



## 2022 - 2023 Studio b Dance Team

### Overview

The Studio b Dance Team was founded in 2014 as a competitive dance team designed for the serious dancer, highly motivated to grow in their skill and performance ability. We are looking for dancers with a strong desire to grow and develop, who are self-motivated and maintain a positive attitude and strong work ethic. One thing that sets our team experience apart is that we feel it is very important for our dancers to represent themselves and Studio b in a respectful, tasteful way. Therefore costumes, choreography and music will be modest, flattering, and appropriate for the student's age and performance genre.

The audition and placement process requires much planning and thought, and your dancer should be very confident about their desire to be a part of our team before applying and auditioning. Please review the information below with your dancer to be sure that you and your family are able to uphold this commitment through the full season.

### Team Goal/Objective

The goal of the Studio b Dance Team is to provide a team experience that will enhance the dancer's individual technical and performance abilities, provide them with community performance opportunities, connect them to innovative and experienced choreographers and professional dancers, and to allow for growth as a performer with the critique that comes from a competition setting. Our program is ideal for dancers with a goal of dancing on a competitive high school or collegiate dance team and/or a pro team and beyond. Competitions allow our students and instructors the opportunity to grow from the feedback and shared experience. Above all, we want competitions to be a fun experience for our students while learning team-building skills, performance skills, and developing self-confidence that will last a lifetime.

### Team Structure and Required Time Commitment Expectations

New this season! Our dance team consists of four team programs composed of students who are chosen to represent Studio b: b.boppers, b.boys, Spotlight and SbDT Competition Team. Those selected for the SbDT competition team will then be placed into specific group routines and assigned to weekly classes for the full 2022 - 2023 season (Aug '22 - May '23). Members of the competition team will have a **minimum of four required weekly classes** (team technique class, team ballet class, team production class, one group routine classes). For scheduling purposes, each competition team student is required to be at the studio for a **minimum of two days during the week**. Dancers who wish to participate in more routines will be expected to commit to additional required classes (and potentially more days) at the studio to fulfill those additional expectations. If you cannot commit to at least two days at the studio throughout the entire season, please reconsider your choice to audition for the competition team as it is not fair to other students or the instructors if each family does not uphold their commitment. Attendance must be a priority for all classes.

### Types of Competition Routines

- Groups
  - weekly class for choreography & rehearsal
- Production
  - weekly class for rehearsal (choreography to be taught at end of summer before season begins)
  - occasional full team scheduled rehearsals
- Features - solo, duo, trio
  - choreography session (2 hours to learn routine) + lessons throughout season (plus expected individual commitment outside of scheduled lessons)
  - selected based on experience, dedication to the team program, commitment beyond the minimum requirement

## **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory for all team classes and performances. When it comes to required school activities you will find Studio b to be accommodating and flexible, within reason. However, by accepting placement in this program, you have agreed that this is a top priority in your schedule.

Due to the nature of team rehearsal classes where dancers are working together to learn and master choreography, absences are highly disruptive and therefore, discouraged. We understand that things occur like sickness and/or family emergencies, and those should be communicated to the Dance Director immediately. Dancers are provided with a season calendar at the beginning of the team year and we expect families to plan around required classes and team events. Excessive absences may lead to dancers being removed from group routine(s) and/or team, depending on the extent/frequency (not including emergency absences or similar situations). The director and instructors will make any necessary arrangements to ensure that the team does not suffer if a dancer is removed from a routine.

## **Outside Activities**

Being a well-rounded individual is important, and we support students pursuing other activities such as school dance teams or extracurricular activities. We think it is very important to have those experiences if the dancer chooses to and we feel it can benefit the dancer in skill development and overall well-roundedness. Parents and dancers must take responsibility for clear and timely communication with the Dance Director regarding outside commitments. Please communicate with your other coaches early and often to stay on top of scheduling and any potential conflicts. Members of school dance teams must be available on Sundays (plus at least one other weekday afternoon/evening) to accommodate both SbDT and their other team's practice schedules.

When considering auditioning for SbDT, please keep in mind that it can be difficult for team dancers to also be involved in other types of sports teams (i.e. soccer or basketball). Games or tournaments often conflict with required classes and it is difficult to plan around varying schedules. It is expected that each dancer/family will designate at least two days during the week and/or weekends that can be dedicated specifically to studio classes. Due to scheduling, it is nearly impossible to accommodate travel sports teams' schedules as a member of our competition team and our required commitments. If your dancer wishes to participate in multiple outside activities, we recommend our b.bopper or Spotlight team(s), which have a lesser commitment level.

## **Student Helpers**

Dancers ages 12+ on the SbDT will be eligible to apply for student helper positions at the studio, which can help offset some team expenses. More details and applications will be available after tryouts. Preference will be given to older, returning students with prior student helper experience.

## **2022 - 2023 SbDT Season Commitment Expectations**

When a student auditions for the team, it is expected that they are planning to make a commitment to the Studio b Dance Team for the entire season. We will begin planning for the season right away. If we expect to give our best at competitions, we need to have our full team working together for the entire season. Please seriously consider whether you are able to make this commitment before auditioning.

## **Summer Intensive**

Each year our team season kicks off in the summer with a mandatory in-house intensive featuring national touring education and production company, Liberate Artists, with their NYC-based traveling faculty, staff and a special guest teacher. ***Dancers should hold the week of June 6 - 9 for this amazing experience!*** A specific, detailed schedule will be available closer to the intensive week. Communicate any scheduling issues with the Dance Director immediately (prior to auditions).

## **Required Weekly Classes and Routines**

Weekly team classes will begin August 14 with the start of the Fall Session. We anticipate that dancers will receive their assigned class schedule for the 2022-2023 season on or around July 1. During the Fall and Spring sessions,

each dance team member will attend two required weekly choreography rehearsal classes (one group routine and the full team production routine), and assigned team technique and ballet technique classes (a total of four required weekly classes, and a minimum expectation of two days/week at the studio). The specific schedule of classes for each dancer will be based on their individual availability and placement in groups. Please know your dancer's and family's anticipated weekly schedule when committing to the team as you will need to provide a schedule of the dancer's availability. (Letter of commitment and schedule info due June 5.)

Enrolling in additional dance classes is encouraged as part of the team commitment. **Each team member will be offered a 30% discount on any additional classes beyond the required team classes – we highly recommend additional ballet, leaps & turns, and acro classes.** In addition, immediate family members (parents & siblings) of Studio b Dance Team students will be offered 20% off of dance classes at Studio b. (This discount will also be available during the summer to returning team members.)

NEW this season - dancers interested in competing in the acro and/or tap categories will be **REQUIRED** to enroll in an additional, level-appropriate class during both the Fall and Spring rec sessions to work on skills and technique outside of the weekly choreography class.

### **Competitions**

SbDT will plan to attend three Regional competitions. All of the Regional competitions that we attend will be in the Indianapolis area. New this season - our team season will conclude at a Nationals competition, in a neighboring state/within driving distance tentatively in mid-June. More details will be available as competition companies announce their dates and locations. All team members are required to participate in all team competitions. Once we determine the competition weekends, please block out all dates in your schedule.

Dancers selected for feature routines will have the opportunity to attend up to two additional, optional competitions for their solo, duo and/or trio(s). All registration for competitions is handled directly through the studio by the Dance Director.

### **2022-2023 SbDT Important Dates**

*The following schedule is subject to change.*

**May 31 - June 2** • SbDT placement auditions for all potential members (new & returning dancers)

**June 3** • 2022-2023 teams announced (SbDT competition team, b.boppers, Spotlight).

**June 6 - 9** • mandatory in-house intensive with Liberate Artists

**June 21** • performance at Columbian Park (small showcase of choreo learned at intensive)

**August 12 - 13** • mandatory full team production choreography

**August 14** • Fall Session classes begin

**December 3** • Lafayette Christmas Parade (optional performance for SbDT)

**December 11 (tentative)** • Studio b Winter Showcase (SbDT participation TBD)

**January 8** • SbDT classes resume

**January 15** • Spring Session classes begin

**mid-late January** • SbDT Competition Preview show

**February - May** • three required competitions (dates & locations TBD based on competition producers' schedule release dates)

**March TBA** • spring break (no dance classes)

**May TBA** • Studio b Recital Weekend

**June TBA** • Nationals competition (exact date and location TBD)

*\*SbDT weekly classes will have a few scheduled breaks during the year, i.e. Thanksgiving, spring break, winter break*