

Elite

PERFORMANCE ACADEMY

**COMPANY &
COMPETITION TEAM
HANDBOOK
2020-2021**

Elite Performance Academy's Company and Competition Teams are optional groups for the serious dancer who has a strong passion for the performing arts and development of strong technique and performance ability.

Company and Competition Team Requirements

- Must be self-motivated and willing to carry out self evaluation to push growth as a performer
- Strong desire to develop as a dancer and performer
- Must have a positive attitude
- Have respect for the team and staff
- Show support for the fellow dancers, teachers and studio
- Must have a supportive family base that shows respect for the students and teachers

Commitment: Competition Team participants are required to participate from August 2020 through Artistic Revue 2021. This is a serious commitment and will not be taken lightly. Participants are expected to fulfill this commitment. All students and their parents will be required to sign a parent/student agreement. The Competition Team will attend 2-3 regional competitions. All dancers are required to participate in all competitions. All are mandatory. Any violation of this handbook/commitment/contract may result in the dancer's immediate removal from the Competition Team. If a dancer quits Competition Team mid-season, said dancer is never allowed to join Competition Team again, unless there is special circumstance, which is approved beforehand by the director. For any reason, at any time, Anna has the right to dismiss a dancer/family from Elite Performance Academy. If said dancer/family were to be dismissed and/or quits no refunds will be given, this includes and is not limited to costumes, costume fees, tuition, privates, and competitions fees.

Commitment Company: Company participants are required to participate from August 2020 through Artistic Revue 2021. This is an important commitment. All students and their parents will be required to sign a parent/student agreement. Company members will be required to participate in events and performances in the community such as, but not limited to Christmas with a Cause Benefit, Harlem Globetrotters half-time performance, Christmas parade, etc. Any violation of this handbook/commitment/contract may result in the dancer's immediate removal from Company. For any reason, at any time, Anna has the right to dismiss a dancer/family from Elite Performance Academy. If said dancer/family were to be dismissed and/or quits no refunds will be given, this includes and is not limited to costumes, costume fees, tuition, and any additional fees.

Core Values: Core values are important for the whole studio. Starting this year will strive to instill these values in each student.

Elite Performance Academy strives to exemplify the following core values:

Be kind. We are one team. We strive to show kindness through humility and selflessness to all peers, families, and staff.

Be encouraging. We strive to motivate each other. We know that we each grow in talent and compassion when we are encouraged.

Be consistent. We strive to be consistent in all training. Practice makes perfect.

Be resilient. We strive to be resilient. When hardships arise, we will stand as a team and rise stronger together.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory for all **Company** classes. Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary/Lyrical, one optional technique class, rehearsal classes, and production (this may change based on COVID Guidelines at that time) are extremely important! When it comes to school and family activities you will find Elite to be flexible and understanding. However, by accepting placement in this program, you have agreed that this is a priority in your schedule. In addition, any time guest teachers/choreographers are provided for Company dancers – attendance is expected.

Missed classes for any reason other than illness or emergency must be called/emailed prior to absence occurring. Student absences will be recorded, and any **Company** required class missed, is expected to be made up. Being a well-rounded individual is important, and we support students pursuing other activities. However, when it comes to participation on a competitive team, skills are constantly being taught....students must be present!

Attendance of any/ all events and opportunities that are affiliated with Elite Performance Academy, which result in missed class, are excused absences.

Financial Commitment: Being in a program such as this requires a certain financial commitment.

Competition Fees: Fees associated with each competition are based upon prices set by the competition itself. These generally run around \$50-\$65 per person per routine. Duet/Trios/Solos are generally \$120-\$145 per competition routine. Fees for

competitions are due to the studio by the due date indicated on the invoice. In most instances this is at least 45-90 days prior to/in advance of each competition. **Missing an assigned due date will result in a \$15 late fee.** Please note that there will be a \$25.00 administrative processing fee placed for each competition. NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE IF FEES ARE NOT PAID AND IF YOU ARE NOT UP TO DATE ON TUITION.

Jewelry, Make-Up and Costumes: All Company members are required to purchase matching jewelry (earrings & chokers). Cost is usually around \$25.00. Specific make-up is required for Elite's Competition Team, and will also need to be purchased by you. Everyone is required to purchase the same eye shadow and lipstick through the studio. A separate costume will be chosen for each routine that a dancer is selected to be in. By accepting placement in this program, you agree to purchase and wear the costumes designed by the director or choreographer. We usually try to keep the cost of costumes between \$100-\$250ish a piece. Dancer will NOT receive a costume until paid in full. These costumes are billed separately from recital costumes! **Missing an assigned due date will result in a \$15 late fee.** If a costume needs alterations or repairs after they've been passed out, parents are responsible for those alterations.

Please note the costume deposit schedule:

- Large Group/Lines/Production- \$90.00 per costume per routine due by Thursday, October 15th.
- Small Groups/Duet/Trios- \$90.00 per costume per routine due by Thursday, October 15th.

Missing an assigned due date will result in a \$15 late fee. This includes all fees & invoices.

PLEASE NOTE that these are costume deposits. The additional cost per costume will be billed at a later date. The additional invoicing may begin as early as November, and continue through January. If a Competition Team member violates this handbook/ commitment/ contract and quits or is dismissed, there will be NO refunds on any costume deposits and/or costume amounts paid. Elite Performance Academy owns the costumes and also maintains the right to keep any partial or completed costumes.

Every dancer is required to have each and every piece of their costume when attending competitions. If your dancer does not have a piece to their costume, they will not be allowed to dance that routine.

Tights: All dancers are required to purchase their tights through the studio. Information about style will be provided.

Team Warm-Ups: Company and Competition Team Members are NOT required to have Elite warm up jackets, but are encouraged to order them. Orders must be submitted through the studio. The cost for the jackets is \$65.

Team Tank Tops: Although Team Warm Up jackets are NOT required, ALL Competition Team members are required to have the red Competition Team Tank Tops. These may be worn at a performance or public event. These tanks are \$15-\$20 per top. One group order will be placed in September if you need a red tank top.

Prop Fee: If your dancer is in a routine with a prop, you will be billed a prop fee. This fee will be in the range of \$10-\$50.

Opportunities Available: Students who meet the necessary technical/performance requirements are placed into specialty small group routines, at the parent's discretion. Those students who meet or exceed the technical/performance requirements are given opportunities in solo and duo/trio work. Elite Performance Academy will select the choreographer for all solos. The choreographer will select the style of dance and the music.

The Competition Experience: It is important to understand that the "competition" aspect of being a member of Competition Team should be considered a "performance" opportunity. Competition results are strictly a subjective opinion, and your child's growth should not be completely gauged by their scores or achievements at competitions. It is important to keep your competition experience positive and most importantly, be proud of the growth and development that takes place within your child. We do not foster competition within our Company, and all we ask from our students is that each child works to their full capacity. We understand that each child is a gift to us, and each is uniquely different.

Extra Practices: On occasion a teacher may find it important to add additional mandatory rehearsals before a competition. We make every effort to give enough notice so families are able to coordinate their schedules. These practices do not cost extra money. They usually take place on Saturdays mornings and/or on Sunday afternoons. Remember these are to benefit the dancers. We all want them to be comfortable and to dance their best. Sometimes due to weather cancellations or other issues a routine just needs some extra time.

Competitions: All dancers are required to participate in all competitions. Failure to attend may result in expulsion. Competitions will take place 1-2 locally and 1 out-of-state. Families are responsible for their transportation and hotel to all

competitions (in and out of state). Every effort is made to select competitions that will provide our dancers and their families with the best experience possible. Any issue or disgruntlement with a competition or convention needs to be brought to the attention of Anna. Dancers, parents, or family members are not to complain to the competition staff or management.

Elite Performance Academy approaches competition with a few things in mind:

- Educational Opportunity- competition against the finest teams allows our teachers and students the opportunity to “see what is out there” and grow from there.
- Pre-professional Opportunity- students who wish to pursue the professional world of dance have an opportunity to grow and develop their performance skills through competition.
- Please note that permission must be obtained from Miss Anna if your child enters any Elite routines or solos at an additional competition not scheduled through Elite Performance Academy.

Possible Competition Dates:

On Point National Dance Competition- March 5-7, 2021

Starpower Talent Competition- March 19-21, 2021

Kids Artistic Revue (KAR) April 16-18, 2021

Extra Performance Opportunities: Throughout the year Company and Competition Team members may perform in various functions and community events. It is important that we accept these invitations from the community. These performances are mandatory, unless there is a school or family conflict.

Artistic Revue: The Competition Team members are required to fully participate in the 2020-2021 Annual Artistic Revue. This means that Company and Competition routines will be placed throughout the day in both shows.

Parent Roles: Elite Performance Academy strives to be a drama free zone! Parents are expected to be supportive, respectful, and courteous to all team members and their families at all times. This studio will not tolerate rudeness, jealousy, resentment, or disrespect to another team member, their family, a teacher, nor the director. It makes no difference to this studio how good your child is or who you are...you are not permitted to bring any negativity whatsoever into this facility, which is full of fabulous families and kids.

Your role is the following:

Lift up and support all of our students.

Teach your child that there is always going to be someone better than they are.

Teach your child to be happy for others.

Give a hand to those who may be behind or struggling.

Stand firmly behind the teaching staff.

Work with the teaching staff, showing your child that you are behind their coaches.

We all want the children to succeed, but success is not measured by the trophy a child brought home, by the row in which they stand on stage, or by how many pirouettes they can do. Instead, it is measured by the effort that they put forth. If they give all they've got to give, what more can anyone ever expect?

End Notes: This year Company members will be participating in a Big/Little Sister program. This is an exciting opportunity for all members because it gives them a chance to encourage one another. It also gives them a "sister" for competition, some to give high fives in the hall, tell them that they did a great job, and so much more. Big/little sisters will do a gift exchange at our annual Christmas party.

This year may look different due to COVID, but overall it is our intention to provide as many safe opportunities to our students as possible while also fostering their love for dance and performing.

3 Scenarios for Competing 2020-2021:

Scenario A: Full competition year with a minimum three events in the spring. Events may look different, but will run similarly to the past.

Scenario B: Competition(s) are cancelled. In this scenario, we still want to feature our dancers. As a second option, we will hire some to video our dances on location. These videos will be made available to the families. We may also choose to enter these videos in virtual competitions. Depending on guidelines at that time, we may also look into holding a photoshoot for the dancers at the same location.

Scenario C: Competitions are cancelled, we are still distancing or virtual. We hire someone to put a video together of dancers. This may require the use of green screens and bringing a few students at a time. We will hold a virtual event to allow families of dancers to see the videos of each routine.

Important Dates

Date	Event	Description	Who it involves
08/21-24	Registration		Everyone
09/08	First Night of Classes!	First night of classes for our 2020-2021 dance year!	Everyone
10/5-10/9	Bring a Friend to Dance Week	Students are invited to bring a friend to class this week!	Everyone
10/26-30	Costume Measurement	Costume Measurement for Spring Artistic Revue Costumes	Everyone
End of Oct	Trick-or-Treat	If Cabell County holds Trick or Treat on a weeknight; Elite will cancel classes for the evening.	Everyone
11/2-6	Trick-or-Treat Party	Students may wear costumes to classes and invite a family member to their "Purple People Eater" Performance.	Creative Movement & Combination Students ONLY
11/15	Second Half Costume Fees Due	All spring costume fees due in full 11/15.	Everyone
11/23-27	Thanksgiving Break	Along with Cabell County schools, we will be closed the week of the Thanksgiving.	Everyone
11/30	Classes Resume	Classes begin again after Thanksgiving break.	Everyone
TBD	Christmas with a Cause	Local community studios join together to raise money for a local charity.	Company, Competition Team
TBD	Huntington Parade of Lights	Local parade. All students are welcome to join us and ride on our float. Children are encouraged to wear Elite gear.	Everyone
TBD	Company & Competition Team Holiday Party	All 2020-2021 Elite Company and Competition Team members are invited to join us for a fun holiday party at the studio.	Company & Competition Team Members
	Christmas Break	Enjoy your holiday!	Everyone

TBD	Competition Showcase	We invite all students to attend our Competition Team showcase. This event will help raise money to cover competition fees for our dancers.	Competition Team performance; Everyone welcome
2/8-2/12	Bring a Sweetheart to Dance Week	Students are invited to bring 1 person to class with them this week!	Everyone
2/15/2021	Performance Fees Due	\$20.00 Performance Fee Due. Performance Fees cover the end of the year trophy and certificates!	Everyone
TBD	Spring Break		
TBD	Costume & Hair Week		
TBD	Picture Weekend		
05/10-14	Rehearsal Week		
05/15-16	Artistic Revue Weekend		

Some other dates to include may be:

Workshops

Fundraisers

Rehearsals

In-Studio Competitions

Public Holidays

Holiday Showcase

Company Letter of Commitment

This correspondence serves as an agreement between you and Elite Performance Academy. Your child has been selected to be a member of the 2020-2021 Competition Team. Your signature below indicates that you have read and fully understand all of the requirements associated with participating on the competition team. Furthermore, your signature and that of your child's indicates your acceptance of those terms and conditions, and that you are well aware of the commitment involved in this program.

Dancer: As a member of the 2020-2021 Elite Competition Team you will actively participate in all scheduled events from September 2020 through Artistic Revue 2021. Your commitment to this program means that you will be participating in all classes, rehearsals, performances, competitions, and showcases that are scheduled during this time period. Your commitment to this program means you will come to class each time dressed appropriately with proper shoes, attire, and ready to learn. Your commitment to this program means that you will honor attendance requirements for all classes, rehearsals, performances, and all competitions, and showcases. Your commitment to this program means you will be respectful to all teachers and teammates at all times.

In addition to the above, I understand a violation of my commitment to this program/contract has serious consequences that may result in my being permanently dismissed from the program.

X _____

Date _____

Parent: Please be sure you feel comfortable with your ability to handle the fees incurred for this activity, as with most competitive activities, there are many uncontrollable circumstances and we don't want to catch anyone off guard.

Monthly tuition, competition fees, costume deposits, costume fees, etc. all have due dates. Monthly Tuition is due at the beginning of each month and is late after the 15th. All other fees are late after the posted due dates. A \$35 bank fee will be assessed for a non-sufficient funds payment. It is each parent's responsibility to be aware of fees due, schedule changes, etc. We suggest coming in to the studio at least weekly to check for news, and to check emails for studio information and updates daily. Commitment to this program means that you will honor attendance requirements for all classes, and all competitions.

I have read the above information and will be responsible for my child's account and activity requirements.

X _____

Date _____