2025-2026 MINI COMPANY AUDITION PACKET

MISSION STATEMENT: The Mini Company is a **FUN** program that works to challenge Kindergarten through 2nd Grade dancers to improve their technique, skills, creativity, build teamwork, develop sportsmanship, and provide additional performance opportunities through competitions!

MINI COMPANY PARENT MEETING: Tuesday, May 13th at 5:30pm at The Dance Factory. If you are unable to attend the Mini Company Parent Meeting and you have questions before auditions you may email Miss Kara: kara@dancefactorynews.com

MINI COMPANY EXPECTATIONS:

- Arrive at your classes and rehearsals on time, properly dressed, correct shoes and with a positive attitude!
- Practice competition routines outside of class time to be prepared before each class.
- Please inform your teacher when you will be absent from class. Attendance is important for the success of your dancer. Please see our attendance policy in the next section
- Respect your teachers.
- Respect your fellow teammates.
- Be kind and encouraging to other teammates.
- Always try your best!

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- Mini Company dancers are allowed <u>one</u> absence, per class, per month. Dancers that miss more than one class per month will be assigned an assistant teacher to make up those classes and catch up. You will be assessed a \$20 per 30 minute fee for these makeup classes.
- Attendance is <u>mandatory</u> the week before a competition weekend!

AUDITIONS:

- The Audition fee is \$20 and the \$50 registration fee is due upon registration.
- Mini Company Auditions will be held Tuesday, May 27th, 2025
 - 2025-2026 Kindergarten Dancers = 5:15-5:45 pm
 - 2025-2026 1st and 2nd Grade Dancers = 5:45-6:15 pm
- The dancers chosen for the 2025/2026 season will be posted on the website by Friday, May 30, 2025.
- If a dancer is unable to attend the auditions, or is asked to join the Mini Company after the auditions the \$20 audition fee will not be waived. Please email kara@dancefactorynews.com for an alternative evaluation.

REQUIRED MINI COMPANY CLASS DAYS: TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS – REGULAR SEASON BEGINS SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2025.

REQUIRED CLASSES:

- JAZZ 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
- BALLET 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - This is a technique only class
- TURNS AND LEAPS 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - This is a technique only class

TOTAL REQUIRED CLASSES - 1.5 HOURS WEEKLY [\$72]

OPTIONAL CLASSES:

- TAP 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class
- HIP HOP 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class (kindergarten dancers may take this as a regular studio class on a different day!)
- CONTEMPORARY 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - Dancers will learn a competition dance in this class (kindergarten dancers may take this as a regular studio class on a different day!)
- TECHNIQUE 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - This is a technique only class
 - Required for dancers enrolled in contemporary and opted in to a small group jazz dance (see below)
- ACRO FOR DANCE 30 MINUTES [\$24]
 - This is a technique only class
- > NEW < Dancers in 1st & 2nd Grade may choose to participate in an optional group jazz dance in addition to any dances listed above. This dance will be rehearsed on Saturdays and will incur a one time rehearsal fee of \$125 due on September 1st. Dancers will be placed into this jazz dance based on ability, not age. Attendance is mandatory for Saturday rehearsals in order to participate. You may opt your dancer into this additional group jazz dance on your registration. We must have a minimum of 6 dancers interested in an additional dance for the jazz group to happen.

** Kindergarten dancers will be allowed to compete in up to <u>2</u> competition dances (some exceptions may apply) ALL Kindergarten dancers will be placed in a JAZZ dance. You may choose to enroll your dancer in TAP class if you would like your dancer to compete in an additional dance.

** 1st & 2nd grade dancers will be allowed to compete in up to <u>4</u> competition dances (some exceptions may apply) ALL 1st & 2nd grade dancers will be placed in a JAZZ dance. You may choose to enroll your dancer in up to 3 additional classes to learn a competition dance - Tap, Hip Hop and /or Contemporary.

DUOS/TRIOS:

Mini Company dancers who have been on the Mini Company for a minimum of <u>one</u> year are eligible to participate in 1 extra duo or trio. The Dance Factory Faculty will assign duos/trio groups <u>and</u> styles of dance and you will be notified of your placement on August 31st. There is a chance that we will not allow some dancers to participate in duos/trios. If this situation occurs we will provide an explanation as to why we feel those dancers are not quite ready to compete in duos/trios.

Please remember that participating in an extra duo or trio is something that Mini Company dancers must work for. If a dancer falls behind in their group dances <u>or</u> misses an excessive number of classes during the week, the rehearsals for the extra dance will be stopped until the faculty feels the dancer is fully caught up in their group dances. Parents must play an active role in helping their dancers rehearse at <u>home</u>.

These dances will not be rehearsed every week as their group dances are.

Rehearsals and Fees:

- You will schedule all rehearsals with the teacher selected for your duo or trio. You can estimate two 30 minute rehearsals per month.
- You must be willing to pay an hourly rehearsal fee. This fee will be between \$25-\$50 depending on the teacher's own hourly rates.
- These fees will be paid directly to the teacher and may not be billed through your Dance Factory account.
- The estimated entry fees are \$85-\$135 PER DANCER. Extra dance entry fees will be due with all group entry fees.
- If your Dance Factory account is not at a zero balance by the 5th of each month, your dancer will discontinue their extra dance rehearsals until your bill has been settled.

COMPETITIONS AND CONVENTIONS:

COMPETITIONS

All Mini Company dancers must be willing to participate in <u>three</u> regional competitions. All fees will be due three-four months prior to the scheduled competition dates. We will try to select three Competitions in the Kansas City area. Once all of the dates are available for the 2025/2025 season we will determine where the dancers will compete. If you have any date conflicts in 2025, please be sure to let us know when you fill out your registration form.

It is a possibility that our dances may compete on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday. We will receive the competition schedule approximately one week before the competition date.

Estimated entry fees: Group \$50-\$85 per entry. A \$40 directors/processing fee will be charged for each competition.

CONVENTIONS

1st and 2nd Grade Regional Mini Company dancers are <u>required</u> to attend L.A. Dance Magic convention January 23rd-25th, 2026 in St. Louis. It is optional but <u>encouraged</u> for Kindergarten dancers.

Dancers will <u>not</u> compete when they attend this convention. They will take two days of classes and will require the dancers to travel and spend the night in a hotel. We will provide details on host hotels but all travel arrangements are the responsibility of each family.

Estimated convention fees: \$150-\$275 per convention. A \$40 directors/processing fee will be added to each convention fee.

COSTUME FEES:

General costume fees range from \$150 to \$325 per dance. Custom made costume fees range from \$250-\$375 per dance. Custom made costumes tend to be more expensive due to extra labor.

Costume fees will cover costume bases, headpieces and accessories. Rhinestones will be billed separately and will range between an <u>additional</u> \$10-\$25. You will be responsible for rhinestoning your dancer's costume or you may pay one of the faculty members to help you. There will be an additional fee if you choose to have someone else rhinestone your dancer's costume!

Costume fees will be broken down into 4 separate payments:

- June 1st A costume deposit of \$200 per dancer is due
- August 1st A \$100 deposit, per dance, is due for dancers placed in more than two dances.
- October January Once each costume is finalized, dancers will be billed for the remainder of their costume expenses. You will receive an email when your costume fee has been applied to your account. Balances are due upon receipt.

MINI COMPANY EXTRAS: Dancers may be required to purchase the following items:

- Company Jackets \$100-\$125 (Highly Recommended)
- Company Makeup \$25-\$50
- Eyelashes \$5-\$10
- Chokers \$35-\$40
- Earrings \$11-\$15 per pair
- Shoes \$50-\$85 per pair
- Tights \$15-25 per pair (dancers must have multiple pairs on hand tights with holes will not be allowed on stage!)

MANDATORY SUMMER CLASSES:

REQUIREMENTS	NOTES
- All Mini Company dancers must sign up for one full camp listed below	You must sign up for camps on your own <u>HERE</u>
 We will have mandatory Mini Company specific class in the evenings on the following dates: July 8 & July 10 July 22 & July 24 	A \$50 class fee will be assessed to your account automatically for these classes on July 1st

SUMMER CALENDAR DATES

JUNE 17-19	5-6:30	Ultimate Swiftie Pop Star Extravaganza Camp
JULY 8	4:15-5	Mini Acro - 1 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class at DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if your dancer attends
JULY 8	5:00-6:00	Mini Company Classes
JULY 8	6:30-7:15	Mini Acro - 2 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class at DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if your dancer attends
JULY 10	5:00-6:00	Mini Company Classes
JULY 15	4:15-5	Mini Acro - 1

		[Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class of DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if you dancer attends)
JULY 15	6:30-7:15	Mini Acro - 2 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if you dancer attends)
JULY 15-17	5-6:30	Fabulous Flamingo Fiesta Glow Bash Camp
JULY 22	4:15-5	Mini Acro - 1 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if you dancer attends]
JULY 22	5:00-6:00	Mini Company Classes
JULY 22	6:30-7:15	Mini Acro - 2 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if you dancer attends]
JULY 24	5:00-6:00	Mini Company Classes
JULY 29 - 31	5-6:30	Enchanted Princess Coronation Celebration Camp
JULY 29	4:15-5	Mini Acro - 1 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class f you dancer attends]
JULY 29	6:30-7:15	Mini Acro - 2 [Dancers currently enrolled in Acro will receive summer assignments via email in June. If this is your dancer's first Acro class DF they are automatically placed in Mini Acro 1. We will take attendance in this class and bill your account \$10 per class if yo dancer attends]
SEPTEMBER 6-7	9am-12pm	Mini Intensive - <u>Required</u> for All Minis - Details TBA

MANDATORY MINI INTENSIVE: Mini Intensive features classes in multiple styles of dance taught by professional choreographers. We will also use this weekend to begin choreography for our 2025-2026 season. All Mini Dancers will be <u>required</u> to attend the Mini Intensive. Our Mini Intensive will be September 6 & 7, 2025 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Mini Intensive fee of \$60 is due August 15th.

MANDATORY MINI COMPANY BACK TO DANCE PARTY: Please save the date!! -- Details TBA -- Thursday, September 4th -- 4:45-6:30 pm. We will be taking group pictures and revealing their company sisters for the year this evening. This is a mandatory evening for both of those purposes!

COMPANY PARTY FEE: All Company dancers will have a Back To Dance party, Halloween party, Christmas party, competition parties before each Regional competition, sister bonding parties and more! In order to keep contributions from each dancer fair, we will be assessing a \$25 Company Party Fee. We love to make our dancers feel special and have fun with their teammates!

• Company Party Fee of \$25 is due January 15th

CONCERT DATES AND FEES:

- The Company Concert will be January 10th, 2026 at 6pm at TPAC January Concert fee is \$55 due September 1st.
- June Concerts will be on June 5th and 6th, 2026 at TPAC June Concert fee is \$55 due February 1st.

PARENT ROLES

- Our studio is a drama free zone. Parents are expected to be supportive, respectful, and courteous to all studio dancers, their teachers and their families at all times. This studio will not tolerate rudeness, jealousy, resentment, or disrespect to any fellow studio member, their family, or the teachers.
- Your role is the following:
 - Lift up and support all of our children
 - Teach your child that there is always going to be someone better than they are
 - Teach your child to be happy for others
 - \circ $\;$ 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

No child is ever "held back," but instead, encouraged to develop their skills to their fullest. Our goal is for each child to reach their full potential as a dancer and a wonderful human being. The most successful children are those whose parents support their teachers and coaches 100%. These are the ones who do not bad-mouth or question a teacher or coach in front of their children or others, and they are the ones who are realistic about their children and their place on our Company. We all want all of our Company dancers to succeed, but success is <u>not</u> 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 each day and who they develop to be as a human being. If they give all they've got to give and approach life with kindness, what more can anyone ever expect?

COMPANY CODE OF CONDUCT: Dancers are expected to treat the studio, their teachers and their peers with respect, care, integrity and consideration at all times. Company members are the face of The Dance Factory and should conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the organization. Breaking our code of conduct will result in immediate dismissal from our Company.

CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE MINI COMPANY REGISTRATION & PARENT CONSENT FORM REGISTRATION FORMS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNTIL YOUR CURRENT DANCE FACTORY ACCOUNT

IS AT A ZERO BALANCE. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

CURRENT CALENDAR AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE DATES 2025-2026 *more dates to come!*			
May 13, 2025	Mini Company Parent Meeting @ 5:30 PM at The Dance Factory		
Due Upon Registration	\$20 Audition Fee + \$55 Registration Fee		
May 27, 2025	Mini Company Auditions: [2025-2026 Kindergarten Dancers = 5:15-5:45 pm] [2025-2026 1st and 2nd Grade Dancers = 5:45-6:15 pm]		
May 30, 2025	Mini Company Announced!		
June 1, 2025	\$200 Costume Deposit Due		
June + July	Summer Camps - Must Enroll On Your Own! – See summer requirements above!		
July 1, 2025	\$50 Mini Summer Classes Fee Due		
July 8 & 10, 2025	Mandatory Mini Summer Classes (5:00-6:00)		
July 22 & 24, 2025	Mandatory Mini Summer Classes (5:00-6:00)		
August 1, 2025	Additional Costume Deposit for Dancers Placed in More Than 2 Competition Routines Due (\$100 per dance)		
August 15, 2025	\$60 Mini Intensive Fee Due		
August 31, 2025	Duo/Trio Assignments Emailed		
September 1, 2025	Monthly Tuition Due		
September 1, 2025	Extra Small Group Dance Rehearsal Fees Due (\$125 per dance)		
September 1, 2025	\$55 January Concert Fee Due		
September 4, 2025	Mandatory Mini Company Back to Dance Party (4:45-6:30 pm)		
September 5 & 6, 2025	Mandatory Mini Intensive - 9am-12pm - Both Days		
October 1, 2025	Monthly Tuition Due		
October 1, 2025	Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any January Competition/Conventions Due		
November 1, 2025	Monthly Tuition Due		
November 1, 2025	Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any February Competition/Conventions Due		
December 1, 2025	Monthly Tuition Due		
December 1, 2025	Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any March Competition/Conventions Due		

January 1, 2026	Monthly Tuition Due
January 1, 2026	Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any April Competition/Conventions Due
January 10, 2026	Company Concert Rehearsals and Show (all day!)
January 15, 2026	\$25 Company Party Fee Due
January 23-25, 2026	L.A. Dance Magic St. Louis Convention (mandatory for 1st & 2nd grade Minis – highly encouraged for Kindergarten Minis!)
February 1, 2026	Monthly Tuition Due
February 1, 2026	Convention/Entry/Directors Fees for Any May Competition/Conventions Due
February 1, 2026	\$55 June Concert Fee Due
March 1, 2026	Monthly Tuition Due
April 1, 2026	Monthly Tuition Due
May 1, 2026	Monthly Tuition Due
June 5 & 6, 2026	June Concerts

MANY MORE DATES TO COME!