



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, teaching, college, or other avenues. **These dancers are making dance a priority over other activities they may be involved in.** This group of dancers will be challenged at a slightly higher level and receive more in-depth feedback from instructors.

Dancers with the MBPC will get additional performance opportunities and other benefits which are 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 your dancers access to 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 applying.

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. Participation is for a full year.

MBPC 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 2021
- Dancer must have begun pointe work prior to the fall of 2021
- Dancer must be in middle or high school for the fall of 2021
- Dancer must take MBC's one week Summer Company Crash Course Intensive – **NEW THIS YEAR**
- Dancer must take a minimum of three weeks of summer intensives either at MBC or another program
- Dancers must attend the audition in May to be considered

(New MBC students joining in the fall of 2021 who missed the audition process will be given separate consideration based on the director's discretion.)

MBPC Understudies – NEW THIS YEAR

Dancers in the MBPC will be assigned parts to understudy. Understudies learn the role in case the dancers cast in those parts are injured. Dancers learn a great deal from being an understudy, gain additional training and stamina and it has a vast effect on their overall technique.

- Understudies are meant to attend all rehearsals for ANY part they are understudying
- Understudies may be asked to step in during rehearsal or run-throughs
- Understudies should wear appropriate shoes for the part they are understudying

MBPC Injury Policy – NEW THIS YEAR

Dancers working at this level will inevitably encounter an injury from time to time. It is imperative that dancers communicate to instructors when they are hurting and seek medical attention promptly, when appropriate. Dancers who are injured need to formulate a plan with their instructor and medical professional (when involved) for a safe and prompt return to class. When dancers need to sit out for a period, there are expectations for MBPC:

- Dancers should still attend all scheduled classes and rehearsals
- When watching dancers should mark arms and heads
- When watching rehearsals dancers should bring a notebook to take notes on choreography or write down combinations or corrections that may be applicable to them
- When sitting out dancers should ice, stretch, or do any other physical therapy recommended by their medical professional

MBPC Structure

Dancers who audition for 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
- Trainees

(The distinction between these tiers is based on the dancers' audition, past attitude, work ethic, rehearsal, attendance in classes and having completed all make up classes. This does not always align with ballet class levels as different criteria are considered when ranking the dancers for Company productions. This decision will be a collective decision made by current MBC staff and is a final decision. Dancers who work hard can and will be promoted midyear.)

MBPC Requirements

- MBPC is a year-long commitment
- Make MBPC take precedence over other outside activities
- Have regular attendance in ballet and supplementary classes
- Do make up classes for ALL missed ballet classes
- Attend Company Class
- Miss no more than two (2) scheduled rehearsals
- Attend all rehearsals for parts assigned to understudy – **NEW THIS YEAR**
- Always have danceable pointe shoes
- Always adhere to the Dress Code
- Maintain good grades in school (2.5 GPA)
- Address injuries promptly and communicate them to staff – **NEW THIS YEAR**
- Have a respectful attitude towards their fellow dancers and instructors
- Are subject to our MBC Code of Ethics both inside and outside the studio

MBPC Benefits

- Additional 2-hour Company Class at no extra cost
- Receive a second supplementary class at no extra cost
- Additional choreography will be set on these dancers
- Additional performance opportunities throughout the year
- Opportunities to understudy other roles
- May wear any color leotard on Saturdays or during rehearsals
- Annual enrichment/team building activities
- Annual MBPC Banquet each spring



MANKATO BALLET

PERFORMING COMPANY

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 _____, 2021 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:

- If choosing to participate in another sport/activity, MBPC will ALWAYS take precedence
- Attend All Company Classes
- Do Make Up classes for all missed ballet classes
- Miss no more than two (2) scheduled rehearsals
- Attend rehearsals for all understudy rolls
- Understands that missing a rehearsal may result in being removed from that part
- Attend a minimum of 1 supplementary class
- Maintain good attendance in ballet and 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 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.

Dancer

Date

Parent/Guardian if dancer is under 18

Date