



# **Competition Guide**

## **2018-2019**

### **Is my dancer ready for competition?**

Your dancer should enjoy performing, working hard & wanting to do more. If your dancers have expressed an interest, please ask their teachers if they feel that they are ready. The teachers have a lot of insight as to their abilities. Also, a competitive dancer must be committed. The teams rely on each and every team member. If your dancer is not going to be committed, competition might not be for them.

### **Is my parent ready for competition?**

Parents must have good sportsmanship skills. They must make sure to schedule the family so that the dancers can be at all classes, events, competitions and activities. They must be positive and supportive of the team and the studio at all times. They must be willing to help at recitals, competitions and with props and costumes.

### **What are the benefits of competition?**

There are many benefits to competition. The dancers get more performance opportunities, which gives them more confidence on stage and off. It also teaches them to work as a team and become one. The dancers become more independent and make lifelong friendships. Competition dancers grow as dancers faster. Competition dancers benefit in more ways than can be listed here.

### **What else is involved in competition?**

Being in competition does cost more money. The dancers will have to take more classes, have to buy more costumes & must pay to perform at the competitions. This all is a little more expensive than non-competition classes. The competitions will take up time on the weekends, and there are usually extra practices for the team.

### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

(please program your cell phones today)

STUDIO (248)305-5600

MISS GAYLE (248)245-5055

MISS TINA(248)421-6500

When it is not an emergency email is the best way to communicate with us.

***gaylesdancephase@yahoo.com***



## 2018-2019 Competition Guide

248-305-5600

email: [gaylesdancephase@yahoo.com](mailto:gaylesdancephase@yahoo.com)

51770 Grand River ~ Wixom ~ MI ~ 48393

### Home of 35 years running National Champions, Most Entertaining Act Awards, Best Choreography Awards & Top Studio Awards!

Open auditions for the 2018-2019 season will be Friday, June 1, 2018

Cost: \$15.00

Ages 5-7: 5:15-6:15 pm

Ages 8-10: 6:15-7:15 pm

Ages 11-13: 7:15-8:15pm

Ages 14 & up: 8:15-9:15 pm

If a dancer can not attend the group audition, please call to set up an alternate audition time.

#### Audition Day

(Arrive at least 15 minutes early)

**Company Contact included in this document must be turned in at audition.**

Please dress in a dark, solid color leotard and bike shorts. Hair must be pulled up and out of dancers face for the audition. Be prepared with all shoes. Arrive early for your audition. Dancers proceed to the warm up room and fully stretch and warm-up before the audition start time. Parents check in at the desk, pay audition fee, turn in signed forms and obtain your audition number. Take this number to your child and pin it on the front of their leotard before the audition starts. Be prepared with all shoes. Do your best and have fun in the audition.

#### Placement Announcement

Dancers will be contacted in early August with placement results. This will detail your required schedule and any additional classes you requested. You do not need to contact GDP during registration, your returned acceptance letter will confirm your registration. ***Once dancers have received their placement, we must have their acceptance letter and deposit returned by August 16th. Spots not accepted by this date will be opened to alternate dancers. If we do not receive your acceptance letter, we assume you are NOT going to be in these classes.*** We do our best to get a successful placement. However, during the first month of classes some changes may be necessary.

#### Important Dates

August 17-20: Muse Workshop (required for Elite Level Teams)

September 4: classes start

September 29: Pumpkinfest Parade

November 2-4: Choreography Camp

# 2018-2019 Competition Contract

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Grade in fall: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardians Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

We do most of our communication through email. Please give all emails you want on your account:

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Guardians Cell Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

The following information is necessary for us to place your dancer on a team with the level of commitment you are willing to support. All Competition Company members must:

- Take the required number of classes for their level
- Must have excellent attendance (no more than 3 misses per class per full season) and cannot miss class two weeks prior to each event
- Must purchase Company Jacket
- Must sell at least one yearbook ad per dancer
- Must keep account paid in full each month
- Team members are responsible for all competition fees even if you can not attend an event
- Parents must sign up to help with props, costumes and recital
- Both parents and dancers must obey code of conduct at studio and all events
- Must attend choreography camp and required workshops
- Must loan costumes if they ever miss an event
- Parents must attend a required parent meeting
- Dancers must participate in the Pumpkinfest Parade

Please check the highest level you will commit to:

**Novice Level:**

- Must enroll in tap, jazz & ballet. Will attend 1 or 2 local events with one or two dances. Camp and workshop requirements vary at this level and will be explained to each team.

**Line Level:**

- Must enroll in tap, jazz, ballet & technique. Will attend 3 local events with 2 team dances. Must attend November Choreography Camp Must attend either Muse or Art Of Movement Workshop

**Line Plus Level (line level plus competitive lyrical):**

- Must enroll in tap, jazz, ballet, lyrical & technique. Will attend 3 local events with 3 team dances. Must attend November Choreography camp Must attend either Muse or Art Of Movement workshop.

**Required to attend 2019 National Event**

**Elite Level:**

- Jr Elite & Sr Elite will have at least 4 large groups. Large group dances are placed by audition. All Elite level dancers must take ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, musical theatre (Jr & Sr elite only), technique, turns and leaps and one or more additional class(es) such as ballet technique, Cecchetti, tumbling, etc. Must attend November choreography camp, must attend Muse and Art Of Movement. Must purchase studio required shoes. Required to attend 2019 National Event. All Elite level members must be at all 4 recitals.

Would you be interested in participating in a small group if asked? \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum number of small groups you may be considered for: \_\_\_\_\_

Competition groups will be following these guide lines so please read carefully before signing. Please be sure to submit your class request with this form.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Code of Conduct, Class Attire, & Attendance Requirements

## **Code Of Conduct:**

Respect your teachers. Respect all team members. Be on your best behavior in the lobby. Clean up after yourself, help pick up after others and leave the lobby neat. Be helpful and a studio leader, make everyone feel welcome. GDP staff will go over competition behavior in detail with team members. We require respectful and excellent behavior at all events.

## **Dress Code:**

**-Hair:** Please have hair up and off face for all classes.

**-Attire:** Black leotard or sports bra and bike shorts- no baggy shorts or cover ups in class.

**-Shoes:** You must have the correct shoes for the subject.

## **Dance Room Regulations:**

No cell phones allowed in the dance rooms. This rule is for dancers in class, student assistants and visitors. Cell phones brought to class will be kept by the teacher until the end of the day. Parents who need to contact students may call the studio and we will get your dancer out of class for emergency calls.

No food or pop in the studio rooms, water bottles with water only. No Gum!!!

## **Attendance Policies:**

Excellent attendance is required. You must be on time to competition classes. Dancers may not miss more than 3 lessons per class, in a season. You must be in class the 2 weeks prior to each event. Dancers who have poor attendance will be handled by the teachers. All competition teams will have alternates to step in. Any missed technique class must be made up within 2 weeks of missing. Dancers may attend any other technique class to make it up.

## **Extra Class Rehearsals:**

Occasionally, dance teams have extra rehearsals before competitions. In the past, there has been more practice needed prior to the first event. The staff will do their best to give as much prior notice of extra rehearsals as possible. We will also try to keep tap and jazz practices together. Please make every effort to attend.

# Competition, Workshop Schedules and Fee Policies

GDP will have a team parent meeting in early fall. We will provide a calendar of all the events for the season at this meeting. The schedule handed out in the fall will include dates, rates, event cities, and host hotels that provide group rates. Competitions, Nationals, Camps and Outside and In-studio Workshops will all be detailed. Outside workshops begin in early fall. Elite level dancers must attend an in studio workshop **AND** an outside workshop. Novice and Line level dancers must choose either an in-studio workshop **OR** an outside workshop. The outside workshop will be chosen by the studio. Competitions usually begin in February for Elite. Novice and Line competitions are held in March, April and May. At the fall parent meeting you will receive a break down of team required events and many optional things you may join. You will get the exact address to the competition location with the final schedule, at least 5 days prior to the event. You must keep the entire weekend open until you have the final schedule. Please do not email and call the studio asking for times in advance as we do not have answers. Please understand that the scheduling is out of our hands and that you must be available the entire weekend.

Required local events do not require a hotel stay. However many optional events do. Hotel reservations are your responsibility. We suggest you book both Friday and Saturday night upon making reservations. Be sure you inquire about the cancellation policies of each hotel. When you receive the exact schedule you can adjust your reservations as necessary. You are not required to stay at the host hotel.

In studio workshops are held throughout the season as they come up. We will email and post studio flyers for all of these types of events. Many times these are set up quickly. Having guest artists in the studio really helps the dancers grow and we encourage all dancers to participate in these events as they arise. **For our 2018/2019 season, dancers will be required to attend Muse and/or Art Of Movement depending on their team placement.**

## **Fee Policies:**

All required entry fees will be posted to your account about 60 days prior to each event. You must pay all fees on time. Fees are not refundable, even if you miss the event for any reason. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ENTRY FEES FOR ALL EVENTS YOUR TEAM IS ATTENDING EVEN IF YOU WILL NOT BE THERE AND AN ALTERNATE IS TAKING YOUR PLACE.** You must have your costumes in for the alternate two weeks before the event. If you are sick at the last minute, you must contact the teacher and send your costumes to the event. They must arrive one hour before the be ready time. Often times a team member will take the costumes for you.

## Competition Cost Estimate and Fundraisers

Regular monthly tuition is due for all competition dancers. Dancers must provide all required shoes. In addition to that we have provided this estimate to help you plan.

### **Estimated one time costs, these required items can be used year after year**

Jewelry \$30.00

Company Jacket approximately \$120.00

Jacket embroidery approximately \$40

Make up approximately \$45.00

Team Shoes (required for elite level, optional for all other levels): approximately \$120

### **Choreography & Team Building Camp**

approximately \$250.00

### **Entry Fees (based on last year, approximate fees)**

Group entry \$60.00 per dance

Solo entry \$125.00

Duet entry \$75.00

Trio entry \$65.00

NATIONAL ENTRY FEES ARE HIGHER THAN REGIONAL ENTRY FEES

### **Costumes - We use the same costumes for competition and recital**

Novice: 3 costumes @ \$100.00 each

Line: 3 costumes @ \$150.00 each

Line Plus: 4 costumes @ \$150.00 each

Number of Elite costumes vary depending on the number of group dances. Costumes are around \$150 each.

### **Additional One Time Fees:**

Pre competition on stage rehearsal fee approximately \$20.00 per dancer

Outside weekend workshops approximately \$225.00 each

Muse Workshop: ages 5-8 \$200, ages 9 & up: \$425

Prop fees: varies by team. Estimate \$25.00 per dancer per group with prop

Team Parties - Varies by team. Estimate \$25.00 per event

National Competition - 2018/2019 is a required national year for Line Plus and Elite Level.

Studio Production on required national years - Participation in the studio production is optional. Non competition students may not join the studio production. All production members must participate in the required fundraiser, must attend all regional competitions and must attend nationals. Dancers must audition for production, not all dancers may be placed. Open to Line, Line Plus and Elite level dancers.

### **Fundraisers**

Each competition dancer is required to sell at least one ad for our yearbook. Order forms are included in the fall competition packet and are due in early spring. Proceeds from this go toward yearbook printing costs.

Production participants are required to participate in the designated production fundraiser to cover the cost of production props. This fundraiser is open to all students in addition to production dancers.

All other fundraisers are optional and run by parent volunteers. Proceeds benefit the dancers who participate.

## Parent Recital Work Requirement

Competition parents are required to work at one of our recitals each year. Recital work forms must be turned in with your show selection before you can purchase recital tickets. GDP will assign the exact job.

**COMPETITION FAMILIES CAN NOT OPT OUT OF WORKING AT A RECITAL!**

## Competition Cosmetics & Hair Requirements

All competition dancers are required to use the assigned makeup. Exact brands and colors will be sent out in the fall. The 2018/2019 competition makeup will be the same or comparable to last year and you will most likely be able to use your make up from the previous season.

## Admiration Awards

In order to encourage our dancers to watch, enjoy and learn from the other teams at competitions we instated Admiration Awards a few years back. The idea is that our dancers find something they like about a routine not from our studio. Then they show it by handing them an Admiration Award. The GDP staff will provide a bucket of awards at each event and we encourage the dancers to find the time to hand them out. This is informal. Just find a person from a dance you like, give them the award and tell them what you liked about their dance. It can be anything including but not limited to music, costume, hair, the dance, one step, or even their smiles. Please do not do this on stage during the competition awards. Any other time will work.

## Competition Day Procedure

### Arrival:

Please arrive early. Be dressed, hair and makeup perfect, correct tights with no runs, have all costume parts, and clean shoes. You must be ready with your group at the listed be ready time. **THIS MEANS HAIR AND MAKEUP DONE WITH YOUR FIRST COSTUME ON.** If you are walking into the building at this time, you are late. Don't worry about not having a designated meeting place. We always find each other at the events. Parents, once the dancers are completely ready and with a teacher feel free to go to the audience and see the show. The teacher will have better attention from the dancers with less distractions as they warm up and focus on the routine if less people are around.

### Dancing:

Parents be aware that competitions often run out of published order. Stay in the audience to be sure you do not miss your dancer's act. Dancers should not leave the competition in between dances without having their teachers permission. This is due to the fact that the scheduled order may change. Be positive and supportive of all dancers from our studio and others. Parents, sit together in a group and applaud for all GDP dances to show team spirit.

### Awards:

Dancers are encouraged to stay for the awards. Please wear your studio warm-up suit on stage for the awards. The team trophy, plaque or medal comes back to the studio and each dancer receives a pin, button or ribbon depending on the event. Dancers may purchase their own trophies at the event check-in table. The awards are based on the opinion of three judges, please keep this in perspective. We must have good conduct at all times. This applies to the dancers and their parents. Dancers must wear studio jackets during awards. Dancers must stay on stage during the whole presentation. No leaving partway through the awards. Dancers must applaud all dances that win an award. Dancers will stand and applaud all First Overall winners. Parents, sit together in a group and applaud for all GDP dances to show team spirit.

### Exit:

Be sure to leave the dressing area extra neat and clean. Parents should double check your dancers costumes and shoes. Be sure to leave nothing behind.

### Emergencies at the Last Minute:

If you must miss an event at the last minute please call your teacher's cell phone. All competition students will receive the staff phone list. If you don't get your teacher call another. Get your costumes to the event. You may send them with another teammate or your parents must bring them. Most of the time we have an alternate. We must have your costumes to place the alternate in your spot. Entry fees are non-refundable. The competitions never refund money for any reason. It is sad when a dancer is too sick or a family tragedy causes conflict with the event, but we have no control over this situation. We just want to make the best of a bad situation by being ready with an alternate when possible so the team can do the best possible performance.



# Camp Copneconic

November 2-4, 2018

At camp, the dancers learn their team competition routines and bond as a team and an overall company at this event. The cost for this event is approximately \$250. The camp does have a store so dancers can bring money to visit the camp store.

A final schedule will be out the week before camp.

The dancers are with studio staff, camp staff and parent chaperones. The parent chaperones will be the adults in charge at night.

Chaperones: Parent chaperones must arrive at the camp on Friday by 3:00 pm. Chaperones leave on Sunday after the last team member is picked up. Please do not volunteer if you can not make these requirements. No siblings are allowed at camp. To volunteer as a chaperone, please email the studio. All teams do need a parent so please consider helping if you can.

Notify Us Now: If your child has a condition that needs special attention please email the studio now! The camp will accommodate all special diets. We want to know of any medical conditions that require skills to handle. **Normal things** like: inhalers, normal medicines, afraid of dark type things **do not require a special email**. Please list these on your "care of kids form" and mention it to your chaperones upon drop off at camp.

Arrival: Check in at 4:00. Proceed directly to your housing unit which will be listed on your final schedule. Check in with your chaperone. You will give your chaperone your "care of kids & emergency form" and any necessary medicine. Help your dancer set up their bed and say good bye. Parents need to exit the camp by 4:30 as we want to start activities.

Packing: See attached packing list. We are outdoors a lot and for long periods of time. Be sure to send warm clothes. Boots are good for walking place to place. Dancers are dancing in a camp format. Be sure your dancer has old jazz shoes or old ballet shoes for Jazz and Lyrical classes at camp.

Camp Rules: Dancers can not drive to camp. No cars allowed for anyone under the age of 21. If a dancer does not follow all rules they will be sent home. No refunds will be given. No smoking, drinking or visitors allowed.

Cell Phones: Dancers will not be allowed to use cell phones in activity time or dance time. Dancers may use cell phones in free time. Please explain this rule to your teenagers.

Pick Up: **Come to the dining hall at the assigned time on Sunday. Do not arrive early.** Find your team area, pick up all belongings and let your chaperone know you have your dancer. At this point you are free to head home.

