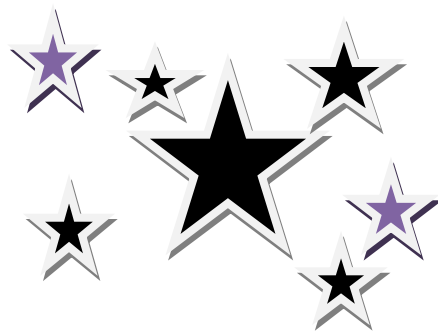




Information on Performing Starz Competition Teams



Purpose of Competition Teams:

Performing Competition Teams are for the dancers who display both the talent and ability for a more serious study in dance, along with athletic ability, flexibility, musicality and strong coordination skills, and above all a love of dance. Dancers who wish to pursue becoming a Competition Team member must register and attend summer dance classes, which include technique, ballet, tap & jazz. At the end of our summer classes we will conclude with an audition for all potential Competition Team dancers. Dancers will be placed in the appropriate Competition Team classes based on their audition scores.

Competition is definitely for serious dance students and although we realize not every student will go onto pursue a career in dance, the dedication of Competition Team Members is similar to that of any team sport.

We are sure you have heard that Competition Teams compete at regional competitions. These competitions give children a chance to see where their skill level is in comparison to others their same age around the state and nationally. It challenges them to strive to become better dancers. Judges at competitions give critiques on the dancer's performances and emphasize what skills they need to focus on. Competitions are not about winning a trophy or being the best but about doing your own personal best, good sportsmanship and using the feedback received to build and improve your skills. Competitions will be anywhere from February to May.

There are more aspects of being a competition team member we would like you to know. There are dance workshops/conventions that students attend that host numerous classes with the latest steps and techniques taught by the nation's best professional dancers. These teachers are energized, motivating and inspirational to young dancers. Performing Competition Team is required to attend a mandatory convention which is usually in the fall. Performing Competition Team also provides students more opportunities to perform in front of audiences, not only at competitions but at local events around the area.

It is true competition can be very time consuming. Competition Team parents and dancers should realize that school comes first. With that being said too many other extracurricular activities can cause conflicts with rehearsal, convention and competition schedules. However, being involved with outgoing, hardworking children gives kids the opportunity to learn discipline, time management and goal setting, all by doing something they love, dancing ☺ Competition Team members as well as parents develop lasting friendships and positive memories that they will cherish for a lifetime. Some have gained their first real job experience by becoming assistant teachers.

Things to keep in mind:

- We will be competing (if deemed ready by their teacher) 2-3 regional competitions between Feb-May. The cost per dance (for large and/or small groups) is around \$30-35 on average.
- Students are required to attend 1 convention per year (normally in the fall); cost is around \$150 per student +additional expenses like lodging and food (if needed).
- Additional yearly expenses: Team Warm Up, costumes, tights, shoes & accessories (hair, earrings, necklace, etc.)

The staff is looking forward to the 2011/2012 competition season, and we are sure that it will, once again, be a successful and rewarding one! Please contact the office if you have any further questions 586-739-1277.