

2017

DANCE CAROUSEL
ENSEMBLE
DANCE TEAM

FOR
HARD-WORKING, HIGHLY-MOTIVATED
POSITIVE-MINDED, PLEASANT-MANNERED
KIND-HEARTED, FUN-SPIRITED
DANCERS WHO MUST WANT TO IMPROVE!!!

CLASSROOM AUDITION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
12:30-4:30PM

THERE IS NO AUDITION FEE THIS YEAR.

However, there is a
\$25 per dancer COMPETITION RESERVATION DEPOSIT
to be applied directly for RESERVING SLOTS in spring competitions
DUE AT AUDITION.

This \$25 "reservation deposit" will appear as a credit on Competition Balance Statements in the spring, for dancers making the Team; will be applied to November tuition for dancers who do not.

Eligibility Requirements

- dancer must be in Grades 5-12
- dancer must be attending Team Level classes at Dance Carousel this Fall
 - dancer must be able, willing and EAGER to make the necessary time commitment
- dancer must be mature enough to receive constructive evaluation of strengths & weaknesses, as well as suggestions for improvement

IMPORTANT CLASS LEVEL NOTE:

Candidates who do NOT make the Ensemble Team, or who choose to NOT audition, must transfer from Team classes into Exploration Level classes, effective October 24.



What We Need to See In Audition

We need to see **POSITIVE ENERGY, LOVE FOR WHAT YOU'RE DOING** and a **DESIRE TO IMPROVE. EXPRESS YOURSELF:** you must be able to COMMUNICATE – through EXPRESSIVE DANCING -- and **also VERBALLY & SOCIALLY**, with your instructors and with your fellow dancers. Other essentials: a **RELENTLESS SMILE; ENDLESS ENERGY/STAMINA; an APPRECIATION FOR TEAM CONCEPT (enthusiasm, kindness, and support for ALL other dancers);** the courage to **REALLY TRY YOUR HARDEST and KEEP YOUR CHIN UP, EVEN WHEN STRUGGLING;** plus **TECHNICAL ABILITY;** the ability to **COUNT** and to **FEEL** music; **PRECISION/ATTENTION TO DETAIL;** and (*huge!*) the ability to **CONCENTRATE.**

Classroom Audition

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

12:30-4:30PM

Team Classes Continue on Fall Schedule

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17 and TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

These classes are a significant extension of the audition process – we will continue to evaluate all candidates and consult with all Team teachers and choreographers before making our final decisions.

Audition Decisions

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Team Decisions will be issued to all candidates at the start of regularly-scheduled Team Contemporary Classes on Friday. **OUR TEAM DECISIONS ARE WHAT WE BELIEVE BEST FOR THE TEAM and ARE NOT SUBJECT TO DEBATE.** Ensemble Dance Team is first and foremost about **THE TEAM CONCEPT: all dancers must be able to work/fit within the groups/dances that we hope to create for THIS season!**

First Team Rehearsal

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

12:30-5:00PM

Every dancer who successfully auditions for the Ensemble Dance Team must then be prepared to **FURTHER AUDITION FOR SPECIFIC GROUP PLACEMENTS** beginning at this first Team Rehearsal of the new season.

Team Classes, Choreography, Rehearsals

DETAILED CLASS/REHEARSAL CALENDARS are planned and distributed generally in **TWO-MONTH DURATIONS.** Below is an outline of class & choreography/rehearsal **DAYS, NOVEMBER THRU MID-APRIL. TIMES WILL VARY,** depending on each dancer's group placements.

<u>MONDAYS:</u>	Team Tap & Jazz CLASSES Choreography/Rehearsals for some group(s)
<u>TUESDAYS:</u>	Team Lyrical CLASSES/CHOREO/REHEARSALS Team Ballet CLASSES Optional Pre-Pointe CLASSES
<u>WEDNESDAYS:</u>	Choreography/Rehearsals for some group(s)
<u>THURSDAYS:</u>	Choreography/Rehearsals for some group(s)
<u>FRIDAYS:</u>	Team Contemporary CLASSES/CHOREO/REHEARSALS
<u>SATURDAYS:</u>	Team Production CHOREO/REHEARSALS Choreography/Rehearsals for some group(s)
* <u>SUNDAYS:</u>	No classes/rehearsals (Sunday Events noted on Event schedule.)

Five Competition Dances Included for All

All November-March choreography from TEAM CLASSES & REHEARSALS will be entered into competition in SPRING 2016. Each Team Dancers' monthly tuition installments include Choreography & Rehearsal for **FIVE** Team Dances: 1) group **JAZZ**; 2) group **TAP**; 3) group **LYRICAL**; 4) group **CONTEMPORARY**; 5) full-team long-form **PRODUCTION**.

Additional Dances (Optional and/or Selective)

Additional dances may include **DUO/TRIOS** (one or two) and "selective-by-audition" pieces with **guest choreographers** in **FUSION**, **MODERN** and **HIP-HOP**. The possible addition of optional **SOLOS** will be discussed at the Team Parent Meeting on October 11.

Team Events, Workshops, Competitions

Team dancers will participate in **one CELTICS PRE-GAME PERFORMANCE**, **one mandatory WINTER TRAVEL WORKSHOP**; **five SPRING REGIONAL COMPETITIONS**; **one SPRING DANCE CONCERT in MAY**; and **all DANCE CAROUSEL BIG SHOWS in JUNE**. **OPTIONAL FALL TRAVEL WORKSHOPS** are offered (as well as one in **APRIL**). Several **SOCIAL TEAM EVENTS** are also planned. See "TEAM EVENTS SCHEDULE" PAGE for details. **All Team Events are strictly mandatory (unless otherwise specifically indicated)**. ANY DANCER UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY MANDATORY TEAM EVENT MUST NOT AUDITION FOR ENSEMBLE.

Attendance

The working rule is **ZERO ABSENCES**. In case of schedule conflicts, we often expect the dancers to sacrifice for Ensemble: **that is part of the COMMITMENT TO THE TEAM**. Any member with multiple absences – or ONE mandatory Team Event absence – may be asked to withdraw, without refund. CLEAR COMMUNICAITON OF CONFLICTS OR ILLNESS IS ESSENTIAL AND WILL BE STRESSED TO ALL DANCERS.

Public School Vacations

Important rehearsals will be scheduled over **DECEMBER** and **FEBRUARY VACATIONS**, after reviewing all submitted family vacation plans; but there are **NO REHEARSALS** over **APRIL VACATION**. Very Important: at the end February Vacation Week, all dancers must be back by **FOR DRESS REHEARSALS ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25/26.**

Behavior

ENSEMBLE represents the pinnacle of Dance Carousel to this and other communities. WE EXPECT EXCELLENT BEHAVIOR AT ALL TIMES, in and out of the studio. Team dancers must be able to handle themselves maturely in traveling situations. Team dancers must be strongly supportive and **AMICABLE TOWARDS ALL PEERS**; **disparaging attitude or behavior towards any fellow dancer or faculty member is grounds for immediate dismissal**. We expect Team dancers to behave respectfully towards their parents as well - in the studio, on the road, and at home. **AND, CRITICALLY: TEAM DANCERS MUST WORK HARD TO KEEP UP SCHOOL GRADES AT ALL TIMES.**



Parental Involvement

Every Regional trip requires PARENT DRIVERS (student-dancers driving to competitions is NOT allowed). Team Parents support each other in other ways as well, including carpooling to rehearsals, hair-styling, makeup, and backstage costume preparation. We are, first and foremost, a **TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More. Corny, but true.**

Parental Support

ENSEMBLE DANCERS WILL WORK VERY HARD, ENSEMBLE DANCERS WILL IMPROVE, ENSEMBLE DANCERS WILL HAVE TONS OF FUN & WE EXPECT LASTINGLY GREAT THINGS TO HAPPEN. *To make all of this so...* Parents MUST BE ON BOARD, POSITIVELY supporting their children's passion and our work with them. We run this program to try to provide these children a team experience that RESONATES with them long into adulthood: a unique experience of intensity, and sincerity, and whole-hearted effort – of really *DARING TO CARE* about something, to *LOVE WHAT YOU DO* – all the exertion, the risk, and the thrill of emotional investment -- **wrapped up in all of the hassles and the benefits of unselfish group cooperation. Ensemble is a Team.** It is not always easy – for dancers, for parents, for team leaders – but we strive to make it worth it for all as consistently as we can. WE NEED POSITIVE, ENTHUSIASTIC PARENTAL SUPPORT IN ORDER TO SUCCEED, **SPECTACULARLY we hope, AS A TEAM.** Thank you, truly!!!

Team Parent Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 7:30PM

This will be an Open discussion for PARENTS OF LAST YEAR'S TEAM DANCERS — a forum for the season ahead, open to your thoughts, questions and ideas. Topics will include this season's change in Nationals policy as well as the possibility of introducing Solos as an option for dancers,

Parents of New Audition Candidates

Please ask questions if there is anything you do not understand! We are always happy to clarify as best we can. We are happy to meet face-to-face in the week ahead to discuss all questions and concerns.

Team Fundraising

The ENSEMBLE PARENT COMMITTEE exists, in part, to develop and to operate fundraising activities, in order to help defray Ensemble COSTUME and COMPETITION costs. All families of Ensemble dancers are strongly encouraged to avail themselves of the fundraising opportunities provided by the Parent Committee; however, all families do have the option to exclude themselves from both the benefits and the burdens of fundraising – no fundraising activity is mandatory.

First Parent Fundraising Meeting for New 2016-17 Season

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25 @ 7:00PM

A friendly gathering for a shared mission to BOOST RETURNS! Meet new faces, discuss new ideas, and organize for The Old Reliable activities.

Team Breakfasts/Dinners

Once the rehearsal calendar becomes clear, let's try to put together a schedule of **SATURDAY TEAM BREAKFASTS** and/or **FRIDAY TEAM DINNERS.** FUN, UNIFYING, and DELICIOUS!

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2016-17 ENSEMBLE TEAM EVENTS SCHEDULE

All Events Mandatory unless otherwise indicated

- * SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 (OPTIONAL)
REBEL DANCE ALLIANCE, Westford, MA
- * SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20 (OPTIONAL)
DANCE TEACHER'S CLUB OF BOSTON WORKSHOP, Randolph, MA
- * SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 (OPTIONAL... but strongly recommended!)
ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY DECORATING PARTY
- * SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 (OPTIONAL)
TURN IT UP DANCE CONVENTION, Nashua, NH
- * FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16
CELTICS PRE-GAME PERFORMANCE, Boston, MA
- * DECEMBER 18-22 (SPECIFIC DATE TBA)
ONE NIGHT OF ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY CAROLING
- * SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
GBDTA WORKSHOP, Randolph, MA
- * SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 (OPTIONAL... but strongly recommended!)
15th ANNUAL ENSEMBLE SCAVENGER HUNT
- * SATURDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25-26 (END OF FEB VACA!)
ENSEMBLE DRESS REHEARSALS, In Studio
- * SATURDAY-SUNDAY, MARCH 4-5
AMERICAN DANCE AWARDS, Worcester, MA
- * SATURDAY-SUNDAY, MARCH 11-12
DANCERS INC. COMPETITION, Portland, ME
- * SATURDAY-SUNDAY, MARCH 25-26
STARQUEST PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION, Concord, NH
- * SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 1-2
STARQUEST PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION, Providence, MA
- * SUNDAY, APRIL 8-9 (OPTIONAL)
THE PULSE ON TOUR CONVENTION, Boston, MA
- * MONDAY, APRIL 10
ENSEMBLE TEAM PICTURE DAY
- * SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 29-30
DANCE OVATIONS PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION, Hingham, MA
- * SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 20
DC DANCE PERFORMANCE CONCERT, location TBA
- * JUNE 2017
DANCE CAROUSEL BIG SHOW WEEK, location TBA
- * MONDAY-FRIDAY JULY 24-28 / AUGUST 14-18
"SUMMER SIZZLE" INTENSIVE CAMPWEEKS @ DC
NEXT season's Team candidates must attend at least ONE Campweek.



Too perfect to pass up!
5TH REGIONAL ADDED!

**2016-17
OPTIONAL CONVENTIONS**

To register for optional conventions, **VISIT OUR WEBSITE** (to sign up and make payment) at: www.dancecarousel.net/conventions

- ◆ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16TH
REBEL DANCE ALLIANCE, Westford, MA
Visit www.rebeldancealliance.com for event details
\$140 (minus any scholarships earned last season)
REGISTER (ON DC WEBSITE!) BY: OCTOBER 11TH

- ◆ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH
DANCE TEACHERS' CLUB OF BOSTON WORKSHOP, Randolph MA
Visit www.danceteachersclubofboston.com for event details
\$100
REGISTER (ON DC WEBSITE!) BY: NOVEMBER 8TH

- ◆ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
TURN IT UP DANCE CONVENTION, Nashua, NH
Visit www.turnitupdance.com for event details
\$120
REGISTER (ON DC WEBSITE!) BY: NOVEMBER 8TH

- ◆ SATURDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH-9TH
THE PULSE ON TOUR, BOSTON MA
Visit www.main.thepulseontour.com for event details
\$245
REGISTER (ON DC WEBSITE!) BY: MARCH 1ST

All required Convention Permission Slips for above will be posted on the Ensemble Team page (as each deadline gets closer).

These classes are an absolutely **WONDERFUL** learning experience and your chance to dance with some of the best students and teachers in the industry. **Challenge yourself to grow as a dancer!**

2017

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AUDITION SLIP

All dancers who wish to audition must:

- 1) read **ALL** pages in this audition packet
- 2) sign below
- 3) obtain parent's signature of support

Return completed slip below **NO LATER THAN**
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2016

along with the

COMPETITION RESERVATION DEPOSIT of
\$25 per dancer

Improve. Inside & Out.

"I have **READ ALL** of the 2017 Ensemble Audition Information.
I understand the commitment. I am enthusiastic about going forward."

Dancer's Signature & Date

"I have read all of the 2017 Ensemble Audition Information. My child
and I both understand the commitment and I support my child's
decision to go forward."

Parent's Signature & Date