

Creative Edge Competitive Dance

Parent Handbook 2023/2024 Season



Competitive/Company classes are shown on our schedule in green. If you would like more information about our competitive program and which class is right for your child, please read the following. Please note that the schedule and items in Parent Handbook are subject to change.

Competitive Jazz & Lyrical 2023-2024

Coral

- *By invitation, audition or trial class with teacher.*
- Ballet is always a bonus, but not required at this time.
- Performs at a preview show, 2 competitions and one year end show

Aqua

- *By invitation, audition or trial class with teacher.*
- Aqua dancers must take Aqua Jazz Tech and Aqua Jazz. Aqua Lyrical is optional but if dancers take it, it's strongly recommended they also take ballet.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and one year end show

Amber

- *By audition*
- Amber dancers are required to take Amber Tech, Amber Jazz, Amber Lyrical and at least one ballet class.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and one year end show
- Some jazz choreography may be done during a pro-d day

Cobalt

- *By audition*
- Cobalt dancers are required to take Cobalt Tech, Cobalt Jazz, Cobalt Lyrical and at least one ballet class.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and one year end show
- Some lyrical choreography in the summer

Teen Jazz

- *Audition or Invitation or trial class*
- Teen jazz is a beginner-intermediate level low-commitment competitive jazz class. The class will focus on technique only at first, eventually introducing a jazz routine to be performed at 2 competitions and one recital.
- Teen Jazz dancers are encouraged to take a ballet class, although not required.

Company Jazz & Lyrical 2023-2024

Company Dancers and their families must be dedicated to their team and training. Teachers will expect excellent attendance and effort in class, proper dance attire and hair in a bun each week as well as 100% commitment to competition and performance dates.

Emerald

- *Advanced higher commitment group, by audition*
- Emerald dancers are required to take all 3 Emerald classes (tech, jazz and lyrical) and at least 2 additional classes, at least one of which must be ballet. However, we do strongly recommend twice-weekly ballet and any additional training possible.
- Performs at a preview show, 1 festival, 3 competitions and one year end show
- Extra choreography will be held on a Pro-D Day

Violet

- *Advanced higher commitment group, by audition*
- Violet dancers are required to take all 3 Violet classes (tech, jazz and lyrical), a minimum of two ballet classes weekly, Inter/Adv Combos and at least one other class.
- Violet Dancers are automatically invited to our 2023/2024 Jazz Line
- Violet dancers are a part of our advanced company and, as such, they are strongly encouraged to train as many hours per week as possible and to take part in other genres of competitive dance as well!
- Performs at a preview show, 1 festival, 4 competitions and one year-end show
- Summer Choreography

Onyx

- *Advanced group, audition or teacher permission required.*
- Onyx dancers are required to take all Onyx classes (jazz, lyrical, tech), Adv Combos, at least 3 hours of ballet/week and at least two additional classes, one of which should be a 3rd competitive choreo class.
- Onyx Dancers are automatically invited to our 2023/2024 Jazz Line
- Onyx dancers are a part of our advanced company and, as such, they are strongly encouraged to train as many hours per week as possible and to take part in many other genres of competitive dance as well!
- Performs at a preview show, 1 festival, 4 competitions and one year-end show
- Summer Choreography

Jazz Line (by invitation only)

- Dancers must also be in their competitive or company jazz/lyrical group and meeting all registration requirements for it. Performs at a preview show, 1 festival, 4 competitions and one year-end show
- Summer Choreography

Lyrical Line (by invitation only)

- Lyrical Line is a special 'studio collaboration' project for this next season. Multiple choreographers will work together to create a piece for a large group of our dancers. Weekly cleaning and stunt/lift work will be done by Carmen and Jess.

- Dancers must also be in the lyrical, jazz and tech they were placed in and meeting all registration requirements for it. Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show
- Some Summer Choreography

Competitive Tap

Mini Tap

- *By invitation/trial class or audition.*
- Must also take Tap Tech 1
- Performs at a preview show, 2 competitions and the year-end show

Jr Tap

- *By invitation/trial class or audition.*
- Must also take Tap Tech 2
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Intermediate Tap

- *By invitation/trial class or audition.*
- Must also take Tap Tech 2
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Sr Tap

- *By audition.*
- Sr Tap Tech class is also required, Sr Tappers should also take a minimum 1 hour additional dance or conditioning class per week.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Advanced Tap

- *By audition.*
- Adv Tap Tech class also required, Adv Tappers must also take at least one additional tech or competitive class.
- Performs at a preview show, 1 festival 3 competitions and the year-end show
- Summer Choreography

Teen Tap

- *By audition or trial class*
- Ideal for teen dancers new to tap!
- Performs at 1 competition and the year-end show

Competitive Ballet

Anna (Mini) Competitive Ballet

- *By invitation or trial class*, must be taking at least one RAD ballet class per week
- Performs at a preview show, 2 competitions and the year-end show

Galina Competitive Ballet

- *By audition*, and dancers must be taking 2 RAD ballet classes per week
- Performs at preview show, 1 festival, 2 competitions and the year-end show

Margot Comp Ballet

- *By audition*. To register, dancers must be taking 2 RAD ballet classes per week
- Performs at preview show, 1 festival, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Mikhail Comp Ballet

- *By Audition*. To register, dancers must be taking 2 other ballet classes per week.
- Performs at preview show, 1 festival, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Competitive Contemporary & Modern

Inter Contemporary

- *By audition*.
- Dancers must also take a ballet class and a jazz tech.
- Performs at preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Sr Contemporary

- *By audition/invite*.
- Dancers must also take a ballet class and a jazz tech.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show
- Summer choreography

Teen Contemporary

- *By audition/ invitation or trial class*
- Dancers are encouraged to take a ballet or jazz tech class in addition to this class
- Teen jazz is a beginner-intermediate level low-commitment competitive contemporary class. The class will focus on technique only at first, eventually introducing a contemporary routine to be performed at 2 competitions and one recital.

Competitive Hip Hop & Breaking

B-Kids (Breaking Focused)

- *By audition*
- Strongly recommend dancer also take a breaking class
- Performs at a preview show, 2 competitions and the year-end show

Mini Crew (Hip Hop Focused)

- *By audition*
- Mini Crew must also take a Hip Hop Tech class, a breaking class is strongly encouraged
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Kids on the Edge (Hip Hop Focused)

- *By invitation or audition.*
- Kids on the Edge must also take Inter Hip Hop Tech. A breaking or tumbling class is strongly encouraged.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show
- May require summer choreography

Boys on the Edge (Breaking Focused)

- *By invitation or audition, 3 years hip hop or breaking experience ideal*
- Must also take Inter Breaking class. Hip Hop Tech and Tumbling are also strongly encouraged!
- Performs at a preview show, 3-4 competitions and the year-end show

Edge Crew (Hip Hop Focused)

- *By invitation or audition*
- Must take Adv Hip Hop Tech, a breaking class and other training also strongly encouraged!
- Performs at a preview show, 4 competitions and the year-end show

Competitive Acro

Junior Acro

- *By invitation or audition*
- Jr Competitive Acro students are required to also take jr acro tech. Tumbling and other dance technique classes (eg. Jazz tech, ballet) also strongly recommended.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Intermediate Acro

- *By invitation or audition, previous acro, tumbling or gymnastics experience needed*
- Int Acro students are required to also take inter acro tech. Tumbling and other dance technique classes (eg. Jazz tech, ballet) also strongly recommended.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Advanced Acro

- *By invitation or audition*
- Adv Acro students are also required to take lifts, adv acro tech and ballet class or jazz tech class. If you cannot make it to the studio by 3pm on Mondays please reach out.
- Performs at a preview show, 4 competitions and the year-end show
- Additional choreography session outside of class *may* be scheduled in the fall

Fantastic 4

- *By invitation, must be registered in Adv Acro and meeting all requirements for it.*

Competitive Musical Theatre, Song & Dance and Stage

Competitive Song and Dance

- *By audition*
- Competitive Song and Dance combines live singing with dancing! Students will learn choreography and dance technique and have vocals practice.
- Dancers must take at least one additional hour of dance per week.
- Performs at a preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Adv Competitive Song & Dance

- *Invitation or by audition*
- Dancers must take a jazz technique class and are strongly recommended to take a competitive musical theatre as well.
- Performs at preview show, 1 festival, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Competitive Musical Theatre

- *Minimum 1 year dance experience required or teacher permission*
- Dancers should take at least one additional dance class per week
- Performs at preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Inter Musical Theatre

- *Minimum 2 years dance experience required or teacher permission*
- Dancers must take a jazz tech class, additional dance also strongly recommended
- Performs at preview show, 3 competitions and the year-end show

Senior Musical Theatre

- *Minimum 3 years dance experience required or teacher permission*
- Dancers must take a jazz tech class, and another class of any genre.
- Additional choreography session outside of class *may* be scheduled in the fall
- Performs at preview show, 4 competitions and the year-end show
- Fall Saturday or Pro-D Day Choreography will be scheduled

Adv Competitive Musical Theatre

- *By invitation or audition*
- Must also take a jazz tech and one additional class of any genre
- Summer Choreography
- Performs at preview show, 4-5 competitions and the year-end show

Stage

- *Audition or invite*
- Stage character heels required 2.5- 3in (no ballet character shoes). Must also take a jazz tech, Ballet also strongly recommended.
- Possible Summer Choreography
- Performs at preview show, 1 festival, 3 competitions and the year-end show

*Classes are subject to cancellation if minimum enrollment is not met.

*Some group requirements *may* be waived, within reason, for students in their grad year or those who have already graduated.

More Information about Competitive Dance at Creative Edge

General Requirements for Competitive Dance:

Being on a competitive dance team is just as serious as being in a team sport. The studio, instructors and teammates expect commitment and hard work from the dancers and cooperation and communication from the parents.

- Commitment of one full school year.
- Proper dance attire each week
- Regular attendance in class! Dancers 9+ who are injured should please still attend class to watch and keep up with choreography. Students who are too ill to dance or have a serious communicable illness should stay home but must catch up on any missed choreography through the videos shared on The Edge Comp Classes facebook page. There are some cases where close to competition or performance an inter or adv dancer who has only a mild illness may be required to still attend to watch, a safe distance from the team.
- Planned absences must be shared with front desk and/or the teacher. Dancers who miss more than 3 of one class may be asked to catch up with a private lesson (rate dependent on instructor) or may be removed from parts of the choreography. Consistent and problematic absence WILL result in being removed from a group in which case there is no guarantee that costume or choreography fees can be returned.
- Attendance at all competitions and recitals is mandatory.
- Purchase of a costume, a Creative Edge Team Jacket and prompt payment of tuition and competition fees is expected.
- A love of dance, ability to focus in class, team spirit and a positive attitude!

Dress Code:

Competitive Jazz/Lyrical/Acro/Tap/Contemporary/Musical Theatre/Stage/Song & Dance:

- Hair must be up, out of face (bun, braid, ponytail, etc.)
- Appropriate footwear required (eg. tap shoes always brought to tap class, jazz classes may require paws or jazz shoes – check with teacher, character heels for stage class)

- Proper dance attire should be worn to all classes. Eg. leggings, shorts, capris, bodysuit, tank, tee, unitard, etc. No jeans, skirts, dresses, NO baggy clothes (especially in acro).
- Note for tap: purchase lace up shoes, not mary-jane style.

Hip Hop:

- Baggy clothing is ideal, but not required. No Jeans. Hair must be up out of face. Clean, indoor runners/sneakers required at every class.

Ballet:

- Follow ballet uniform from Ballet Dress Code Document to be released. (Ballet bun, bodysuit, tights and ballet shoes.)

Company: (Emerald, Violet, Onyx and Jazz Line classes):

- Hair in a proper ballet bun
- Black dance attire, logos ok. Please work on this habit and try to be all in black for class by December!

Extra Fees Involved with a Competitive Dance Class:

- Purchase of a costume ranging in price from \$90-\$140/class. (Or more for our Adv Musical Theatre custom works of art...) A deposit of half will come out Sept 1st (or upon registration if registering after that date) and the remainder October 15th.
- Purchase of a studio jacket (we will be placing a group order for new ones this year if you need a new one!)
- Competition Fees are *typically* about \$45-65 per dancer, per group they are in, per competition. Solos, duos and trios are more expensive. Chilliwack Festival is less expensive. Installments for comp fees for events we plan to attend are set up at registration and will come out in 3 equal payments in the fall/winter (Nov 1st, Dec 1st, Jan 1st). You are also welcome to select to pay in full at registration. Competition fees are determined by the event itself. We must collect fees from our dancers and pay them to the event.
- Other: Photos, videos, recital tickets, admission for parents/siblings to watch at competitions, footwear, tights, accessories, make-up, hairspray, etc.

Communication:

Please keep your phone number and e-mail up to date with us. Parents of competitive dance students must pay close attention to all e-mails received from the studio. E-mails often contain very important information relating to fees, performance schedules or class cancellations. Typically if you receive an email it is an important note for your child's class. As of this past year, we require at least one family member to be on our Competitive Dance Facebook Group. Note: this is group is not for extended family to watch dance choreography videos, please do not invite them.

Private Dance:

Private dance lessons are available for dancers who would like extra help with technique or group choreography or for those interested in having a solo, duo or trio to take to competitions*. To find out more information about private lessons please contact us!

All potential solos, duos or trios MUST submit a request form. We will ensure that the routines requested are suited to the dancers' strengths, that duo partners are at similar levels, etc. We will also be checking that dancers are registered in their required classes and that the family has been in good financial standing with the studio before approving a routine. Dancers must be in the competitive group of the style of S/D/T they wish to perform. Very few exceptions can sometimes be made to that rule. All parents are STRONGLY encouraged to

chat with a member of management about what is involved in these extra routines, before discussing it with their child. There are significant extra costs and commitments associated with them. Dancing in all the competitive groups dancers qualify for should always be prioritized over *additional* solos/duos/trios when a dancer already has one.

Duo/Trio Policy: If a member of a duo/trio is away for scheduled lesson you have the following options:

- 1. Cancel/reschedule the practice (provided that you give enough notice to the teacher)*
- 2. Missing person pays their share so that lesson can go on as normal*
- 3. If the missing person will not pay and the remaining duo/trio members still wish to run the lesson they can choose to do so but will need to see the front desk to pay more for the lesson so that the total cost is covered.*

Recitals/Performances:

Competitive Dance Dress Rehearsals and Preview Showcase are usually in February at the Clarke Theatre and will feature all Competitive Dance group routines.

There is also a Year-End Show in late June featuring all recreational dance, drama and competitive group numbers.

Competition events run Feb-May and they will give us a date range to block off for when they will take place (eg. April 25th-28th). You will be asked to keep these dates open until we get your final performance day and time (eg. April 26th at 4:04pm). Dancers may be asked to arrive to competition 1-2 hours early in hair/costume/make-up. Some competitions will also have "finals" where top scoring routines are invited back to compete for additional prizes or recognition. Note that if a dancer with multiple routines has a routine shortly after an awards session they may have to miss that awards session to change and practice for their upcoming routine. A class-mate or staff member will collect medals in this case.

Additional Information:

The studio offers opportunities to participate in personal fundraising which can be used to help cover your costume and competition fees. These may include sales of Purdy's chocolates, bake-sales, Neufeld Farm's sales, flower sales at recitals, and more. See the front desk for more information and you are always welcome to bring forward your own ideas!

All Creative Edge Dancers will have an opportunity to attend a Dance Photo Day where the purchase of individual or group photos will be optional (though we encourage you to attend either way so that we can have a full group shot!).

All students who participate in our competitive dance program receive an individual trophy with their name engraved on it at the end of the year. Students are also invited to our Competitive Dance Party and (optional) Sleepover (sleepover part for ages 10+).

Please feel free to bring all questions or concerns to any of our management or front desk staff. We are always here to listen and help in any way that we can! Like us on Facebook, follow us on Instagram @creativeedgeabbotsford and @creativeedgecompdance and request to join our competitive parent Facebook Group "The Edge Comp Classes."

We are SO excited to have you as a part of our competitive dance family for this coming season!