



Competition Company

HANDBOOK



www.JaxCityBalletSchool.com



VISION

COMPETITION COMPANY HANDBOOK: A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Welcome & Congratulations!

You have been accepted into the Competition Company at Jax City Ballet School. This is a significant achievement that reflects your dedication, talent, and potential as a dancer.

The first step toward becoming a successful artist is making a steadfast commitment to your classes, rehearsals, and performances. Strong, consistent technique is the foundation of every accomplished dancer, and class is where this foundation is built.

Arrive fully prepared to learn, free from personal distractions. Class time is your opportunity to focus exclusively on your own growth. Leave outside concerns at the studio door and approach each class, rehearsal, and performance as a chance to refine your artistry and strengthen your skills.

Dance with full commitment. Stretch a little further. Heighten your awareness of your technique. Make the most of every moment you spend in the studio.

Respect for your teachers and choreographers is essential. Listen to every correction, whether addressed to you or to another dancer. A correction is a privilege; it is a sign that your teacher is invested in your development as an artist. Apply feedback immediately and with gratitude.



OUR VALUE

TECHNIQUE CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

Choreography Policy

All contemporary solos require a choreography fee. This fee is paid to the instructor by the studio upon completion of the initial four hours of choreography instruction. It grants the student the right to perform the choreography when competing on behalf of Jax City Ballet School in competitions approved by the Studio Director.

The choreography is the property of Jax City Ballet School and may not be performed at any event that has not been authorized by the studio. If a dancer's contract with the studio is terminated, they may not perform choreography arranged through Jax City Ballet School while competing for another dance school or as an independent competitor.

Performance and Competition Expectations

Performances and competitions are an opportunity to showcase the results of your dedication and hard work. To present yourself and the studio at the highest standard:

- Arrive at competitions at least two hours prior to your scheduled performance time unless otherwise instructed by your teachers.
- Ensure you are fully warmed up and prepared to dance.
- Maintain a professional appearance with costumes pressed, shoes cleaned, and all required accessories in place.
- Step on stage with confidence and share your love for dance with the audience.

True progress is achieved when you view every class, rehearsal, and performance as an opportunity to improve in the art you love.



The Focus Is Not Simply On Competition.

Our Philosophy on Competitions and Performances:

At Jax City Ballet School, our goal is to instill a passion for performing, not merely the desire to win awards. Competition Company dancers have opportunities to perform beyond the competition stage, including community events and school performances. The lessons learned through these experiences are equally valuable to those gained in competition.

Our strong reputation for quality reflects our approach to competition and our commitment to developing in each student a genuine respect for dance as an art form. Participation in competitions is not simply part of a dancer's training; it is also an important part of how we help shape them as individuals. With the right focus, competition can be a powerful source of self-confidence.

If dancers take pride in their performance and understand that each time they step on stage, they have the opportunity to grow, they are truly benefiting from the experience. The focus is on giving their best performance. The award received—if any—is secondary.

Through competition, we strive to instill in our students an appreciation for other dancers and schools. We are not seeking to beat anyone. Instead, we aim to inspire both our students and faculty by exposing them to the highest caliber of talent possible. In this way, competition becomes an education.

Competition Requirements:

Attendance

All students are expected to participate in all scheduled competitions. Vacations or personal events should not be planned immediately before or during competition weekends. If a dancer is unable to participate in a scheduled competition, the Studio Director must be notified in writing as soon as possible.

Independent Entries

No dancer may compete in any competition as an independent entry. Violation of this policy will result in immediate dismissal from Jax City Ballet School.



COSTUME /PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

Costume payments are the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. All costumes must be of professional quality and present the dancer at the highest standard.

Every costume selection must be approved by the Jax City Ballet School Director prior to purchase or use.

- ✓ Always have a second pair of tights available.
- ✓ Place costumes in a garment bag for travel.
- ✓ Hang and press costumes before each performance.
- ✓ Place your name in all costumes and shoes.





COMMUNICATION



Communication Policy

Email is a primary form of communication at Jax City Ballet School. It is essential that we have your current email address at all times. If your email address changes during the year, you must notify the school immediately.

Families are expected to check their email daily for important updates. If you do not have access to email, or are experiencing technical issues, it is your responsibility to contact the school regularly to stay informed.

Competition and Convention Inquiries

No dancer, parent, or guardian may contact a competition or convention directly. This is against the policies of the Competition Company. If you have a question regarding a competition or convention that is not answered on the organization's official website, you must direct your inquiry through Jax City Ballet School.

All families are expected to attend scheduled meetings and read all newsletters and posted notices to stay informed of any additional commitments.



TUITION & EXPENSES POLICY

Financial Commitment

Participation in the Competition Company Program requires that all accounts related to competition activities remain current at all times.

Private Lesson Payments

- All private lesson payments will be either auto-withdrawn or paid in cash the day before or right after the scheduled session.
- Lessons with unpaid balances will be canceled without exception.

Financial Responsibilities

Each student is responsible for fulfilling all financial obligations associated with competition participation, which may include:

- Competition Company fee
- Choreography fees (if applicable)
- Costume and prop fees
- Entry fees for competitions and conventions
- Any additional costs incurred as part of the program

Students with delinquent accounts will be removed from the Competition Company until all tuition and fees are paid in full.

Administrative and Organizational Costs

The Competition Company fee supports the behind-the-scenes operations that make the program run efficiently. This includes event coordination, communication, registration, and administrative documentation.

YOUR COMPETITIVE EDGE: THE SOLO PROGRAM

The Solo Program gives dancers a chance to hone their skills and gain performance experience at the Ballet Competitions.

SOLO PROGRAM

Program Directors: Julia Kuznietsova and Alexey Kuznietsov

Students ages 8 through 21 enrolled in the Jax City Ballet School Professional Program are eligible to participate in ballet competitions. This opportunity is not available to dancers enrolled exclusively in the Jax Dance Exchange program.

Admission to the Solo Program is by audition only, conducted by the JCBS artistic staff. Students accepted into the Solo Program must sign a letter of agreement outlining program expectations and commitments.

For questions or additional information, please contact us directly at jaxcityballet@gmail.com for a personal response.

ABOUT THE SOLO PROGRAM

Dancers participating in competitions will learn a classical variation and/or a contemporary solo to perform at the competition event. Each student will work with a coach for a minimum of 30 minutes of private lesson time per week to prepare their piece.

Classical choreography will be taught by the JCBS Solo Program Directors.

Music selections for contemporary solos should be emailed to JCBS as soon as the choreographer has made a choice.

If a participant wishes to perform their variation or contemporary solo at competitions other than UBC, they must register through Jax City Ballet School.

For detailed information, please visit the competition's official website.

REQUIRED CLASSES / TRAINING

8 years of age and older must be enrolled in the professional ballet program at JCB School for the entire school year.

FEES ASSOCIATED WITH COMPETITIONS

Competition Company Fee (paid once) – \$125, or \$180 for families (due upon enrollment).

Choreography Fee – To be determined. All inquiries should be directed to JCBS.

Private Lesson Tuition (Solo):

- 30 minutes – \$45
- 1 hour – \$90

Private Lesson Tuition (Group Piece):

- 30 minutes – [amount TBD]

Competition Entry Fees – To be determined.

Costumes – Paid by the participant.

Music Cut/Edit (per track) – \$30



TRAVEL EXPENSES

Travel expenses for instructors are the responsibility of the participants and will be divided equally among all involved.

FEES

All fees are paid directly to Jax City Ballet School. Participation fees are non-refundable.

Each dancer is required to meet with a JCBS instructor for a minimum of one thirty (30) minute private lesson per week (at least three times per month) for each dance being prepared for competition.

Private lessons will begin at the start of September, though earlier start dates can be arranged upon request. Some months may have fewer private lessons due to holidays or Nutcracker rehearsals.

Competition Team Fee Policy

YAGP · UBC · Other Invitational Events

This policy outlines what is included in Jax City Ballet School's competition fees, payment expectations, and family responsibilities throughout the competitive season.

What the Competition Fee Includes. (\$150)

- ✓ 1. Competition Registration
 - JCBS administrative processing

- 📄 2. Admin & Support
 - Communication with competition organizers
 - Handling all uploads, paperwork, and music
 - Parent communication and timeline guidance

- 🎵 3. Music Assistance
 - Music search and curation based on the dancer's strengths and level
 - Uploads to competition platforms

- 👗 4. Costume Support
 - Costume styling guidance

Extra Fees:

- 📅 1. Private Coaching
 - Weekly private coaching to clean and develop the solo or group piece.
 - Additional extra privates

 - 🇺🇸 2. Payment & Deadlines
 - Competition team fees are due in full before private lessons start.
 - Late fees apply after the deadline, and missed payments may result in withdrawal from the event.

 - ✗ Not Included in the Fee
 - Travel, hotel, and personal/coach expenses

 - 📝 Cancellation Policy
 - All competition fees are non-refundable, even if the dancer withdraws after registration is submitted.

 - 👤 Parent Commitment
- By joining the Jax City Ballet School Competition Team, families agree to the following:
- Support their dancer's attendance and preparation
 - Meet all payment deadlines
 - Maintain positive conduct at all events and rehearsals

REQUIRED PRIVATE LESSON ATTENDANCE

- If a dancer misses a private lesson, they must contact the school to reschedule the missed private lesson.
- Absences due to injury or illness must be accompanied by a signed doctor's note.
- Dancers must be present at the final private lesson before a competition or event. If they are absent from this final private, they will not participate in the competition.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Age as of September 1

8-11 years

- Clean single pirouette on flat
- Turns on straight knees and high demi pointe
- 90-degree arabesque
- Proper foot articulation
- Ability to pick up dance combinations quickly
- Understanding of dance terminology

12+ on pointe

- Clean double pirouette on pointe
- Multiple single-leg relevés
- Consecutive turns on straight knees
- 90-degree arabesque
- Clean pathways of Port-de-bras
- Correct body alignment



POLICIES

- Any Solo Program choreography must be rehearsed only by JCBS or JDE staff members. The choreography is the property of the school.
- Dancers competing in events where they are registered through Jax City Ballet School must be accompanied exclusively by a JCBS staff member. Instructors, choreographers, directors, or dancers from other programs, schools, or studios are not permitted to accompany them.
- Dancers will not compete with or represent any other private dance studio, school, or independent teacher outside of JCBS.
- Failure to comply with these policies will result in automatic dismissal from the Solo Program.
- Solo Program fees, including Participation Fees, Choreography Fees, and Private Lesson Tuition, are non-refundable under any circumstances.
- Participation in the Solo Program constitutes a commitment. If a dancer must leave the program due to extenuating circumstances beyond their control, the Directors will review any requests for reinstatement. Leaving the Solo Program for other reasons disqualifies the dancer from applying for reinstatement during the remainder of the season and may disqualify them from auditioning in the following season.
- Any dancer who agrees to participate in the Solo Program but refuses to sign the “Letter of Agreement” will be disqualified from Solo Program events for the current season and the following dance season.

BEHAVIOR

- A dancer’s conduct must always meet Jax City Ballet School’s standards for professional and courteous behavior, including during rehearsals, competitions, performances, and events both on and off school premises.
- The dancer agrees to serve as a goodwill ambassador for Jax City Ballet School.
- The dancer must adhere to the JCBS Dress Code or wear attire approved by the Director.
- The dancer must maintain a positive attitude toward their work and teachers. Disrespect will not be tolerated.
- Any violations of these conduct standards may result in removal from the Solo Program or placement on probation. The terms and duration of probation are at the sole discretion of the Director.

CONTACT INFORMATION

 904.554.2722

 Info@jaxcityballet.org

 www.JaxCityBalletSchool.com

