

HeartBeat Dance Academy

Competition Team FAQs

2021-2022 Season

Why should my dancer join?

If your dancer loves to perform and is interested in additional performance opportunities, then the competition team might be a perfect fit! Our competition faculty strive to create strong, passionate, hard-working, and kind dancers that will work together to reach their highest potential. At an early age, our dancers are learning the joy of being onstage, and how hard work in and outside of class can push a dancer to do their best. We want every dancer to feel like a part of our HeartBeat family, knowing that they are making new friends, and gaining so much experience at each competition.



What is the commitment?

Style/Age	Ages 5-7	Ages 8-11	Ages 12+
Acro	1 Acro class 1 Acro Conditioning class	1 Acro class 1 Acro Conditioning class 1 additional technique class (Jazz, Lyrical, Ballet, or Dance Conditioning)	1 Acro class 1 Acro Conditioning class 1 Ballet class 1 additional technique class (Jazz, Lyrical, or Dance Conditioning)
Hip Hop	1 Hip Hop class	1 Hip Hop class	1 Hip Hop class
Tap	1 Tap class	1 Tap class	1 Tap class
Lyrical/ Contemporary	1 Lyrical class 1 Ballet class	1 Lyrical class 2 Ballet classes 1 additional technique class (Jazz, Dance Conditioning, or Acro)	1 Lyrical class 2 Ballet classes 2 additional technique classes (Jazz, Dance Conditioning, or Acro)
Jazz/ Musical Theatre	1 Jazz class 1 Ballet class	1 Jazz class 2 Ballet classes 1 additional technique class (Lyrical, Dance Conditioning, or Acro)	1 Jazz class 2 Ballet classes 2 additional technique classes (Lyrical, Dance Conditioning, or Acro)

From September through April/May, each competition routine has a weekly rehearsal. Dancers must also meet the minimum class requirement, based on their age and style of dance.

We attend 3 regional competitions (typically San Jose, San Mateo, Alameda, or Hayward), one convention (Santa Clara), and there is an optional Nationals in Disneyland, July 2022. Dancers must be free the entire weekend of the scheduled events - these mandatory dates will be listed in the competition acceptance contract.

When are auditions?

First, dancers must fill out the Competition Team 2021-2022 Audition form, which will soon be posted on our website under the Competition tab. There will be two options for auditions - in-person and video submission. The audition form will ask dancers if they prefer to audition in-person, or will be sending in an audition video. Once we receive audition forms, we will schedule a specific audition date and time with a small group of other dancers, which will be held in the MUR. All dancers will receive links to YouTube videos with the required dance combinations we will ask to see. If auditioning in-person, dancers will need to learn these dances prior to arriving to the audition. For video auditions, some technical skills will be optional if dancers have a safe space to execute.



Current HeartBeat dancers ages 7 and under need to fill out the audition form, but do **not** need to audition - we will use instructor class evaluations to determine readiness for the team. If your dancer is 7 or under and not a current HBDA student, please email HeartBeatMollie@gmail.com for more information.

Is my dancer ready for the team?

There are a few factors that determine a dancer's readiness for our competition team, and these factors differ between the different styles of dance. First and foremost, we want dancers on our team that love to perform and are willing to do hard work inside and outside of class to succeed. For more technical styles of dance, such as jazz and lyrical, dancers should be working on increasing flexibility (full splits) and strong spotting coordination for skills such as pirouettes. Even if a dancer feels like they might not make the team, auditioning for the team is a great learning experience. They can receive constructive feedback that will help increase their chances of making the team in the future.

How much does the team cost?

The amount differs for every dancer, depending on how many routines they participate in. Annual fees for a new dancer joining the 2020-2021 season average to around \$100/month. We announce ALL competition fees upfront at the beginning of the year so that there are no additional fees (excluding optional events).

There are 3 options for payments - full payment in September, two payments in September and January, or an automatic monthly payment plan (8 months, September-April) that will be arranged before the competition season begins.

The only costs that are NOT included in competition fees are:

- Weekly technique classes (registration through City of Belmont), unlimited classes after 4 paid
- Optional Nationals 2022 fees (those attending will have a separate payment plan set up in Fall 2020)

What does this cost include?

All weekly rehearsals, choreography, competition entry fees, convention fees, costumes, rhinestones, tights, accessories, jewelry, warm-up jackets, props, U-Haul rentals, team bonding events, holiday parties, and much more are all included in the competition fees.



I have more questions - who do I contact?

If you have any further questions about the competition team,

please email Competition Director, Mollie Nash, at HeartBeatMollie@gmail.com