



MINI Crew Info Packet (ages 6-9) 2016-17

MINI Crew Jazz & MINI Crew Hip Hop- NEW for 2016-17

Our Philosophy

We want kids to build confidence through dance. For some children, this is taking a recreational class and just dancing for fun. We have noticed that some kids, even as young as 6 years old, want MORE! They watch the older dancers in our Company, they practice at home, they have innate talent and focus, and they want to perform all the time! We wanted to nurture this young talent and give them quality training and opportunities, while grooming them for our performance companies (for dancers 9+). As in any performing art, there is an audition process, which will be positive and FUN, but we realize that this may not be best for all young dancers. Since they are young, we suggest they audition when they are ready for all that comes with it. We encourage you to talk with the office about your dancers' readiness for this group and the commitment! We are pleased to announce Brittany Sandoval will be our CREW Director! Jamie Lopes and other Dance Arts favorites will be helping with the choreography for the Jazz CREW!

What is required

Dancer must be age 6-9 years old

- Dancers must have their 6th birthday on or before September 1, 2016
- Dancers turning 10 in 2017 can audition for MINI Crew
- Dancers turning 10 in 2016 cannot audition for MINI Crew and should consider auditioning for our Companies. Info available @sbdancearts.com

MINI Crew will have two weekly requirements starting September 6 – May 24 (see DA Calendar for holidays):

- TRAINING - A once-a-week class in appropriately placed level! Crew members always get priority, but must meet deadlines!
 - Hip Hop Crew must take a 1x per week Hip Hop Class
 - Jazz Crew can take 1x per week Jazz or 1x per week Ballet Class
- CREW Class: A once-a-week class to learn 2 special routines, receive extra training, and team-building!
 - **Jazz** – Tuesdays 4:45-5:30 **Hip Hop** – Thursdays 3:45-4:30

MINI Crew will have 5-7 Performances per year

- December Showcase (Dec 3 or 10, 2016 TBD), Student Showcase (April 30, 2017), and Inspire Recital (May 20, 2017)
- Montecito Union Carnival (Mid-April), Santa Barbara Fair & Expo (Mid/Late April) & the potential for one more TBD.

MINI Crew- Staying in Shape

- We require Mini Crew Dancers to take **2 weeks of dance camp** over the summer at Dance Arts (half day). For other approved programs please contact the office.
- We also require Mini Crew Dancers to take 1 Pre-Placement session class in their genre (Jazz or Hip Hop). Sign up available starting May 1. We strongly suggest both days. NOTE: Early bird rate through May 31.

MINI Crew will have the option to attend a dance competition in the spring if we feel they are ready and there is desire from the families to participate. It is important that we make sure we are putting dancers on a competitive stage when they are ready to shine and represent the integrity and training of our program. The competition will be in California, and will offer the chance for dancers to find inspiration from dancers across the country. We will discuss specific dates as more details become available. Additional fees and travel expenses would apply (\$100-\$300 depending upon the type of event Convention Comps = Educational component and are more expensive)

How Do You Join the Team:

- Dancers must attend the AUDITION!
- Auditions will be held **Saturday, April 30**
 - Sign up online @sbdancearts.com - \$10.00
 - **Hip Hop – 11:30-12:30** **Jazz 12:30-1:30**
 - Your dancer can audition for one or both teams for the '16-'17 school year
- Directors may add some dancers by personal invitation throughout the summer.

Commitment:

More than ever these students are pulled in every direction with commitments- even at this young age. While we love that our students are well-rounded and participate in many activities, it is very important that MINI Crew is a priority and any additional activities do not conflict with MINI Crew.

- We are asking that families treat Mini Crew as a serious commitment. Though the commitment is small, we want to make sure that we are building team spirit at every step of the way. With formations and partner work, this is not an individual sport and team participation is crucial!
- Please note the dates listed above, FINAL calendar, and all performances are considered a BLACKOUT Dates. Please make sure your dancer can attend all dates listed above before you audition.
- A final calendar will be presented in JUNE with confirmed dates and competition information. If any changes affect your dancer, let the director know ASAP.
- MINI Crew Dancers must maintain good attendance and communication with the DA Staff and your director.
- MINI Crew must also be well behaved and a role model to other students in the class.
- Any dancer who is struggling with the commitment will be notified and in extreme cases, may be asked to withdraw from the team.
- Private lessons will be required if your dancer misses an important rehearsal.

Next Steps

SB Dance Arts and their non-profit partner, the Arts Mentorship Program, run four Student Dance Companies. In addition Dance Arts offers a Pre Company and a Competition Team. Our Companies provide a pre-professional experience for serious dancers, ages 9-20 years old. Company is the cornerstone of our program and a place where young dancers grow up on stage. Many students remain in the program through graduation, and this helps them develop a community and a place where they belong. Many of our Company Alumni are working in the industry and leaders inside of their fields, plus colleges and future employers always love to see a child who is committed and grows inside of their passions. Most important... THEY LOVE IT! MINI Crew is a place where we will begin grooming dancers for our Companies. NOTE: Our Companies do require ballet, and jazz training, so HIP HOP dancers should consider expanding their training if this is their goal.

COST

TRAINING/CREW CLASS

- A once-a-week class for TRAINING and MINI Crew Class: Standard Dance Arts Tuition Rates apply.
- Standard Costume fee will apply for training class in the spring.
- Be sure to factor summer required training and Pre-Placement Session

Crew FEES (annual): \$300 for one or \$550 for BOTH Crews

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN CREW FEES

- Performances
- Company Apparel
- Costumes
- Additional Rehearsal Time
- Access to discounts, special events, and opportunities.
- Regular communication from your Director and staff support at all offsite events.
- MINI Crew Photo on the wall at the studio!!
- CREW Party!

WHAT IS NOT IN YOUR FEES

- Technique class and Crew Class, tickets to shows, required apparel – available in June, private lessons (if necessary), fees for conventions/competition/travel, master classes, auditions, placement classes, photos.
- We reserve the right to assess nominal charges if opportunities arise (ie. guest artists, performances).

TOTAL Cost for a Mini Crew and Payment Options

- Payment Plans available, but must remain current to keep dancer in MINI Crew
- Scholarships and Trade are only for your Technique/Training class.
- Mini Crew Class and Crew Fees do not have scholarship available.
- MINI Crew Class is a 1 year commitment. MINI Crew Class and Fees are not refundable and you are committed to pay through the end of the year. We will hold a card on file for any payment lapse.