



Performance Crew Information 2017-18 (ages 6-13)

MINI Crew (ages 6-9) and JUNIOR Crew (ages 10-13)

Our Philosophy

We are excited to celebrate our 20th year in business and our Performance Family is growing as we begin to celebrate this milestone. We believe in building confidence through dance. For some children, this means 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 now have two Crews to nurture this young talent and give young dancers quality training and expanded performance opportunities, while grooming them for our Student Dance Companies (for intermediate and advanced dancers 9+). Crew will be an application/invitational process, which is laid out below.

Brittany Sandoval is our CREW Director with Janaya Cradle joining the leadership team as we integrate jazz and technique into the CREW experience!

MINI Crew

What is required

Dancer must be age 6-9 years old

- Dancers must have their 6th birthday on or before September 1, 2017
- Dancers turning 10 in 2018 can audition for MINI Crew
- Dancers turning 10 in 2017 cannot apply for MINI Crew and should consider applying for JUNIOR Crew or our auditioning for Company. Information available @sbdancearts.com on April 1, 2017.

MINI Crew will have TWO weekly requirements starting September 5 – May 22 (see DA Calendar for holidays):

- TRAINING - Mini Crew must take a 1x per week Jazz Technique class and CREW Class. Crew members always get priority, but must meet deadlines and blackout dates.
- CREW Class: A once-a-week class to learn 2 special routines (one jazz and one hip hop), receive extra training, team-building, and get a big sister in Emerge Dance Company.
 - Thursdays 3:30-4:30
- Crew dancers can take Hip Hop class, but it is not required.

JUNIOR Crew

What is required

Dancer must be age 10-13 years old

- Dancers must have their 10th birthday on or before September 1, 2017
- Dancers turning 14 in 2018 can apply for JUNIOR Crew
- Dancers turning 14 in 2017 cannot be considered for Junior Crew and should consider auditioning for our Companies. Info available @sbdancearts.com

JUNIOR Crew will have THREE weekly requirements starting September 5 – May 22 (see DA Calendar for holidays):

- TRAINING - JUNIOR Crew must take a 1x per week Jazz Technique class, 1x per week Ballet Technique class, and CREW CLASS. Crew members always get priority, but must meet deadlines!
- CREW Class: A once-a-week class to learn 2 special routines (one jazz and one hip hop), receive extra training, team-building, and get a 'sister'
 - Thursdays 3:30-4:30
- Crew dancers can take Hip Hop class, but it is not required.

BOTH CREWS

Performances/Events

- Crew will have 5-7 Performances per year
- December Showcase (Dec 2 or 9, 2017 TBD), Student Showcase (April 28, 2018), and Inspire Recital (May 19, 2018)
- Montecito Union Carnival (Mid-April), Earth Day (Mid/Late April) & the potential for one more (Harlem Globetrotters, SB Fair, UCSB Athletics and more).
- A full calendar will be published April 1 that includes blackout dates, parties, and meetings. It will be amended in June once the Competition schedules come out.

Staying in Shape

- We require Crew Dancers to take **2 weeks of dance camp** over the summer at Dance Arts (any half day session). For other approved programs please contact the office.
- We offer a Pre-Placement session August 21-August 31 to get dancers in shape for the fall season and to be evaluated for placement for the '17-'18 season. NOTE: Early bird rate through May 31. We highly recommend taking advantage of this rate and opportunity!

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 (\$50-\$100 per dance entry fee).

How To Join the Team:

- NOTE: Dancers selected for Crew ages 9+ can audition for Company and will be released from his/her spot if they make a spot in Company or Emerge.
- OPTIONAL- sign up for a Dance Pathways conference with Alana – see below
- View the Mini Crew Calendar online April 1. Make sure you can attend all BLACKOUT/MANDATORY dates, and that you can take the regular 3:30 Thursday Crew Class September – May
- You APPLY to be considered- Applications will be available on the website April 1 and due May 1.
- Based on the applications, and faculty review, dancers will be invited to be a part of CREW. Invitations will go via email out on 5/25 at noon
- NOTE: Directors may add dancers over summer and in the fall after Company Auditions.

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 Crew is their **priority** and any **other** activities do not conflict with Crew.

- We are asking that families treat 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 apply.
- 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.
- Crew Dancers must maintain good attendance and communication with the DA Staff and your director.
- Crew Dancers 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.

Dance Pathways

Students! You are the HEART of the studio. NEW THIS YEAR! Pathways in Dance! Students and parents are invited to schedule a personal one-on-one meeting with Alana to discuss their dreams and goals for dance.

Dance Arts is More Than Just Great Dancing and we want to support what is important to you!

- Do you want to be in Crew or Company?
- Are you a musician? Do you love signing or acting and want the lead in your next show?? Do you want to be on your school dance team? Would you like to do community service or become a leader here at Dance Arts? Are you thinking about dancing in college? Have you considered dancing professionally or teaching? It's our honor to help you create a pathway in dance that meets your unique interests.
- Alana will be available at the studio April 4-5 and April 11-12 Pathways in Dance conversations. Sign up HERE for your free 10 minute meeting today at this link: <https://calendly.com/alana-5>

COST

TRAINING/CREW CLASS

- Technique classes and Crew Class - Standard Dance Arts Tuition Rates apply
- Crew Class Standard Dance Arts Tuition Rates Apply – no scholarship available
- Standard Costume fee will apply for Technique classes in the spring.
- Crew fees- see below
- Be sure to factor summer required training

Crew FEES (annual): \$300

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN CREW FEES

- Performances
- Company Apparel
- Crew Costumes
- Additional Rehearsal Time
- Access to discounts, special events, and opportunities.

- Regular communication from your Director and staff support at all offsite events.
- Crew Photo on the wall at the studio!!
- CREW Party!

WHAT IS NOT IN YOUR FEES

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

CREW Cost and Payment Options

- Exact pricing for 2017-18 classes will be available May 15
- Payment Plans available, but must remain current to keep dancer in Crew
- Scholarships and Trade are only for your Technique classes.
- Crew Class and Crew Fees do not have scholarship available.
- **Crew Class is a 1 year commitment. Crew Class and Fees are not refundable and you are committed to pay through the end of the year. A valid credit card must be listed on your account for any payment lapse.**

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 9-18 years old. Company is the cornerstone of our program and a place where young dancers grow with a core values based on quality training, mentorship, leadership and the joy of movement and self-expression. We want your child to have a sense of community, worthiness and a place to belong. Almost all of our students remain in the program until graduation and go on to work in the industry, become leaders inside of their chosen field, and owe a great debt to the discipline dance brought them. Plus colleges and future employers always love to see a child who is committed and grows inside of their passions.... Ultimately... THEY LOVE IT! Crew is a place where we will begin grooming dancers for our Companies

When your dancer is ready, there is an audition process for Company, which will be positive and FUN, but we realize that this may not be best for all young dancers. Since they are young in their craft, we suggest they audition when they are ready for all that comes with it. We encourage you to make a Pathways appointment to discuss dancers' readiness for this group and the commitment!