

# 2023-2024 GDU STAR Competitive Dance Company Audition Information

## What is a Competitive Dance Company?

Competitive dance is for the dancer who wants to become more involved in dance and take his/her dance training to the next level. As a competitive dancer, one will receive advanced technical training that is designed to challenge and inspire him or her to grow both as a dancer and as a person. At GDU, we believe competitive dance also teaches important life lessons including teamwork, self confidence, dedication, and perseverance.

GDU Star Company is a serious commitment. Once you have committed to our company you must remember that we require you to make us your FIRST COMMITMENT. Classes, rehearsals, and performances must take precedence over all other extra-curricular activities.

## What are dance competitions?

Dance competitions are events where dance studios in an area (usually the state) come together to compete against each other with pre-choreographed dance routines. Competition categories are generally grouped by dance style, group size, and age of competitor(s). A panel of professional judges will score the dance, and provide comments and critiques. Winners receive awards, prizes, and chances to compete at higher-level competition (National Championships).

## New Company Parent Meeting: Monday, May 1st 6:00pm

### Audition Dance Combo Classes

#### Mini/Shooting/Sparkling/Performance Team A

May 15th	4:00-5:00	Mini Stars Combo	Ages 3-6
May 15th	7:00-8:00	Sparkling/Shooting Jr./Performance A Combo Per	Ages 7-11
May 15th	8:00-9:00	Sparkling/Shooting Teen/Performance A Combo	Ages 12 and up

#### Rising/Shining

May 15th	4:00-5:00	Jazz Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 9 and under
May 15th	5:00-6:00	Lyrical Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 9 and under
May 15th	5:00-6:00	Jazz Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 10-13
May 15th	6:00-7:00	Lyrical Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 10-13
May 15th	7:00-8:00	Musical Theater Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 10-13
May 15th	6:00-7:00	Jazz Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 14 and up
May 15th	7:00-8:00	Lyrical Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 14 and up
May 15th	8:00-9:00	Musical Theater for Rising/Shining	Ages 14 and up

# Dance Company Auditions: Saturday May 20th

10:00-11:00	Shooting/Sparkling Star Company Ages 7-11
11:00-12:00	Shooting/Sparkling Teen Ages 12 and up
12:00-12:45	Mini Company Ages 3-6
1:00-2:30	Rising/Shining Star Company Ages 9 and under*
2:30-4:30	Rising/Shining Star Company Ages 10-13
5:00-7:00	Rising/Shining Star Company Ages 14 and up

\* Please join the Rising/Shining Company audition that matches the dancer's age.

- Dancers will need to wear ALL black, have all dance shoes available, and have hair up in a nice, neat ponytail.
- Each dancer will need to pay an \$40.00 audition fee (**cash or check only**).
- Dancers must be stretched and ready to audition at scheduled time.
- **Please remember it is VERY IMPORTANT TO BE ON TIME TO ANY AUDITION!!**

## Important Company Dates: 2023-2024

May 20	Company Auditions
June 6	Summer Classes Begin
June 15	Star Company Contracts Signed and Returned to Studio
June 19-23	First Dance Intensive (One week is mandatory for Rising/Shining/Shooting*)
July 3-7	Studio Closed
July 10-14	Second Dance Intensive (One week is mandatory for Rising/Shining/Shooting*)
July 15	Booster (incidentals) Fee and Registration Fee Due
<b>July 15</b>	<b>1st Monthly Payment Due (payments runs July-May. Due on the 15<sup>th</sup>)</b>
July 15	Studio Open House 10-2 (participation required at 1 open house)
July 26-Aug 1	Choreography Week
Aug 5	Studio Open House 10-2 (participation required at 1 open house)
Aug 11-13	Quest Dance Intensive (required for Rising and Shining)
Aug 19	Studio Open House 10-2 (participation required at 1 open house)
Aug 21	Regular Classes Begin at Studio
Sept 4	Closed for Labor Day
Sept 15	Money due for Warm Up Jackets/Pants
Oct 5-11	Studio Closed: Fall Break
Oct 20-22	Encore Convention- Columbia, SC
Nov 4	Thanksgiving Feast
Nov 12	Titans of Dance (Required for Shining if you did not attend Encore Extreme)
Nov 19-26	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 11	Winter Party
Dec 17-Jan 3	Winter Break
Jan/Feb TBA	Disney (required for Rising and Shining dancers ages 7 and up)
Jan TBA	Stage Rehearsal
Feb TBA	Mock Competition/ Parent Show

## **Saturday Rehearsals:**

Aug 26	Rising and Shining Only
Sept 9	ALL COMPANY
Sept 23	Rising and Shining Only
Sep 30	ALL COMPANY
Oct 14	Rising and Shining Only
Nov 4	ALL COMPANY
Nov 18	Rising and Shining Only
Dec 2	Rising and Shining Only
Dec 9	ALL COMPANY

Saturday rehearsals for January, February, March, April and May will be determined after the Competition schedule is released in August. Company Dinner attendance is required for all dancers.

## **Additional Information:**

We will have a parent meeting in August to go over details for the rest of the year including the Competition schedule.

All dancers will compete in 3 dance competitions (1 out of state) during the spring and perform in our annual spring recital.

Hip Hop, Shooting Teen, Rising and Shining Star Companies will come two Saturdays a month.

Mini and Shooting Jr. Stars will come one Saturday a month during the months of September, October, November, January, and February. One additional rehearsal may be required for March and for April. We will also have a mock competition one Saturday in either January or February (date TBD). We will announce all Saturdays for the entire year as soon as we receive the competition schedule so that you can mark those dates on your calendars.

Rising and Shining Stars Disney Trip. Ages 7 and up

These two companies will be required to attend a Disney Workshop and perform at Disney World in Orlando in January/February/March (months subject to change based on Disney's schedule). Please note if your dancer is not in Rising or Shining but would like to travel with GDU to Disney you may do so.

To help offset the cost of this trip, we will be attending only 3 competitions in the Spring and this trip will take the place of Nationals in the summer. The price for each dancer is approx \$280 which includes the dance workshop and the required two day Disney park ticket. All family and friends will receive the discounted student rates for any park tickets. We have plans for Disney specific fundraisers in the hope that we can help cover some costs.

**We require all company parents to volunteer a minimum of three times during the year for events such as helping with our Saturday dinners, prop building, costuming, charity events, etc. A form will be available at our Parent Meeting in August.**

# Dancer's Bio

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Promoted Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you been dancing: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the star level you are auditioning for:

Mini Star

Hip Hop Star

Shooting Star Junior

Shooting Star Teen

Rising Star

Shining Star

How many GROUP dances would you like to participate in this season? \_\_\_\_\_

Solo? Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_ Would you be interested in a duo/trio? \_\_\_\_\_

Total Dances for the season \_\_\_\_\_ =(Groups + Solo + Duo/Trio)

Favorite Dance Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Least Favorite Dance Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include 3-4 sentences about yourself including what you would like to accomplish this year, how you can improve this team, and why competitive dance is important to you.

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**Please note, if you are a rising middle schooler or older you will need to submit a professional resume along with this page. Thank you!**

# Mini Star Company (Ages 3-6)

## Requirements:

- Attend at least 8 classes in summer 2023
- Attend company choreography week
- Attend weekly required classes
  - Assigned ballet/tap/jazz class
  - Assigned rehearsal\*
- 5 Saturday rehearsals (Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb). One rehearsal for March and April if needed.
- Perform one dance at competition
- Attend three competitions in the spring (one out of state)
- Perform company and class dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time may be shared with multiple mini star dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition \$70 x 9.5 months	\$ 665.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals \$25 x 9.5 months	\$ 237.50
• Choreography Fee x1	\$ 130.00**
• Costume x1	\$ 85.00
• Competition Entry Fees (\$70 x 3 competitions)	\$ 210.00**
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00
• Company Dinners (\$5 x 5)	\$ 25.00

\*\*additional charge for duet/trio

**Annual Total = \$1,375.00**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$125.00 per month July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$654.00 each in August and January (5% discount applied.... Check/cash only or processing fee will apply)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals) fee of \$150.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$35.00), required warm up jacket (\$45), optional warm-up pants (\$32), shoes (\$20.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$65), and recital costumes (\$70.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Hip Hop Star Jr/Teen Company (Ages 7 and up)

## Requirements:

- Attend at least 8 classes in Summer 2023
- Attend company choreography week
- Attend weekly required classes
  - Assigned Hip Hop class
  - Assigned rehearsal\*
- Up to 2 Saturday rehearsals a month
- Perform one dance at competition
- Attend three competitions in the spring (one out of town)
- Perform company and class dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time may be shared with multiple hip hop dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition \$60 x 9.5 months	\$ 570.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals \$25 x 9.5 months	\$ 237.50
• Choreography Fee	\$ 130.00**
• Costume	\$ 85.00
• Competition Entry Fees (\$70 x 3 competitions)	\$ 210.00**
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00
• Company Dinners (\$5 x 8)	\$ 40.00

\*\*additional charge for duet/trio

**Yearly Total = \$1,292.50**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$120.00 per month July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$614.00 each in August and January (5% discount applied.... Check/cash only or processing fee will apply)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals) fee of \$150.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$35.00), required warm up jacket (\$45), optional warm-up pants (\$32), shoes (\$20.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$65), and recital costumes (\$70.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Shooting Star Junior Company (Ages 7-10)

## Requirements:

- Attend one week of dance intensive and at least 8 classes in summer 2023
- Attend company choreography week
- Attend weekly required classes
  - Assigned shooting combo class
  - Assigned rehearsal\*
- 5 Saturday rehearsals (Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb). One rehearsal for March and April if needed.
- Perform one dance at competition
- Attend three competitions in the spring (one out of town)
- Perform company and class dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time may be shared with multiple shooting star junior dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition \$70 x 9.5 months	\$ 665.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals \$25 x 9.5 months	\$ 237.50
• Choreography Fee x1	\$ 130.00**
• Costume x1	\$ 85.00
• Competition Entry Fees (\$70 x 3 competitions)	\$ 210.00**
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00
• Company Dinners (\$5 x 5)	\$ 25.00

\*\*additional charge for duet/trio

**Annual Total = \$1,375.00**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$125.00 per month July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$654.00 each in August and January (5% discount applied.... Check/cash only or processing fee will apply)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals) fee of \$150.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$35.00), required warm up jacket (\$45), optional warm-up pants (\$32), shoes (\$20.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$65), and recital costumes (\$70.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Shooting Star Teen Company (Ages 11-19)

## Requirements:

- First year competitor only
- Attend one week of Dance Intensive and at least 10 classes in summer 2023
- Attend company choreography week
- Attend weekly required classes
  - 60-minute jazz/tap or 60-minute jazz class
  - An additional class  
(pick between lyrical, hip hop, musical theater or ballet)
  - Assigned rehearsal
- Up to Two Saturdays a month rehearsal
- Perform two dances in competition
- Attend four competitions in the spring (two out of town)
- Perform company and class dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time may be shared with multiple shooting star teen dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition \$90 x 9.5 months	\$ 855.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals \$25 x 9.5 months	\$ 237.50
• Choreography Fee (\$130 x 2)	\$ 260.00**
• Costumes (85 x 2)	\$ 170.00
• Competition Entry Fees (\$140 x 3 competitions)	\$ 420.00**
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00
• Company Dinners (\$5 x 8)	\$ 40.00

\*\*additional charge for duet/trio

**Total for year = \$2002.50**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$185.00 per month July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$ 951.20 each in August and January (5% discount applied.. Check/cash only or processing fee will apply)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals) fee of \$150.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$35.00), required warm up jacket (\$45), optional warm-up pants (\$32), shoes (\$20.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$65), and recital costumes (\$70.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



# Rising Star Company (Ages 6 and up)

## Requirements:

- Attend one week of dance intensive **AND** at least 12 classes in summer 2023
- Attend company choreography week
- Two days a week and two Saturdays a month time commitment:
- Weekly required classes
  - Assigned ballet class
  - Assigned jazz class
  - Assigned stretch/conditioning class
  - An additional class  
(pick between tap, lyrical, hip hop, musical theater or tumbling: must coordinate with competition dances)
  - Assigned rehearsal
- Two Saturdays a month rehearsal
- Perform a minimum of two dances at competition (priced below)...extra dances are optional
- Attend three competitions in the spring (one out of town)
- Attend In-house dance convention
- Perform company dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time will be shared with multiple rising/shining star dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition (\$150 x 9.5)	\$ 1425.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals (\$30 x 9.5 months)	\$ 285.00
• Quest In House Convention	\$ 325.00
• Choreography Fees (\$130.00 x 2)	\$ 260.00**
• Costumes (2)	\$ 170.00
• Competition fees (\$140 x 3 competitions)	\$ 420.00**
• Saturday dinners (\$5 x 8 months)	\$ 40.00
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00

\*\*additional charge for duet/trio/solo

**Total for year = \$2,945.00**

## Payment Options:

- 11 monthly payments: \$270.00 July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$1,399 each in August/January (5% discount)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals) fee of \$150.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$35.00), required warm up jacket (\$45), optional warm-up pants (\$32), shoes (\$20.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$65), and recital costumes (\$70.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Shining Star Company (ages 6 and up)

## Requirements:

- Attend one week of dance intensive **AND** at least 12 classes in summer 2023
- Attend company choreography week
- Three days a week and two Saturdays a month time commitment:
- Weekly required classes...
  - Assigned ballet class and one extra technique or ballet class a week
  - Assigned jazz class
  - Assigned stretch/conditioning class
  - Assigned lyrical class
  - Assigned tap class
  - Assigned hip hop class
  - Assigned tumbling class
  - Assigned rehearsal\*
- Two Saturdays a month rehearsal
- Perform a minimum of three dances at competition...extra dances are optional
- Attend three competitions in the Spring (one out of town)
- Attend two dance conventions (Encore in South Carolina and In-house)
- Perform company dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time will be shared with multiple rising/shining star dances

## Company Costs

• Tuition (unlimited classes)(\$180 x 9.5 months)	\$1,710.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals (\$30 x 9.5 months)	\$ 285.00
• Choreography Fees (\$130.00 x 3)	\$ 390.00*
• Convention (2: Encore and In-house)	\$ 500.00
• Costumes (3)	\$ 255.00
• Competition fees (\$ 210 x 3 competitions)	\$ 630.00*
• Saturday dinners \$5 x 8 months	\$ 40.00
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00

\*additional charge for duet/trio/solo

**Total for year = \$3830.00**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$350.00 July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$1820.00 each in August and January (5% discount)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals) fee of \$150.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$35.00), required warm up jacket (\$45), optional warm-up pants (\$32), shoes (\$20.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$65), and recital costumes (\$70.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

## **Additional Dances** (These dances do not qualify for the 5% payment discount)

### **Solos: available for Rising and Shining Star Dancers only**

\$ 300*	choreography fee and rehearsal up to 6 hours.
\$ 405	entry fees (\$135 x 3 competitions)
\$ 85	costume
<b>\$ 790</b>	<b>Total</b>

### **Duets/Trios:**

\$ 175*	choreography fee (per person) and rehearsal up to 6 hours.
\$ 240	entry fees (\$80 x3 competitions)
\$ 85	costume
<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>Total</b>

### **Groups:**

#### **Rising and Shining Stars Additional Groups**

\$ 130	choreography fee (per person)
\$ 75	rehearsal fee
\$ 210	entry fees (\$70 x 3 competitions)
\$ 85	costume
<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>Total</b>

### **ENCORE EXTREME CONVENTION AND DANCE ENTRY (assessed in September)**

#### **Shining**

\$75.00	Additional cost of convention (If you plan to attend Encore Extreme instead of Titans Dance)
\$70.00	entry fee for Encore Extreme dance (if your dancer is placed in a dance that attends (notice will be given this will be an additional competition fee

#### **Rising**

\$250.00	Encore Extreme (Neither Encore Extreme nor Titans is built into Rising tuition)
\$70.00	entry fee for Encore Extreme dance (if your dancer is placed in a dance that attends (notice will be given this will be an additional competition fee

**\* Additional charges will be assessed after choreography/rehearsal hours are reached.**

Mini/Hip Hop/Shooting Star Jr. 1st Year- maximum one group dance

Mini/Hip Hop/Shooting Star Jr. Veteran- maximum two group dances or duo/trio

Shooting Star Teen- maximum two group dances

Rising Star 1st Year- maximum 3 dances: two group dances and either a solo or duo/trio

Rising Star Veteran- maximum 4 dances: three group dances and either a solo or a duo/trio

Shining Star 1st Year- maximum 4 dances: three group dances and either a solo or a duo/trio

Shining Star Veteran- unlimited (maximum one solos)

Senior Shining Star Veterans-unlimited (maximum two solos)

Elite Soloist Performers (maximum two solos)

# Solo Requirements

New for the 2023-2024 season!

Solos will not be guaranteed to every dancer that wants one. Solos cost a great amount of time and money. A solo requires the dancer to learn quickly and practice independently. Therefore, this year we feel the need to place stricter stipulations onto dancers that qualify for a solo. This season we will be examining the following.

1. Dancer's work ethic: First we expect 110% effort in rehearsing their group dances. Group dances are and will always be our primary focus.
2. Dancer's commitment to practicing independently at home each day, listening to their music, and completing the weekly practice log.
3. Dancer's classroom behavior and effort.
4. Dancer's must exhibit their ability to listen to corrections from their choreographers, other GDU teachers, and judges and apply those corrections.
5. Dancer's must be able to demonstrate skills and techniques applicable to both their age and competition levels.

Please note, we do not want to discourage anyone desiring to perform a solo, but we also have noticed a need for better quality control. This may sound harsh, but please know this comes from a place of respect for our choreographers' talents, our dancers' passions, and our parents' budgets.