

2023-2024

Inspired *Movement*
Company
Conservatory

Information Handbook



IMCC

INSPIRE - ARTISTRY - EXCELLENCE

Creating Artists, Building Friendships, Inspiring Confidence

The following information should be read thoroughly by each dance parent. This should help you and your dancer understand the requirements, cost, and commitment level.

MISSION STATEMENT

COMPANY CONSERVATORY AT INSPIRED MOVEMENT IS A PROGRAM THAT WILL EQUIP STUDENTS WITH THE DIVERSE TECHNICAL TRAINING AND PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE THAT OPTIMALLY PREPARES DANCERS FOR FUTURE PROFESSIONAL CAREERS IN DANCE, OR ACCEPTANCE IN COLLEGE BOUND PROGRAMS.

We as IMCC strive to grow and stretch as dancers and people. To improve our technique, to experience performing, to be well-rounded, and to stay true to the artform of dance. We believe that being involved in IMCC develops positive self-esteem, confidence, accountability, and leadership. In our program, we will prepare each aspiring dancer to create their own successful pathway as an artist. We encourage our dancers to train in multiple genres, becoming more well-rounded, and to fully understand the hard work that goes into becoming a well-trained dancer. We want them to do their best and improve from one competition to the next and most of all, make lasting memories along the way. It's competitive but not about winning. It's about unlocking each dancer's personal potential and staying focused on the journey and the process.

Is Company Conservatory Right for you?

Minis 8-10yrs, Juniors 11-12, Teens 13-14, Seniors 15-18

Though there are age groups, dancers may be placed in routines based on skill level, regardless of age. These dancers train 10-20 hours a week in many other disciplines. Company dancers should show a higher level of commitment and be able to move in a fast paced environment. This level of dancer should show that they have an exponential drive and love for dance. Dancers in CC will have the opportunity to perform solos, duos/trios, and small-large groups as well as production! Traveling to conventions and competitions (including nationals) help students gain inspiration and team building skills. Dancers have the opportunity to be placed in routine genres such as jazz, lyrical, contemporary, tap, musical theater, open, ballroom and hip hop.

IMCC Summer Requirements: Ages 8-10: 10 class package, 2 intensives, Ages 11-12: 10 class package, 2 intensives, Ages 13+: 10 class package, 2 intensives. If dancers do not fulfill their summer requirements, they are not eligible for a solo.

IMCC Yearly Requirements

Mini

- Ballet (2) classes
- Turns class (1)
- Legs/Leaps (1) class
- Jazz/Lyrical
- Contemporary
- Hip Hop
- Monthly Master Class

Junior

- Ballet (3) classes
- Turns class (1)
- Legs/Leaps (1) class
- Jazz/Lyrical
- Contemporary
- Hip Hop
- Monthly Master Class

Teen/Senior

- Ballet (2) classes (if en pointe (3) classes min)
- Turns class (1)
- Legs/Leaps (1) class
- Contemporary
- Jazz/Lyrical
- Monthly Master Class

Additional recommended classes: Acro, Tap, Ballroom and additional ballet. ***NOTE: If dancers are placed in any tap or hip-hop routines, they will be required to take those genre classes.

- Any classes taken that are not associated with IM need to be cleared by Jenna and do not count towards any of the team requirements for IMCC.
- Dancers must agree to be placed in a minimum of 2 groups to be considered for CC.

AUDITIONS

You will need to pre register for company auditions. They will be held at Inspired Movement on **Saturday, August 12th and 13th**. Dancers will need to register for their age group as of January 1st, 2023. Auditions will be for duos, trios and group routines. Solos will be by invitation only - you will be receiving an email if you are invited to participate in a solo this season. Dancers may fill out on their audition form which genres they'd like to be considered for, but ultimately will get placed in routines that the IMD staff feel is best. These placements are non-negotiable. Dancers should arrive early and warm themselves up. Dancers will audition in skills/tech in center and across the floor and learn/perform a combination in either jazz/contemp/lyrical. Tap

and hip hop placements will be determined outside of auditions and based upon the discretion of the IMD staff.

COMMITMENT

Being part of any of our teams requires a full year commitment from each dancer. Our year will run from August-July 2024 (after nationals). Quitting mid-year is detrimental to everyone on the team, so please consider this carefully before committing. Dancers who are committed to other activities such as sports, school dance teams or extra curricular activities, may be placed in a limited number of routines. We set high expectations for our team dancers to be fully committed not only to their team but to their dance training as well. All dancers on the team must show a strong drive and work ethic, as well as conduct themselves with humility. Dancers who quit will not receive any refunds on payments that have been previously made. Dancers who quit will be charged a \$100 reblocking fee per routine. If a replacement or understudy is utilized, costume and competition fees must be paid as well by the parent of the dancer who quits.

ATTENDANCE

The most important issue for team members is attendance. The commitment to CC means attending all scheduled classes, all rehearsals for teams, including extra rehearsals, and being available for ALL competitions and ALL performances. If you are involved with other programs that require specific time commitments, we will need to know about any other commitments you may have. Absences should be communicated to the IM staff by calling the studio or email. We have a **limit of 2 unexcused absences per class and per rehearsals. If a dancer exceeds 2 unexcused absences, they may be removed from a routine.** All payments made by then will not be refunded. Please, as punishment, do not withhold him/her opportunity to rehearse/perform. If you feel that your dancer is falling behind in school or having some issue that may lead to them missing class or rehearsal, please communicate with Miss Jenna so a plan of action can be created. Dancers who are IMBC may not attend an optional event if it would mean dancers would miss two weekends back to back of BC class.

Dancers who miss a rehearsal before a competition will not be allowed to perform/compete. If it's an excusable circumstance, or we are told in advance, we can plan accordingly to still have the dancer compete. If dancers get pulled from routines or drops for some reason (excluding injury), there will be a \$100 fee for each routine that requires reblocking. If an understudy takes their place, you are responsible for costume and competition fees of the understudy.

COST/FINANCIALS

We have broken down the cost affiliated with being a part of our teams. These costs are based on this past season and what we foresee for this upcoming season. We understand that is a huge financial commitment! We encourage all the parents to get involved in fundraising to help reduce the cost throughout the year. Costs include but are not limited to: costumes, team wear, competition fees, convention fees, monthly tuition, choreography fees, master classes, make-up, and travel expenses.

COMPETITION TUITION/CHOREOGRAPHY FEES

- Solos- \$425.00 one time choreography payment
- Duet \$250.00 one time choreography payment per dancer
- Trio \$200.00 one time choreography payment per dancer
- Group Routines- each group routine will have a one time choreography payment of \$75 (per large group), \$100 (per small group)
- Guest Choreographers- \$200-\$375 per dancer depending on the choreographer and size of the group. Guest choreography for solos will vary in price.

2023-2024 Private Lesson Fees:

Solo: 30 min- \$55, 45 min- \$85, 60 min- \$100

Duet/Trio: 30 min- \$35/per, 45 min- \$45/per, 60 min- \$55/per

Group Routine Monthly Rehearsal Fees- \$60/per group

***All choreography payments and contracts will be due upfront, prior to learning choreography. If dancers' choreography payments are not paid or contracts are not signed, they will not be allowed to learn choreography.

***Dancers must commit to being placed in at least two groups (one being production if applicable) to be considered for CC as well as solos, duos or trios.

COSTUMES- All of our costumes are custom made to fit our dancers perfectly. They are original designs and made professionally by our seamstresses. Depending on the complexity of each design and rhinestones that are applied, costumes will range from \$150.00-\$350.00 (per costume).

Costumes will be paid in two deposits. A \$100 deposit (per costume) is due **October 1st** and the final payment will be due **January/Feb** when we receive the final invoice from our seamstresses.

TEAM WEAR- Jackets will be the only mandatory item and are \$145, but there will also be optional team/studio wear to purchase as well such as tanks, jerseys, costume cover-ups, sweats etc. Dancers **MUST** wear some type of studio wear when onstage receiving awards, as well as when at a competition or convention.

COMPETITION/CONVENTION FEES

All **competition/convention** fees will be divided and added into your monthly tuition cost (Jan-June 6 months), excluding nationals. National's fees will not be included and will be due 6-8 weeks prior to nationals. Depending on your dancers total number of routines, the cost will be calculated once results are posted and contracts are signed. All competition fees paid via credit card will have a 3% processing fee.

- Fees will vary depending on how many routines your dancer is in, and the rates of each individual competition or convention. Here is an approximate breakdown: Solos- \$80-140, Duets/Trios- \$50-80, Groups- \$30-50 (per routine/competition)
- National's fees are always higher than regional competitions and are not included in monthly fees or tuition. National fees are due 8 weeks prior to national dates.
- Convention Fees- Convention fees are separate from competition fees and do not include personal traveling cost. Fees will range from \$95 (1 day)-\$375 (2 days) per convention.
- Teacher Fees- Teacher fees will be divided amongst all the dancers, and added into their monthly tuition (depending on how many routines they are in as well as how many competitions they attend). Approximately \$30-45 per month/dancer. Teacher travel fees cover food, lodging, parking, daily pay and other expenses. Teachers value the relationships they have with each dancer, but are compensated very little for the time they spend with their dancers during competitions. They wish to be there as much as possible for every competition and convention. The teacher fee will be charged one month prior to your first event. There will be an additional teacher fee added in for nationals.

OPTIONALS- Optional competitions will be for dancers that wish to attend more than the listed mandatory competitions. In most cases, solos, duos/trios may compete as well if they choose to. Groups are able to compete only if every dancer is attending. Dancers that attend optional competitions will be responsible in covering any teacher fees if they request their choreographer to attend as well. This is only for traveling competitions/conventions. Teachers may not attend unless requested and a fee is included.

***Dancers who are also in IMBC may not attend an optional if it would require missing two weekends in a row of BC classes.

MASTER CLASSES will be planned to be offered on a monthly basis. These are mandatory for all conservatory level dancers. These classes are arranged to help our dancers grow and provide them with amazing opportunities to take classes from the industry's best! We are committed to offering our dancers a variety of genres and diverse training to keep them motivated, inspired and challenged. Master class fees will automatically be added into your monthly tuition on months that we host a class, regardless of attendance. If you have a school conflict or excusable absence, please notify the director. – IMCC dancers will receive a discount on master classes when feasible.

SOLOS- *If dancers do not fulfill summer requirements, they are not eligible for a solo.* Solos will be by invite only this season. You will receive a separate email if you are invited to have a solo this season. Solo choreography may begin as soon as choreography fees are paid (this may be prior to group choreography). Solos are a privilege and are given to dancers who we feel will best represent our studio and have shown and continue to show personal growth. Please indicate on your audition form if you dancer would like a solo and what teacher they wish to work with. Dancers that audition for a solo, but are not given one, may be awarded a solo throughout the year if they show readiness. Solo rehearsal times will be given out based on studio availability and teacher availability. Dancers who participate in ISPE or have early dismissal days from school are recommended to use those days for solo rehearsals. Dancers ages 9+ may be limited to two rehearsals each month unless the studio schedule allows for more. Dancers with more than one solo will have the option of rehearsing weekly for 30 mins, or biweekly for 1 hr. When first learning the solo choreography, dancers may schedule additional times with their instructor. If time and space allows for more, we will do our best to accommodate everyone fairly! Dancers who have outstanding balances on their accounts may have their solos pulled from a competition as well as have their privates discontinued. Dancers must commit to at least two groups and/or production in order to be considered for a solo. At particular competitions where entries are limited and we cannot take all solos, priority goes to the oldest dancers, however if dancers have not maintained good attendance, that could jeopardize their eligibility.

DUET/TRIOS- Duets and trios can be requested but are not guaranteed. Instructors choose each dancer carefully for all duets and trios. Dancers must commit to at least two groups and production in order to be considered for a duet/trio.

SOCIAL MEDIA- IM Company dancers are required to promote all Inspired Movement events such as master classes, choreography in classes, or extra training. Dancers will be required to tag @inspiredmovementdance when posting any dance related photos or

videos. Dancers will also be held to the expectation that what they post on social media reflects them and the studio in a positive light. Dancers who post inappropriately will be penalized on a case by case basis. IMCC dancers should be positive role models and that should reflect in and out of the studio.

COMMUNICATION-Communication outside of the studio will be limited to email. IM staff will not accept text messages unless at a competition. If you have a question or concern, please send an email. Out of respect for the instructor's personal time, weekends will be a non-work day so emails will not be answered until the following Monday. Emails will not be answered past 8pm during the week.

Teacher/Student Boundaries- in order to maintain a safe and healthy environment for both students and staff, dancers should NEVER be in contact with a teacher without a parent involved.

If a matter is urgent, you may call the studio, but in all other circumstances, please email. ****Having a dancer in company requires clear and constant communication. Please expect weekly emails and information being sent home.**

NATIONALS- Nationals is mandatory for all company conservatory dancers. Dancers must be present for all events during nationals. They are required to be available for training and rehearsals one week prior to nationals.

2023-2024 IMCC COMPETITION/CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Mandatory

- *NYCDA comp/conv Las Vegas Feb 23-25 (with imbc)*
- *Showbiz comp only, Fallbrook March 15-17 (w/ impc and petites)*
- *Dancemakers comp/conv, Anaheim April 13-15*
- *Hollywood Connection comp/conv, San Diego April 27-29*

- *Dancemakers Nationals comp/conv, Myrtle Beach SC, June 22-27*

Optionals

- *Velocity comp/conv, Palm Springs Nov 17-19*
- *Dancemakers comp/conv, Seattle Feb 9-11*
- *Rainbow competition, Escondido March 2-4*
- *Countdown comp, San Diego April 5-7*
- *NYCDA comp/conv, Phoenix May 4-6*
- *Velocity comp/conv, Burlington May 4-6*
- *Showstoppers competition, Anaheim May 24-27*

***other optionals may become available. If you are interested in attending an event, please ask for approval.

Other Important Dates:

- *Choreography Week Aug 14-20*
- *First day of new season Aug 2*
- *Kick Off Party Sept 23*

IMCC 2023-2024 Dancer Contract

Please sign and return to the front desk no later than August 15th, 2023

Dancer Conduct: As a member of IMCC, I will be expected to:

1. Develop a team spirit among all members of the competition teams, including parents, teachers, and all other dancers.
2. Always give 110% in all the classes and rehearsals____
3. Challenge and push myself to new levels____
4. Realize that being on this team prepares me for a professional environment ____
5. To show dedication, determination, and desire to be a productive team member____
6. To positively represent IMD when out in the community, while attending conventions and competitions, and everywhere else I go. ____
7. Refrain from posting any negative remarks, or leave negative feedback about IM, my fellow team members, teachers, or dancers on any social media platform. ____
8. Treat all my fellow team members with respect. This includes encouraging one another, being kind, and supportive. ____
9. To embrace all newcomers to the team and welcome them as part of our dance family. ____
10. To refrain from any negative behavior or chatter towards my teammates and studio family.____
11. To remain focused in classes and respectful to all my teachers and choreographers.____
12. I will not speak poorly of any other studio, dancer, or IMD.
13. I will always applaud fellow dancers.
14. Any classes taken outside of IMD, must get approval by Miss Jenna.

I understand and commit myself to all of the above. I am aware that if I break any of the dancer's conduct expectations there will be consequences such as: being pulled from a competition/performance, being removed from the team, or being dismissed from Inspired Movement.

Dancer Signature: _____ Date: _____

2023-2024 IMCC Parent Contract

Parent Conduct:

1. The parent's behavior and attitude reflects upon the behavior and attitude of the dancer.
2. Parents are to keep their differences with other parents to themselves. If an issue arises with other parents and/or dancers, parents shall communicate directly with one another. IM Staff should only be included as a last resort.
3. Parents are not to post any negative remarks, or leave any negative feedback about IM on any social media platforms.
4. Parents are expected to speak positively about IM in and outside of the studio.
5. Parents may not criticize their own dancer or any other dancer from the company teams.
6. "I will at all times control my emotions and will be considerate of all dancers and parents' collective emotions."
7. "I will wait to react to a situation until my emotions calm down and I can respond rationally and with compassion. "
8. "I will not make disparaging remarks or negative comments of any type with regard to teachers, choreographers, choreography placement, costumes, other parents, other dancers and other dance schools."
9. "I will not publicly criticize anyone in the studio or at any event; whether they are from IM or another studio."
10. If my dancer is pulled from a routine because of poor behavior or excessive unexcused absences, I will be responsible for payment of a re-blocking, understudy/replacement fees of costumes and competition.

As the parent/guardian of (dancers name) _____, I have read all of the information regarding the Inspired Movement Dance Team. I understand that when out in the community and while attending conventions and competitions I am representing Inspired Movement. I will maintain good conduct towards all others including instructors, parents, directors and dancers. I will use appropriate language while at events representing IM. If I cause any conflict or act in a way that could reflect IM in a negative way, I understand there will be consequences such as suspension from the studio.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____