

JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN DANCE TEAM REQUIREMENTS 2024-2025

This team is for ages 8-12. 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 JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY DANCE TEAM MEMBERS need a minimum of 1 year of dance training in the dance style they wish to compete in.**
2. The JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY DANCE TEAM will meet at least once a week for each style of dance they are competing in. Additional practices may be held at the discretion of the instructor(s).
3. **ALL JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN/PRE-TEEN TEAM MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A BALLET and JAZZ CLASS at SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY DURING THE REGULAR DANCE SEASON.**
4. **ALL JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN TEAM MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A BALLET, JAZZ, and STRENGTH/FLEXIBILITY or an INJURY PREVENTION CLASS FOR DANCERS class at SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY DURING THE SUMMER.**
Additional strength training from other summer activities will not be considered substituting for our STRENGTH/FLEXIBILITY/INJURY PREVENTION CLASSES.
5. **ALL JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN DANCE TEAM** members are required to attend Master classes in conjunction with piece setting AND any other additional master classes offered during the year.
6. The **JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY TEAM** will compete with their team at 4-5 competitions during the 2024-25 season. The following list is subject to change:
 1. FESTIVAL FOR A CAUSE-**February 8-9-Theater TBD, Madison, WI** (*this is a performance and master class opportunity, NO competition*).
 2. TREMAINE ST. LOUIS-**February 28-March 2-St. Louis Regency St. Louis at the Archu**
 3. SHOWSTOPPERS-**March 14-16- Wisconsin Dells**
 4. DANCEMAKERS-**April 4-6-Chicago, IL**
 5. PRECISION ARTS CHALLENGE-**April 11-13-McFarland, WI**
 6. TREMAINE NATIONALS- **July 6-11-The Renaissance, Orlando, FL.**
9. **MAIL 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. Most 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.
10. Dancers are expected to perform in our recital with their technique class and their competition team. This is done so we may maintain the same number of students in the technique class and showcase the accomplishments made during the year. Due to the timing of costume changes and the length of the show, not all competition pieces may appear in the Summer Showcase.

THE FOLLOWING ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL TEAM DANCERS:

1. **ATTEND 'PIECE SETTING WEEK' REHEARSAL** This can vary, but typically, it is the last 1-2 weeks of August.
2. **On Sundays, for Rehearsals, or on any other day of the week, dancers must wear ALL BLACK and have their hair in a bun or ponytail.**
3. **ATTEND EVERY** team rehearsal during the week before any competition. The exception is if the team or teachers are out of town or at another competition.
4. **ALL JANUARY and FEBRUARY REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY.** The only exceptions are illness, injury, or death in the family.
5. Restaging rehearsals when needed. These occur when a dancer is ill, has a family obligation, or leaves the dance team and cannot participate in an upcoming competition.
6. **REHEARSALS AT COMPETITIONS/CONVENTIONS** Synergy Dance Academy Instructors will have rehearsals at the competition/convention before competing. These are often organized the week of and even the day of comps. All available dancers are required to attend. The only exceptions are for dancers who have not arrived in time for the rehearsal.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY DANCE TEAM is a one-year commitment. If a dancer chooses to leave the team at any point during the 2024-2025 year, there will be a penalty of \$200 to cover the cost of the instructor's salary to re-stage performance pieces. **JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** members must attend all team class times and their corresponding technique class. They are expected to come dressed and on time.

1. Dancers can make up technique classes during another similar class (please see Kari or the website for class times and approval); however, all classes must be made up within that same month. Competition rehearsals WILL NOT be made up, and dancers must learn the material from another dancer in that dance to allow maximum use of time with the entire team present.
2. 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 three rehearsals without prior approval, he/she may be removed from the dance with no refund of fees. A penalty of \$300-500 will be incurred to cover the cost of the instructor's salary.
3. If a dancer misses a rehearsal FOR ANY REASON, they MAY be asked to do a "makeup rehearsal" with the instructor whose dance they missed. The cost of these rehearsals depends on the instructor's salary.
4. 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@synergymadison.com and Erin at erinc@synergymadison.com if it is less than 2 weeks' notice. 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, cannot attend a competition, or decides not to continue with the competition dance, he/she must pay for the costume. If another dancer chooses 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 much time and effort to re-stage a routine, so please respect the dancers' and instructors' time and effort to make up for absences.
3. If a dancer is injured and can no longer participate with the **JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY DANCE TEAM**, the **remainder of the team balance for the year will be voided. However, any competition fees, 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 fees.

FEES

Please refer to last year's "fee worksheet" (available from the office by request) for an example of additional costs. Participation in the **JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN SYNERGY DANCE TEAM** costs **\$1200 annually**. This cost covers weekly rehearsals and

Additional Choreographer assistance at competitions/conventions

CHOREOGRAPHY FEES

Choreography fees are based on the number of routines your dancer(s) participates in:

-\$250 for being in 2 dances

-\$500 for being in 3+ dances

COMMITMENT FEE

A non-refundable "commitment fee" of **\$175** will be charged on August 1, 2024

COSTUME FEES/MISC. FEES

1. Members must pay the costume (s) invoice by the 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.
2. Each dancer is required to have a SYNERGY jacket, which costs approximately **\$100-130**.
3. Each dancer is required to have make-up and earrings, which cost approximately **\$130** in total.

COMPETITION FEES

1. Competition dates and entry fees will be posted in the studio as soon as the information is available.
2. All entered routines will incur a **\$5** per entry fee to cover administrative costs. All convention fees will incur a **\$50** fee to cover administration costs.

DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS

Accounts must be in good standing in order for the dancer to compete. Competitions will NOT be entered if your account has an outstanding balance. If there is a balance on your account, any payments made will be applied to reduce that balance *first*. Payments for competitions will be used for competition entry ONLY if your account balance is up to date. Accounts must be current, and competition fees paid by or before a competition's payment deadline date. **All late non-team fees (class tuition and costumes) will be charged \$5.00 per day.**

It is imperative that all payment deadlines and responses to staff requests are handled within the stated deadline(s). Due to continued concerns, we will add 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 acceptable to their parents' standards. As per parental discretion, if necessary, a dancer will be granted a one-month leave of absence with no penalty to put scholastic obligations in order. The dancer will be fully responsible for making 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 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 **JUNIOR/PRE-TEEN 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. Appropriate body language/demeanor and discussions, verbally or posted online, must be 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 restaging.**

7. Team music mixes or choreography videos cannot be posted online until after our final competition of the year.

MASTERCLASSES/WORKSHOPS

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

MISCELLANEOUS

DANCE TEAMS are *required* to wear team warmups/sweats AND any dance shoe 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 unless Synergy staff approves. **THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ALLOWED ON STAGE DURING AWARDS:** *Phones, signage, noise makers, stuffed animals, food or props.*

SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY

Dance Team Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO THE OFFICE BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2024

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 positively promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and a competitive spirit among all dancers and spectators.
2. I will not question the judgment of any faculty member or choreographer.
3. I will support my child's team, teachers, and 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 is not responsible for my children at any dance competition or community event except when in the dressing room.
5. I am a role model for my child and other dancers; my conduct at the studio, performances, competitions, and other studio events must be above reproach and represent the highest standards of teamwork and sportsmanship.

Therefore - I pledge that:

1. I will exhibit exemplary behavior at the studio and 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.
2. I will not make negative remarks of any type about teachers, choreographers, choreography placement, costumes, other parents, competition judges, or other schools, or publicly criticize them in the studio or course of any event.
3. I will encourage my child to always behave to the best of their abilities.
4. I will not judge my child's performance and will always be there to support them regardless of the competition's results.
5. I will always applaud all dancers, including dancers from other studios when attending competitions.

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 in the SYNERGY DANCE ACADEMY DANCE TEAM participates. 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:

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____ DATE: