dancer misses more than 3 rehearsals, **without prior approval**, he/she will be removed from the class with no refund of fees. A penalty of **\$300** will be incurred to cover the cost of instructor salary.
4. If a dancer misses a rehearsal FOR ANY REASON, they MAY be asked to do a "MAKE UP REHEARSAL" with the instructor whose dance they missed. The cost for these rehearsals varies depending on the instructor's salary.
5. Dancers **must** record upcoming absences due to vacations, school functions etc. at least 2 weeks prior to any rehearsal (when available) in our TEAM APP and email Kari at [kari@synergydancemadison.com](mailto:kari@synergydancemadison.com), the teacher who is running the dance and Erin at [erinc@synergydancemadison.com](mailto:erinc@synergydancemadison.com). Failure to do so will be considered an 'unapproved' absence.

**DANCERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO MISS TEAM REHEARSALS FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

1. Attending a NON-GRADED school function (Poms, sports, clubs, etc.)
2. Attending another Class/Competition not sponsored by Synergy Dance Academy

**CONSEQUENCES FOR EXCESSIVE UNAPPROVED ABSENCES/DANCER ILLNESS or INJURY**

1. Will be decided upon by the studio owner, teachers, and choreographers on a case-by-case basis. Consequences may include removal from a section of a piece(s), removal from a piece(s) entirely, etc. All class and rehearsal absences are reviewed periodically and play a large factor when deciding a dancer's inclusion/exclusion for a piece(s) in the current and/or following team year.
2. If a dancer becomes ill, is unable to attend a competition, or decides not to continue with the competition class, he/she is required to pay for the costume. If another dancer decides to take his/her place, they may sell their costume to them for no more than 75% of the original cost. Please keep in mind that these dancers work together as a unit and if one dancer is missing, it affects not only the staging of the routine, but group morale as well. It takes a great deal of time and effort to re stage a routine, so please be respectful of the time and effort of the dancers and instructors in order to make up for absences.
3. If a dancer is injured and no longer able to participate with the **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** the remainder of the team balance for the year will be voided. However, any competition fees and costume fees already paid for and prior class fees will **NOT** be refunded.
4. Any dancer who has another dancer fill in for them for a competition will pay that dancer's competition fee.

**FEES**

*The cost to participate on the **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** is \$1000 for the year. This cost covers the following:*

1. *Choreographer planning and piece setting (does NOT cover guest choreographers)*
2. *Weekly rehearsals*
3. *Additional Choreographer assistance*

1. Each dancer is required to have a SYNERGY warm-up jacket, which costs approximately \$100-130 depending on the jacket. We also have team make up and earrings which cost approximately \$130.
2. **COSTUME FEES:** Members must pay the costume(s) invoice by deadline. If costume fees are not paid by the deadline SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY will automatically charge the costume fees to the credit card on file.
3. **COMPETITION FEES:**
  2. **IF PAYMENT IS NOT MADE BY THE DEADLINE DATE THE STUDENT WILL \*\*\*NOT\*\*\* PARTICIPATE IN THAT COMPETITION/CONVENTION.**
  3. Competition dates and entry fees will be posted in the studio as soon as the information becomes available.
  4. All entered routines will incur a \$5 per entry fee to cover administrative costs. All convention fees will incur a \$30 fee to cover administrative costs.

4. **DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS:** Accounts must be in good standing in order to compete. Competitions may NOT be entered if there is an outstanding balance on your account. If there is a balance on your account, any payments made will be applied to reduce that balance *first*. Payments for competition will be used for competition entry ONLY if your account balance is up to date. Otherwise, payment will be applied to reduce your balance. Accounts must be up to date, and competition fees paid, by or before a competition's payment deadline date. There will be a \$5.00 PER DAY charge for all LATE **non team fees (class tuition and costumes)**.

**It is imperative that all payment deadlines and responses to staff requests are handled within the stated deadline(s). Due to continued concerns over this we will be adding a \$25.00 PER DAY charge for ALL LATE TEAM FEES and LATE RESPONSES to Team App surveys and email requests. This includes all "declined" credit card fees. The additional time spent tracking down missing payments, survey responses and following up with declined payments costs the studio time and money.**

## **CONDUCT**

*As a member of the Dance Team, you represent yourself, your family, and the entire Synergy Dance Academy dance community. We applaud you for conducting yourself in a mature and responsible manner!*

1. The dancer agrees to maintain academic grades that are acceptable to their parent's standards. As per parental discretion, a dancer will be granted a one-month leave of absence, if necessary, **with no penalty to put scholastic obligations in order**. The dancer will be fully responsible to make-up any work/choreography when continuing with the program.
2. The dancer agrees to have proper hygiene and cleanliness at all times, and to abide by the dress code when required. Bright hair dyes are not allowed for competition.
3. The dancer agrees to refrain from illegal and non-prescription drugs, steroids, or any other substance used to increase physical development, as well as consumption of alcohol, and use of tobacco.
4. The dancer agrees to keep all their belongings organized, clean and **labeled**. They are to leave all areas in the same condition or better than they found it at classes, rehearsals, and performances.
5. Any student or parent posting any comments on social media or demonstrating any behaviors that SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY deems hurtful or negative will be asked to have a conference with the student and parent to address any and all issues that may arise.
6. The **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** members and their families agree to maintain a positive attitude and set a good example for other students by being respectful in class, arriving on time, and being prepared and open-minded. Appropriate body language/demeanor and discussions, verbally or posted online, will be appropriate, positive and becoming of a dancer in this studio. Inappropriate conduct will NOT be tolerated and will result in removal from the class with **NO REFUND**. Any dancer failing to comply with these rules will receive one warning from the instructor and a conference with said dancer's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) before being dismissed from the group. **A \$300-500 per dance, fee will be applied to cover the cost of re staging.**
7. The **SENIOR SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** members and their families agree to maintain a positive attitude and set a good example for other students by being respectful in class, arriving on time, and being prepared and open-minded. Appropriate body language/demeanor and discussions, verbally or posted online, will be appropriate, positive and becoming of a dancer in this studio. Inappropriate conduct will NOT be tolerated and will result in removal from the class with **NO REFUND**. Any dancer failing to comply with these rules will receive one warning from the instructor and a conference with said dancer's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) before being dismissed from the group. **A \$300-500 per dance, fee will be applied to cover the cost of re staging.**
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9. Choreography and staging take a lot of creativity, effort, and time. Out of respect for our instructors/choreographers, we ask that you help protect our material by not posting team music mixes or choreography videos, whole or in part, online in any form. Thank you in advance.

**SENIOR DANCE TEAM** members are encouraged to take part in other workshops in order to enhance their dance experience; however, attendance is not required at **ALL** events, but highly encouraged. All master classes offered by Synergy are required\* **REGARDLESS** of whether a student takes that style dance or not. Students unable to participate due to illness or injury are still required to pay Master Class fee. Master Class fees are set based on our total team enrollment.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

1. There will be a Team Manager, "Parent Liaison"/"Team Parent(s)" who will help organize various activities within the team. For example, coordinating rhinestoning of costumes, meal-planning for dancers at conventions and competitions, organizing parent events/activities during conventions/competitions, organizing team bonding events outside of rehearsal time, passing along information about costumes and meeting places while the team is traveling via email or other mode of communication, etc.
2. Team Members are *required* to wear team warm ups/sweats on stage for awards and recognitions at conventions and are *encouraged* to wear them at competitions and events. Team members who do not have their jackets will not be able to be on stage for awards. Only Synergy Dance Team Members who have competed are allowed on stage for awards.

## **SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY Dance Team Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct**

The purpose of the *SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY Competition Team* is to provide our young dancers with a healthy and encouraging environment within the studio and while traveling to participate in multiple dance competitions and/or other community events.

**As a SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY Competition Team Parent, I recognize the importance of dance in the lives of young people; I pledge that I will participate in my child's dance activities in accordance with the following:**

1. I will promote teamwork, sportsmanship and a competitive spirit for all dancers and spectators in a positive manner.
2. I will not question the judgement of any faculty member or choreographer.
3. I will support my child's team, teachers, choreographers and resolve to allow the teachers to manage their dancers and choreography as they feel best benefits the entire team.
4. I understand that it is my responsibility to be aware of my dancer's location while attending dance competitions and know that the staff of SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY are not responsible for my children at any dance competition/community event except when in the dressing room.
5. I am a role model for my child as well as other dancers, my personal conduct at the studio, performances, competitions and other studio events must be above reproach, and represents the highest standards of teamwork and sportsmanship.

**Therefore - I pledge that:**

1. I will exhibit exemplary behavior at the studio and at studio events. I will refrain from excessive alcohol and/or drug use while in the presence of SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY Team Members and their families.
1. I will not make negative remarks of any type with regard to teachers, choreographers, choreography placement, costumes, other parents, competition judges, other schools, or publicly criticize them in the studio or course of any event
2. I will encourage my child to behave to the best of their abilities at all times.
3. I will not make a judgement on my child's performance and will always be there to support without regard to what the results of the competition are.
4. I will always applaud for all dancers when attending competitions, including dancers from other studios.

By signing this, I accept this CODE OF CONDUCT and agree to conduct myself according to the principles of SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY and the regulations set forth for each individual event the SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY DANCE TEAM participates in. I realize that my child or I may be removed from any dance event or competition for failure to abide.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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