

RELEVE' PERFORMING ARTS

All dancers: Dance is your commitment so please make it a priority. We do understand and would like for our dancers to become involved in school activities but keep in mind rehearsals and technique times are a must!!!

PARENT/STUDENT SIGNATURE

Student: _____

Parent: _____



Releve' Performing Arts
Encore Dancers INC
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ENCORE DANCERS INC.

RELEVE PERFORMING ARTS
COMPETITION TEAM 2011

Information

&

Guidelines

CONGRATULATIONS!

Your child has been selected to be a part of an elite group of dances to represent our dance studio! Your child will greatly improve her/his technique, become part of a group/family and enrich their love for dance.

This booklet will describe our competition team. Please keep in mind that there will be small changes from year to year, but the basic information and requirements are outlined.

We offer many levels of competition. Requirements for each level differ. Each level has an Encore name as:

Encore 1– Beginner competitors, ages 8 & under

Encore 2– Intermediate competitors, ages 8-10

Encore 3– Intermediate/Advanced, ages 10– 13

Encore 4– Advanced, ages 13-19

Please feel free to ask questions at any time.

We are here to assist you in any way!

Thank You,

Ms. Rachel & Mrs. Shandi

120 E. AA Hwy

Grain Valley, MO 64029

816-847-8777

Www.RELEVEPA.COM

RACHDANCN@AOL.COM

SHANDO_DANCE@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Parent Meetings

Each dancer should have a parent in attendance to the Encore meetings when scheduled. There will be a newsletter that will be attached to studio website www.RELEVEPA.com monthly and a copy will be emailed to you after each meeting.

Releve warm-ups

All dancers must purchase Releve' warm-up jacket. This will be required for all dancers who are in Encore, no exceptions. These are to be worn at all competitions for cover-ups and awards.

Payments

The studio accepts check, cash, and money orders. Please be sure to check your calendar for payment due dates. All payments made for tuition, recital, costumes, competitions, etc. are non-refundable. There will be a late fee of \$20.00. Do not ask to hold your check till after a certain date or the \$20.00 will be included to your payment at that time.

Picture Day

A professional photographer takes all group photos and individuals if desired traditionally in June. All group photos are compiled into a composite that will be on display in the studio. All dancers are required to attend picture week. Our photographer and staff take a lot of time and money to make these moments memorable for keepsake in the studio. Our studio gets a huge price cut from the photographer's company so please be kind and notify staff if you do not wish to have individuals taken. This will be the only photo option for the year at Releve'.

Big and Little Buddies

Dancers of different ages and groups will be paired with a big and little buddy. Buddies leave small gifts, candy or cards of encouragement for each other throughout the year. If you choose for your child to not participate in this activity please let Ms. Rachel know. We don't want any children with a buddy that isn't participating. It breaks their hearts....

Demerit System

All Encore dancers will be expected to follow rules of the studio. They will be given 4 demerits August to December and 4 demerits January to June. They will have to sign the log sheet if they are not abiding by expectations of Releve' staff and given a demerit. If all demerits are taken they are no long an Encore member. Here are listed expectations:

- Attire. All dancers will wear to class a leotard and tights and hair must be pulled up. Dress in bathroom not lobby.
- Attendance. We don't want to hear that you were outside skipping class and rehearsal to play in the pool.
- Attitude. No backtalk, ordering fellow dancers, eye rolling, whispering about others, inappropriate talk (if you wouldn't say it in church don't say it at dance).
- No food or drink in the dance room. No cell phones in the dance room.
- Tardiness. Unless we know you are coming from a school event or call ahead of time. It's a distraction to the class when you walk in 10 minutes late every week.

Costumes

We order costumes the month of December. Costumes average \$50-\$80. To help with the grand total cost hitting at Christmas we are having each Encore member make payments of \$50.00 to their Encore account starting August 15th and the 15th of each month till December to pay for a part of their costume fees (Encore 1 only 2 months = \$100.00). If there is money left over it can be used for competition fees, dancewear, etc. If you would like you can put one check into your account instead of monthly installments.

Evaluations

Twice a year your child will be mailed an evaluation grade card based on technique. This is a way the instructors can tell you what your child needs to work on and has improved or accomplished. This will help give you as a parent a better idea of what they may need help with such as more flexibility.

ALL RELEVE' ENCORE DANCERS AND PARENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BEHAVE IN A POSITIVE PROFESSIONAL MANNER. WE ARE A TEAM. ANY NEGATIVE, RUDE OR HURTFUL COMMENTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! CHILDREN HEAR AND REPEAT EVERYTHING AND IT IS DIFFICULT FOR RELEVE' STAFF TO INSTILL TEAMWORK IN OUR DANCERS WHEN THEY HEAR IT IN THE LOBBY. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS IN DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE.

Audition Preparation Classes

Releve' hosts a week long intensive at the studio from 9:45am-5:15pm. This is an intensive week and the dancers benefit greatly from this experience. We also bring in guest teachers so our dancers can learn new styles of teaching/technique. We encourage/require dancers to attend to prepare for auditions. This will be a required attendance for all Encore 2-4 dancers to begin the new season in August., usually held mid July.

Auditions

Placement auditions will be held Intensive week. Dancers will audition in Jazz and Tap ages: 8-12; Jazz, Tap, Lyrical & Modern ages:13 & up. Results will be mailed to each dancers address and routines placed for the new season. Students will be placed by their instructors.

Groups & Productions (also called lines)

Groups & Productions are usually all Encore dancers performing a routine at competition. This helps our dance studio bond and work as a team for all ages. Most rehearsals for Encore 3 & 4 take place on Saturday, plus scheduled choreography blocks in the schedule. There will be a \$5.00 rehearsal charge for every Saturday your child is scheduled to attend. This is to help pay staffing and building usage.

Solos, Duets & Trios

Solos, duets and trios are completely optional. Students must be in 2 group routines and attend weekly technique classes to be considered for solo, duet & trio. *If your child is not attending classes due to illnesses, exhaustion or school functions their solo may be permanently cancelled due to lack of technique and commitment to group work.* Groups have priority over all solos, duets and trios as we are establishing our studio and group choreography work is priority to its instructors. These are extra bonuses to your dancer's training. If your child is unable to attend there will be a 24 hour notice requirement to avoid charge in absence.

Weekly Technique Classes

All competition dancers are required to take weekly technique classes that are separate from competition rehearsals. Dancers need to give a calendar of any extra activities in advance. Any dancers with poor attendance will have one warning then action will be taken to eliminate solos, duets or trios then possibly removal from Encore program due to lack of commitment. Remember you are a team and are expected to attend all technique classes and give 100%.

Weekly Rehearsal Classes

Encore 1 & 2 will have rehearsal through the week during scheduled classes. Encore 3 & 4 will have scheduled week choreography times and Saturday rehearsals. Encore 2, 3 & 4 will rehearse Production on Saturday. Rehearsals will be mandatory and during the week of competition. There will be no excused absences for rehearsal the week of competition unless special arrangements have been made with Ms. Rachel & Mrs. Shandi. Even if your child is not feeling well or injured they are required to attend if competing for the weekend. If your child is not in attendance for rehearsal your child will be pulled from the routine for that competition with no refund of competition fees. This is competition not recreational dance and we want all of our dancers to succeed to the best of their ability. Attendance at all rehearsals are crucial!

Saturday Rehearsals

Most groups, Encore 2-4 will rehearse on Saturdays. Times will be distributed with a calendar so you will know in advance of required times. It is important to attend these rehearsals. The dances are being taught and learned, if you miss rehearsal you may be removed from that section of choreography. It will not be re-taught due to wasted time of re-teaching. All dancers need to arrive ahead of time to stretch, review and prepare to dance at the scheduled time. Continued tardiness will not be accepted. The studio is always open 1/2 hour prior to rehearsal time to stretch in the lobby.

Summer/National Rehearsals

There will be required rehearsals for Nationals after recital. All dancers will attend mandatory times scheduled. Do not schedule vacations the week of Nationals. You have made a commitment to Encore and the year does not conclude till after nationals and recital. All Encore dancers are required to attend.

Dance Conventions

Many dance conventions travel throughout the US and are important to a dancer's training. They learn new styles of dance with different teaching methods that are motivating and beneficial. Encore dancers have the option to attend as a group to many that come locally or within the state. Extra conventions are optional.

Outside Master Classes & Instruction

If competition students wish to take additional master classes or outside instruction, please get approval from Ms. Rachel. We want to make sure our dancers are only studying with qualified instructors for quality education. We also need to know due to rules and regulations of many dance competitions. Competition dancers may not compete under 2 different studio names within the same competition, etc. No Encore dancer will be paid for compensation outside of Releve' for dance instruction/choreography at any other dance studio, dance team or organization.

Competition Dress Rehearsal

Releve' will hold a dress rehearsal for all dancers competing. All dancers need to attend and bring all costumes, shoes, tights, undergarments, etc. Hair and makeup will be required at this date. The date will be posted and usually takes place in February. The purpose is for Encore dancers to have performance experience and so that instructors can critique costumes & choreography.

Regional Competitions

We will attend and compete at local dance competitions throughout the year, usually March-May. Usually competitions begin Friday evening and continue all day Saturday and Sunday. Sometimes they do begin on Thursday evening on rare occasion. We require 1 regional for Encore 1 and 3 regionals for Encore 2, 3, & 4. You will perform all group routines. All solo, duet and trios are optional. Solos, duets & trios may compete at other local competitions but you are entering your dancers online or mail in entry still listed as Releve' Performing Arts. We ask all dancers to arrive 1 hour in advance due to rehearsal before stage performance and incase the competition is running ahead of schedule. Do not be late! They will put the routine on if you are not there. We do not receive the competition schedule until a week or the week of the competition. You may check online when it nears close to date to see if schedule is posted. Groups usually run \$30.00 each and Solos \$90.00 each.

Releve' Annual Recital

All groups and production routines will perform at the annual recital. Dancers are required to attend. Dress rehearsal will be the evening before the Saturday show. Recital is traditionally mid-June depending when nationals are scheduled.

National Competition

We will attend one national dance competition. Sometimes Nationals are local in Kansas City or out of town, usually with in driving distance. All dancers will compete at nationals, its not optional.