



CENTER STAGE DANCE STARS PROGRAM

2023-2024



*We would like to express the importance of discussing the financial commitment of the CSD Stars Program as a family or with spouses BEFORE auditions or committing to the program, to make sure you are aware of all the financial obligations! Being a CSD Stars Program Member is both a TIME and MONETARY commitment! Costumes, competition fees and tuition really add up and we want to make sure you are well informed and make realistic decisions! *See inside for costs breakdown.*

Dance Company Mission Statement

Center Stage is the home of a performance/ competitive group named Center Stage Dance Stars. It is the belief of Center Stage that strong commitment to self and others leads to the advancement of dance techniques and self-esteem in dancers. Through traveling, competing, and experiencing different genres of dance, we believe that all company members and their families will be presented with opportunities to grow as dancers, friends, and families.

OVERVIEW

The following is the 2023-2024 CSD Stars Competition Program information and Team Contract. Please read over it carefully, even if you have been a CSD Team member in the past. This packet may contain new and updated information that is important to understand and comply with. It also contains information on how and when to register for classes, events, and payment breakdowns for the season.

It is mandatory that a parent attend the parental information meeting. We will go over the information in this contract and answer any questions you have about this information.

Becoming a TEAM member requires a significant amount of time, commitment, hard work, and responsibility. We provide this information packet to educate interested individuals and to explain the policies set forth by the director. It is of utmost importance that you consider all the dynamics associated with committing to the TEAM before auditioning and accepting to be part of the Stars Program.

Aspiring Stars - Competition group for beginners or those that want the experience of competing without as much of a monetary or time commitment. Ages 4 & up can audition.

Stars Elite Teams – Stars Elite represent CSD's premier, most advanced levels and more serious performing/competing teams consisting of leveled dancers who train an average of 4 or more hours per week – demonstrating skilled technique, advanced movement styles and unparalleled performance quality. These dancers attend competitions and conventions on the regional and national level and are expected to be well-rounded, poised and extremely focused dancers while adhering to the intense demands (monetary & time) expected of ELITES. It is important to understand before pursuing a spot that there is an investment required. Ages 6 & up

CSD Stars Competition Teams

Tentative; subject to change based on interest, skills, ages, etc.

Ages are subjective and ultimately, we look at skill and dance level, as well for these groups

ASPIRING STARS – VARIETY OF AGES

Competes in following type dances:

1 Ballet or Jazz or 1 Tap Dance (genre depends on age, skills, and interest)

*1 Production (optional but will have to commit to being all competitions)

Will compete in following competitions:

1-2 Regional Competitions

1 National Competition

PETITE TEAM – 6-9

Competes in following type dances:

1 Lyrical Dance or Contemporary

1 Jazz Dance

1 Tap Dance

1 Production

JR/SR TEAM

Competes in following types of dances:

2 Contemporary/ Lyrical Dance

1 Jazz Dance/ Possibility of 2 small groups- maybe 1 large group

1 Tap Dance

1 Production

Both above compete in the following competitions:

2-3 Regional Competitions

1 National Competition

*** Not all team members are required to participate in all dance types or all dances. All members may not be picked for all dances that are available.**

Solos, duets and trios are an additional expense that is not required or necessary. Therefore, they do **NOT** take precedent over the group dances.

Solo Choreography charges are - \$325; plus have to sign-up for the additional class time to rehearse each week.

Duets/ Trios - \$175 per dancer choreography fee; have to sign-up for the additional class time to rehearse each week.

Due Dates:

July 28th - \$200 Summer Intensive fee (All members ages 6 & up are required to participate)

August 31st – Deposit of \$50 per costume fee

August 31st - \$200 Yearly Team Fee

October 15th – Balance due for costumes

CENTER STAGE DANCE COMPANY AUDITIONS INFORMATION

How do I Join?

- **Audition Process (current student)** – The dancer will be placed by the director on the appropriate team. Previous years' performance, class attendance, emotional maturity, and attitude **DOES** reflect placement levels. **PLEASE NOTE:** the placement of students on teams *should not be challenged*, as the director and teachers will place students to where they think students will perform best for themselves and the team.
- **Audition Process (New Student)**– The best way to have an accurate placement is to audition at the audition date. If a dancer is unable to do this but wants to join, the director can hold a private audition. We prefer to have all company members selected before the start of the summer sessions.
- **Invitation** – Invitations may be sent from director/ teachers to certain dancers at CSD.

Requirements:

1. Submit completed audition form online at <https://forms.gle/GoWfAwooYa7nGGLn9>
2. Student must have a **ZERO** balance with CSD (unless prior arrangements have been made)
3. **FULL** commitment to the STARS contract, competition dates, all fee requirements and **ONTIME** payments.
4. Participation in the parent meeting.
5. Summer Intensive attendance (for those required) is **MANDATORY!**

Audition Process: There are two parts to the audition. First, a ballet warm-up and technique portion, followed by an audition for the other genres. We will do across the floor and center floor combos for different genres to gauge how fast choreography is learned and the attitude of the dancer. We take into consideration both skill level and age when selecting dancers.

Attire: We will begin with ballet, so please arrive dressed and ready for ballet. NO T-SHIRTS or SWEATS (for girls) allowed in the room during any portion of the audition. If you need to arrive early to warm up a bit on your own, please do so. Socks are not an acceptable form of footwear unless they are specific to dance. After ballet, we will allow everyone to change for the other parts of the audition.

Ballet:

● Girls: Solid colored leotard, tights, appropriate shoes, hair in a neat ballet bun. No bangs.

Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, etc.:

● Girls: Any color jazz shorts, leggings and a very fitted dance top, sports bra or leotard. We prefer no tank tops or baggy shorts. Proper and body conscious dance wear is preferred and required. Hair pulled away from face. Any style shoes that are appropriate to the genre.

Acceptance:

- a) Must enroll in summer classes and regular session classes by June 15th.
- b) You must submit team contract by June 15th.
- c) Pay Team fee no later than August 31st, 2023.
- d) **WITHDRAWAL POLICY/PENALTY:** If your dancer has to withdraw from Center Stage Dance after August 14, 2024 for any reason at all (no desire to dance, financial obligations, injury, too much school work, etc.) there will be a penalty applied to your account in the amount of \$250 and re-blocking fee of \$100 per dance that must be re-blocked due to your withdrawal.

This penalty will apply effective of the date you withdraw. In addition to this penalty, you will be responsible for any and all fees that are due (costumes, competitions, tuition, etc.).

SUMMER INTENSIVE INFO: If you are chosen as a member of 2022-2023 company, you will be required to attend the following summer intensive.

Summer Intensive is Friday, July 28th, 8-5 and Saturday, July 29th, 8-5 with an hour for lunch (12 -1); Lunch is not provided. This is **mandatory** for all dancers other than minis and no other options are available. Cost of the Intensive is \$200.

CSD Stars Competition Team Information

Requirements:

1. **CHOOSING DANCE AS A PRIORITY OVER ALL OTHER EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.**
2. Weekly dance classes – Each team has weekly required core classes/ rehearsals. (Discount will be applied for stars members for tuition each month.
3. Extra rehearsals (most will be on a Friday or Saturday). Team members will receive a list of all rehearsal dates as soon as they are determined. Remember, to be the best dancers possible, we must be dedicated. As a result, only illness (doctor's note required) or death in the family are exceptions for missing rehearsal. Choreography will be done in choreography classes separate from regular classes.
4. If planning to audition for company pieces, you must be enrolled in the corresponding company class to participate. (Example: if participating in tap company dance—must take tap class).
5. **MUST attend ALL competitions and performances in which your TEAM participates.**
6. **PRIORITY scheduling *Please take into consideration your dance schedule when scheduling additional activities within the year. Remember, this is a team effort, and we must be fair to all of the other students in our group.**
7. Normally star team members will compete in 2 to 3 regional dance competitions and 1 national event. Aspiring stars will compete in less but must commit to all if committing to the production numbers. All members are required to participate in the recital. There will be other shows and performances scheduled; but we will try to give plenty of advance notice before these shows.
8. **Star team members ages 6 and up must participate in the summer intensive.**

Expenses:

Please read carefully!

1. Team Fee - **\$200** for the year. All stars members will be required to pay the \$200 stars fee to cover the costs of extra rehearsals and most choreography classes. This fee is due by August 31st.
2. Competition Fees – Group Dances range \$45-\$65 per dancer **per dance**. Duets/Trios range \$50-\$65 per dancer. Solos range \$95-\$125. ***These fees are per competition.** Ex: Susie has 2 routines she will compete at competition; therefore, her competition fees will be \$120 -\$160 (including travel fee) for EACH competition.
3. Travel Fee – There is a \$30 travel fee that is per child/ per competition to help cover the expenses of the director/ teachers for travel.
4. Costume Fees – will vary per dance but are generally between \$85 to \$100, a piece, without embellishments.
5. You will be required to purchase all accessories, shoes and tights, company shirt, camisole, and jacket are all required for each dance participating in. Items Required:
 - 1) Costume Accessories
 - a. Bobby pins - \$15.00
 - b. Earrings - \$15.00
 - c. Choker - \$30.00
 - 2) Tights
 - 3) Company t-shirts - \$20 (plus taxes)
 - 4) Company top and black leggings -We wear these if we go to a performance.
 - 5) Company Jacket – around \$90
6. Summer intensive for all company members except minis or below age of 6- 2-day/ \$200

Communication:

1. EMAIL is our preferred method of communication. Members will receive emails regarding practices, performances, billing information, and CSD studio information. *Please make sure that we have an updated email address for your family.
2. Company Facebook page (Mrs. Crystal's CSDC Official Group)-this is our daily method of communication.
3. GroupMe App

Medical Release

I fully understand that **Center Stage Dance Studio** and staff are not physicians or medical practitioners of any kind. With the above in mind, I hereby release the staff of **Center Stage Dance Studio** to render temporary first aid to my child or children in the event of any injury or illness, and if deemed necessary by the staff of **Center Stage Dance Studio**, to call a doctor and seek medical help, including transportation to any health care facility or hospital, or the calling of an ambulance for said child should the staff of **Center Stage Dance Studio** deem it necessary.

We, the staff of **Center Stage Dance Studio**, recognize our obligation to make our clients and their parents aware of the risks and hazards associated with the sport of dance. Competitors may suffer injuries, possibly minor or serious in nature.

The undersigned agree, **Center Stage Dance Studio**, and its staff members are not responsible for injuries sustained by any dancer during class, rehearsals, performances or competitions in which he/she may participate or while traveling to or from an event. With the above in mind and being fully aware of the risks and possibility of injury involved, I consent to have my child or children participate in the programs offered by **Center Stage Dance Studio**. I, my heirs, executors and other representatives, waive and release all rights and claims for damages that I or my child/children may have against **Center Stage Dance Studio** and/or its' representatives whether paid or volunteer. I also affirm that I now have and will continue to provide hospitalization, health and accident insurance coverage that I consider adequate for both my child's protection and my own protection.

Appearance Clause

Permission is granted to use my son/daughter's pictures, likeness or image in future advertisement and literature for **Center Stage Dance Studio** and events sponsored and conducted by them. I have read and agree to the above release and appearance clause.

PARENT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

Center Stage Dance Studio

Company Member Contract 2023-2024

This contract is entered into by and between _____ (parent's name) and Center Stage Dance Studio. The terms of this contract shall begin June 1st, 2023 and continue through August 1st, 2024. The specific terms of this contract are as follows:

1. If this commitment is broken for any other reason other than injury or illness, the student will not be allowed on the Dance Company the following year. You agree to be responsible for the following:
 - e) Any entry fees that are due.
 - f) Payment of ALL costume costs.
 - g) A re-blocking fee of \$100 per dance that must be re-blocked due to your withdrawal
 - h) A \$250 Withdrawal Penalty will be assessed to my account.
2. A competition team member is not allowed to take classes or participate in any events held by another dance studio.
3. The student is required to attend ALL competitions and take required convention classes. (Not all convention classes are required)
4. The student is required to take classes through the summer.
5. The student is required to attend ALL rehearsals. If for some reason they are unable to attend, they must provide a valid reason and either a) Schedule a private lesson with a teacher (\$25/30 min) to learn parts that were missed or b) schedule time with another team member to learn the parts. All parts **MUST** be learned prior to the next rehearsal!
6. The student is required to attend all their level classes every week. If a class is missed, they must make it up on another day.
7. A student that will be competing a solo will be required to audition their solo in January. If she/he is unable to perform at the level required for competition, they will not be allowed to compete the solo. They will still be able to perform the solo at our annual recital in May.
8. The student/ parent is expected to follow the competition expectations and behave accordingly and meet expectations set forth.

If any of the term above are broken, CSD reserves the right to dismiss the dancer from the dance company.

You, the parent or guardian, will still be responsible for the following:

1. Any entry fees that are due.
2. Payment of ALL costume costs
3. The re-blocking fee of \$100 per dance to correct choreography.
4. A \$250 withdrawal penalty

This document constitutes the agreement between the parties and shall be binding until automatic termination of the contract on August 1, 2024.

PARENT/GUARDIAN

DIRECTOR/OWNER, CSDS

DATE

Important Notes

If you have read and agree to comply with the information in the above packet, please sign and initial the information below.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE **ENTIRE CSD Stars Competition Team** PACKET. BY SIGNING BELOW I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I **UNDERSTAND AND AGREE WITH** THE TERMS AND REQUIREMENTS MENTIONED FOR MY SON/DAUGHTER TO PARTICIPATE ON THE CSD COMPETITION TEAM INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

Initial Below:

- All rehearsal dates and schedules _____
- All competition FEES due dates _____
- All COMPETITION dates _____
- All rules regarding the TEAM _____

I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT BY FORFEITING THIS CONTRACT, I WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE CSD STARS COMPETITION TEAM.

DANCER SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT SIGNATURE

DATE

Center Stage Dance

Solo, Duet, Trio Agreement

2023-2024

- Solo, Duet, Trio contracts must be turned in to the office no later than August 1st, 2023 to reserve your choreography.
- **FULL CHOREOGRAPHY FEE** must accompany contract and/or paid before 1st lesson. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**
- Any dancer with an outstanding balance will not be allowed to begin solo choreography until the balance is current. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- You must submit this form for our records. Failure to submit on time will result in no dance being choreographed.

Solo: \$325 – Choreography Fee, music editing, and lessons to teach and learn choreography.

Duo: \$175 per dancer- Choreography Fee, music editing, and lessons to teach and learn choreography.

Trio: \$175 per dancer - Choreography Fee, music editing, and lessons to teach and learn choreography.

- All aspects of private choreography (music, length, genre) must FIRST be approved by CSD Director/ Staff.
- If your solo is in the jazz, lyrical or contemporary genre you MUST be enrolled in 2 ballet classes per week.
- All soloists will compete at an appropriate level based upon competition experience and age.
- All private lessons need to be scheduled through CSD office or the instructor – no exceptions.
- Additional rehearsal/ cleaning sessions may be required and are charged at \$25 – 30 minutes or \$50 – hour and due at time of class.
- All choreography is owned by CSD and is subject to being re-worked, shortened/lengthened at the discretion of the Director/ Staff.
- No solo/duo/ trio may receive training and/or choreography cleaning from anyone outside CSD.
- Please note that not all solo/duo/trio requests may not be approved depending on ability, maturity, and confidence level.
- Excessive missed classes may result in your solo/duo/ trio being pulled from competition.
- ALL solo/duo/trio costumes MUST be approved by CSD Director or Staff before making final decisions.

*** I have read, understand, and fully agree to the above conditions** _____
Parent signature

Dancer Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1st Choreographer Choice: _____ **2nd Choice:** _____

1st Choice Song: _____ **2nd Choice:** _____

Dance Genre: _____ **Prop:** ___ Yes ___ No

Approved by: _____ **Date:** _____

COMPETITION EXPECTATIONS

1. Check-in times may be called differently for each competition and performance. Always check the times and **BE ON TIME!** You **MUST** always be at the competition venue at least 90 minutes before your scheduled performance time, ready to perform. If you are dressing at the venue, you must arrive even earlier to allow time to prepare. Tardiness is unacceptable. If you are unsure of where the venue is, you will need to allow time for this as well. Groups will not be held to wait for a late arriver. If you are late, you **will not** perform. Competitions generally count off when a group does not perform in the correct slot. Schedules are usually not released until 7 to 10 days before the competition.
2. Costumes are not to be worn outside competition areas without cover-ups. Costumes generally cannot be ironed or washed so they must be protected.
3. Make sure that you have all your costume pieces, accessories, shoes, tight, etc. before you arrive. Make a packing list and check it when packing.
4. Make sure to label all costumes and shoes with your name.
5. No nail polish or other jewelry other than the accessories that go with your costume. **NO GUM OR CANDY** when getting ready to perform.
6. Please leave all valuables at home or keep with you, do not leave in dressing rooms at competitions.
7. Always remain seated in designated areas during anyone's performance. Give them your attention, respect, and courtesy.
8. **All** group members should make every reasonable effort to be present and support each other and all groups and not just arrive for your group. All our dancers deserve our respect and support. We are **ONE** dance studio. **NO DRAMA ALLOWED!! WORK IT OUT AND BE NICE TO EVERYONE!!**
9. All participants **MUST** attend their Awards presentations. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!** Also, dancers need to wear Center Stage logo apparel at the Awards. People need to know which studio you are with!!
10. Your courtesy and smile to all competitors is expected. Congratulate other groups/dancers for a job well done and offer encouragement. (Good Luck, Good Job – go along way!)
11. For those members that are new to the competition experience or new to Center Stage, don't be afraid to ask questions to your teachers, Center Stage staff, and returning dancers and parents. Some "tricks" of competing are learned.
12. CAUTION: Comments you make about other competitors at a competition could be heard by other performers or their families and could be hurtful. (The Golden Rule applies)
13. Negativity is not an option. Always keep a positive attitude. Parents remember that you set the tone for your child. Your attitude is generally reflected through your child. Remember that first and foremost competition is about learning and supposed to be FUN! Dancers learn valuable life lessons at competitions, so make the experience a positive one!!
14. YOU (Dancer)!! Set your goals and your personal best. Trophies do not make the dancer! "Different judges, different winner. As contestants, we can only control the elements of our performance: the rest, we can't. That's where peace and humility come in. The outcome is outside of our control. We are in charge of two things only: 1) doing the very best we can and 2) our attitude. The rest, we leave alone. Our journey is our journey. We rejoice with others in their rejoicing, for their journey is exciting. We cry with others in their suffering, for their journey is difficult. Yet we cannot make comparisons, cannot feel discouraged, cannot try to tear others down simply because their journey is different than our own. Don't ever let the evil poison of jealousy, resentment, or bitterness dwell in your heart. The journey of another person should never make you give up on yours. "Failures" are the stuff life is made of. Just as we should not boast in our successes or become prideful, so we should not be discouraged by failures and give up, for that is also pride."

15. **You must be in class!** Dancers cannot learn and perfect technique, choreography, and placement without being at rehearsal. Make every effort to attend practices. Ballet and all classes related to your discipline that you are competing in are REQUIRED!! Dancers are made great in CLASS!!
16. All Center Stage logo materials will be purchased through the studio. The Center Stage dance logo is owned by the company and cannot be used without the express consent of Mrs. Crystal. All t-shirts and merchandise need to be purchased through the studio and approved by Mrs. Crystal.
17. A lot of time and effort is given by the staff of Center Stage to help your child succeed. Show respect and support for the staff and owner. Talking derogatory about a teacher undermines that teacher's authority. All our staff members have many years of dance experience, TRUST them! Let our staff do their jobs! Also, solos that are competed under the Center Stage Dance name are held to a high standard. Do **NOT** change choreography, costumes, or have choreography done outside of the studio without approval. Doing any of these things will result in automatic dismissal from dance company and from Center Stage Dance.
18. All social media posts made by parents and/or students need to always reflect themselves and the studio in a positive manner. As a member of CSD Stars, your behavior reflects upon our studio and company. Unflattering posts are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the company/parent that is found to violate this rule will be subject to immediate dismissal.
19. Even if dismissed for behavior, attendance, etc. parents are still responsible for all fees that are due; including but not limited to the \$100 per dance re-blocking fee.