

# FUSION DANCE COMPANY COMPETITION TEAMS INFORMATION PACKET 2024 - 2025

The purpose of this packet is to provide the information you and your dancer will need when considering auditioning for and dancing with Franchise, Ensemble, and Crew competition teams.

It is important that you understand the time and financial commitment involved. Being a competition team dancer is both a **TIME** and **MONETARY** commitment. Tuition, costume, competition, and convention fees really add up so please review them and make a realistic decision for your family. A cost breakdown is included in this packet. Fundraising opportunities may be arranged by a group of parents and are open to everyone.

## What's New?

- It's a Nationals Year! We will be attending REVOLUTION TALENT in Pensacola, FL. June 28th-July 3rd.
- We want to thank Ms. Sarah for building a successful Acro Program at Fusion. She will not be teaching full-time for the 2024-2025 season. However, you will be seeing her smiling face for our Summer Programs and she will be available for private lessons in the Fall.
- Weekly Acro/Yoga classes for all Franchise Teams that are a part of their weekly schedule. We are happy to announce our NEW Acro & Yoga specialist, Mr. Jesse Organ. We are excited for his expertise!
- Ensemble Teams can register for OPTIONAL Monday Acro classes. Acro is NOT mandatory for Ensemble dancers. We have a NEW Monday Acro Teacher. We are welcoming Mr. Ted Laney to our staff this season. He is a Acro & Tumble Specialist. He is energetic and fantastic!
- \$80 choreography fee per dance/dancer for jazz & crew production + all jazz & contemporary lines.
- Informative Parent Meeting: Sunday June 21st 3:00pm-4:00pm.
- SOLOS, DUET, TRIOS & SMALL GROUPS will be announced by June 7th.

## Let's Do It Again!

- Jazz & Contemporary Line for Diamonds and Amethysts.
- Jazz Line for Emeralds and Sapphires.
- Jazz Line for Ensemble Teams. This is a collective routine for Premier, Starlet & Celebrity.
- Ballet Nights will be scheduled on specific Thursdays. Ballet Nights are MANDATORY for Franchise & OPTIONAL for Ensemble. The schedule will be posted at the end of July.

## ADMISSION

Auditions for current members and new students are held in May. The Director of Fusion Dance Company makes selections after careful consideration and collaboration with instructors.

Students enrolling after the dance year has begun may audition privately for the Director. Dancers will only be admitted to the company if there will be no hindrance to dances, choreography, and costumes as determined by the Director.

## PLACEMENT

The Director will place the students in the appropriate group according to a number of factors including age and ability. We have a "no correspondence" rule regarding artistic decisions and placement. The director and choreographers have a vision of what they want for each group and ask that you respect it. We care about each student and want to give them the best opportunity for success. Our teams are not like school classes where you move "up" each season. It's more **about the dancers' skills, style and how they fit together.**

## REQUIREMENTS

- To be enrolled in all company classes during the dance year.
- To participate in all scheduled events and attend all extra rehearsals; failure to do so may result in dismissal from company.
- Attend the summer intensive.
- Have all required shoes, tights, leotards, and attire for each class prior to the first class in August.
- Students are expected to wear the required attire to each class. Hair must be worn in a bun for Ballet and Pointe classes. Hair must be pulled back and out of face for all other classes.
- Company members must attend all competitions, conventions, recital, and performances in which Fusion Dance Company participates. Competitions are scheduled February – May. Regional competitions take place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday so students must be available all three days. If it's a nationals year, students are required to attend nationals. Withdrawing prior to nationals will result in a breach of contract fine as outlined in the contract.
- Company jackets and bags are required and may be purchased online. The link to purchase these items is included in this packet. If you are a returning dancer, you will already have these items. Dancers must wear their jackets at competitions, particularly on stage for awards, and to other performances or community events.

## COMMUNICATION

FDC communicates most often through email and/or your team mom. It is the responsibility of the parents to keep your email address current in the parent portal. Emails sent via our software program are saved in the portal for 180 days. Be aware that some messages may end up in your junk or spam folder so remember to check those folders too. A personal email address is preferable to a work address as work email addresses often have stringent restrictions.

Information that concerns the entire studio is posted on our website, [thefusiondancer.com](http://thefusiondancer.com). We encourage you to like our Facebook page and to follow us on Instagram as we post on those sights frequently. We have a YouTube channel as well. Look for the icons on the top right corner of the homepage on our website to join.

Our yearly calendar can be found on our website, [thefusiondancer.com/calender](http://thefusiondancer.com/calender). We post everything on it. But remember, things may change so check with your team mom if you have questions.

Each company has a volunteer Team Mom. Their responsibility is to receive information from FDC and relay it to her team. They also fields questions and provides answers as needed. The Company Mom is the contact person at competitions, conventions, and performances as the Director and instructors are working with the dancers and coordinators during this time.

We will be unable to answer questions via social media. Email questions to team moms first and then to staff. We appreciate your cooperation. Teachers WILL NOT respond to messages sent via social media. Please DO NOT message them via their personal accounts.

### **EXPLANATION OF COMPETITION TEAMS**

**Franchise:** These groups of dancers represent Fusion Dance Company's most advanced level competition groups. They train 5-9 hours per week in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, and contemporary. They attend 4 regional competitions, 1 national competition and and 1 convention a year. To be in this group, members must put dance over other extra curricular activities. The groups are Rubies, Sapphires, Emeralds, Amethysts, and Diamonds.

**Ensemble:** These dancers train 2-5 hours a week in ballet, tap, and jazz, lyrical (Premier, Starlet, Debut), contemporary (Debut). These groups attend 2 regional competitions and 1 national competition. Nationals is OPTIONAL for Firecrackers. Attending convention is optional. The financial and time commitment is less than the Franchise Dance Company. These groups are Firecrackers, Premier, Starlet and Celebrity.

**Crew:** Crew dancers are the most elite Hip Hop dancers. They attend 4 regional competitions and 1 nationals. Mini Crew attends 2 competitions. Conventions are optional. These groups are Elite, Classic, Sqwad, Vibe, and Mini Crew.

### **FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS AND PAYMENT POLICIES**

All payments will be auto-drafted from the card on file. If a card is declined and payment is not received within 5 days, a late fee of \$15.00 will be posted to the account. If you fail to maintain a valid card on file, there will be a \$25 fee posted to your account for each month that a valid card is missing. If the credit card on files is declined more than once, a \$15 credit card processing fee will be posted to your account. Failure to keep account current will result in your student being denied entrance to class. We reserve the right to pass on any price increases we receive and will always give you notice of any increase as well as an explanation. Parents and students may organize and conduct fundraisers upon FDC approval. Sponsorships are allowed as well. All funds raised may be applied to costume, competition, and convention fees only – not tuition. All fundraising is voluntary

2024 -2025 Financial Commitment

**FRANCHISE:**

**Diamonds & Amethysts**

Will compete with 7 dances in 4 regional competitions and 1 national competition, this includes production, jazz line and contemporary line.

<b>EXPLANATION OF FEE</b>	<b>MONTHLY PAYMENT</b>
Tuition - 8/9 required classes Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$395
Required Company costs: competition entry & media fees, convention, costumes, production rehearsals, extra ballet classes, jazz line and contemporary lines rehearsal, recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$490  <a href="#">Nationals rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June.</a>
If adding Crew, this amount collected on the 15th - competition entry fees and costume/shoes	\$114

**Emeralds & Sapphires**

Will compete with 6 dances in 4 regional competitions and 1 national competition, this includes production and jazz line.

<b>EXPLANATION OF FEE</b>	<b>MONTHLY PAYMENT</b>
Tuition - 8 required classes Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$395
Required Company costs: competition entry & media fees, convention, costumes, production rehearsals, extra ballet classes, jazz line rehearsals, recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$417  <a href="#">Nationals rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June.</a>
If adding Crew, this amount collected on the 15th - competition entry fees and costume/shoes	\$114

## Rubies

Will compete with 4 dances in 4 regional competitions and 1 national competition, this includes production.

<b>EXPLANATION OF FEE</b>	<b>MONTHLY PAYMENT</b>
Tuition - 7 required classes Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug 2024 - May 2025	\$395
Required Company costs: competition entry & media fees, convention, costumes, production rehearsals, extra ballet classes, and recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$300  <a href="#">Nationals rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June.</a>
If adding Crew, this amount collected on the 15th - competition entry fees and costume/shoes	\$114

## **ENSEMBLE:**

### Celebrity

Will compete with 5 dances in 2 regional competitions and 1 national competition, this includes Jazz Line.

<b>EXPLANATION OF FEE</b>	<b>MONTHLY PAYMENT</b>
Tuition - 5 required classes Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug 2024 - May 2025	\$305
Required company costs: competition entry & media fees, costumes, jazz line rehearsals, and recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$213  <a href="#">Nationals rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June.</a>
If adding Crew, this amount collected on the 15th - competition entry fees and costume/shoes	\$114

**Premier & Starlet**

Will compete with 4 dances in 2 regional competitions and 1 national competition, this includes a Jazz Line.

<b>EXPLANATION OF FEE</b>	<b>MONTHLY PAYMENT</b>
Tuition - 4 required classes Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$260
Required company costs: competition entry & media fees, costumes, jazz line rehearsals, and recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$182  <i>Nationals rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June.</i>
If adding Crew, this amount collected on the 15th - competition entry fees and costume/shoes	\$114

**Firecrackers**

Will compete with 2 dances in 2 regional competitions. Nationals is optional.

<b>EXPLANATION OF FEE</b>	<b>MONTHLY PAYMENT</b>
Tuition - 2 required classes Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$145
Required company costs: competition entry & media fees, costumes, and recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$151  <i>National rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June.</i>
If adding Crew, this amount collected on the 15th. Competition entry fees + costume & shoes	\$42

## CREW:

### Mini Crew

Will compete in 2 regional competitions and 1 national competition.

EXPLANATION OF FEE	MONTHLY PAYMENT
Tuition Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug 2024 - May 2025	\$75
Required competition entry/media fees, costume and recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$52  National rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June

### Vibe, Sqwad, Classic, & Elite Crews

Will compete in 4 regional competitions and 1 national competition.

This includes their team dance, plus crew production

EXPLANATION OF FEE	MONTHLY PAYMENT
Monthly Tuition Drafted on the 1st of ea. mo. Aug 2024 - May 2025	\$75
Required competition entry/media fees, costumes, production rehearsals and recital fee.  Paid in 10 monthly deposits on the 15th of the month Aug. 2024 - May 2025	\$132  National rehearsal fees and entry fees will be due in June

Note: competition entry fees are number of dances x number of competitions. For example, Rubies compete with 4 dances in each competition.  $4 \times \$68$  (estimate) = \$272 per competition.  $\$272 \times 4$  regional competitions = \$1088 total entry fees.

~ Franchise & Ensemble tuition covers unlimited classes. If students take recreation classes, the recital costume fee is the only additional cost and will be drafted when the recreation costumes are drafted in November.

~ Company members who do not attend Nationals, when this competition is mandatory, will be charged the breach of contract penalty which is \$300. Additionally all costumes become the property of Fusion Dance Company. The fine covers the cost of extra rehearsals and choreography changes. The costumes will be needed for replacement dancers. Please do not do this to your teammates as everyone works very hard to take the best dances to Nationals.

### ADDITIONAL REQUIRED ITEMS:

- Competition Team Jacket & Bag:
  - [TEAM STORE](#)
- Members must purchase all shoes, tights, and required attire for each class. Required Attire will be given before Summer Intensive in July.
- FRANCHISE DANCERS: Technique equipment will be finalized soon and links will be sent to purchase. This will include items such as- Stretch bands, yoga block, sliding disc, etc.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **Franchise & Ensemble Summer Intensive: July 22 - 26, 2024.**
  - During the summer intensive, dancers will train in technique and work with our instructors as well as guest artists. Attendance is MANDATORY as is payment. Payment will be drafted the week before the intensive.
  - Schedule: TBA
- **Crew Weekend Intensive: August 24th & 25th**
  - Attendance is MANDATORY as is payment. Payment will be drafted the week before the intensive.
- Regional Competitions TBA
- **If your child does not attend the summer intensive, payment in full is still required.**
- **Students will NOT be permitted to attend camp if there is an outstanding balance on the family account.**



## EXTRA DANCES

Some members may be selected to do small groups, trios, duets or solos that require additional costume, choreography, and rehearsal fees. **If you accept this invitation, rehearsal fees due upon acceptance and will be drafted from the card on file. The costume fee will be drafted once the costume is selected. The choreography fee is due to the instructor the first day of rehearsal.** Competition entry fees for these dances will be drafted prior to attending each competition.

### SOLO:

Choreography Fee: \$425 per dancer

Costume Fee: **TBD** per dancer

Rehearsal Fee: \$325 per dancer

### DUET/TRIO:

Choreography Fee: \$250 per dancer

Costume Fee: \$150 per dancer

Rehearsal Fee: \$275 per dancer

### SMALL GROUP

Choreography Fee: \$150 per dancer

Costume Fee: \$150 per dancer

Rehearsal Fee: \$275 per dancer