



CPC INFORMATION PACKET 2014-2015

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



Auditions for the 2014-2015 CPC: Saturday, July 12, 2014!

"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, CPC parent

"My daughter has been dancing at Pulse for several 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, 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, 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, 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, CPC parent



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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 14, 2014.**

The Pulse Competition and Performance Company (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 and national competitions and conventions. 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. 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!

Competition dancers have a set of required technique classes that meet during weekdays, and they have rehearsals for their competition routines on Saturdays. **Performance Groups and Entry level CPC divisions meet much less and do not have Saturday rehearsals.** 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. The year concludes with Nationals in June, and on non-Nationals years the season would conclude after recital at the beginning of June.

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

The 2014-2015 season is a non-Nationals year. We are attending four required regional competitions, and one required convention. 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 and entered through The Pulse.

Additional Rehearsals, Performances, and Events

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 invited CPC dancers 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.

The Pulse Spring Production

Our spring productions have redefined the dance studio "recital", and they are an original production with a storyline as opposed to a showcase of various dances. We cast the lead, featured, and additional roles in the production exclusively from within the CPC. These costumes are in addition to competition costumes – Participation for CPC students is required and their role in the show will dictate costuming and may require additional costuming. Costume deposits are the same as they are for the recreational students and are noted on the recreational calendar.



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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. The jacket also has a matching pair of pants (not required). The jacket will be worn to any event that we attend.

Costumes

The Pulse is known for producing classy, age-appropriate, and professional costumes. The Pulse costumes are produced from a variety of sources including local seamstresses, costume catalogues, and off the rack at retail locations. Costume prices fluctuate depending on detailing, etc. A \$75 deposit is due at the start of the season 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. Prices fluctuate but are no more than \$150 each. Costume prices do not include shoes or tights, and most costumes will need to have rhinestones added (parents can apply the stones themselves or hire another parent to apply them).

Tuition

Each student is welcome to take as many classes per month as they would like but their CPC class schedule is required to be involved in the program. All students that enroll in enough classes to reach the “Unlimited” status, 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
<u>\$ 0</u>	<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
<u>\$ 35</u>	<u>Taking 1 extra hour weekly in Tap</u>
\$245	Monthly tuition

Solos, Duos/Trios, and Group Routines

Solos and 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 - Includes choreography, music selection & editing, 4 hours of private instruction. After 4 hours, the rate is \$30 for ½ hour.

DUOS/TRIOS - Cost is split between the students, includes everything shown above for Solos.

GROUP ROUTINES - \$15 monthly fee for weekly Saturday 45-minute rehearsal period per student for each group routine.

- All solos and duos/trios are assigned and handled by the CPC Faculty (just like group routines) including choreographer assignments, student pairings, music selections, costume selections, etc. The CPC Faculty will always create pieces to best highlight the overall style and skill of each dancer.
- 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 and duo/trio payments are non-refundable, as you are paying for a custom-tailored dance routine that is being created specifically for the individual(s). Even if the routine has not yet been *taught*, it has been *created*.
- 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.



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Attendance

Attendance is one of the most important factors that determines individual success. We try as much as possible to work with outside conflicts, 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

We use an attendance tracking system to ensure excellent attendance and for all students to be progressing and strengthening together. This "points" system allows students to make up missed classes, and therefore erase points they have accumulated. If a missed class is made up within one month /30 days, that particular point goes away. Students make up classes by taking a class of the same style in their level or the level below, and each dancer receives detailed information at the beginning of the year regarding which classes they can use for makeups. There are no make-ups for missing the Saturday rehearsal periods - these are permanent points. The wonderful thing about our system is that points can be erased and classes made up! 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.

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 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.

Thank you!

If you have any additional questions please just let us know!

