

Competitive Handbook 2018 - 2019

Dear Competitive Parents and Dancers,

Welcome and thank you for registering for another exciting season at The Oakville Academy for the Arts. We are very excited to offer you a challenging yet fun Competitive Program, focused on a balanced schedule and on high quality training. Year after year our team's successes and strengths keep on increasing, we are happy to say that we are dedicated to keep it this way. Our Competitive Faculty will challenge each dancer to their highest potential, helping them to reach their goals. While pushing our students, we also want to ensure the program stays true to the values that we set in place. We want our students to train in a strong motivating class setting while being able to have a strong academic education. It is important to our Faculty to help and guide our students so they may have a choice once they graduate to pursue Dance or any other field they wish!

Competitive Website

During the course of the Season there are many things that need to be communicated to the team. The website is intended to alleviate paper notices and have all information pertaining to classes, holiday, clothing requirements, costume fittings, deposit deadlines, competition schedules, recital info etc. Parents and Dancers should be checking weekly to ensure no information is missed. We will do our best to give 2 weeks notice on important information for upcoming events.

<http://oakvilleacademy.com/competitive-dance-team-login/>

Competitive Dance Director

Brittany van den Heuvel

brittany@oakvilleacademy.com

Important Dates

August 1 st , 2018	Costume Deposit #1 Due
September 5 th , 6 th 2018	Parent Meetings
September 17 th , 2018	First Day of Competitive Classes
September 25 th , 2018	Costume Deposit #2 Due
October 7 th , 8 th , 2018	No Regular Classes - Thanksgiving
October 25 th , 2018	Costume Deposit #3 Due
October 31 st , 2018	No Regular Classes – Halloween
November 11 th , 2018	Competitive Entry Fees #1 Due
December 11 th , 2018	Competitive Entry Fees #2 Due
December 17 th – January 6 th	No Regular Classes - Holidays
February 17 th , 18 th	No Classes
February/March TBD	Competitive Showcase - Hamilton
March 7 th – 16 th	No Regular Classes – March Break
March 28 th – 31 st , 2019	Competition Weekend
April 11 th – 14 th , 2019	Competitive Weekend
April 19 th – 22 nd , 2019	No Regular Classes – Easter
April 26 th – 28 th , 2019	Competition Weekend
May 4 th – 6 th OR May 10 th – 12 th	Competition Weekend
May 19 th – 20 th	No Regular Classes – Victoria Day
May 24 th , 2019	Competitive Musician Rehearsal
May 26 th – 27 th , 2019	Senior Recitals at LAC
June 1 st – 2 nd , 2019	Junior Recitals at Holy Trinity
Sunday, June 9 th , 2019	Last Day Of Regular Classes
June 10 th – 28 th , 2019	Nationals Rehearsals
July 2019	Nationals – Dates TBD

Competitive Choreography

The Competitive Faculty is working hard to prepare thoughtful, creative, and innovative choreography for this upcoming Season. There are a lot of considerations when creating Competitive Choreography to ensure that the Dancers are receiving the best experience, performance training and performance outcome at Competition.

A full dance routine is pieced together in counts of 8 and it is a meticulous and time-consuming artistic process. Please remind children that we strive to highlight each Dancer in every dance but it may take time to see the full evolution. We request that parents respect the decisions of the choreographers' professional expertise.

It is an expectation that Competitive Dancers use out of class time to practice their routines diligently before heading into their next rehearsal. Choreography rehearsals are devoted to "cleaning" choreography as a group. Dancers who practice at home remember details and corrections from previous rehearsals and do better in class.

Extra Choreography

Team training is the primary focus of the Competitive Team at OAA. Extra Choreography is a privilege, Dancers who show positive work ethic, dedication, technical achievements, exceptional style and performance abilities may be selected to compete in a solo, duet, trio or small group. The Competitive Faculty decides when this opportunity is best and every student is carefully considered throughout the decision process. It is a huge challenge to carry that huge stage on your own and it is important that the experience is positive. If your child is not selected for Extra Choreography, please respect the decisions of our Faculty as these decisions do not come lightly. This is a long process and we will only select dancers who are ready and prepared for this opportunity. Dancers are watched over previous Dance Seasons, Summer Classes, and Competitive Intensives to decide whether they are ready for the opportunity. We wish to build strong self-esteem, performance ability and ensure dancers are enjoying themselves. We want to make sure this is a wonderful experience for all involved.

Guest Workshops

The Oakville Academy for the Arts is fortunate to have welcomed many amazing Guest/Celebrity Teachers into our facility. These opportunities are wonderful as they expose our Competitive Dancers to different teaching styles, combinations

and a great way to establish further connections into the Performance Dance Industry.

Competitive Dance Wear

Every Competitive Dancer must purchase our newest version of our Team Jacket (if you do not already have one). Team Jackets are mandatory for dancers to wear at Competitions and OAA events throughout the Season. Other Competitive Team Wear that will be available includes, track pants, hats, bags etc.

Competition Costuming, Hair, Make Up

Costuming and grooming take up a big part of the overall scoring process at Dance Competitions. In order to ensure that each Dancer is contributing to the experience at Competitions, following and meeting the expectations of Costuming and Grooming is mandatory. All costumes are made by professionals and are designed by our Competitive Faculty. We strive to be age appropriate and always ensure quality and proper fit. Costume measuring days are therefore very important. Once this day is set please do everything in your power to make that date. Costume deposits must be received by the due dates in order to hold our place to ensure costumes are ready by our Competitive Season. Late fees will be assessed per costume per week.

Competitive Teams that have “recital only” routines will be performing these in the Senior Recital and will require a costume for this routine. If you are unsure about which classes have a “recital only” routine please visit the front desk.

Specific hair and make up details (we use MAC products) are available on the Competitive Website.

We will be continuing to rhinestone costumes at the studio to keep costs down. The Choreographer will provide a sample of the rhinestoned costumes and parents/dancers must help to rhinestone for the team. Rhinestoning days occur between the Competitive Showcase and the week before the first competition.

Competitive Showcase

The purpose of this Showcase is for Dancers to rehearse their routines on a professional stage, test costuming and music, and to receive feed back before heading into the Competition Season. Families will receive up to 6 seats to attend the Showcase.

Competitions

We choose competitions based on a number of criteria and always take into consideration the Location, Venue, Date, Judges Qualifications, and Organization.

Competitive Entry Fees are due in two installments.

We are trying our best this year to attend Competitions that are close to or just outside of the GTA. Specific Competition details and location/host hotel information will be distributed shortly. Routine specifics, days, times etc. will be released as soon as the Competition releases the information to OAA.

Requests for conflicts must be received no later than October 18th, 2018. In order to submit a request for conflict you must send an email to brittany@oakvilleacademy.com with the subject heading: Request for Conflict.

Recitals

Senior Recitals take place the last Sunday and Monday in May. Competitive Dancers should plan to perform in all 3 Senior Recitals. If you have any conflicts please let Miss Laura know, dance@oakvilleacademy.com prior to March 1st, 2019.

Competitive Teams that have “recital only” routines will be performing in the recital, in addition to all Competitive Routines. Dress rehearsals for these routines will take place during regular class hours. If you are unsure about which classes have a “recital only” routine please visit the front desk.

All Competitive Dancers (with the exception of Pre Competitive Teams) will take part in either the Opening or Closing Routine for the Senior Recitals. Dancers should prepare to attend all 3 Senior Recitals as well as all rehearsals for these routines. There will be a musician rehearsal on Friday, May 24th, 2019 that is mandatory for all Competitive Dancers.

Junior Recitals take place the first weekend in June at the Holy Trinity Catholic High School in Oakville. Competitive Routines will be scheduled into the Junior Recitals. Pre Competitive Dancers (Ages 5 – 7) will perform their Competitive and Recreational Routines in these shows. Dancers should expect to be Dancing in at least 2 shows. We do our best to do family friendly scheduling based on siblings etc. If you have any conflicts please let Miss Laura know, dance@oakvilleacademy.com prior to March 1st, 2019.

Competitive Pictures

We are continuing to work with Empire Mediaworx for our photography and videography. Competitive Dancers that would like individual photography, action shots or headshots can contact Caz to set up a time.

There will be no group shots of Competitive Routines.