

BSD Performance Company Standards 2017-2018

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BSD PERFORMANCE COMPANY STANDARDS 2017-2018

Attention all BSD Performance Company members and parents:

Please thoroughly read the contents of this document (even if you have been a Performance member for a number of years). After doing so complete, sign (by both a parent and Performance member), and return (the form at the end of this document) to your Performance instructor (not Pam) by
Monday, August 1, 2017

You have been invited to participate in a very special class offered at Brushwood's School of Dance - Performance Company. This is not a technique class but instead a class for performance - strictly choreography - incorporating all forms of dance offered at BSD. Participation in PERFORMANCE requires a commitment from both the student and parent. Although we have participated in competitions in the past, THIS IS NOT A COMPETITION COMPANY. This is a PERFORMING company. Since Performance is not a technique class, the requirement for technique will be met through mandatory participation in a ballet class at BSD. In order to advance to a higher level of performance, students will be required to periodically take other forms of dance - jazz, modern, and tap - at BSD. Please see these requirements under the level in which you will be placed.

All BSD Performance Companies

Parents, siblings, friends, etc. will not be allowed to watch weekly Performance classes except at the instructor's discretion. All parents are allowed to watch the entire class during "Parent's Visitation Week." Performance Company instructors will often leave the door open - please be courteous to the dancers and instructor by keeping quiet in the lobby and not crowding the door. Thank you.

Appearance:

Each Performance member is expected **to dress appropriately for all classes and performances**, with proper dance attire or costumes, wearing the correct shoes, and with hair pulled back away for the face as desired by the instructor/choreographer. Leotards are mandatory for all classes, including Performance. **They are also expected to ALWAYS wear cover-ups over their dance attire.** Please see "Proper Dance Attire" at www.brushwoodsschoolofdance.com for more details.

Attendance Policy:

Class: Students must be prompt to class. If you are running late, please call the studio to let your instructor know. If you know you will be tardy ahead of time, tell your instructor and write it on the Performance Company calendar (located in the studio, on the far-right mirror). When arriving late, it is the Performance member's responsibility to make sure the instructor checks them off on the attendance sheet as being late and not absent. Not doing so may jeopardize your position in Performance due to excessive absences.

Performance members may not have more than 3 absences per semester in Performance class. A Performance member who repeatedly arrives late to class or who misses more than 3 classes in a semester will jeopardize their position in Performance. All Performance members are also expected to have good attendance in their other classes: ballet, jazz, tap, and modern. All absences known in advance require a phone call or email to the instructor AND you must write it on the Performance calendar. All unexpected absences require a phone call to the instructor at the studio. The instructor will judge on a case-by-case basis if a student with excessive absences will be allowed to continue in Performance and the instructor's decision is final. Tuition will not be refunded or pro-rated for absences.

Attendance Policy (continued):

Rehearsals for Performance Events:

The last studio practice and the dress rehearsal prior to a Performance event are mandatory. Any Performance member who misses the last studio practice or the dress rehearsal prior to a Performance event (without making prior arrangements with the instructor) will not be allowed to perform. **"Prior arrangements" with Performance instructors MUST be made at least ONE MONTH in advance, except in the case of emergencies.**

Recital:

A Performance member may not miss more than two in - studio rehearsals for recital, which begin the end of March 2018 (date to be announced). Any changes to these policies will be at the instructor's discretion and the decision will be final. The recital dress rehearsal is mandatory in order to participate in recital. All Performance members must perform in both shows of the recital. There are no exceptions.

Special Rehearsals:

Occasionally an instructor will schedule a special rehearsal for a particular dance. These special rehearsals are usually held on weekends and are scheduled at least two months in advance. Please keep in mind the instructors do all they can to accommodate everyone's schedules. Sometimes, however, this cannot be accomplished, in which case majority rules. Special weekend rehearsals may be held in March, April, and/or May 2017 for our recital production number which includes all 5 Performance Companies.

Performance Events:

When a Performance member has committed himself/herself to performing and does not show up, a phone call and written reason, from the parent, after the performance will be required explaining the failure to attend. After committing to perform, acceptable reasons for absence are family emergencies or an extreme illness that is contagious (this does not include cramps, colds without fever, etc.). **All Performance members are expected to attend 100% of the Performance events unless prior arrangements have been made with your performance instructor at least ONE month in advance (or family emergency/contagious illness).** Please remember that each time a dancer fails to participate or decides not to participate in a Performance event it effects the entire group. The instructor must re-choreograph lines and formations which takes time away from polishing and perfecting the dance routine. Therefore, you can understand why a strict attendance policy is necessary.

Behavior:

Each Performance member is expected to work cooperatively within these groups. We are a team and, as such, must work for the best of the team. You are not required to be best buddies with all members of Performance, either in dance or outside of dance. However, you must work cooperatively together. Tattling, gossiping, or ridicule of each other or other students or studio **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** This goes for the parents of Performance members as well. If you have a serious problem with another dancer, you may talk with your instructor in private about the situation. Your instructor will take the matter under consideration and will act accordingly, deciding if it is a matter that requires action on the instructor's part. The instructor may not, however, come back to you with the result. This should not be misconstrued to think that the instructor did nothing about the situation - your instructor will handle most problems in the same way she expects you to bring them to her - **PRIVATELY.** As far as personal problems go, you and your parents should handle those

Behavior (continued):

personally, outside of dance. In addition, public gossip, tattling, or ridicule of another studio or teacher, by Performance members or their parents WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Anyone not abiding by this policy will be given one warning before being dismissed from Performance. *As the “cream of the crop” you are expected to behave accordingly in ALL your classes. You are expected to behave in a professional manner, paying attention and working enthusiastically. You have been picked for Performance because of your ability and your love of dance. This does not mean you cannot have fun in your classes - but fun does not mean rude behavior or excessive talking during class. Our number one rule at BSD is “Treat others the way you want to be treated.” As Performance member you must exhibit model behavior. Remember other students look up to you and you are an example to them!*

BSD Performance Website ~ www.bsdperformancecompany.com:

All BSD Performance Company information will be posted on our website. In an effort to be more GREEN at BSD, we will not give handouts to each individual Performance member about events, costumes, rehearsals, fundraisers, etc. It is the responsibility of the Performance member and his/her parents to check the website regularly to keep up on important information about events, costumes, rehearsals, fundraisers, etc.

Classes at other studios:

Any student taking classes at another studio (other than Non-profit Organizations including Church Dance Groups and School Dance Clubs) WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PERFORMANCE. This does not include non-Performance students. Any student found to be participating in classes at another studio will be dismissed from Performance with NO REFUND of tuition as this clearly is against Performance Company Standards. If you would like more information regarding this standard, please see Pam.

Class Placement:

Registration for all classes for students ages 8 and up is determined by BSD instructors and always not by age. This ensures that all students are registered for the appropriate level due to ability, technique, strength, and maturity. We do not move students up because a parent feels their child is ready for a higher level, because of car pools, or because a student's friend moves up to a higher level. We want your child to succeed at BSD and placing them in a class above their technical level puts your child at risk of injury. Students cannot learn advanced skills if they cannot master the basics - it is like putting a first grader in Algebra!

Dance Requirements:

We have dance requirements to keep our dancers well-rounded and to add variety to our dance numbers. Only requiring Performance members to take one type of dance limits the instructors/choreographers when it comes to creating the dances. We do not want to fall into a rut of having the same old type of dance every year. In order to move from the Junior level to Intermediate and from Intermediate to Senior there are certain technique classes you must take. Please see the specific requirements under each level. There are no dance requirements to move from the Petite level to Junior, age is the deciding factor. At the studio there is an index card box for Performance Company Dance Class Records. Please keep these cards current each semester. (It is a lot easier to update it each semester than to wait and try to remember the classes you have taken.) On your index card you need to include all classes taken after Primary Ballet/Tap/Jazz (when you started taking individual classes at the age of 8). Classes taken should be listed by semester and year. Don't forget summer classes! Since a summer class is 6 weeks, two summer studies equals one 12-week semester.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

Please give your instructor a copy of your schedule for any extra-curricular activities, including sports, band, swim team, etc. and highlight any conflicting dates with performance at your first class back in August. This does not excuse your absence due to extra-curricular activities, but it does help the instructor remember where you are if you are absent and it helps in planning special rehearsals and performance events. Performance Company should be a top priority on your list. We are not asking you to put Performance before family and religion, but we are asking you to make it a priority when it comes to attending classes, rehearsals, and performances.

Finances:

As stated in the beginning, participation in Performance requires a certain financial obligation. We Can't give you exact costs other than tuition, but there are the added costs of costumes, occasional workshops (these are not required), optional performance t-shirts and warm-ups, tickets for performance events or festivals (example: admission to the park for the Kings Dominion Dance Festival for dancers as well as observers), etc. We always try our best to keep costs down by re-using costumes or purchasing items that can be worn outside of dance. But we do want everyone to be aware that there are additional costs. More details as the semester progresses.

Fundraisers:

Performance instructors try to keep the prices down as much as possible for costumes, etc. All BSD Performance Companies definitely get their money's worth out of costumes (because they are worn numerous times throughout the dance year). We do one or two fundraisers in the fall to help pay for costumes and other costs. Participation in these fundraisers is up to you. Only those who participate in the fundraisers will benefit. For example: If we do a car wash and ten performance members show up to work, all the money made from the car wash will be divided by those ten. We welcome any suggestions for fundraisers and help from parents is greatly appreciated.

No posting BSD videos on social networks:

All BSD Studio Policies found at www.brushwoodsschoolofdance.com apply to BSD Performance Companies. There will be no posting allowed of any videos of BSD choreography on internet social networks (YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Vine, Instagram, Snap Chat, blogs, etc.) without written permission from the choreographer and BSD, and both the choreographer and BSD have the right to deny this request. Please visit our BSD website and look under "Studio Policies" for more details.

Parents of Performance Members:

The parent's of Performance members are expected to set a good example for their children and others at the studio. Public complaining, gossip, and ridicule of instructors, students, other studios, etc. **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**. If you, as a Performance parent, have a problem (with another studio's dance, the way a dress rehearsal is running, how another studio is behaving, etc.) please keep all comments to yourself until you are away from the Performance event. Publicly speaking poorly of another instructor, studio, or dancer not only makes you look bad, it makes Brushwood's School of Dance look bad. If there is a serious problem at the studio or at a Performance event that needs to be addressed, please speak to your child's instructor or Pam in private. Also, parents please keep in mind that BSD instructors and event coordinators do their best to run dress rehearsals and performances on time. We try our best to accommodate everyone and finish at a reasonable hour. But sometimes other factors modify our schedule (technical problems with lighting or sound, late students, other studios arriving late, traffic accidents, etc.) causing us to get behind. Complaining

Parents of Performance members (continued):

out loud to others only “fuels the fire” and makes the situation worse, causing others to be unhappy and complain. If you have a serious problem with the schedule that needs addressing, please see your instructor or Pam in private. On the day of a dress rehearsal or a performance, do not schedule other events (before or after) that may cause you to be pressed for time.

Probation:

Any BSD Performance Company member with excessive absences, behavior issues, etc. will be put on probation by their Performance instructor. That member will have one semester to change their behavior or they will be asked to leave Performance Company. Please see your instructor or Pam for more details.

Recital:

Although all Performance members are required to take ballet (in addition to their Performance class), they are not required to perform in the recital with ballet or any other additional technique classes. That is your individual decision. Only Performance dances are required in the recital. All Performance Companies dance in both shows. We always open each show with our production number and end with our individual Performance Company dances. During dress rehearsal for recital we try our hardest to stay on schedule and go in the correct show order (this ensures the actual show runs smoothly). Please keep in mind that Performance members are there the longest - dancing at the beginning and end of the show. Be prepared to stay at dress rehearsal from beginning to end. Eat a good meal before you come and get plenty of rest the night before. It will be a long afternoon/evening so prepare yourself ahead of time for the long haul!

Representation of BSD on social networks:

All BSD Performance members are expected to represent BSD and themselves in an appropriate and respectful manner on all social networks (YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, blogs, etc.). Complaining about classes, teachers, choreography; gossip; ridicule of students or other studios; inappropriate language, photos, videos; cyber bullying, etc. **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Anyone not abiding by this policy will be given one warning before being dismissed from BSD Performance Company.

Transfer Students:

Any student transferring from another studio must audition before being accepted into Performance, regardless of previous dance training and experience. Placement in the appropriate level will be at the instructor’s discretion and will be based on this audition, dance experience, and age requirements. Any new student (with no previous dance training) wishing to take part in BSD Performance Company, may request a “Challenge” audition. This will be at the instructor’s discretion and must satisfy ability and age requirements for the Performance Company level for which they are applying. The audition does not automatically guarantee a position in Performance. The student must exhibit exceptional natural ability.

2017 - 2018 Performance Company Events:

Below is the list of our tentative Performance events. There may be more events added as the academic year progresses. Please check www.bsdperformancecompany.com for times and more details as the dance year progress.

Fall 2017:

Saturday, September 2017 (specific date TBA) - Central Elementary Fall Festival, Fluvanna
Saturday, October 2017 (specific date TBA) - Gordonsville Street Festival, Gordonsville
Saturday, November 2017 (specific date TBA) - Annual Veteran's Parade, Gordonsville
Saturday, December 2017 (specific date TBA) - Christmas Festival - Carysbrook Center, Palmyra
Sunday, November/December 2017 (specific date TBA) - Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting, Gordonsville

Spring 2018:

Sunday, March/April 2018 (specific date TBA) - Kings Dominion Dance Festival, Doswell
That's Entertainment 2018 (specific date TBA) - Recital Dress Rehearsal, Fluvanna County High School
That's Entertainment 2018 (specific date TBA) - Recital, Fluvanna County High School

Individual Company Requirements

Petite Performance Company:

Age: 6 to 8 years of age as of April 15th of the current academic year. (September through March is an academic year made up of two semesters.) All new Petite Performance members 6 - 7 years of age are chosen from Primary Ballet/Tap/Jazz classes and 8 years of age from Ballet I/II classes.

Dance Experience Requirement: Any student being considered for entrance into Petite Performance Company is encouraged to have the following experience:

- Pre-Ballet/Tap/Jazz or Primary Ballet/Tap/Jazz - 1 year (two semesters)

Present Dance Requirement: All Petite Performance Company members are required to take Ballet I or Primary Ballet/Tap/Jazz at BSD (depending on age and level) in addition to Petite Performance Company. Please also see the requirements for Junior Performance Company.

Junior Performance Companies:

Age: 9 to 11 years of age as of April 15th of the current academic year. (September through March is an academic year made up of two semesters.) All students who begin Junior Performance before the age of 11 must spend a minimum of two years at the Junior level. All new Junior Performance Company members are chosen from ballet technique classes.

Dance Experience Requirement*: Any student being considered for entrance to Junior Performance Company is encouraged to have the following experience:

Ballet - 1 year (two semesters)

Present Dance Requirement: All Junior Performance Company members are required to take a ballet technique class at BSD in addition to Junior Performance Company. We strongly encourage continued studies in jazz, modern, and tap at BSD - Please also see requirements for Intermediate Performance Company.

Intermediate Performance Company:

Age: 12 - 14 years of age as of April 15th of the current academic year. (September through March is an academic year made up of two semesters.) If a student is not 12, but has spent 3 or more years at the Junior level, he/she MAY be eligible for the Intermediate level. The instructor will determine this by the dancer's ability, strength, and maturity. All new Intermediate Performance Company members are chosen from Ballet technique classes.

*Please note PreBallet/Tap/Jazz and Primary Ballet/Tap/Jazz do not satisfy this requirement.

Dance Experience Requirement*: Any student being considered for entrance into Intermediate Performance Company should have the following experience:

Ballet – 2 years (or 4 semesters)	Modern – 1 semester (or 2 summer studies)
Jazz - 1 semester (or 2 summer studies)	Tap – 1 semester (or 2 summer studies)

Present Dance Requirement: All Intermediate Performance Company members are required to take a ballet technique class at BSD in addition to Intermediate Performance Company. We strongly encourage continued studies in jazz, modern, and tap at BSD - Please also see requirements for Senior Performance Company.

Senior Performance Company:

Age: 13 years of age and up as of April 15th of the current academic year. (September through March is an academic year made up of two semesters.)

Dance Experience Requirement*: Any student being considered for entrance into Senior Performance Company should have the following experience:

Ballet - 3 years (or 6 semesters)	Jazz – 1 year (2 semesters or 4 summer studies)
Modern - 1 year (2 semesters or 4 summer studies)	Tap – 1 year (2 semesters or 4 summer studies)

Present Dance Requirement: All Senior Performance Company members are required to take a ballet technique class and one other technique class (jazz, modern, or tap) at BSD in addition to Senior Performance Company.

Premiere Dance Company:

Age: 13 years of age and up. In order to audition to be selected for Premiere, a student must be 13 by September 1st of the current academic year and have at least one year of experience at the Intermediate Performance Company level. Any Intermediate or Senior dancers may audition just for the experience.

Auditions for Premiere Dance Company: Each year there are approximately 1 - 6 openings for new members (depending on how many seniors graduate the prior year and how many students the instructor wants for the upcoming season). Auditions are usually held the week after recital. Check our Performance Company website in March for the specific audition date and more in-depth information.

Those auditioning for Premiere Dance Company are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Technique and Ability
- Dance Experience (see below)
- Attendance (from the prior academic year) at class and performance events
- Stage Presence
- Cooperation with teachers, choreographers, and fellow students
- Attitude

Dance Experience Requirement*: Any student being considered to audition for Premiere Dance Company should have the following experience:

-Ballet - 4 years (or 8 semesters)	-Modern - 2 years (4 semesters or 8 summer studies)
-Jazz - 2 years (4 semesters or 8 summer studies)	-Tap - 1 year (2 semesters or 4 summer studies)

* Please note Pre-Ballet/Tap/Jazz and Primary/Ballet/Tap/Jazz do not satisfy this requirement.

Present Dance Requirement: All Premiere Dance Company members are required to take a ballet technique class and one other technique class (jazz, modern, or tap) at BSD in addition to Premiere Dance Company.

BSD Performance Company Standards Form 2017 – 2018

Please thoroughly read the 2017-18 BSD Performance Standards. Complete, initial and sign (both by parent and Performance member) and return this form to your Performance Company Instructor (not Pam) by Tuesday, August 1, 2017.

Please
initial below

_____ I have read and understand the 2017 - 2018 BSD Performance Company Standards found on the Performance Company website.

_____ I understand that to request a change to the standards I must come to my Performance instructor or Pam Brushwood, but they have the final word on such.

_____ I also understand that it is my responsibility as a BSD Performance Company member/parent that I regularly check the website (www.bsdperformancecompany.com) to keep up to date on important BSD Performance Company information.

_____ BSD Performance Company Member Name (Please print) Performance Company Level for 2017 – 2018

_____ BSD Performance Company Member Signature Date

_____ Parent's Name (Please print)

_____ Parent's Signature Date

_____ Mailing Address City State Zip

_____ Home Phone

_____ Cell Phone: That you will bring to Performance events & who it belongs to - you may list more than one.

_____ Students Email Address (if they have one)

_____ Parents Email Address (required) Please list an email that you check regularly.

_____ Current Age Birthday Current Grade in School (2017 - 2018)

Please list how many years you have been in each Performance Company level. DO NOT include the upcoming year (2017-2018). If you are new to BSD Performance Company, please check the appropriate box.

Petite Performance _____
Junior Performance I _____
Junior Performance II _____
Intermediate Performance _____
Senior Performance _____
Premiere Dance Company _____
New to Performance Company _____

Thank you!