

PERFORMANCE TEAM AUDITION GUIDELINES
2009-2010

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the JOB Performance Team. The Performance Team is a selective team 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 2 different levels of the Performance Team (Level 1 & Level 2). The requirements for the dancer at different levels will vary. Each level will have different training requirements and time commitments. Please read the following pages carefully to understand the difference. 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 and enjoys 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

- All dancers must take the required classes for the specific area of dance they have been selected for on Team.
- **Jazz/Lyrical Dance** - 1 Ballet class, 1 Stretch class, 1 Leaps/Turns class, and 1 Jazz class. A tap class, acro. class, and or extra ballet are highly recommended.
- **Hip Hop Dance** - 1 Ballet or Stretch class, 1 Leaps/Turns or Jazz class, and a Hip Hop class.
- **Tap Dance** – 1 Ballet class, 1 Stretch or Jazz class, 1 Tap class
- **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 – jazz is highly recommended
- 2 summer Technique Classes
- “Out of studio workshop” held at Just Off Broadway

3. REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

- **Auditions are Wednesday, June 3 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** A Level 1 list of members will be posted/e-mailed Wednesday, June 17. The acceptance letter will be sent out mid-June and is due back by July 15, 2009. The list of dances and rehearsal schedule will be posted after August 4, 2009. *If you are not able to make the audition you must contact, Dawn Meyer.*
- Attendance is required during **Mandatory Choreography Camp Monday, August 10– Tuesday, August 18.** Each performance team dance will have approximately 5-10 hours of scheduled rehearsal time during the camp (rehearsals are usually scheduled in 1-2 hour time blocks). **First full team rehearsal is Monday, August 10 from 9:00-12:00 p.m. and required team meeting/picnic Monday evening from 5:00-8:00.** 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 competitions** (Cincinnati, Columbus, Louisville, Dayton, Indianapolis, etc.) **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 during rehearsals he or she must meet with the assistant teacher and come into the next rehearsal knowing the corrections he or she missed.**

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Parents should note there are many expenses involved with the Performance Team; team fees, competition fees, the "dance pak" (including bag, warm-up suit, shorts, earrings, 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. **Fees will be due at least 2 months prior to the event. If the student's accounts (studio/PT) are not current by the due date, the dancer will not be entered in the competition.** The average yearly cost of being in one dance 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 \$130.00 is required to audition. This is a non-refundable deposit due on or before the audition date (Wednesday, June 3). \$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 10, 2009.**
3. A \$100.00 **costume deposit** is due on or before August 10, 2009 if you are placed in a new dance or 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 2009-2010 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 1-2 dances for level 1 & 2-6 for level 2.
4. The required In-studio **Summer Intensive Workshop** will cost \$125.
5. The **team/rehearsal fee** is \$130.00 per dance for a small group, \$105.00 for a large group, \$75 for line or production. **We have increased our small and large group team fees to offset our rehearsal expenses throughout the year.**
6. A Performance Team **Administrative Fee** of \$25.00 is due by September 15, 2009. 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.
7. There will be a Nationals rehearsal fee due May 1, 2010. This will be based on the number of hours each dance rehearses during the Nationals rehearsal camp.

8. Payment options:

-Monthly payments to your PT account will be divided over a nine month period beginning 8/15/2009 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 calculated and divided by 9 to estimate your monthly payment. For example the monthly payment for 2 dances would be: \$210 (large groups); \$180 comp. fees; \$80 national; \$25 Admin. Fee; \$50 monthly fee; (no new costumes) = \$570 divided by 9 months = \$64.00 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 10, 2009

Dance Pak – August 10, 2009

Team Fees – August 20, 2009

Administrative Fee – September 15, 2009

Competition Fees – October 1, 2009 for all Nov. – Feb. competitions; January 15, 2010 for all March-May competitions.

Costume Balances – when costumes are completed

Nationals Fees – May 1, on national years

9. 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 3.25 hours per week to 5 hours per week depending on the amount of class (approximate amount between \$500-\$1050) for level 1 and 2.5-7 hours per week depending on the number of classes. (approximate amount between \$500-\$1700) for level 2. For students that take multiple classes, the maximum tuition charge for a Performance Team member is 7 hours (even if you take more than that amount).

10. At least 5 hours of **Volunteering** for the team is required of each family. 2.5 towards Impact held in January and 2.5 hours should be for the dance recital.

11. **Booster Scholarships may be applied for each summer if necessary.**

LEVEL 2 (ages 7-19)

TIME COMMITMENT

1. CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- **Level 2 (Ages 7-19):** for any dancer participating in a team dance in this discipline:

Ballet/Lyrical Dance: 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz, 1 Stretch,

Jazz: or Musical Theatre Dance: 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz, 1 Stretch

Acro Dance: 2 Ballet, 1 Jazz, 1 Stretch, 1 Acro

****All dancers 11 and under must take a minimum of 2 years of acro.**

****All dancers 12 and under must take leaps and turns**

Tap Dance: 1 Ballet or Stretch, 1 Jazz, 1 Tap (** does not apply)

Hip Hop Dance: 1 Ballet or Stretch, 1 Jazz, 1 Hip Hop (** does not apply)

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

- 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.*
- **Please consider conflicts with other outside activities before committing to the team.**

2. WORKSHOP/CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- Dancers are required to attend two studio workshops and 5 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 2 technique classes before the competition season begins. Your 2nd workshop must be the studio sponsored VIP (Variety in Performance) Workshop in the winter. ***A dancer may not compete/perform if these requirements are not fulfilled.*** If you have a conflict the weekend of the VIP workshop you must contact Dawn Meyer.

3. REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

- Team auditions are Wednesday, June 3 from 6:00-7:30 for ages 7-11; 7:30-9:00 for ages 12-18; anyone unable to audition on this date must set up an audition time with Dawn prior to July 29. Hip Hop will be auditioned first. Those dancers may leave after they perform their audition routine. The list of team members will be posted/e-mailed by July 14. Acceptance letters are due by July 28, 2009.
- Team rehearsal times can be any day of the week, but primarily are on Saturdays.
- **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. Rehearsals labeled **Mandatory** are mandatory – no excuses. **Most 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.** **Sick dancers must meet with the teacher's assistant to learn the missed choreography or corrections before the next rehearsal. If a dancer is injured he or she must come to rehearsal and take notes or videotape the rehearsal.**
- **All Team Members** are required to attend a **MANDATORY** Choreography Camp *Monday, August 10 – Wednesday, August 19. The first team rehearsal will be Monday, August 10 from 9:00-12:00 and 5:00-8:00 which all team members must attend or forfeit the right to perform in the first performance of the year.* Each performance team dance will have approximately 10 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.
- **Community performances** may be scheduled throughout the year.
- **JOB annual recital**

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. The teachers will state this rule at the beginning of the year. Two warnings (which will be recorded in the attendance book) will be given and after that the child will be asked to leave the class and his or her parents will be called.*
- 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.**
- As a team member, he/she must come to each rehearsal knowing the PT dance. Each dancer must keep a tape and 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.

OTHER ASKED QUESTIONS:

- **Will there be any repeat dances? Yes, this is determined by the age average for next year, how many students are returning, 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 for the audition? Continue ballet training whenever possible and stay 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.
- **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. **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. Some only smile when they truly feel comfortable with the dance they have learned. Each child is different and he or she must find out what allows him or her to perform!!!

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 Tap Lyrical Jazz Hip Hop

Level 2
Tap Jazz Lyrical Acrobatics Hip Hop All 5

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 3, 2009.

