

SOPHISTICATION DANCE COMPANY

2021-2022

Competitive Solo Policy

All soloists will be **SELECTED** by the staff and must currently be a member of one of our competition teams. We believe that...A soloist can make their team stronger while a team can make a soloist stronger!

If you have received this information packet, then your teachers see great potential in you as a competitive performer. Soloists must have excellent technique, flexibility, work ethic, strong memory, and great showmanship! A solo is a great adventure, one that will help improve self-discipline, time management, and self-esteem while pushing your dance ability to the next level!

A soloist must use one of our recommended choreographers. In addition, your account must be always in good standings. Technique is extremely important when doing a solo, taking our technique classes is **mandatory**.

A chosen soloist one year does not mean you will automatically be a soloist the next. When looking at all that the choreographer puts into a student if, the student does not put the same amount or more effort into the experience the soloist may have to sit out a year. Cancelling practices or no shows does not make for a great example either.

★ **Music:** The choreographer will decide the routine music/vision/theme. You may make suggestions to your teacher, but they know you and they have experience in what music is overused and what tempo/style suits you and your division best.

★ **Choreography:** Due to the great numbers of students doing solos, choreographers will do their best to create brand new choreography for each soloist. There are no guarantees that a move will not be used in more than one routine. Keep in mind that we all come from the same studio and dance teams. We have our own style, and everyone should be proud of that! Just remember that the choreographers choreograph a routine to best feature and highlight the strengths of the soloists! Choreography is not to be changed by the student or parent. No changes should be made to any routines without the choreographer's approval. Practices will begin in the summer, not necessarily the 1st day of summer vacation but completed by November 1st.

★ **Costume:** Choreographer will have a vision. Please also give your choreographer your price range after you fill this out. She then will try to pick costumes that best fit the soloist and the price. Then they will try to come up with 3 options for you to choose from. You are paying for the choreographers to teach and come up with the costume and music. Please keep that in mind. Choreographer will set up a time for you to see their thoughts after the costume books arrive or when they find an idea online. Costumes need to be chosen quickly and usually the deadline is mid-October. You will be billed for your costume before it is ordered. Your choreographer may have your costume made and if so, fabric hunting and ordering of crystals will be required by the parent. Borrowing may also be suggested if the vision matches a previous costume worn by a soloist or class.

★ **Gown:** (For solo pageant participants) Krystle **MUST** approve **ALL** gowns, shoes and jewelry you will be wearing. We will be firm on this!! Do not make a mistake of purchasing a gown before it has been approved!! All formal gowns must be chosen by **mid-December**. Gowns must be age appropriate. Remember that there is no need to spend hundreds of dollars on a dress! Borrowing is always a great option!

★ **Choreographer and Ms. Krystle have the final say in everything!** You are representing our dance studio and we want to put together the best overall package. Teachers have the experience with this so please trust them. If you want to switch choreographers from the previous year we totally will understand and do not take offense to this but, Krystle must see the fit with a different match and that choreographer must have availability. Choreographers from SDC will be Krystle, Shelby, Ashley or outside choreographers chosen by Krystle. Your solo choreographer will set up your practice dates and times with them. Soloist can also ask any coach to have additional practice times with you. This is very much encouraged. No soloist is limited to one choreographer/coach.

It is up to you to remember the routines, clean routines and listen to judges' critique. Choreographer will also listen to the critique! Those that do not do this will NOT improve. Krystle or your choreographer will give you your solo-scoring packet **when they are finished looking at it** and have taken notes. Please **do not** ask for them, we may not have had a chance to go over them. Krystle or another coach will go over packets with the soloist before you take them.

Choreographer may set up times with you for cleaning sessions or you may contact your choreographer. You do not have to work with your teacher every single time they offer but you **must** be prepared for your first competition or the choreographer will

recommend that you do not attend. You may contact any teacher and/or mentor from SDC to clean your routine. The more eyes the better!

If you are not prepared you will **not** perform, please DO NOT blame your choreographer in any way when we have many teacher/coaches to help you! Soloist working with another coach that is not your choreographer will have to pay \$15.00 for 45 minutes. This may be shared with another soloist for \$20.00 an hour for both. Please understand that if Krystle is your choreographer, she is not able to fit all her soloist in every week and sometimes may be longer.

Additional Information:

- ★Choreographers will walk you through the whole experience and let you and the parents know what to expect.
- ★If you commit to a solo and have a change of heart, payment will have to be made depending on what your choreographer has completed, and amount will be decided by Krystle.
- ★Congeniality toward your fellow soloists and families are a must. We will **NOT** tolerate **gossip or negative comments** towards any of our students or teachers! Whether this is during the season, after a contest or following competition results. It all comes back to us. Please lead your child in a positive manner keeping this all-in perspective of subject judging. Any negative comments or bad sportsmanship will result in your soloist not competing for the remainder of the season. Remember, strong work ethic and a positive attitude is necessary for your success as a soloist.
- ★Being an SDC soloist is a **privilege** so please remember your team and dance class commitments! Remember strong work ethic and a positive attitude is necessary!
- ★As competitions approach, your **team account must be current, your solo choreography fee and solo competitions fee paid in full before** you will be allowed to compete in any solo competitions.
- ★Team comes first. If you did not attend practice that week for **any** reason and you have solo practice scheduled, you may not attend that week; unless you schedule a one on one with your team coach to go over team routines as well. Price is decided with coach. If your team coach does not have time to fit in a private, you will still have to miss solo that week.
- ★After routines are finished it is up to the soloist to practice and remember their routine on their own. Please do not expect the choreographer to have weekly practices. You may schedule privates at any time with another coach or student if you wish.
- ★No performing at competitions, shows, recitals etc. that SDC is NOT performing at without permission by Ms. Krystle beforehand.

Please note that you must paid for each individual solo competition. You will be signing up for them online and paying directly to the competition or Krystle will be signing them up and you will pay SDC. Solo competition can range anywhere from \$50 to \$200 per competition!!!

Solo package Includes:

- ★Solo created by choreographer and studio time to learn solo (parents recording IS A MUST!!! Especially with outside choreographers)
- ★Music selection by choreographer and final cut emailed to you.
- ★Costume counseling (choreographer)...ordering costume with Mrs. Denny
- ★Gown counseling and modeling instruction if in the pageant
- ★One on one teacher mentoring throughout the year with the choreographer
- ★Guidance/paperwork/solo contest options/information etc... with your choreographer or Ms. Krystle
- ★Solo performance opportunities

Pricing:

- *Choreographer Krystle and one routine: \$250.00**
- *All other SDC choreographers and one routine: \$200.00**
- *Additional SDC coaches choreographing second routine: (price determined by choreographer)**
- *If you choose to use an outside choreographer there is an additional fee paid to one of the SDC coaches for practices throughout the season: \$100.00**

If you and your family are committed to doing a solo, please fill out the last page of this packet and return it no later than July 1st. Soloist will then be assigned to a teacher. We cannot overload one teacher and each one of them is committed to giving you 150% of their time and energy. Please trust in the decision that is made for you.

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COMPETITIVE SOLO REGISTRATION

Name: _____ DOB: _____

Parent Names _____

Parent Email: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____ Text: Yes _____ No _____

School: _____ Grade Fall 2021 _____

I _____ (dancer) along with _____ (parent)

have read the policies/commitment on being a Sophistication Dance Company soloist. I understand if the guidelines are not met that I can be removed from the solo roster for the remainder of the dance season. I also understand that all solo competition fees must be paid on time whether they are paid directly to the competition or to SDC.

******TOTAL costume price limit including alterations and additions:** _____

★★★Solo payment in full or a down payment of **1/2** must be paid before your **first practice** will be scheduled. The final payment of **remaining balance** is due on or before **October 1st**.

★★★Total payment is due the **first practice** for any outside choreographers.

★★★ALL payments must be made **directly** to the choreographer/coach.

Thank you,
Choreographers