



CPC INFORMATION PACKET 2012-2013

Red Bridge Shopping Center, 11141 Locust Street, Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 941-2278 www.ThePulsePAC.com

C P C

The Pulse Competition & Performance Company

Auditions for 2012-2013 CPC are Saturday, June 30, 2012!

"After dancing several years at another local studio, we could not be happier to be at The Pulse. The switch has been such a positive experience for not only our daughter, but for the entire family. Our daughter is finally learning the technique she has missed over the last several years and it's exciting to watch her grow as a dancer and to watch her self-esteem grow as well. There is no drama, no yelling, no negativity, no inappropriate costumes, dances or music...in short, it's exactly the environment I want for my child. Even more impressive is how the families all become one big family. Everyone sincerely wants every dancer to truly succeed. My only regret is that we didn't switch to The Pulse sooner!"

Christa Spencer, CPC parent

"My daughter has been dancing at Pulse for two years and to see her growing improvement and ever increasing joy in dancing is magical! Pulse, to me, is a more than a dance studio. It's a place where I send my daughter to live her dream."

Sherry Kuehl, CPC parent

"I have one word to say... WOW! I was so impressed with our dancers! Not to mention the awesome choreography! It was so sweet that many of the older girls came early to support the little ones and the young ones stayed late to cheer on the teens. Great team spirit! I am so thankful that you are so organized! Thanks for all you do!"

Rhonda Rogge, CPC parent

"Just wanted to let you know what an incredible experience CPC has been! Ethan truly enjoyed being on stage in front of an audience and dancing with his team! He has loved his classes leading up to the competition and always comes home eager to practice what he's learned. Ethan has been dancing since he started walking and it has meant so much to him and us to have found such a supportive and positive environment to let his special talents shine through!! Thanks to all of your staff and CPC dancers for being so accepting and supportive of my little boy's dream to dance!!

Liz Bondon, CPC parent

"We came to The Pulse after being at another studio for almost 5 years. Since then my daughter has grown and developed so wonderfully it is amazing. The dance instructors teach in such a positive way that truly builds their self confidence. The staff is super professional in every way. And incredibly organized. Which makes life in the dance world so much easier. We are so grateful for The Pulse and the friends we have there!"

Kristy Schaefer, CPC parent

"I would like you to know how very blessed we are to be a part of your Studio. From the communication at the front desk to the costuming and dances, the Pulse has exceeded our expectations. The artistic vision from the Pulse Staff is second to none. Curtis, and the dance instructors are incredible and they encourage Justice to push herself and strive to do her very best in every class. Her confidence and positive self-image have grown so much since she started dance. At the last dance convention, she volunteered to get on stage for the tap class. This may sound like a small thing that every dancer would do, but I know how painfully shy and introverted she used to be and to see her want to stand out and be a star is amazing. I will honestly tell you with all of my heart, the only reason she did that is because she is confident in her abilities and you, Curtis, Elaine and Jayna have helped establish that. Justice says being a dancer at the Pulse "feels right" and it makes her so happy, that to me is priceless. We love our Pulse Family and look forward to the many years to come!

Johanna Howard, CPC parent



CPC INFORMATION PACKET 2012-2013

Red Bridge Shopping Center, 11141 Locust Street, Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 941-2278 www.ThePulsePAC.com

The information contained in this CPC Information Packet is a condensed version of the CPC Handbook which will be reviewed and discussed in detail at the **Parent/Student Meetings on July 9, 2012.**

The CPC is a program designed for those students with a strong interest in dance and performance! Students attend weekly classes, perform throughout the year, and attend regional competitions and conventions. Participation is based on a year-long commitment from September through August. The group is divided by age and ability level. Students dance in group routines, and have the option of participating in other groups, duo, trios, solos, and production numbers. Auditions are held each June at the studio. We look for students with a passion for dance, a great attitude, a strong work ethic, potential, a desire to continue learning and growing, an understanding of the importance of good attendance, and a love of performing and entertaining!

Students have a set weekly schedule of required technique classes like Jazz, Ballet, Leaps & Turns, as well as their Saturday rehearsals for their routines - **Our Junior Superstarz division for K/1st graders meets just once a week for 1.5 hours and they do not have weekly Saturday rehearsals.** Many students also take additional classes like Lyrical, Musical Theatre, Pointe, Tap, Modern, and Hip Hop. These are not required, but highly encouraged. The dancers and their families devote a significant amount of time to their team by performing, fundraising, traveling, and other fun studio events! Participation is a significant addition to any family's time and budget, and the schedule and fees should be thoughtfully reviewed. A one-year commitment is required from July through June, including summer classes, Nationals (if it is a Nationals year), and other performances. Auditions are held in late June/early July for the next season's CPC, and the next season will begin with the 5 or 6-week summer session. After the summer session, auditions will be held for solos/duos/trios, and the casting placements are announced. The year concludes with Nationals in June, and on non-Nationals years the season would conclude after recital at the beginning of June.

Each Level 1-5 student is in the Production number with the option of also electing to be considered for additional small and large group routines. These students also have the option of being considered for solos, duos, or trios, and this is a terrific way to grab the spotlight and grow in confidence and stage presence.

Here are several websites of dance competitions to give you an idea of schedules, rules, entries, and dance competitions in general: www.starpowertalent.com, www.spotlightevents.com, www.starquestdance.com, www.showstopperonline.com.

Competitions & Conventions

This year we are attending four required local competitions, and one required convention. This is not a Nationals year. The dates of the events and the due dates for fees are listed on the CPC Calendar. Conventions have a wide variety of styles and instructors and the exposure for the students is incredibly beneficial to their growth as dancers. We pick competitions that are positive, artistic, and enjoyable for everyone involved. Rates for the competition will be dependent upon the number of entries that each dancer is participating in. Competition fees average: \$85 per solo, \$90 per duo/trio, \$35 per dancer for small/large groups and production numbers. Convention fees average \$190-225 for a 2-day convention. Other competitions will be optional throughout the year for students to take solos, duos or trios to on their own but must be approved.

Additional Rehearsals, Performances, and Events

Each year we have a set calendar of events that includes such annual performances like our CPC Kickoff Showcase, Theatre in the Park, etc. Additionally, throughout the year we receive invitations to perform at various functions and events. We like to accept as many as possible that fit within our artistic philosophy and that will be positive experiences for the students. All competition students are required to participate in these performances, and the rehearsals called to prepare for them. Extra rehearsals will be added throughout the year to prep for upcoming performances. We do our best to give as much notice as possible but sometimes they are presented without much notice and will sometimes fall on weekends. There may be tickets or \$10 performance fees involved with these performances. Performance fees in general go to help cover costs associated with mounting these performances: extra rehearsals with the staff, the planning and administration of the event, the onsite facilitation and supervision at the actual event, etc. As a business we are not in a position to be able to provide these services for free and we charge these fees to help cover the costs that we incur to provide these opportunities for our students.

Recital

Our recitals are an original production with a storyline as opposed to a showcase of various dances. In order to do this type of show we cast various leads and featured roles. Roles in the show are chosen by the staff of The Pulse. The decisions are based on many factors and are not up for debate or discussion. Recital costumes are in addition to competition costumes – Participation for CPC students in their ballet and jazz classes is required but other (Tap, Hip Hop, etc.) are optional. Your dancer's role in the show will dictate costuming and will require an additional costume, and these are done on a rental basis and are returned to The Pulse after recital. Recital costume deposits are the same as they are for the recreational students and are noted on the recreational calendar.



CPC INFORMATION PACKET 2012-2013

Red Bridge Shopping Center, 11141 Locust Street, Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 941-2278 www.ThePulsePAC.com

Dress Code

Students must be in the proper attire and shoes or they will not be allowed to take class – No exceptions. This goes hand in hand with developing responsibility and a strong work ethic. An attire breakdown is available on our website at all times. Students need to be aware of their schedule for the night and prepare their dance bag with ALL of their dance shoes, extra pair of tights, leotards, supplies for hair like bobby pins and hair spray, etc. For the Rehearsal periods, students must wear a black leotard and black trunks or black jazz pants, black or tan tights only – no additional clothing is allowed.

Jackets & Apparel

Each student is required to purchase a CPC jacket for \$49. The jacket also has a matching pair of pants (not required). The jacket will be worn to any event that we attend. All apparel is ordered through our online apparel shop at www.design4sports.com/pulse.

Costumes

The Pulse produces quality, age-appropriate, and professional costumes that come from a variety of places including local seamstresses, costume catalogues, and off the rack at retail locations. Costume prices fluctuate depending on detailing, etc. A \$75 deposit is due in September for each CPC costume. Information is sent later in the year regarding the balances due for the costumes, as well as shoes and accessories needed for each routine. Costume prices won't include all pieces like shoes, rhinestones, hair pieces, and most costumes will have misc. details to be tacked, sewn, need rhinestones added to them, etc. and this is the responsibility of the parents.

Tuition

Each student is welcome to take as many classes per month as they would like but their competition class schedule is required to be involved in the program. All students enrolled in more than 5 hours per week are on "Unlimited" status, and they are able to take any additional classes in their level or below at no extra charge. This gives them the opportunity to take classes like Tap, Modern, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre Dance, Yoga-lates, and Pointe. This is highly encouraged, as it helps to further their education at no additional charge.

SAMPLE TUITION #1

\$200	Base tuition, Unlimited status
\$ 60	4 groups rehearsal periods x \$15 each
\$ 0	<u>Taking extra classes like Tap, Lyrical, Pointe, etc.</u>
\$260	Monthly tuition

SAMPLE TUITION #2

\$150	Base tuition, 4 hours
\$ 60	4 groups rehearsal periods x \$15 each
\$ 35	<u>Taking 1 extra hour weekly in Tap</u>
\$245	Monthly tuition

Solos, Duos/Trios, and Group Routines

Solos/duo/trios are a great way for an experienced dancer to grow in confidence and stage presence. Not having the comfort zone of a large group on stage will really help them progress as a confident performer. Choreography and rehearsal time for these routines are done on a private instruction basis. Payment is due in full on the date of the first lesson and made payable to the choreographer, not the studio. Solos/duo/trios are by audition only, usually the weekend following the main CPC audition.

\$250	SOLO	Includes choreography, music selection & editing, 4 hours of private instruction. After 4 hours, the rate is \$30 for ½ hour.
\$300	DUOS/TRIOS	Cost is split between the students, includes everything shown above.
\$15	GROUP ROUTINES	Monthly fee for weekly Saturday 45-minute rehearsal period per student for each group routine.

- All solos, duos/trios must be approved by the faculty and interested students must attend the separate audition.
- Every effort should be made if the schedule allows to regularly attend the style of dance which they are competing. For example if you're doing a Lyrical solo, you should be taking Lyrical class regularly.
- Solo/duo/trio payments are non-refundable, as you are paying for a custom-tailored dance routine that is being created specifically for the individual. Even if the routine has not yet been *taught*, it has been *created*. Also, it should be understood that you are hiring a professional instructor with years of training and skill to choreograph this routine. Please respect the instructor's judgment and artistry when it comes to the selection of music, the style of routine, and the style of costume, and understand they will always create a piece to best highlight the student's overall style and skill.
- The expectation is that students are rehearsing these numbers on their own time. Students must be responsible for memorizing the choreography on their own and retaining it from one rehearsal to the next. Parents are encouraged to videotape the rehearsal session to assist with the learning process outside the studio.
- Scheduling for solo/duos/trios is done on an individual sign-up basis with each choreographer.



CPC INFORMATION PACKET 2012-2013

Red Bridge Shopping Center, 11141 Locust Street, Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 941-2278 www.ThePulsePAC.com

Attendance

Attendance is the single most important factor that determines the success of the CPC. We try as much as possible to work with schedules, however parents should help explain the commitment students have made to the CPC, and that due to the nature of a performing & competitive troupe, excellent attendance at all competition related activities and performances is a necessity. Poor attendance will affect their participation in competitions, performances, and routines. If you are unable to make a required class, you must individually let Brandon know by phone or email in advance of the conflict. All classes that are missed must be made up within one month. Each CPC season begins with the mandatory 5 or 6-Week summer session and ends the following year after recital or Nationals. The Summer Session is the start of the season and is mandatory for CPC members. This is separate from the Sept-May enrollment, and is part of the 1 year commitment to belong to the CPC. This is a condensed schedule and the required hours are less than the regular year. We understand that families take summer vacations - students may miss portions of summer, and make up their classes as they do in the fall/spring session. All performances and competitions are mandatory including holiday and summer performances.

Attendance Point System for the CPC

The Point System is designed to ensure excellent attendance and for all students to be progressing and strengthening together. Our system allows students to make up missed classes, and therefore erase most points they have accumulated. If a missed class is made up within one month, that particular point goes away. Students make up classes by taking a class of the same style in their level or the level below. **There are no make-ups for missing the Rehearsal Periods - these are permanent points. Dancers can miss one rehearsal day in September-December and one rehearsal day in January-May before beginning to accrue permanent points.** We follow the steps listed below to enforce attendance, rather than tracking students down throughout the week each time a class is missed or sending numerous e-mails home. This allows our staff to concentrate on what we do best: providing a great dance education to your child! The wonderful thing about our system is that points can be erased and classes made up! We aren't interested at all in dismissing anyone from the group, but students must be in class. We treat every student fairly and we don't like to be put in the position of appearing to give special circumstances to certain students. Each student must pull their own weight as part of the team, and teammates want everyone in class, too. By creating this point system, it allows students to show their commitment by making up any missed classes.

1 Point	Missing Saturday rehearsal periods (Dancers can miss one rehearsal day in September-December and one rehearsal day in January-May before getting a permanent point).
1 Point	Not making up a missed required class within one month
½ Point	Being late to a required class by 10 minutes or more
½ Point	Not showing up / Not letting the studio know in advance that a student is missing a required class. Required classes are Jazz, Ballet, Leaps & Turns, and Rehearsals – not additional classes like Tap, Pointe, Lyrical, Modern, or Hip Hop.
4 Points	STEP 1 - Discussion with the student, letting them know about the next steps if attendance doesn't improve.
8 Points	STEP 2 - Discussion with student & a parent, no longer eligible for featured role in recital, documentation of discussion, discussion regarding next steps.
12 Points	STEP 3 - Sit-down meeting with student and parent, removal from one or more routines and/or recital featured role, written documentation of discussion, discussion regarding next and final step.
16 Points	STEP 4 - Dismissal from the program. Any costume fees or competition fees paid are non-refundable. Students are still eligible to audition for the following year.

Additional Notes

- Competitions should be approached with the idea that they are an educational opportunity for students and a fun activity that families can experience together. Students learn team-building skills and self confidence that will help them in their future.
- It is important that competitions, conventions, performances, and studio activities be approached with a positive attitude, and that parents be proud of their child's involvement and development.
- Competition results are very subjective opinions of certain judges and your child's growth should not be gauged by these results.
- **The Pulse is a drama-free zone!** We expect parents and students and staff to be supportive, respectful, positive, and courteous to each other at all times! Gossip and negativity are 100% not tolerated.
- The staff of The Pulse is passionate about what we do, and we are grateful to be able to have the opportunity to work with your children! We take our job as role models and teachers very seriously and we make every effort to make the best decisions on a daily basis to help your child reach their full potential.
- If CPC students wish to take additional master classes or outside instruction you must get approval from Curtis. We want to make sure our dancers are only studying with qualified instructors for qualified education.

Thank you! If you have any additional questions please just let us know! We're here to help!