

Dance & Music Academy

5347 W Devon Ave, Chicago, IL 60646 (773) 763-5759; 3222 B Glenview Rd, Glenview, IL 60025 (847) 832-1855

Thank you for your interest in the 2008-2009 Allegro Performance Company!

PART ONE: WHAT IS THE ALLEGRO PERFORMANCE COMPANY?

Mission Statement

1. To provide serious dancers a unique opportunity for pre-professional development through performance experience, challenging and exciting choreography, and exposure to the world of professional dance.
2. To offer dancers a new opportunity to learn teamwork, confidence, self esteem, and self discipline through the dance medium while making friends and having fun.
3. To provide Dance & Music Academy with a pre-professional group of ambassadors to showcase its programs and inspire current students.

Core Values

- **Attitude:** Performance Company members are ambassadors of Dance & Music Academy. Non-company dancers, parents, community members and potential students are watching you. Courtesy, respect and encouragement are modeled and required.
- **Hard Work:** Performance Company members are expected to maintain a high class attendance record and to give their best effort at all times.
- **Solid Technique:** As representatives of Dance & Music Academy, solid technique is a requirement. Our staff is committed to technical excellence. Our staff trains regularly with master teachers and dance professionals. This knowledge will be passed on to you in your weekly classes. Performance Company members will also have the opportunity to study with master teachers at convention workshops and other outside events.
- **Performance:** Performance Company members will grow in confidence and presentation each time they perform.

PART TWO: COMPANY CLASSES/ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Performance Companies will be divided into five groups: **Petit Allegro, Allegro Moderato, Grande Allegro, Allegro Forte, and Allegro Tappers.**

- **Petit Allegro Dancers** are required to take a ballet class and a one hour company class each week.
- **Allegro Moderato Dancers** are required to take a ballet class, a jazz class, and a one hour company class each week.
- **Grande Allegro Dancers** are required to take a ballet class, a jazz class, a õjumps and turnsõ class, and a one hour company class each week.
- **Allegro Forte Dancers** are required to take a ballet class, a jazz class, a õjumps and turnsõ class, and a one and one-half hour company class each week.
- **Allegro Tappers** are required to take a tap class and a one hour company class each week. (A ballet or modern class is highly recommended but not required.)
- **Dancers are required to attend all rehearsals.** If you are unable to attend a rehearsal, please notify the Company Manager as soon as possible.

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- Dancers are allowed to miss **NO MORE THAN TWO** classes per session in each required discipline. This policy includes all required classes (ballet, jazz, tap, jumps and turns, and company classes). **Dancers who miss more than two rehearsals or have any unexcused absences will talk with the Company Manager about their position in Performance Company.**
- **Dancers are not allowed to miss more than ONE performance throughout the year.** If selected for company, you will be a part of a team. Your teammates will be counting on you.
- **Students are to arrive to classes on time.** It is very important to be at the full class to ensure that each student is properly stretched before dancing. If a student arrives late, the director will note how many minutes were missed. All of the minutes missed will be added, and if the total grows to equal a total class time, an absence will be added to that student's attendance record. This policy also applies to rehearsals outside of the studio (large group rehearsals) and performances.

PART THREE: COSTUMES

- Costuming is an important part of presenting a precise, pre-professional dance team. Dancers will be asked to purchase or rent 2-3 costumes for the season. Costume cost will not exceed \$150.00 per company for the season.
- Performance Company members will also be required to purchase the following items:
 - Slip-on split sole jazz shoes (tan): \$32
 - Black leotard (style to be specified): approximately \$15-25
 - Allegro Tappers: Slip-on tan tap shoes: \$45
 - Tights (several pair, color to be specified): \$6-10 each
 - The appropriate shoes/clothing/costumes for all classes in which they are enrolled.
- Performance Company Members are asked to wear their hair in a clean, low bun for all performances. (Instructors will work with short hair to create a uniform look.)

PART FOUR: PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

- Dancers should arrive at the performance location in their first costume and make-up 30 minutes prior to the performance time.
- The Performance Companies will perform 7-10 times throughout the season.

PART FIVE: COMPETITION AND CONVENTION

- **What is Dance Convention?**

A dance convention is a two-day intensive taught by professional choreographers from across the country. The dancers will dance all day Saturday and Sunday. They will take classes in ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, and character dance. Conventions usually take place in a hotel ballroom area or a large convention center. The dancers are assigned a room based on age/level, and they stay in that room all day. The teachers rotate to each of the classrooms to conduct classes. Attending a dance convention is the best way to expose students to the professional world of dance. Petit Allegro dancers are NOT required to attend convention, but they are welcome to attend if they wish.

- **What is Dance Competition?**

A dance competition is strictly performance-based. There are no master classes taught at competition. Competitions provide dancers with graded dance experience. Unbiased judges will rate the dancers, much like real world dance experience.

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• **Additional Information**

All selected competitions and conventions will be held in the Chicagoland area. Approximate fees for Competition/Convention are as follows:

Company	Convention	Competition @ Convention	Competition	Total Convention & Comp Fees
Petit Allegro	n/a	n/a	\$60	\$60
Allegro Moderato	\$175	n/a	\$90	\$265
Grande Allegro	\$175	n/a	\$90	\$265
Allegro Forte	\$175	\$60	\$90	\$325
Allegro Tappers	\$150	n/a	\$60	\$210

Company class tuition: Company class tuition is \$200 per 11-week session.

PART SIX: COMPANY SHOW INFORMATION

The Performance Company show will be approximately 45 minutes long and will be entitled "American Composers".

Some projected dates for the 2008-2009 season are:

Mid Dec.	Navy Pier Winter Wonderfest Performance
Late Jan/Early Feb	Convention
Mid-Feb.	Movement of Change Dance Benefit Performance
Feb 15	Valentine's Performance for Retirement Homes
March	Company Show Preview
Mid-April	Competition
Early June	Great America Performance (optional performance)
June	Recital
August	Edgebrook Days (optional performance)

PART SEVEN: AUDITION INFORMATION

EDGEBROOK: Monday, June 2, 2008

GLENVIEW: Tuesday, June 3, 2008

- **Students entering Grades 1-4 in the fall: 6:00pm**
- **Students entering Grades 5-12 in the fall: 7:00pm**
- **Allegro Tappers (must have consent of instructor): 8:00pm**

(Please warm up on your own and be ready to dance at the time listed above. Girls should wear a leotard and tights and have their hair pulled back; boys should wear a fitted t-shirt and jazz pants.)

~Please come dressed like a dancer. This means that you are to wear a leotard, tights, and a ballet skirt or jazz shorts. You should also wear your hair in a bun.

~You will learn a short ballet combination and a short jazz combination. You will perform both combinations during the audition.

~Judges are looking for dancers that display solid dance technique and performance quality.

**~NEW: Audition Application and \$10 audition fee per company must be turned in by
May 24, 2008**

If you have questions, please contact Krissie at: (773) 763-5759 or (847) 832-1855