



## **BLANKENSHIP & COMPANY DANCERS**

### **2021-22 AUDITION NOTICE**

The Blankenship & Company Dancers of The Sierra Performing Arts Center, under the direction of Susan Blankenship, are a community minded performing group. The company is comprised of dancers who work extra hard to develop their God-given talents and are dedicated and passionate about dance and performing.

Auditions are open to all dancers ages 8 and up.

The company includes various soloists, duet/trios and groups chosen by Director Susan Blankenship. Each performing dance will rehearse once a week in addition to required dance classes.

The Sierra Performing Arts Center is looking forward to our upcoming season and the opportunity for you to experience unique choreography, expansion of technical growth and improvement of stage confidence and charisma.

*"During my many years of directing, many things have changed in our world, our communities, and in the towns, we live in. Yet, as change occurs, I see one invaluable constant.... and that is in the human need for the Performing Arts..... and for me that is dance and theatre. I am convinced, that when children and adults alike participate in the performing arts, their lives are enhanced physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We are generally just happier, have the ability to engage a more positive attitude and are inspired to challenge ourselves to be the best that we can be." Susan Blankenship Director*

### **Additions Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> ages 8-up Studio 1**

**Please arrive to audition 30 minutes early with signed last page  
Register and pay the \$10 audition fee at office  
Warmup in studio 2**

***The Audition will include Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical/Contemporary, Tap and Hip-Hop  
Audition combinations will be taken from those learned at Summer Intensive***

The dancers that are chosen for Blankenship & Company, will be put into dance repertoire as decided by director Susan Blankenship. During your audition there will be an interview. Dancers should be prepared to express what they will bring to the company (particular skills, work ethic, leadership, etc.) and what their commitment level will be. Dancers will also be asked the dance styles and number of dances they would like to participate in. The interview is an important part of the process. It is the Director's choice, if chosen to be a member of the company, which style of dance you will be performing.

Please do not audition if you are not positive that you want to participate and not devoted to the extra time commitments required to be a Company Dancer. Please do not audition just for fun.

**If you are chosen as a soloist, you will directly pay your choreographer for your private each week.**

All dancers need to bring big smiles, girls' hair in buns, looking your best, wearing leotards and tights. Please bring **ALL** your dance shoes to audition!

**Blankenship & Company dancers are required to take Summer Intensive  
Material from Summer Intensive will be a part of the audition**

**Summer Intensive Session Schedule**

July 12<sup>th</sup> – July 22<sup>nd</sup>

**All Company Dancers are required to take the following classes during the  
2021-22 Dance Season**

**IN ADDITION TO YOUR SCHEDULED REHEARSALS FOR COMPANY DANCES  
All Company Members are required to take the following Classes.**

- **Ballet Company and Lyrical/Contemporary Company**  
2 Ballet Classes, 1 Lyrical / Contemporary class, Progressive Ballet  
Technique with balls and Jumps & Turns weekly
- **Jazz Company**  
1 Jazz Class, 1 Ballet Class weekly and Jumps & Turns weekly
- **Tap Company**  
1 Tap Class weekly, 1 Ballet Class weekly
- **Hip Hop Company**  
1 Hip Hop class weekly

**All Company Dancers are required to regularly attend their scheduled  
dance classes and Company Rehearsals!**

## **OFTEN ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT BLANKENSHIP & COMPANY DANCERS**

### **What do the Blankenship & Company Dancers do during the season?**

Weekly Required Classes  
Weekly Repertoire Rehearsals  
Company Repertoire Performances  
Community Performances  
School Performances (optional depending on if you can miss school)  
Competitions/Conventions  
Master Classes  
Have lots of FUN while bonding with other wonderful kids and parents  
which makes the Blankenship & Company Dancers truly a second family!

### **What are the expenses of being a company dancer**

Competitions/Conventions plus traveling expense: Hotel / Food

Entry Fees approximately:

Solos	\$ 110.00 each	Duet/Trios	\$ 60.00 each
Groups	\$ 50.00 each		

Costumes: Approximately \$100.00 each & *purchasing Dance shoes & Tights*

Teacher Traveling Fees: \$25.00 per dancer for each competition

Music editing Fees \$15.00 / Dance

Choreography Fees \$50 solos, \$25.00 duos, trios, groups (each member) paid to SPAC and forwarded to the Choreographer

Rehearsals for dances are added into your monthly tuition. A rehearsal is charged the same as additional class time.

### **What Is the Benefit of being A Blankenship & Company Dancer**

Company members experience being a part of a performing group and working together for the good of the whole organization. The company is taught to respect themselves, their teachers, and their studio, while working towards their individual goals. The dancers are encouraged to strive to be their best, have a positive attitude in class and with their fellow dancers and understand the meaning of Commitment, Loyalty, Work Ethic and Responsibility. Company members should strive to be good mentors for each other and for all students at SPAC. These positive endeavors make the Blankenship & Company Experience a life enriching activity.

### **Who do the Blankenship & Company Dancers Represent?**

The Blankenship & Company Dancers represent The Sierra Performing Arts Center, their Directors, their Parents, and they represent the Artistic Youth of our community. The Company generates a wonderful opportunity to excel in dance, to perform, to develop leadership qualities, and learn to work together as a strong unit, encouraging each other as well as becoming the best that they can each be as we strive to maintain a Christian environment.

### **Who is the Director of The Blankenship & Company Dancers?**

Susan Blankenship is the Director of the Blankenship & Company Dancers.

### **How does a dancer become a Blankenship & Company member?**

To be a Blankenship & Company Dancer you must attend the annual closed audition. Your past class work ethic and attendance are taken into consideration. All decisions are final. Parents please do not call the director or teachers to discuss audition results.

### **Are there any rules for a Blankenship & Company Dancer?**

Blankenship & Company Dancers are not allowed to dance with any other **STUDIO** performing group, or take classes at another studio.

Dancers are required to participate in Company productions, competitions, workshops, conventions, company performances, weekly rehearsals, and required classes.

Dancers are asked to **notify the studio and give reason** for any daily absences. If you are sick and not contagious please attend, sit and watch your rehearsal and classes. When you have conflicts that arise, please put them in writing and give to **Susan Blankenship**.

A company member that abuses company policy and does not take responsibilities seriously **will be dropped** from the Company.

As an extracurricular activity, dancers are expected to make Blankenship & Company their **FIRST** priority. Outside activities can be worked around within reason. Please do not expect teachers to accept numerous missed rehearsals and classes due to conflicting schedules. Company dancers must be committed to the work as well as the fun and work as a team.

### **COMMUNICATION SOLVES CONFLICT!**

We do want our students to take advantage of all performance opportunities. Please make sure that any individual performances using company material that you may choose to do on your own go through Susan Blankenship. In other words, you must have permission to perform company material on your own.

Each company member is assigned a locker. Dancer provides their own lock.

**All Blankenship & Company Dancers information is delivered through Band. We have a separate Band group for Company Dancers only. It is the students and parents' responsibility to keep this information organized.**

**Blankenship and Company terms acceptance:**  
**(\* Bring signed page to audition)**

**We (parent and student) have read and understand the 2021-22 Blankenship and Company Dancer Audition information packet and by our signatures below agree to the terms and conditions outlined in this packet.**

**Signature of Parent** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Student** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_