

## Student Company Program Details: **Junior**

Ages: 8 and Above

Level: Ballet 1A or Higher *\*dancers not yet en pointe*

### **Description:**

The Student Company at Northern Plains Dance (NPD) aims to amplify and celebrate students' commitment to their dance training and performance quality. As such, Student Company members are invited to make a commitment to the 2024/25 school year (August-May) to receive exclusive discounts and benefits. Student Company members are expected to train year-round and perform in NPD productions. They will also serve as NPD ambassadors both inside and outside the studio, acting as role models for younger dancers, performing at community events, and actively participating in fundraising efforts. Student Company members will work closely with the faculty to achieve their individual goals in dance.

### **Performance Commitment:**

- Participation in *The Nutcracker* (December 13-15), Youth Ensemble (Friday, March 14) and *Cinderella* (May 9-11) as set forth in the casting agreements for each production, abiding by all rules.
- **Junior Company** members are required to enroll in Youth Ensemble Workshop during NPD Winter Workshop Series (Jan-Feb, culminate in March).

*\*Junior Company members who are eligible to audition for Dance+ are strongly encouraged to do so. Company dues (outlined below) do not include the fees associated with Dance+ and must be paid on the applicable due dates.*

### **Enrollment Requirements:**

- Enroll in a minimum of one ballet technique\* class per week at NPD.
- Youth Ensemble Workshop (Saturday afternoons January – March)
- Demonstrate a history of hard work, commitment, and dedication while attending technique classes and rehearsals with a positive attitude.

*\*Rehearsals are not considered technique classes.*

### **Perks:**

- A photo of the members of the Junior Company will be featured in the performance playbill for *The Nutcracker* and *Cinderella*.
- Exclusive Student Company merchandise
- Invitation to events specifically for Student Company members
- Class & Workshop Discounts (outlined below)
- No fees with Casting Agreements for the included performances – these are included in your dues.
- Free Workshops throughout the year
- Discounts on Summer Youth Ensemble fees.
- Admission for your dancer to cast parties of the included performances.
- The ability to fundraise against your Company dues.
- No need to fight for Volunteer hours!

### **Company Dues:**

Junior Company dues of **\$460** will be split into **8** equal payments of **\$57.50** and will be charged to the card on file the last week in September, October, November, December, January, February, March, and April.

### **Offsetting Dues by Fundraising:**

To make Junior Company participation financially possible for all NPD students, Junior Company students and families have the option to fundraise throughout the year. You may offset your Company dues by participating in any or all the options below. Any funds raised through these methods will be taken off the following month(s) dues. Any other donations of money, goods or services outside of the options listed below will not count towards fundraising totals.

### **Fundraiser options for Junior Company:**

- \$10,000x200 will be figured at 50%. Example: If a check is received in your honor for \$100, you will be given credit for \$50.
- Giving Hearts Day will be figured at 50% according to the name in the dedication box. Example: If a donation is made in your

name for \$100, you will be given credit for \$50.

*\*\*if your name is not prominent in the donation, we will not count this as fundraising on your behalf.\*\**

### **Positive Role Model Requirements:**

One purpose of the Student Company is to provide positive student leadership within NPD. To do so, Junior Company members are asked to do the following:

- Respect the space. Company members are expected to do their part in keeping the facility presentable without being asked. This includes taking out the trash when it is full, picking up food waste, etc. This will demonstrate to the younger students and parents that you take pride in NPD, and you are willing to help keep the building looking good.
- Treat the Director, teachers, choreographers, guests and fellow company members in a respectful manner, both in and outside the studio (*please look at our policy on social media and bullying as listed in our handbook*).

### **Volunteer Requirements:**

- Parents of Junior Company members are required to complete the designated Performance Volunteer Hours to receive credit towards their Volunteer Fees. NPD staff will assign parents to assist with forward-facing tasks, such as overseeing the souvenir table or ushering. Failure to fulfill these assigned duties will result in a \$75 charge to the card on file.
- Company members are required to:
  - Participate in outreach efforts and additional performances throughout the year as they arise.
  - Assist with one Special Assignment. All activities must be completed at the designated time, substitution is not allowed:
    - Example: Giving Hearts Day thank you letters (picked up the day after GHD and returned the following Monday)

### **Summer Performances:**

Throughout the summer, NPD is asked to perform *Stories In Motion* at a series of outdoor events, typically Kids Summer Stage (three Wednesdays in late June-July), Family River Walk (one Wednesday in July), Bismarck Library (three weekdays in July) and BisMarket (three Saturdays in late July-early August). Company members are strongly encouraged to participate in the Summer Youth Ensemble. If Junior Company members choose to perform and are available for at least 50% of the performance dates; NPD will waive the Summer Youth Ensemble fee. NPD reserves the right to cast each performance as necessary to ensure that each Company member gets a chance to perform. Company members are expected to perform in the Relevé on the Rooftop event when they are old enough.

### **Additional Requirements:**

- Follow all rules set forth in the handbook including, but not limited to, dress codes.
- Attend Student Company meetings
  - October 1 (subject to change)
  - January 9 (subject to change)
- One unexcused absence per class per quarter is allowed. Student Company members are expected to make up any absences.
- Any violation of the above will result in a meeting with a faculty member to discuss appropriate next steps.
- NPD Staff and Faculty reserve the right to void the tuition discount (see below), increase company dues and dismiss a company member in case of repeated violations of the requirements and expectations.

### **Requirements for Consideration in Subsequent Years:**

- Complete the previous year of Company membership in good standing; attend required technique classes and rehearsals with a positive attitude.
- Continue dance studies over the summer months as discussed and approved by the NPD Faculty.
- Show the ability and desire to act as a role model and mentor to younger students throughout all levels of NPD.

### **Tuition Discount:**

- At the end of each Junior Company member's selected tuition billing period, the faculty will assess whether the student is meeting the requirements of their agreement. If the student has satisfactorily met the requirements, they will receive a tuition discount of 10% for all non-required classes (i.e. contemporary, cross-training, tap, etc) for the following billing

cycle.

- If you are currently receiving another discount, i.e. sibling discount, the greater of the two will be applied not both discounts.
- Pre-Pointe is not eligible for this discount.
- Discounts will be applied to student's account and used towards the next scheduled tuition payment.
- Discounts from the last billing cycles will be applied to summer semester classes but not toward SDI tuition.
- Credits remaining at the end of the summer will be voided and cannot be applied to the 2025-26 school year.

### **Summer Dance Intensive Discount**

Members of the Junior Company will receive a \$50 discount if you sign up for both full sessions.

- If early bird registration discount is used, you will receive the greater of the two discounts, not both.
- The \$50 discount is not eligible for drop-in classes.

### **Withdrawal from Student Company**

If circumstances arise that make it so the dancer cannot fulfill their commitment, the following Withdrawal Fees will apply and will be charged to the card on file when the Drop Form is received:

- Tuition Discount: Any tuition discount that has been used as of the date of withdrawal.
- Cast Party Admission: Any admissions to the eligible cast parties as of the date of withdrawal.
- Student Company Merchandise: Any merchandise given to the dancer as of the date of withdrawal will be charged at retail price.
- Photography Fee: \$75 will be charged to cover the cost of retaking Student Company photos published in all performance programs.
- Workshop Fees: Any workshops attended free of charge as of the date of withdrawal

