



DPA Dazzlers

Contract 2023 - 2024



MISSION AND GOALS

The Dazzlers are our competition team. The goal of this performance group is to allow dancers to grow into their own artistry and performance, as well as provide an opportunity to obtain the best possible training and technique. Dancers will have the opportunity to learn and compete choreography in a variety of styles including ballet, jazz, contemporary, tap, hip hop, and more throughout the season. The required courses for the Dazzlers are designed to enhance the students' performing experience as well as their technical skills. It not only offers a place to grow as a dancer/performer and build self esteem, but focuses first and foremost on professionalism.

JOINING DAZZLERS

- Ages 5 -18 as of September 1, 2023
- Attend Team Audition on June 4, 2023 (team contract must be signed to audition)
- Commit to Dazzler Dances by June 20, 2023

MANDATORY EVENTS (unless noted otherwise)

- Compete at 4 - 5 regional competitions depending on scheduling (February - May)
- Compete at nationals (June/July) - travel required
 - Required dances will be notified with casting, but all dances are invited to attend.
- Level 1 and up must attend one local convention or master class intensive at DPA depending on scheduling.
- Wildwood Days Parade on September 23
- Perform in all recital shows in June 2024

In addition to the events above, there are other highly-encouraged performance opportunities throughout the year.

REQUIRED CLASSES

- **Summer**
 - Registration and payment for **the full 6 week summer session** is due by the first day of classes (**July 5, 2023**)
 - Ballet
 - Jazz
 - Leaps and Turns

- **Choreography Weekends (fees due July 20, 2023)**

- **July 29/30 and August 12/13**
- ALL dances will be learned on one of those two weekends
 - This includes production, group dances, trios, duos, and solos.
 - This rehearsal time is covered by your choreography fee.

- **Fall/Spring**

- Must be registered and paid for on the first day of classes (**September 5, 2023**)
- Ballet (combo classes DO NOT count for ages 8+)
- Jazz (combo classes DO NOT count for ages 8+)
- Leaps and Turns
- Dazzler Warm Up (should there be one)
- Any elective that corresponds with a style you are competing in (Tap, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Musical Theater, etc.)

Students are encouraged to take additional elective classes beyond their required classes to increase technique, help condition, and become more versatile performers.

ATTENDANCE

- **Rehearsal Attendance**

- Attendance for scheduled rehearsals is required by all dancers.
- All absences must be submitted to Miss Debbie (dpa.debbie@gmail.com), Miss Ashley (dpa.ashley.stettes@gmail.com), and your rehearsal directors via email with a minimum of two weeks' notice.
- **Missed rehearsals are not made up and are not refunded.** If you would like to schedule a makeup, an additional private lesson fee will apply.
- Dancers are only allowed **TWO excused** absences each season.
 - Excused absences include school events required for a grade, illness, and/or funerals.
 - Unexcused absences include travel and extracurricular activities.
 - Dance team and other school events not required for a grade do not qualify as excused. Dazzlers should be your first priority.
 - Missing more than two rehearsals (excused or unexcused) could result in being required to pay for a private lesson in order to get caught up.

- **Class Attendance**

- More than two of the same missed technique classes in a month could require the dancer to make up that class at a different time that week.
 - This probably means you take a level below normal. You may not take a level above.
- Missing technique class is detrimental to your growth and safety.
 - Ballet, Jazz, and Leaps and Turns need to be of highest priority.
 - If a class must be missed, try to make it an elective.

REHEARSAL ATTIRE

- Black Leotard
- Black Tights/Leggings
- All Required Dance Shoes
- Hair **secured neatly** in a bun or ponytail

PERFORMANCE UNIFORM (approximate cost \$100-\$150)

- Performance Leotard
- Performance Leggings
- Team Earrings
- Appropriate Undergarments
- All Appropriate Dance Shoes
- All Appropriate Tights
- DPA Team Jacket (\$125-\$150 and optional)

FEES/EXPENSES

DPA registration fee of \$35 and regular tuition fees apply for all classes

● ***Tuition***

- Due on the **FIRST** of each month. Failure to pay may result in removal from the team.
- Monthly Tuition is based on the classes you are enrolled in (this ***excludes*** rehearsal time).

● ***Coaching Fee***

- ***New this year***
 - \$35 Monthly Coaching Fee
 - Due on the **FIRST** of each month.
 - This fee will help to cover travel and staffing expenses for competition.

● ***Rehearsal Fees***

- These are due on the **FIRST** of each month along with tuition beginning September 1, 2023.
 - You will be notified of your rehearsal fees by August 1.
 - Fees are charged as a flat monthly rate regardless of how many rehearsal days are in a month.
 - Rehearsals missed by the dancer will not be made up and will not be refunded.
 - Rehearsals canceled by the rehearsal director will be rescheduled in the event we are unable to find a sub.
 - *All group dances (including production) will be an hour if scheduling allows. Both 30 minute rates and 60 minute rates are listed for your reference.*

- **Solos**
 - Rehearse 30 minutes every Saturday
 - Fees are \$60 per month

- **Duets**
 - Rehearse 30 minutes every Saturday
 - Fees are \$50 per month per dancer

- **Trios**
 - Rehearse 30 minutes every Saturday
 - Fees are \$40 per month per dancer

- **Small Groups (4 - 9 dancers)**
 - Rehearse 30 minutes every Saturday
 - Fees are \$30 per month per dancer
 - Rehearse 60 minutes every Saturday - if schedule allows
 - Fees are \$60 per month per dancer

- **Large Groups (10 - 18 dancers)**
 - Rehearse 30 minutes every Saturday
 - Fees are \$30 per month per dancer
 - Rehearse 60 minutes every Saturday - if schedule allows
 - Fees are \$60 per month per dancer

- **Production**
 - Rehearse 30 minutes every Saturday
 - Fees are \$20 per month per dancer
 - Rehearse 60 minutes every Saturday - if schedule allows
 - Fees are \$40 per month per dancer

- **Choreography Fees**
 - You will be asked on your audition forms to let us know how many dances you would like to compete. We will then cast the routines. You have until **June 20, 2023** to commit to your dances.
 - Payment Due **July 20, 2023**
 - Included in your Choreography Fees are your Choreography weekend rehearsals.

 - **Solos**
 - \$350 for DPA Choreographer
 - If taught by a Guest Artist, detailed fees and payments will be worked out directly with the artist.

- **Duets**
 - \$400 for DPA Choreographer (\$200 each)
 - If taught by a Guest Artist, detailed fees and payments will be worked out directly with the artist.

- **Trios**
 - \$450 for DPA Choreographer (\$150 each)
 - If taught by a Guest Artist, detailed fees and payments will be worked out directly with the artist.

- **Small Groups (4 - 9 dancers)**
 - \$100 per dancer

- **Large Groups (10 - 18 dancers)**
 - \$75 per dancer

- **Production Dance (all Dazzlers)**
 - \$30 per dancer

- **Guest Artist Groups (4 or more dancers)**
 - Guest artists to be announced (i.e. Tyler Muhlenkamp, Ashley Tate, Cristina Grady, Amy Coyle Shell, etc.)
 - Choreography Fees are determined by the Guest Artist and are usually higher than DPA choreographers.
 - Payment is due directly to the Guest Artist on the first day of rehearsal.

- **Costume Fees**
 - Payment Due **October 1, 2023**
 - Price to be determined based on costuming
 - Typically range from \$75 - \$125

- **Convention Fee**
 - Attend an outside convention or master class intensive at DPA in the Fall dependent upon scheduling (for levels 1+)
 - Outside conventions can include a competition. They may choose to compete at the convention if they'd like, but it is not required.
 - Fees for an outside convention can range between \$200 - \$300.
 - Fees for a master class intensive at DPA can range between \$150 - \$200.
 - Due date for this fee is in the fall. Specific due date is TBD based on scheduling.

● **Competition Fees**

- All Dazzlers are required to compete at 4 - 5 regional competitions each season depending on scheduling
- **50% of the total competition fees MUST be paid by January 4, 2024. The remaining balance is due by February 1, 2024.**
 - You will receive your total fees for the season for local competitions by the end of October.
 - Our place at competitions is not held without payment.
- **Solos/Duets/Trios**
 - Solos: Approximately \$100 - \$150 per competition
 - Duets and Trios: Approximately \$110 - \$200 per competition (split among dancers)
- **Group Dances and Production Number** (including Guest Artist Groups)
 - Approximately \$50 - \$75 per competition for each dancer in each group
- **Competition Media Fees**
 - Many competitions require mandatory media fees which gives you access to all of the photos and videos from the competition.
 - Fees normally range from \$25 - \$50 per dancer

AUDITION AND CASTING PROCESS

- ALL Dazzlers will attend auditions on June 4, 2023. **(Fee is \$30)**
- Dancers (with help of parents) will fill out an audition sheet saying how many dances they can commit to and what styles they are interested in.
 - Groups size options are: production, large group, small group, trio, duet, and solo
 - Style options include: ballet, jazz, contemporary, modern, lyrical, hip hop, tap, and musical theater.
- Following auditions, dancers will be cast in dances based on age and ability.
- Dancers will have until June 20, 2023 to commit to the dances they have been offered.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE TEAM

- Regular attendance in all classes and rehearsals
 - Missing technique class is detrimental to growth and safety.
 - Missing rehearsals not only holds you back, but your teammates as well.
 - See rules regarding attendance above.
- Respect must be shown to all instructors, dancers, parents, competition personnel, guests, and other competitors at all times.
 - Poor attitudes will not be tolerated—not in the classroom and not at the competitions.

- Being disrespectful or rude to the coach, parents, other team members, and other participants at the competitions is absolutely unacceptable.
- One warning will be given to the dancer and the parent before that dancer is suspended.
 - If behavior is poor enough, the first warning will not be given and the dancer will be terminated from the team.
 - Grounds for immediate termination include physical violence, bullying of any kind, and not showing up for competition.
 - There will be **no refunds** on costume, choreography, competition fees, or coaching fees.
- Social Media Presence
 - Dazzlers must use good judgment in using social media. Don't post anything you wouldn't be okay with your grandparents seeing. Inappropriate posts will result in a warning, and if inappropriate posts continue the dancer could be terminated from the team.
- Know your choreography and retain corrections
 - Members of the team must come in knowing the choreography.
 - If a dancer/dancers are clearly showing no interest in improving or learning the choreography, it is grounds for suspension. Commitment to the team is HUGELY important—it is not fair to teammates if you do not do your part by knowing your dances.
 - If you miss rehearsal it is your responsibility to get caught up before the next rehearsal

REHEARSAL AND COMPETITION PROTOCOL

- All rehearsal videos and information will be posted to the Dazzler Band account.
 - Rehearsal/Performance Videos and/or Photos are **NEVER** to be posted to any social media accounts.
- There is absolutely no cell phone use allowed during rehearsal time (unless otherwise stated by the rehearsal director). Cell phones are to stay in bags and/or backpacks until dancers have a significant break.
- Competition schedules are not received until 1 - 2 weeks prior to the event.
 - You must reserve the entire weekend (Friday - Sunday and sometimes Thursday).
 - Please do not ask Debbie or Ashley if they have the schedule yet. You will receive it once they do.
- Dancers must arrive ready to dance two hours prior to their scheduled performance time.
 - This allows time to warm up and review.
 - Competitions rarely run on time so we need to be prepared to perform early (or late).
 - Schedule updates will be posted in the Dazzler Band throughout the weekend.
- Dazzlers age 10+ are required to be present for all DPA performances.
 - Dazzlers age 9 and under are highly encouraged to be present for as much as they can.

RESIGNING FROM DAZZLERS (excludes solos)

- Resigning after signing the Dazzler contract, but before choreography is learned, results in being responsible for **full** payment of the following:
 - \$50 per dance administrative fee
- Resigning after choreography is learned, but before the start of the fall season (September 5, 2023) will result in being responsible for **full** payment of the following:
 - All Choreography fees
 - \$50 per dance administrative fee
- Resigning after the season has begun (September 5, 2023) results in being responsible for **full** payment of the following:
 - All Choreography fees
 - All Competition fees
 - All Costume fees that are not returnable
 - \$50 per dance administrative fee