



## OVERVIEW, QUALIFICATIONS, REQUIREMENTS AND BENEFITS

### Overview

The Mankato Ballet Performing Company (MBPC) is intended to be a group of advanced dancers who are ambitious about pursuing ballet/dance as a career. This may include dancing with a professional company, semi-professional company, teaching, as well as other avenues. **These dancers are making dance at Mankato Ballet Company a priority over other activities they may be involved in.** This group of dancers will be challenged at a higher level and receive more aggressive feedback from instructors.

Dancers in the MBPC will get additional performance opportunities and other benefits, outlined below. However, it is important to stress that dancers should not join the MBPC simply because they want these benefits. The MBPC will be taken very seriously and while it will give our dancers access to amazing choreography and excellent training it will also be hard work and requires a higher level of dedication. Dancers who may not be able to meet the qualifications should consider carefully before they apply.

Dancers who want to be considered for the MBPC must complete the audition form in this packet. Dancers will then attend an annual audition that is held in the spring. If accepted, new members of the MBPC will be asked to sign a contract. (Sample contract attached)

### Qualifications

Dancers who meet the following requirements are eligible to audition for the MBPC.

- Dancer must be in Level 3B or higher during the fall of 2019.
- Dancer must have begun pointe work prior to the fall of 2019.
- Dancer must be between 11 and 18 years of age by September 1, 2019.
- Dancers must take a minimum of 30 hours of dance over the summer months. This may be at another school's ballet program. Other options such as yoga, Pilates, and PBT may count after submitting them to the Artistic Director for consideration.
- Dancers must attend the audition in May to be considered. New students joining in the fall of 2019 who missed the audition process will be given separate consideration based on the director's discretion.

## **MBPC Structure**

Dancers who audition for the MBPC are not guaranteed a position in the company. Dancers who are accepted into the Company will be divided into tiers:

### **Soloists, Demi Soloists, Corps de Ballet, Apprentices, and Trainees**

The distinction between these tiers is based on the dancers' audition, past attitude, work ethic, rehearsal attendance, attendance in classes, having completed all make up classes and the availability and priority the dancer has shown MBC. This decision will be a collective decision made by all current MBC teachers on staff and is a final decision. Dancers who work hard can and will be promoted midyear.

## **Requirements**

- Dancers will give MBPC precedence over other extracurricular activities.
- Dancers may only take lessons at MBC during their time as a Company Member, unless previous permission is given by the Artistic Director to attend elsewhere.
- Dancers must maintain regular attendance in supplementary classes.
- Dancers will do make up classes for ALL missed ballet classes and Company Classes.
- Dancers will attend Company Class every week.
- Dancers will not miss more than two (2) scheduled rehearsals. (Certain allowances will be made for severe illness, injury, or family emergencies)
- Dancers will always have danceable pointe shoes.
- Dancers will wear pointe shoes at appropriate class and rehearsal times.
- Dancers will adhere to the Dress Code at all times.
- Dancers must maintain good grades in school (2.5 GPA).
- Dancers must have a respectful attitude towards their fellow dancers and instructors.
- Dancers are subject to our MBC Code of Ethics both inside and outside the studio.
- Dancers may be asked to volunteer both at the studio and outside organizations.

## **Benefits**

- Additional 2-hour Company Class each week.
- Four Specific lead parts (Clara, Sugar Plum, Dew Drop, and Snow Queen) in *The Nutcracker* are held for MBPC members only.
- Additional choreography will be set on these dancers for additional performance opportunities.
- Dancers will be able to take a second supplementary class for free.
- Dancers will be given one pair of company tights per performing year.



AUDITION FORM

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

AUDITION #: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

INSTRUCTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

DATE OF CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

DANCER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DANCER'S CURRENT LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_

DANCER'S CURRENT AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

DANCER'S DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS OF DANCE EXPERIENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPES OF DANCE AND NUMBER OF YEARS OF STUDY:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

DANCER'S IDEAL PROFESSION: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPLAIN WHY YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THE MBPC: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

COMMENTS ON DANCER'S CLASS:

COMPANY PLACEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_



CONTRACT

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019 to the following rules and conditions and to be a participating member of the Mankato Ballet Performing Company (MBPC). Dancers who fall short of these commitments may be asked to step down from the MBPC.

Please read and initial the following statements, so that we know you have read and understand all the requirements for being a member of the MBPC. Dancers who are under 18 must also have a parent initial them as well.

As a member of the MBPC I must agree to:

- MBPC will ALWAYS take precedence over extracurricular activities
- Not participate in classes at other dance schools without receiving permission from the Director
- Attend All Company Classes
- Do Make Up classes for all missed ballet classes
- Miss no more than two (2) scheduled rehearsals
- Understands that missing a rehearsal may result in being removed from that part
- Attend a minimum of 1 supplementary class
- Maintain good attendance in supplementary class(es)
- Always have danceable pointe shoes
- Have pointe shoes at appropriate classes and rehearsals
- Adhere to the Dress Code at all times
- Return Hair to a “natural” color prior to all performances
- Maintain good grades in school (2.5 GPA or better)
- Have a respectful attitude towards their fellow dancers and instructors
- Participate in volunteer opportunities and mini concert sponsored by the MBPC

Please sign below to finalize your membership with the MBPC.

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Dancer	Date
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Parent/Guardian if dancer is under 18	Date
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