

October 7, 2022

Dear Parents,

Enrollment is now open for our 2022-23 Company Kids, Performing Arts Workshop's student performance troupe. Dancers will perform locally at community events, and have access to special performance opportunities, workshops & field trips outside of Jersey City. This team-centered experience will provide more stage time, as well as exposure to a pre-professional environment and more intensive training.

We are happy to announce that our 2022-23 program includes a trip for all Company members to see New York City Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* at Lincoln Center, and a special Guest Artist Masterclass at the studio. Optional, add-on experiences with special discounts offered to Company members include a Broadway show and accompanying workshop, and an outstanding conference with seminars and workshops for students & their parents in Las Vegas!

All ensemble descriptions and class requirements are detailed in this packet. While rate information for optional/additional experiences is forthcoming from third-party service providers, all fees for included experiences are detailed in this enrollment packet. The deadline for all commitments is **Friday, October 21**, which is the first day of this program for the 2022-23 season.

The most important aspects of this program are the full season commitment required of all ensemble members and their families, as well as their responsibility to the team and respect for the studio's investment in their training.

Please feel free to reach out with questions about this opportunity and the material presented in this packet before the commitment deadline. Looking forward to fabulous new season with Company Kids, returning and new!

Sincerely,
Miss Jaime & Miss Sophie

PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOP COMPANY KIDS

REQUIREMENTS

Auditions are NOT required. Any student age 7-17 who meets the outlined pre-requisites may request to join our performance troupe. We now offer three Company Kids Programs: Ambassadors, Performance Ensemble, Competitive Ensemble.

Dancers age 8-12 must be enrolled in a minimum of two dance classes (any genre/technique) to join Company Kids as an Ambassador. In addition to performing at community events and having access to additional opportunities, Ambassadors will engage in community service throughout the season, scheduled around the availability noted on their commitment form.

Dancers age 7-17 must be enrolled in a minimum of one 60-minute ballet class plus one additional 60-minute technique class each week in order to join a Performance Ensemble. *Student placement in any ensemble is entirely subject to Director evaluation and approval.*

- **Ensemble 1** is open to students age 7- 9 who meet the minimum requirement outlined above.
- **Ensemble 2** is open to students age 10-13 who meet the minimum requirements outlined above.
- **Ensemble 3** is open students age 14-17 who meet the minimum requirements outlined above.

Competitive Ensemble is open to registered Company Kids in Ensembles 2 & 3 with regular class enrollment totaling 3+ hours of weekly intensive technique classes (i.e., acrobatics, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, tap). Competitive dancers commit to a schedule of additional rehearsals, regional dance competitions and one national dance competition per school year. Attendance at all scheduled competitions is mandatory for all Competitive Ensemble members.

DETAILS

All Company Kids will learn & perform additional choreography separate from their regular, weekly dance classes. All choreographic placement is at the Director's & Assistant Director's discretion. All Company Kids will perform in a special production together, presented at our Spring Showcase.

All Company Kids will have rehearsals, conditioning and technique class built into their weekly schedule on Fridays for the entire school year (except for planned breaks). Depending on what dancers may need as performance dates approach, additional rehearsal time will be added.

IMPORTANT: It is each family's responsibility to arrange drop-off and pick-up for all rehearsals, classes and events. Coordinating with other Company families is encouraged. If the potential of occasional last-minute scheduling seems too intense or impossible to manage for your family, then Company Kids is not the right fit for your dancer at this time. This is an immersive program, and while we do not require an audition to be a part of the Company (as would be expected elsewhere), we do require total commitment, flexibility and prioritization on the part of all dancers and families who wish to be involved.

THE COMMITMENT

Dancers who wish to be part of our Company Kids ensemble are expected to approach all rehearsals and performances with the commitment of a professional. This program is for students who wish to pursue a more dedicated and challenging track at PAW. Ensemble members are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

Regular class attendance is mandatory. Consistent training and skill-building is essential. Dancers who miss more than 3 regular classes in a 3-month period may no longer be eligible to perform with the ensemble and no refunds will be provided.

Rehearsals are mandatory. Absence from rehearsal will result in the dancer being removed from the choreography we set that day. There are no make-ups for rehearsals, no refunds, no account credits for missed time, and any additional instruction time requested by any family for a "catch-up" session will be billed at \$45 per half hour, no discounts. After 3 absences from rehearsal, the dancer will no longer be able to participate as an ensemble member and no refunds will be provided.

PAW Showcase performances are mandatory for all Company Kids Ensemble members. Competitions are mandatory for Competitive Ensemble members. All other performances are optional, including special opportunities which may require an additional fee for participation. However, once a dancer commits to a community performance or other optional event, the choreography is altered to suit the number of dancers scheduled to perform. If a dancer drops-out of the event at the last moment, it will potentially ruin the performance for the rest of the group. After one no-show at a performance, the dancer will no longer be able to participate as an ensemble member and no refunds will be provided.

FOR THE GROWN-UPS: "WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER"

We believe that children's success depends on the support of their adults. Your commitment to the process makes an enormous difference! Our programs rely on a positive atmosphere and educational experience for our faculty, our students and their parents. Showing respect—for other parents, the students, and the faculty—makes an important impression on the children. We set the example.

Your child's presence at all regular classes and ensemble rehearsals is imperative. The spirit of teamwork and the lesson of dedication are a big part of our studio's educational process.

Please remember that parents and teachers may look at a child's learning from different perspectives. However, we share a common goal: to ensure that every child receives the best possible education- physically, cognitively and emotionally. Mutual respect among our faculty and our students' families provides all of the children with the ultimate care and training.

FOR THE DANCERS: COMMITMENT & FOCUS

The first step to becoming a successful at anything is to make a solid commitment to your preparations. The first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to your technique; and classes (not rehearsals) are where you develop that technique. Attend every class

prepared to learn and without distractions. True progress is made when you see class as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your form and execution, and make the most of every minute.

Respect for the teachers is essential. Listen to each correction given, whether it is directed at you or another dancer. A correction is an honor; it shows you how much a teacher cares about your progress as a dancer. Always say *thank you* when a teacher or choreographer offers you constructive criticism. Appreciate your teacher's knowledge and experience, and nothing will stop you from reaching your true potential!

REHEARSAL ATTIRE

Just like professionals, our ensemble members may wear any form of dance attire to rehearsal. There is no strict dress code except that we kindly ask that a leotard be worn (any style or color combination) and no bare legs (if you wear shorts, you must wear tights underneath). All dance shoes should be brought to every rehearsal and all dancers should have the ability to dance barefoot when necessary.

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Students will wear their company jackets for most community performances. Some external performance opportunities may require specific costuming, with any instructions for hair and make-up shared as needed. Students are to *arrive* at each event dressed for their performance, unless otherwise instructed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

All rehearsals are considered "closed" rehearsals (no observation and no family/visitors in the lobby between drop-off and pick-up). The facility is locked for safety while dancers *take over* the studio (under the supervision of our staff) to enjoy a distraction-free experience, achieve an appropriate level of independence for their age, and bond with their teammates.

All Company Kids activities; all schedules and amendments; all choreography and choreographic adjustments; and all other decisions related to student participation in their respective Ensembles are entirely at the discretion of the Director & Assistant Director. Parents interested in this opportunity for their children must be able to comply with all policies, procedures and training requirements described in this registration packet without seeking to negotiate exceptions. This program only works if you trust our team to give your dancer what they need to succeed.

Please see attached 2022-23 Tuition & Fees for itemized costs; as well as 2022-23 Company Kids Calendar. Community performances do not require any additional payment. Optional opportunities which require additional fees may be declined before those fees are due. Special payment plans are not available for Company Kids fees, which are due in specified amounts, at specified times of year, in order for the studio to remit fees on-time to any vendors involved in our programming.

COMPANY KIDS ENSEMBLE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Fees include all rehearsals/related training held during the 2022-23 season, in addition to participation at all community events for which PAW must remit participation fees (all local fairs and festivals). Fees also include Nutcracker field trip, guest artist master class & performance attire.

Ambassadors: Age 8-12 (Fridays 5:15-6:15p)	\$875.00
Deposit Due October 21	\$75.00
Installments Due November 15-June 15	\$100.00
New Team Jacket Fee Due November 4	\$125.00

Ensemble 1: Age 7-9 (Fridays 5:15-6:45p)	\$1000.00
Deposit Due October 21	\$100.00
Installments Due November 15-June 15	\$112.50
New Team Jacket Fee Due November 4	\$125.00

Ensembles 2 & 3 (Fridays 5:30-7:30p)	\$1200.00
Deposit Due October 21	\$100.00
Installments Due November 15-June 15	\$137.50
New Team Jacket Fee Due November 4 (ONLY IF NEEDED)	\$125.00

Competitive Ensemble (Fridays 7:30-8:30p, following regular rehearsals)	\$550.00
Deposit due October 21	\$50.00
Installments due November 15-June 15	\$62.50
Minimum Competition Costume Fees Due December 15 (Child/Adult)	\$95/\$105 each
<i>Costume costs may increase to meet any special requests made by soloists.</i>	

All Company members require a team jacket. Returning Company members whose jackets still fit do not need to order new. Optional workshops, field trips and other opportunities are subject to additional fees which will be shared as vendors and program partners provide confirmed details. Competition entry fees range from \$60 for groups to \$160 for solos, per dancer, per entry. Complete competition details and all optional event flyers will be distributed at the time of ensemble commitments on October 21.

SEE COMPANY KIDS SEASON CALENDAR ON NEXT PAGE.

COMPANY KIDS 2022-23 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCT	21	COMMITMENTS DUE + FIRST PRODUCTION REHEARSAL
NOV	4	TEAM JACKET FEES DUE
	11	STUDIO CLOSED/NO REHEARSAL
	25	STUDIO CLOSED/NO REHEARSAL
DEC	TBD	JC FAMILIES HOLIDAY PARTY PERFORMANCE (SATURDAY)
	TBD	NURSING HOME VISIT & HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE (FRIDAY)
	4	TURN IT UP DANCE CHALLENGE CONVENTION: PRINCETON, NJ (OPTIONAL/ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE)
	18	FIELD TRIP: NYC BALLET NUTCRACKER @ LINCOLN CENTER (1:00PM) (INCLUDED FOR ALL COMPANY MEMBERS)
	15	COMPETITION COSTUME FEES DUE
	23 & 30	STUDIO CLOSED/NO REHEARSALS
JAN	6	ALL ENSEMBLES RETURN FOR REGULAR FRIDAY REHEARSALS
FEB	TBD	GUEST ARTIST MASTER CLASS (FRIDAY) (INCLUDED FOR ALL COMPANY MEMBERS)
	17	STUDIO CLOSED/NO REHEARSAL
MAR	4	BROADWAY WORKSHOP & SHOW: MJ THE MUSICAL! (OPTIONAL/ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE. SEE FLYER)
	10-12	STARQUEST REGIONAL COMPETITION: HACKENSACK (SOLOS ONLY)
APR	TBD	JC FAMILIES SUMMER CAMP FAIR PERFORMANCE
	7 & 14	STUDIO CLOSED/NO REHEARSAL
	14-16	REVERB REGIONAL COMPETITION: ROBBINSVILLE
MAY	TBD	ADDITIONAL REHEARSALS
	TBD	COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE
	5-7	GROOVE REGIONAL COMPETITION: MANAHAWKIN, NJ (NATIONALS QUALIFIER)
	13	DRESS/TECH REHEARSAL @ NJCU
	19	SPRING SHOWCASE @ NJCU
JUN	TBD	LCCS JUNE-A-PALOOZA PERFORMANCE
	TBD	FEMINISTIVAL AND/OR OTHER COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES
	TBD	COMPETITIVE ENSEMBLE: NATIONALS REHEARSALS
	26-30	GROOVE NATIONAL COMPETITION: ATLANTIC CITY
JUL	TBD	COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE
AUG	3-5	SOUL DANCER & PARENT CONFERENCE: LAS VEGAS (OPTIONAL/ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE)
SEP	TBD	2023-24 COMPANY COMMITMENTS & PRE-SEASON REHEARSALS

Schedule will be amended as needed, depending on ensemble progress. Community service hours for Ambassadors will be scheduled according to all availability shared on student commitment forms. Competition & optional event flyers will be distributed at the time of Company commitment (Oct 21). Opportunities listed as TBD will be confirmed at least one month prior to each event date as schedule by each event organizer.

PERFORMING ARTS WORKSHOP COMPANY MEMBER AGREEMENT

Dancer's Full Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Grade _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Family Email _____

Other Extracurricular Activities (Include Days and Times) + Expected Absences through June 2023

Ambassadors: Please note your availability for Community Service Hours on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and/or Thursdays.

AGREEMENT

The studio will challenge and encourage Company Kids ensemble members to become the best dancers they can be. Performance opportunities and other experiences to promote sportsmanship and excellence will be arranged for all. Students will receive consistent feedback, and studio staff will communicate with parents/guardians about dancer progress as needed.

I have read and understand the terms outlines in the Company Kids Enrollment Packet. I agree to support my dancer in terms of class attendance and all ensemble-related commitments.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

As a Company dancer, I agree to give a full commitment to the ensemble. I also agree to keep my grades up at school, and if any problems come up which affect my participation with the ensemble or my school work, I will discuss them with my parents and my teachers.

Dancer Signature _____

Date _____