

Tentative Schedule of Studio Company Events

May

Thu 20th * Auditions (please note change)
5:30 - Crunch
7:00 - Lumière

June

Mon 14th * Classes & rehearsals begin – Major Casting for 2011 Recital announced
TBA * Studio Company Bonfire (for dancers AND parents)

July

Fri 23rd * Last day of summer classes
Mon TBA * **Day of Dance Performance at Centre Hall Library**
TBA * **Tentative Studio Showcase**

September

Wed 3rd * Fall classes begin

November

TBA * Tentative Broadway Connection weekend

December

TBA * **Wynwood House Performance**

January

TBA * Studio Company Winter Party

February

TBA * **Possible Grier School Performance?**

May

Sat 7th * Tentative Academy Awards Dress Rehearsal
Sun 15th * **Tentative Academy Awards 2011**
Wed 18th * Tentative 2011-12 Studio Company Auditions

PA ACADEMY of the ARTS

Congratulations on taking a huge step towards becoming a more focused and disciplined dancer! Being a part of a studio company is a big responsibility, and we want to make sure that everyone understands how important it is to treat this commitment as a priority. A dance company is no different than a sports team or a small choir at school – it takes the whole group to make things work!

About the Dancers

The company commitment for 2010-11 is a full year, beginning in June and running through auditions in May of 2011. This year, we are looking for members, apprentices and non-performers for our studio companies (Crunch! Productions and Lumière Studio Company). The descriptions and attendance requirements are listed below, but if you need clarification, please feel free to ask for more information. Days absent allowed per season include their required technique classes AND rehearsals.

Members: Dancers who are fully committed to joining the company for the 2010-11 season, who consider dancing in the company their first priority, who technically meet the demands of choreography, and who show an excellent attitude and work ethic. These dancers will perform in all shows and at all events, and we consider them the academy's representatives to the community.

Apprentices: Dancers who are fully committed to joining the company for the 2010-11 season, who consider dance a priority in their life, who are working to improve their technical skills in order to meet the demands of choreography, and who show an excellent attitude and work ethic. These dancers perform alongside members, and also serve as understudies for all productions, even performing separate choreography at times.

Non-Performer: Dancers who feel like they cannot commit to the entire season due to community theater performances, school productions, etc. Dancers still get the same challenge and opportunity for growth as members and apprentices, however, they will not be performing unless all other understudies are unavailable for a performance.

About Auditions

Auditioning for one of our studio companies is a big commitment for many of you, and we are excited that you'll be joining us for the experience. You can expect to take a technique class alongside current company members and apprentices, as well as some dancers who are just there for the experience and aren't really auditioning. Some of the work you will no doubt find simple, and some of it you will probably find difficult. Just do your best and keep smiling!

About Results

Dancers can expect to find audition results on the window outside the front studio on the evening of auditions. They will also be posted on the studio company page of the website that evening.

PAA Studio Company Student Performer Contract

Your selection as a member of one of PAA's Studio Companies is a marvelous opportunity and a privilege. It is also a commitment and responsibility. It is important for all students as well as parents involved in this program to understand this commitment. After reading carefully through this contract, we ask both parents and students to sign below. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the office. If for any reason you do not think you can make this commitment, please let us know at once.

Before auditioning, potential company members must consider all other activities in which they may be involved and be willing to put their commitment to the company above and beyond any other activities that may conflict with the rehearsal and performance requirements. Please bear in mind while making the decision to audition that being a company member is not just another recreational dance class or extracurricular activity. Many other people--performers, directors, choreographers--as well as the performances themselves, are negatively affected if all cast members are not demonstrating the same level of commitment.

PAA STUDIO COMPANY REQUIREMENTS

Students selected as company members must have achieved the level of technique necessary, enroll in and attend the required number of classes at PA Academy of the Arts and commit to a dedicated schedule of classes and rehearsals.

You must meet these **required technique classes** in your registration at PA Academy of the Arts.

Crunch: at least two hours of tap technique per week + weekly 1-hour rehearsal
Lumière: at least two hours of ballet or jazz technique per week + weekly 1-hour rehearsal

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all classes is very important. This includes your technique classes AND rehearsals. It is never too early to communicate a conflict.

1. **There may be no more than four absences from required technique classes each semester.**

You are expected to maintain consistent attendance in required technique classes each semester. A phone call to the office or email to your director is expected whenever you are ill or otherwise unable to attend. You may make up classes to count towards perfect attendance, however, this will not erase absences from your company record.

2. **There may be no more than two absences per semester from rehearsals.** Company rehearsals are vitally important to a successful production, so every effort should be made to attend each and every company rehearsal. If you miss rehearsal, you must learn exactly what went on during the missed session and any missed choreography must be learned prior to attending the next session. Any member missing more than two rehearsals will be demoted to apprentice status. Any apprentice missing more than two rehearsals will be demoted to non-performing status. **Any non-performer missing more than three (3) rehearsal classes will be dismissed from the company.** Extenuating circumstances, such as injury or illness should be discussed with the director and choreographers. Rehearsals may not be made up.

3. **All studio run-through and stage rehearsals are mandatory and cannot be missed!**

Please consider if your load of activities outside of the Studio Companies would make it difficult for you to participate. We are all interested in presenting performances of the highest caliber,

making it absolutely necessary for everyone to be totally consistent with their attendance.

TUITION

Tuition is to be paid annually for studio company rehearsals, due at the beginning of the Summer semester. This may be paid in three installments, but is due no later than **September 30, 2010**. Our 2010-11 participants will be paying for Summer 2010, Fall 2010 & Spring 2011 in their annual payment.

This policy is in place to ensure that company members understand their annual commitment.

COMMUNICATIONS

Your personal hanging file folder is located in the PAA waiting room. This is your main source of communication. Check your folder each time you come to the studio.

Also check the Studio Company **whiteboard** for new information on performances & special events. We maintain an **online message board** where Rehearsal Directors will post choreography notes and you can ask questions or set up extra rehearsals. Please provide us with an **email address** so we can send you important notes in this manner also.

APPRENTICES & NON-PERFORMERS

Apprentices & Non-Performers will be assigned as understudies for all parts in a production.

Understudies must learn and keep accurate notes of all choreography, as they are called upon to perform whenever there is an illness or injury or a performer is not able to keep the performance commitment.

ETIQUETTE & CONDUCT

Students should exhibit good behavior at the studio and theatre by being on time & available to the director, keeping quiet backstage, and knowing when they are expected onstage. Most of all, students must be courteous to directors, guest artists, backstage personnel and other performers.

Your attitude towards your art form and towards other people is very visible, and many other students will be looking up to you. Remember you are a role model for them, so regularly attending classes and rehearsals, practicing consistently, and keeping a positive attitude at all times is important!

Abstaining from the use of any drugs and/or alcohol (including smoking) while participating in company events (rehearsals, trips, performances, conventions) is expected. If you are under 21 and break this rule in any way, your membership in the company will be automatically ended.

COSTUMES

Costumes for Broadway Connection and the Academy Awards will either be purchased by the performer or rented from the studio wardrobe.

Costumes will not be distributed unless paid in full.

STUDENT PERFORMER CONTRACT

I have read all of the information above, and I understand the extent of the commitment that is necessary, the rules that must be followed and I accept all of the responsibilities.

Student Signature

Date

I understand that if my child is accepted as one of the 2010-11 members of a PAA Studio Company, it will be a serious time commitment for him/her from June 2010 through May 2011. I agree to communicate any vacations and absences to the director, as much in advance as possible. I will encourage my child to maintain attendance at his/her regular dance classes, to regularly attend rehearsals and company functions, and to practice outside of his/her time at the dance studio. I also agree and understand that my child may be driven to events by parent chaperones, as well as any one of the directors.

If, in the event a conflict should arise regarding my child's academic work, behavior, or family, I understand that arrangements can be made to take a temporary "leave of absence" from the company, in order to alleviate the problem. I also agree that this leave is not to be used to accommodate other extracurricular hobbies or events.

I understand that there will be supplemental costs for costumes and weekly rehearsals, which I agree to pay in full or installments over the course of the year. (If finances are an issue, please see the director for arrangements).

As the parent of a talented young performer, I agree to encourage him/her to strive towards excellence. I understand that my attitude towards his/her desire to dance directly impacts self-confidence and willingness to work. PAA is a place for my child to grow in self-discipline, ambition, and an overall knowledge of the performing arts world.

Parent's Signature

Date

PA Academy of the Arts
Studio Company Application

NAME _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

PARENT NAMES _____
PARENT CELL _____
PARENT EMAIL _____

ATTENDING SCHOOL AT _____ GRADE LEVEL _____
STUDENT CELL _____
STUDENT EMAIL _____

INTERESTED IN (check one):
Member/Apprentice ___ Non-Performer ___ Only auditioning for the experience ___

HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF PAA'S STUDIO COMPANIES?
YES _____ NO _____

IF YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN IN A PAA PRODUCTION, TELL US ABOUT YOUR
TRAINING & PERFORMING EXPERIENCE:

List classes in which you are enrolled for Summer 2010 at PAA.

List school/sport/religious activities for this year and day & time of involvement:

List any planned family trips: