

PERFORMANCE TEAM AUDITION GUIDELINES
2008-2009

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the JOB Performance Team. The Performance Team is a group of young dancers who demonstrate excellence in dance and in performing. It requires a disciplined, hard-working dancer who is willing to devote many hours, in order to better his or her skills. It requires a student who is interested in dancing locally, competing and improving themselves in a wide range of dance styles. Being a team member demands a student who wants to focus on flexibility, technique, turns, leaps, timing, and performing skills. Being a part of the Performance Team should increase a child's confidence and train the student for a career in dance or theatre, but most importantly it prepares the team member for *life*. **In addition to the team, each parent is a member of the Just Off Broadway's Performance Team Booster Club. The booster club's main goal is to promote enthusiasm, assistance, and financial support for JOB team activities recommended by its officers and a majority vote of the entire team.**

There are 3 different levels of the Performance Team (Level 1, Level 2, & Level 3). The requirements for the dancer at the different levels will vary. Each level will have different training requirements and time commitments. Please read the following pages carefully to understand these differences. Dancers of varying levels can be in the same dance together. The goal of the levels is to blend the dancer's technical abilities with their commitment level to achieve the appropriate program for each dancer. In general the more training a student receives the stronger dancer they will become.

The JOB Performance Team is not right for every student. Please read over these questions and review the steps and concepts under the Curriculum before considering auditioning for the team.

- Ages 5-9: Does your child want to dance three days a week?
 Does your child have at least 1-2 hour attention span?
 Does your child realize how many classes/dances that he/she must practice at home when recital time comes?
 Does your child like to get up in front of people and perform?
- All ages: Does your child have fun at dance class and enjoy performing in front of an audience?
 Does your child realize that even though ballet may not be his or her favorite class, that it is the most important class?
 Are you and your child prepared to face the reality that each student is an individual, and some students may be stronger than your own in certain areas of dance?
 Are you prepared to discuss positive ways of looking at your child's strengths and weaknesses in order to help him or her become a better dancer?

CONCLUSION

Being a part of the JOB Performance Team takes a joint effort from parents, students and teachers to make a healthy situation. Parents must realize their child's dancing talents and put them in the correct perspective. Together as a team, we can strengthen your child's dancing ability and confidence to make him or her the best performer possible. We feel it is important to understand the commitment required to be a member of the JOB Performance Team *before* auditioning. Being a part of the team can be extremely rewarding if each student and parent understands our guidelines. Please discuss this packet with your daughter or son and if you have any further questions please contact Dawn or Kathy Meyer or Judy Schwing at the Studio.

LEVEL 1 (Ages 5-8)

TIME COMMITMENT

1. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- **1 Ballet class, 1 Stretch class, 1 tap class, and 1 Jazz class if placed in a jazz, musical theatre or lyrical dance.** A leaps and turns, acro., and or extra ballet class are highly recommended and must be taken if placed in a tap or acro dance.
- **1 Hip Hop, 1 Stretch, 1 Leaps/Turns class if placed in a hip hop dance.**
- **Level 1 dancers should attend classes weekly.** Unattended classes should be made up whenever possible to keep up with the child's proper technique. Please consider conflicts with other outside activities carefully before committing to the team.

2. WORKSHOP REQUIREMENTS

- One In-Studio Summer Intensive Workshop
- Optional Summer Dance/Technique Classes

3. REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

- **Auditions are Wednesday, June 4 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** A Level 1 list of members will be posted/e-mailed Thursday, June 14. The acceptance letter will be sent out mid-June and is due back by July 15, 2008. The list of dances and rehearsal schedule will be posted after August 4, 2008. *If you are not able to make the audition you must contact the business manager, Judy Schwing.*
- Attendance is required during **Mandatory Choreography Camp Monday, August 11 – Monday, August 18.** Each performance team dance will have approximately 4-7 hours of scheduled rehearsal time during the camp (rehearsals are usually scheduled in 1-2 hour time blocks). **First rehearsal is Monday, August 11 from 9:00-12:00 p.m.** We **generally** rehearse in the morning for level 1, but may have a few rehearsals in the evening.
- **IMPACT** (a charity benefit) held in January
- **3-4 regional** (Cincinnati, Columbus, Louisville, Dayton, Indianapolis, etc.) **competitions, Nationals - optional**
- Nursing Home and other community events
- **JOB annual recital.**
- **Level 1** dancers are required to attend all rehearsals. A conflict form must be filled out and be **submitted at least one month in advance** for studio consideration. Special circumstances will be considered at the discretion of the Studio. **Mandatory rehearsals are mandatory – no excuses.**
- Failure to attend a mandatory rehearsal, camps, or classes will result in ineligibility to perform in an upcoming performance/competition at JOB's discretion. **If a dancer is sick or injured during choreography week or a mandatory rehearsal someone must come and videotape the rehearsal and take notes. The dancer must come into the next rehearsal knowing the corrections of the day they missed.**

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Parents should note that there are many expenses involved with the Performance Team such as team fees, competition fees, the team "dance pak" (including bag, warm-up suit, shorts, earrings, choker, etc), dance shoes, costumes, accessories, makeup, hotels, and the cost of required dance classes and workshops. The Boosters Club will organize fundraisers throughout the year that will help defer the costs, but whatever is not covered is the full responsibility of the parent. The average yearly cost of being in one dance at this level is approximately \$500 - \$600 for first year students and \$400.00-\$500.00 for veteran students (this does not include tuition).

1. An **audition fee** of \$125.00 is required to audition. This is a non-refundable deposit due on or before the audition date (Wednesday, June 4). \$100 of this money will be applied to your child's Performance Team or tuition account depending on whether or not he or she makes the team. Dancers accepting a position on the team must fulfill the time commitments outlined above for the entire dance year (July-June) or forfeit the \$100 deposit.
2. A **\$35 Booster participation fee: All members of the team must be a part of the Booster Club which supports the team. Payment is due to the JOB Boosters' Club on the first day of rehearsal August 11, 2008.**
3. A \$100.00 **costume deposit** is due on or before August 11, 2008 if you are placed in a dance requiring a new costume. The average new costume cost of being in one dance at this level is \$175. We will for the 2008-2009 season make every effort to reduce the costume costs whenever possible. **(Your \$100 credit from the audition deposit will be reflected in your PT account and may serve as your first costume deposit).** For budgeting purposes, each dancer is usually in 1-3 dances.
4. The required In-studio **Summer Intensive Workshop** will cost \$120.
5. The **team fee** is \$90.00 per dance for a small group, \$80.00 for a large group or line.
6. **Payment options:**
 - **Monthly payments to your PT account will be divided over a nine month period beginning 8/15/2008 and then by the first for the next eight months (9/1; 10/1; etc.). They will be based on the number of dances you are placed in unless you make other arrangements.** Your account will be charged \$50.00 to participate in the monthly payment plan or alternate plan. These fees will be summed and divided by 9 to estimate your monthly payment. For example the monthly payment for 2 dances would be: \$160 (large groups); \$180 comp. fees; \$80 national; \$25 Nationals rehearsals; \$25 Admin. Fee; \$50 monthly fee; (no new costumes) = \$520 divided by 9 months = \$58.00 a month (rounded up). All accounts must be paid in full in order to participate in the recital and to audition for PT the following year.
 - **Total Payment due dates:** Costume Deposits – August 11, 2008
Dance Pak – August 11, 2008
Team Fees – August 20, 2008
Administrative Fee – September 15, 2008
Competition Fees – October 1, 2008 for all Nov. - March competitions;
February 1, 2009 for all April and May competitions.
Costume Balances – November 1, 2008
Nationals Fees – April 1, on national years
7. **If the student's accounts (studio/PT) are not current by the due date, the dancer will not be entered in the competition.**
8. A \$20.00 late fee will be charged to your PT account each month after a 5 day grace period from the set due date. Please contact the studio if financial problems occur.
9. The **Tuition expense** will range from 3.25 hours per week to 5 hours per week depending on the number of classes and the length of the classes based on the 2007-2008 tuition schedule, (approximate amount between \$500-\$1050).
10. At least 5 hours of **Volunteering** for the team is required of each family. 2.5 hours should be volunteered for the Performance Team's charity benefit held in January and 2.5 hours should be for the dance recital.
11. **All parents must fundraise for the team.**
12. **Booster Scholarships may be applied for each summer if necessary.**

LEVEL 2 & LEVEL 3 (ages 6-18)

TIME COMMITMENT

1. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- **Level 2** (Ages 7-18): for any dancer focusing on the following:
 - **At least 2 years of acro. must be taken for all level 2 dancers 10 and under. (see Dawn for those “grandfather claused” for new rule).
 - Ballet/Lyrical: 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz, 1 Stretch
 - Jazz: 2 Ballet, 1-2 Jazz, 1 Stretch
 - Tap: 2 Ballet/Stretch, 1 Jazz, 1 Tap
 - Acro: 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz, 1 Stretch, 1 Acro
 - Hip Hop: 1 Ballet or Stretch, 1 Jazz, 1 Hip Hop

This level of training may enable dancers to participate in extra curricular activities (ie. cheerleading, girl scouts, outside shows, sports).

- **Level 3** (Ages 7-18): for any dancer focusing on the following:
 - **At least 2 years of acro. must be taken for all level 3 dancers 10 and under.
 - Ballet/Lyrical: 3-5 Ballet/Modern, 2 Jazz, 1 Stretch, Pointe optional
 - Jazz: 3-5 Ballet, 2 Jazz, 1 Tap, 1 Stretch, (Acro. highly recommended)
 - Tap: 3 Ballet, 1-2 Tap, 1 Jazz, 1 Stretch

Any dancer may train at Level 3 as long as they fulfill the above requirements. Dancing at Level 3 will limit team member’s ability to participate in extracurricular activities. Note: Dancers at JOB may only compete with JOB.

- **Level 2 & 3 dancers** should try to attend all classes. Every attempt should be made to attend alternate classes when absences cannot be avoided. It is very important to maintain technique through the required weekly classes. *Students must make-up classes after 4 absences during the competition season or they will be ineligible to compete/perform. (Jan.-May).* All dancers should call in or turn in a conflict form if they will be missing classes. *Classes missed will be assessed 6 weeks prior to the competition.*
- **High school students** may focus on one area and have modified requirements to be determined by the JOB teachers.
- **Please consider conflicts with other outside activities carefully before committing to the team.**

2. WORKSHOP/CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- **Dancers in Level 2 or 3** are required to attend two workshops and 4 summer technique classes. Students must attend one summer workshop (at least 10 hours) and at least 3 technique classes before they rehearse in August; and complete their remaining 1 technique class before September 15 and their an “outside of the studio” workshop before the last competition of the year. *A dancer may not compete/perform if these requirements are not fulfilled.* .

3. REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

- **Team auditions are Tuesday, July 29 from 5:15-7:45 for ages 7-11; 7:00-9:30 for ages 12-18;** anyone unable to audition on this date must set up an audition with the JOB staff prior to July 29. Hip Hop will be auditioned first, so that those only auditioning for hip hop may leave after they perform their audition routine. The list of team members will be posted/e-mailed by August 4. Acceptance letters are due by Monday, August 11, 2008.
- Team rehearsal times can be any day of the week, but primarily are on Saturdays. Team members may receive one weekend off per month whenever possible.
- **Performance Team Members** are required to attend all rehearsals. Special circumstances will be considered at the discretion of the Studio. Conflict forms must be filled out and turned in at least one month in advance for consideration. Rehearsals labeled **Mandatory** are mandatory – no excuses. Rehearsals from January-May are mandatory and all

major conflicts must be submitted 1 month prior to the event (ie. SAT's ACT's, family weddings, 25th/50th anniversaries, confirmation/religious events). Failure to attend a mandatory rehearsal, camps, or classes will result in ineligibility to perform in an upcoming performance/competition to be determined by the studio. If a dancer is sick or injured during choreography week or a mandatory rehearsal someone must come and videotape the rehearsal/take notes for the rehearsal.

- **All Team Members** are required to attend a **MANDATORY** Choreography Camp Monday, August 11- Wednesday, August 20. ***The first team rehearsal will be Monday, August 11 from 9:00-12:00 which all team members must attend.*** . Each performance team dance will have approximately 4-7 hours of scheduled rehearsal time during the camp.
- **IMPACT** (a charity benefit) held in January
- **Level 2** dances will attend **3-4 regional competitions** (Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Louisville, Indianapolis) and **one national every other year (summer 2010, 2012 in June or July)**. Most competitions are on Saturdays and Sundays from November thru May.
- **Level 3** dancers will attend the same **3-4 regional competitions, 1 larger regional workshop/competition, and 1 national or summer workshop/camp every year.**
- **Community performances** may be scheduled throughout the year.
- **JOB annual recital**

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Parents should note that there are many expenses involved with the Performance Team such as team fees, competition fees, the team “dance pak” (including dance bag, warm-up suit, shorts, choker, earrings, etc), dance shoes, costumes, accessories, makeup, and the cost of required dance classes and workshops. The Booster Club will organize fundraisers throughout the year that will help defer the costs, but whatever is not covered is the full responsibility of the parent. The average yearly cost of being in one dance is approximately \$500 - \$600 for first year team members and \$400 - \$500 for veteran team members, (this does not include tuition).

- An **audition payment** of \$125.00 is required to audition. This is a non-refundable deposit due by July 15, 2008. \$100 of this money will be applied to your child’s Performance Team or tuition account depending on whether or not he or she makes the team. Dancers accepting a position on the team must fulfill the Time Commitments outlined above or forfeit the \$100 deposit.
- A **\$35 Booster participation fee: All members of the team must be a part of the Booster Club which supports the team. This is due to the JOB Boosters’ Club on the first day of rehearsal August 11, 2008.**
- A \$100.00 **costume deposit** is due August 11, 2008 if you are placed in a dance requiring a new costume. The average new costume cost of being in one dance at this level was \$200 (based on 2007-2008 costume costs). **(Your \$100 credit from the audition deposit will be reflected in your PT account and may serve as your first costume deposit.** Most students are in an average of 2-6 dances.
- The required In-studio **Summer Intensive Workshop** will cost \$120 - \$130.
- The **team fee** is \$90.00 for small groups and \$80.00 for large groups and lines unless the choreographer’s expenses exceed that amount and then it will be determined by the cost of the choreographer.
- A Performance Team **Administrative Fee** of \$25.00 is due by September 15, 2008. This fee covers the paperwork and account management associated with team activities. Other ancillary fees may be charged throughout the year as determined by the director.
- To prepare for a National Competition, dancers will be charged a **National Rehearsal Fee** of up to \$50.00. A Nationals T-shirt will also be required to be purchased on National years.

Payment options:

Monthly payments to your PT account will be divided over a nine month period beginning 8/15/2008 and then by the first for the next eight months (9/1; 10/1; etc.). They will be based on the number of dances you are placed in unless you make other arrangements. Your account will be charged \$50.00 to participate in the monthly payment plan or alternate plan.

These fees will be summed and divided by 9 to estimate your monthly payment. For example the monthly payment for 2 dances would be: \$160 (large groups); \$180 comp. fees; \$80 national; \$25 Nationals rehearsals; \$25 Admin. Fee; \$50 monthly fee; (no new costumes) = \$520 divided by 9 months = \$58.00 a month (rounded up). All accounts must be paid in full in order to participate in the recital and to audition for PT the following year.

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- **Total Payment due dates:**

- Costume Deposits – August 11, 2008
- Dance Pak – August 11, 2008
- Team Fees – August 20, 2008
- Administrative Fee – September 15, 2008
- Competition Fees – October 1, 2008 for all Nov. - March competitions; February 1, 2009 for all April and May competitions.
- Costume Balances – November 1, 2008
- Nationals Fees – May, on national years

- **If the student's accounts (studio/PT) are not current through the monthly program or the paying by the due date, the dancer will not be entered in the competition.**
- A \$20.00 **late fee** will be charged to your PT account each month after a 5 day grace period from the set due date. Please contact the studio if financial problems occur.
- The **tuition expense** will range from 3 – 7 hours depending on the number of classes taken (approximate amount between \$500-1700 based on the 2008-2009 tuition schedule). For students that take multiple classes, the maximum tuition charge for a Performance Team Member is 7 hours (excluding acrobatics, or semi-private lessons).
- JOB Performance Team Winnings from the competition season will be used at the discretion of its owner.
- At least 5 hours of **Volunteer time** for the team is required of each family. 2.5 hours should be volunteered for the Performance Team's charity benefit held in January and 2.5 hours should be for the dance recital.
- **All parents must fundraise for the team.**
- **Booster Scholarships may be applied for each summer if necessary.**

CODE OF CONDUCT

- Each member of the Performance Team should strive to be the best dancer he/she can be. This requires hard work and the willingness to take corrections and apply them daily to his/her technique. Each dancer must also have a positive, healthy outlook on his/her strengths and weaknesses.
- Each team member must listen and respect his/her teachers.
- **Each team member should set a good example to all students.** A student will be asked to leave class/rehearsal if inappropriate behavior occurs. *Students on Performance Team also may not talk in their classes or be disruptive.*

- When at competitions or when performing at a public place, each team member must be on his/her best behavior and remember that he/she is representing Just Off Broadway. **Each member of the team should also be supportive of fellow students as well as set good examples by applauding and cheering for other groups at competitions. He or she also must wear the correct attire at awards. (warm-up suit and flip flops/tan/black jazz shoes; team t-shirt, team shorts and flip flops/white tennis shoes in the summer).**
- As a team member, he/she must come to each rehearsal knowing the PT dance. Each dancer must keep a notebook in his/her dance bag to use whenever necessary when learning a dance. Occasionally, parents may be asked to videotape a dance for your student to practice with. Each dancer must give 100% to every dance he/she performs in during rehearsal and competition.
- Each team member should realize that *doing your best* is more important than winning the gold (or the first place trophy). Each competition is different, with varying levels of difficulty. Each team member should realize that sometimes he/she may win the gold or the bronze, but striving to do one's own personal best is more important than the trophy. Each competition is a challenge. Conquer the challenge and do not let the challenge conquer you!!!
- Being a team member is a **privilege** that should not be taken for granted. The students and teachers form a unique family, which builds confidence and betters the child as a dancer. Please consider your loyalty and commitment to the JOB Performance Team before you audition.

PERFORMANCE TEAM REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Age _____ Birth date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone _____ (home) Phone _____ (cell/work)

The Performance Team utilizes an internet/email communication system. If you are capable of internet access please provide your e-mail address below and you will receive an invitation to join the Yahoo Group site.

E-mail Address _____

Parents' Names _____ Billing Address (if different) _____

First Day of school _____ Last day of school _____ Spring Break _____

I am auditioning for (please circle all that apply):

Level 1

Level 2

Tap Jazz Lyrical Acrobatics Hip Hop All 5

Level 3

Tap Jazz Lyrical All 3

You may mix your levels to audition. (ie. Level 2 Jazz requirements, but Level 3 Tap requirements)

Please consider the personal and financial aspects of this level of training carefully.

Is there a limit to the number of dances for which you would like to be considered? _____ If so what is it?

What extracurricular activities do you anticipate this year? _____

Which Summer Intensive Workshop will you attend _____

Any other summer dance? _____ if yes, please list _____

Which Out-of-Studio Workshop do you plan to attend? _____

*Do you use pierced earrings or clip-on earrings? _____

*Do you currently own a JOB dance bag? _____

*Do you have a JOB warm-up suit that fits? _____ If not, what size do you need? jacket _____ Pants _____

*Do we have a copy of your Birth Certificate on file? _____ if not, please bring it to the first rehearsal if you make the team.

I have read the Performance Team Audition Guidelines. I understand the level of commitment necessary to be a member of the JOB Performance Team.

Student's Signature _____ Parent's Signature _____

This form and audition deposit are due on or before June 4, 2008 Level 1; July 15 for Level 2/3.

OTHER ASKED QUESTIONS:

Will there be any repeat dances? Yes, a few... this is determined by the age average for next year, how many students are returning, and several other factors.

Will there be more dances than last year? Possibly, once again it is determined by age average, how many dancers are returning, the dancers' abilities, the dancers' education, and several other factors.

What will be required to be placed in any of next year's dances? Many factors are considered: age, height, appearance (look young or old for age), ability, class work throughout the year, flexibility, stage presence, proper technique (to name a few).

How can I best prepare the audition? Continue ballet training whenever possible and stayed stretched over the summer. Most 9-10 dances will include a double turn, 11-12 dances will often include triples and fouette' series and "competition tricks," 13 and up dances may include quadruple turns and multiple fouette' series, and stylized jazz technique.

How many dances can I be in? Normally, it is one-six dances; but there is no set number for a dancer's particular age or ability.

Can I learn a dance even though I was not chosen for that piece? Yes, we encourage this learning process as long as the dance is within the child's dance capabilities, (for example, a dancer in Amazing Grace would not be permitted to learn Black Crow).

What if I wasn't chosen for a dance that I really wanted to dance in this year? First, talk to Dawn and voice your wishes/concerns. Then discuss ways to achieve the goals that you have set for yourself. Set up quarterly meetings with Dawn to discuss your progress and how close you are to reaching your goals.

How do I become a better dancer? Ballet, ballet, ballet. The more ballet classes that you take the better dancer you will be. Also setting weekly goals helps keep you on task. Keep the goals simple and achievable. Set quarterly goals that are a little more difficult and require more muscular development. Talk with your teachers about what your goals are and ask them how you can attain them. Find idle times that you can strengthen your skills. (Sitting in the car on the way to dance, work on foot exercises or arm exercises; use a theraband during TV commercials, or work on tabletops each night before you go to bed).

**A strong dancer is a disciplined dancer that is able to manage his or her time well and work on his or her goals.

**How do I improve my performance abilities on stage? Practice!!! Practice in class, practice in front of a mirror, practice at home. Performing comes naturally for some and others must work on it. Many do not like seeing their face in the mirror or being watched, so they must overcome this uncomfortable feeling. Some only smile when they truly feel comfortable with the dance they have learned. A true smile shows in the eyes and is able to change easily with the storyline of the dance. Each child is different and he or she must find out what allows him or her to perform!!!

PERFORMANCE TEAM PRE-AUDITION FORM

In order to plan for our 2008-2009 season, it is now time to decide about your commitment to the JOB Performance Team. We need to begin our planning early in order to have the music and choreography prepared for the fall. Please answer the following questions and state your intentions in the spaces below.

Name _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

I intend on auditioning for the 2008-2009 season. YES NO UNSURE

I want to be in the SAME AMOUNT MORE LESS dances than last year.

My parent would like to set up a meeting with Dawn to discuss my progress.

YES NO

****Note: An informational meeting about 2008-2009 will be held on Wednesday, May 28 at 7:00 for all new parents with students auditioning this summer. Any parents wanting to set up an individual meeting should do so via email during the month of May.**

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