

COMPETITIVE TEAM Q & A



Q. What is the time commitment for a competitive dancer?

A. Each week, competitive dancers must take an age/ability appropriate ballet class (excluding those who ONLY compete in hip hop) as well as conditioning/technique classes. Each dance style class is typically 30 to 45 minutes in duration. Competitive dancers must take a minimum of 3-4 classes per week in technique and choreography.

Q. How many styles may a dancer take?

A. Dancers are welcome to request an audition in as many dance styles as they wish. Upon completion of an assessment, instructors determine suitability. ADA offers competitive dance in jazz, ballet, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop, acro, musical theatre and tap. At the discretion of the instructors, dancers who show exceptional dedication and who excel in a given style of dance may be asked to participate in one or more of a solo, duet, trio, or small group, in addition to their group numbers.

Q. What do the different ages/categories mean? (Small Fry, Mini, Junior, Intermediate, Senior)

A. The categories are defined by a combination of the dancer's age and ability, although this varies by dance style. Typically, the age breakdown is as follows: Small Fry: 5-6, Minis: 7-9, Junior: 10-12, Intermediate: 13-15, Senior: 16+

Q. Other than tuition, what are the additional costs?

A. In addition to the monthly tuition the following costs are required for each routine a dancer participates in:

- costume/dancewear (typically \$120-\$150)
- competitive team jacket (approx \$150)
- footwear
- competition entry fees - these vary per competition, but, typically, are \$60 for groups and between \$75 - \$100 for solos, duets, trios.
- specified brand/color of make-up which may need to be purchased

Q. How many competitions does the Studio participate in per year?

A. ADA participates in four competitions per year with an optional solo competition at the start of the season. These events are usually three - four days in length and may necessitate time away from school. Every attempt is made for the competitions to be within close proximity to Hamilton. For planning purposes, detailed competition schedules are shared with parents as soon as they become available (usually, two weeks prior to the event). Dancers must be at the

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competition, and ready to dance, one hour before performances. Dancers are required to stay for their adjudications and encouraged to watch/cheer on their teammates as much as possible.

Q. Are additional/extra rehearsals required?

A. Group routines are taught within scheduled class times hence the reason weekly attendance is crucial. If a dancer is selected for an additional solo, duet, or trio, the choreography is scheduled outside of class at a mutually agreed upon time. As part of our competitive team preparation, dancers must attend a dress rehearsal/showcase on a Saturday or Sunday in February or March (typically, a 3-hour commitment). From time to time, competitive dancers may be asked to participate in community events (e.g. fundraisers, sporting half-time performances, parades, etc).

Q. How can my dancer(s) join the ADA Competitive Team?

A. Interested dancers participate in an informal audition. If successful, dancers are assigned to the most appropriate group/level, based on a combination of age and ability.

Please email ancasterdancearts@gmail.com to schedule an assessment.