



DANCEFORCE 2013~2014

PLACEMENT AUDITION INFORMATION

WEAR: Danceable clothing and shoes (you have the option of taking your shoes off, if you want)

BRING Three (3) documents:

1. Signed Letter of Agreement (Parent and Dancer signature required)
2. Completed "Tell Us About You!" form
3. Completed Contact Information form
4. A terrific attitude!

(Note: these forms are in the official Danceforce Program Information Packet. These completed and signed forms MUST be submitted at registration.)

After registration you will meet the teachers, learn a short routine and then demonstrate it in a small group. Remember, you do not need to have experience; this audition will serve as an evaluation for training placement in the summer.

More info:

www.bpddanceforce.org; or call (630) 739-1700.

DANCEFORCE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the BPD Danceforce is to empower youth through dance performance and leadership opportunities and to engage them in activities and experiences that will encourage the development of strong character, proactive involvement with their community, and effective leadership skills. Equally important to the BPD Danceforce is the development of the individuals in all areas of dance, which include jazz, hip hop, ballet, lyrical and tap, and participation in conventions, competitions, educational field trips and performance opportunities. It is the intention of the BPD Danceforce to groom its participants to become exemplary individuals that will stand out in their schools and communities for the endeavors they are involved with, and for the caliber of professionalism they exemplify in performance.

DIRECTORS

Julia Czupryn, Danceforce Co-Director
Clara Houdek – Recreation Supervisor/Dance

DANCEFORCE LEAD TEACHING STAFF

Kidz Co. – Grace Kopasz	Junior Co. – Kathleen Schauer	Teen Co. – Stefany Drabes	Senior Co. – Karly Hansen
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ADDITIONAL TEACHING STAFF

Chelly Benzinger	Lindsey Lococo	Jada Ralph
Jake Buerger	Desiree Pepper-Venzant	Nicole Sidney
Julia Czupryn	Lynette Puzon	

COMPANIES

Kidz Company <i>Ages 5-10</i>	Teen Company <i>Ages 10-15</i>
Junior Company <i>Ages 8-12</i>	Senior Company <i>Ages 13+</i>

DANCEFORCE COMPANY PROFILE

The BPD Danceforce is divided into the following divisions: Kidz (Ages 5-10), Junior (Ages 8-12), Teen (Ages 10-15) and Senior (Ages 13+). Please note that we try to place dancers in the appropriate age group but if needed we will place a dancer in a different company based on their skill level. The company studies and performs hip hop, jazz, ballet, lyrical and tap routines for performances based upon their skill levels and areas of study. This company also spends an equal amount of time doing volunteer and charity work in the community. A unique and special facet of this program is the incorporation of character education and development which is an integral part of their training each year.

REQUIREMENTS

- Audition for level placement (5/22 – Kidz/Junior Companies; 5/23 – Teen/Senior companies)
- Make a **one-year commitment** from the start of summer training (June – May) and attend fall and winter/spring training sessions
- Enroll and participate in at least one technical dance class (ballet or jazz) **throughout the year**, in addition to regular training schedule. Your technical class will remain the same for the entire year.
- Study and develop in the areas of the six pillars of character designed by Character Counts! Meet the minimum requirements for training as provided later in this document.
- Participate in charitable activities throughout the year. Dancers are also encouraged to be peer leaders in the Power Dance Project at their own school or as a student assistant at another school (as peer leaders, Danceforce dancers will only need to pay \$5 per session for their participation in Power Dance Project).
- Participate in **2 MANDATORY** general fundraisers to offset overall company expenses. All dancers **MUST** participate (a minimum required effort will be determined for each fundraiser). In addition, there will be opportunities for dancers to raise money for their personal accounts, which can be put toward session fees, convention fees, personal costume items, and other individual expenses). You always have the option of buying out (\$50 buy-out per fundraiser) your required fundraising amount.

TRAINING & REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

The following information is a general overview. Please see below for more information. Training will include progressive dance and performance training, conditioning & strength training, education on nutrition and health, and leadership/comprehensive character education (six pillars of character).

DAYS/TIMES

Kidz Company	TUE 4:30-6:00P
Junior Company	TUE 4:30 – 6:00P & FRI 6:30-8:00P
Teen Company	WED 4:00-5:30P & FRI 5:00-6:30P
Senior Company	WED 5:30-7:00P & FRI 3:30-5:00P

VERY IMPORTANT: Danceforce usually meets continuously, even during a period of time that might be unscheduled according to the Park District catalog and sessions. **Adhere to the current updates and schedules as they are distributed.** These handouts supersede information previously printed in the catalog. You will NOT incur any additional expense for these additional dates of training.

Danceforce Attendance Policy All Companies & Jamm Teams

Attendance is very important not only for improvement and development, but for the safety of the dancers. These procedures will allow for more efficient and accurate documentation.

Acceptable form of advance tardy and absence notification:

- Emails to Julia Czupryn: jczupryn@bolingbrookparks.org

Danceforce Hotline: (630) 783-6683

Dancers must call hotline 15 minutes before the start of the class to report day of absences or tardies. Please keep these messages short. Include dancer's name, company, date, absence or tardy, and **REASON**.

Tardy

2 Tardies = 1 Absence
20 Min. of Missed Class = 1 Absence

Absence

5 Absences Allowed Per Season
(Summer, Fall, Winter/Spring)

**If a dancer is asked to sit out (Failure to Register on Time, Injury, Tardiness, Etc.), they will be required to take notes (Technique Improvement, Choreography Notes), and will be asked to turn it in at the end of class.*

NOTE: *Sitting out due to failure to register will result in an absence.*

Please Note

If more than 5 absences occur in any season, dancer may not be allowed to participate at the respective performances:

Summer: Summer's Last Blast
Fall: Annual Danceforce Concert
Spring: May Concert Danceforce Dances

** Failure to meet attendance requirements for technical classes may also effect participation in May Concert Series.*

**** Jamm Team Dancers:** If more than 5 absences occur in any season, Jamm Team Dancers may be asked to move back to Company and will no longer be a member of Jamm Team effective until next Danceforce Tryout.

NOTE: *If more than 5 absences are met in one season, a dancer & parent may petition for reconsideration with proper and accurate documentation (this is only for EXTREME cases that are out of your control- sickness, injury, mandatory school related function, etc). Review will be based upon reasoning for absences and frequency. Contact Julia Czupryn to initiate.*

REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND DANCEFORCE PAYMENT PLAN

Bolingbrook Park District Danceforce has created a new convenient payment plan. There is no guesswork and it's easy to plan your family budget for the entire year. No surprise fees. Simply make the same monthly payment, depending on your child's company, over the next eleven months. Your payment is all inclusive and comes with Danceforce perks only available to you. Think of it as your own Backstage Pass!

Look at Every thing That's Included

- Danceforce Uniform Shirt
- Danceforce Concert Shirt
- May Concert Costuming (excluding undergarments such as tights and leotards)
- Dancer fee for Awards Banquet (parent must be present if dancer is 10 years of age or younger)
- 50% of Hip Hop Classes
- 50% of Tap Classes
- \$55 off one additional sibling (\$5 off each month)
- \$110 off two additional siblings (\$10 off each month)
- Discount on Powerdance- \$5 for sessions I through V & \$10 for session VI
- Fundraising opportunities throughout the year
- Extra rehearsals throughout the year
- Specialty pieces (pieces outside of large company routines) for the Danceforce Concert- Company dancers will be in a minimum of one piece and Jamm dancers will be in a minimum of two pieces; this includes extra rehearsal time
- \$10 discount for dancers taking more than two additional dance classes (not including Hip Hop)
- And of course the Danceforce classes and one required technical class which are listed for each specific company.

**Join us for the mandatory Parent Information/Registration Night
(Register for the year and make first payment)
June 3rd for Kidz and Juniors
June 4th for Teens and Seniors**

Kidz Company (Ages 5-10)

Per Month - \$63/\$79

Per Year-\$693/\$869

***Danceforce Class- 1.5 hrs per Week**

(Tuesday 4:30-6:00 pm)

***Choice of one Technical class (depending on age & ability):**

-Ballet/Tumbling (4-6 yrs)

-Ballet/Tap (4-6 yrs)

-Pre-Ballet (4-5 yrs or 6-7 yrs)

-Youth Jazz I (7-11 yrs)

-Youth Ballet I (8-9 yrs)

-Tap, Ballet, Jazz Combo (6-8 yrs)

Junior Company (Ages 8-12)

Per Month - \$94/\$118

Per Year-\$1034/\$1298

***Danceforce Classes- 3 hrs per Week**

(Tuesday 4:30-6:00 pm & Friday 6:30-8:00 pm)

***Choice of one Technical class (depending on age & ability):**

-Ballet I (8-9 yrs)

-Ballet II (8-9 yrs)

-Ballet I/II (10-11 yrs)

-Ballet III (10-11 yrs)

-Jazz I (7-11 yrs)

-Jazz II (7-11 yrs)

-Jazz III (7-11 yrs)

Teen Company (Ages 10-15)

Per Month-\$101/\$127

Per Year-\$1111/\$1397

***Danceforce Classes- 3 hrs per Week**

(Wednesday 4:00-5:30 pm & Friday 5:00-6:30 pm)

***Choice of one Technical class (depending on age & ability):**

- Ballet I/II (10-11 yrs) -Ballet III (10-11 yrs)
- Ballet I (12 yrs & up) -Ballet II (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet III (12 yrs & up) -Ballet IV (12 yrs & up)

- Jazz I (7-11 yrs) -Jazz II (7-11 yrs)
- Jazz III (7-11 yrs) -Jazz I/II (12 yrs & up)
- Jazz III (12 yrs & up) -Jazz IV (12 yrs & up)

Senior Company (Ages 13 +)

Per Month-\$109/\$137

Per Year-\$1199/\$1507

***Danceforce Classes- 3 hrs per Week**

(Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm & Friday 3:30-5:00 pm)

***Choice of one Technical class (depending on age & ability):**

- Ballet I (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet II (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet III (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet IV (12 yrs & up)

- Jazz I/II (12 yrs & up)
- Jazz III (12 yrs & up)
- Jazz IV (12 yrs & up)

Junior Jamm (4th to 5th grade)

Per Month-\$127/\$159

Per Year-\$1397/\$1749

***Danceforce Classes- 3 hrs per Week**

(Tuesday 4:30-6:00 pm & Friday 6:30-8:00 pm)

***Choice of one Technical class (depending on age & ability):**

- Ballet I (8-9 yrs)
- Ballet II (8-9 yrs)
- Ballet I/II (10-11 yrs)
- Ballet III (10-11 yrs)

- Jazz I (7-11 yrs)
- Jazz II (7-11 yrs)
- Jazz III (7-11 yrs)

***Required Hip Hop Class**

Teen Jamm (6th to 8th grade)

Per Month-\$134/\$168

Per Year-\$1474/\$1848

***Danceforce Classes- 3 hrs per Week**

(Wednesday 4:00-5:30 pm & Friday 5:00-6:30 pm)

***Choice of one Technical class (depending on age & ability):**

- Ballet I/II (10-11 yrs)
- Ballet III (10-11 yrs)
- Ballet I (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet II (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet III/IV(12 yrs & up)
- Jazz I (7-11 yrs)

- Jazz II (7-11 yrs)
- Jazz III (7-11 yrs)
- Jazz I/II (12 yrs & up)
- Jazz III (12 yrs & up)
- Jazz IV (12 yrs & up)

***Required Hip Hop Class**

Senior Jamm (9th grade & older)

Per Month-\$141/\$177

Per Year-\$1551/\$1947

***Danceforce Classes- 3 hrs per Week**

(Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm & Friday 3:30-5:00 pm)

***Choice of one Technical Class (depending on age & ability):**

- Ballet II (12 yrs & up)
- Ballet III/IV(12 yrs & up)
- Jazz III (12 yrs & up)

- Jazz IV (12 yrs & up)
- *Required Hip Hop Class**

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

We will be holding registration for all Danceforce members June 3rd for Kidz & Juniors; and June 4th for Teens & Seniors at the **MANDATORY PARENT ORIENTATION**. All members choosing to accept their acceptance into the Danceforce company are required to come to the meeting to register for Danceforce training, required technical class, and any other dance classes your dancer decides to take. **Please note that you must choose a technical discipline to commit to for the entire year**, but are more than welcome to take any additional classes. Any additional class beyond your dancer's requirement must be registered separately for each session.

Questions?

Please contact Clara Houdek at (630) 783-6641 for specific questions regarding the payment plan.

FINANCES/ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Each participant/parent will use their household account (through the Bolingbrook Park District) to deposit funds needed for the program (dance shoes, jazz pants, tights, etc.) and have expenses deducted. You will have the opportunity to fundraise during the year and money raised will be deposited to your individual household account with the park district unless the event has been deemed a "general funds" fundraiser. The Danceforce Parent Association (see parent committees) holds the revenue generated from our general fundraisers in a booster account to be used for general expenses (transportation, production fees, activity expenses, etc.). As individual costume and/or program expenses come up you will need to have the necessary funds in your park district household account by the deadline. NOTE: Individual fundraising money can be used for program session fees as well as costume/program expenses as long as it is in your account. Be sure to keep record of it, so that it is not used for other household fees by the park district.

REQUIRED COSTUME/UNIFORM ITEMS

All dancers will be ordered an **official uniform shirt** and **concert shirt** that is already included in the tuition fee for the year. Other items that each dancer are required to own (and can be ordered for you) are:

- Black jazz pants (girls), Black baggy pants (boys) - \$25 girls/\$30 boys
- Black jazz shoes (all) - \$24
- Tan jazz shoes (girls) - \$24
- Black jazz sneakers (boys) - \$35
- Convertible tights (girls) - \$8

A large order will be placed in the beginning of the summer training. All dancers will be sized during the first couple of weeks of summer training, and necessary items will be ordered unless advised otherwise on the official order form that will be distributed at the time of fittings. If you are a returning dancer and do not need a new pair of shoes, pants or tights you will be provided an opportunity to bring your items in for a condition check and may not need to purchase. It will be your responsibility to fill out the form and bring the items in for a check or the purchases will be made for you. If the items are ordered and you have not communicated otherwise, you will be responsible for the expense. Necessary funds **MUST** be in your park district accounts by the deadline or the item will not be ordered.

PLANNED ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR ALL DANCERS ~ VARIES

Various personal costume pieces, as needed if needed, for February 2014 DANCEFORCE concert (If our general fundraisers are successful, the costume expenses to the individual dancer will be less – do your part to contribute).

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY EXPENSE FOR ALL DANCERS

ALL dancers are encouraged to attend the scheduled dance convention in the winter/spring along with the Danceforce Jamm Teams who will also compete. The regional convention is two days and dancers will take classes both days from professional choreographers from all over the United States. Cost to attend the convention is about \$300 (convention, hotel, transportation, meals, etc.) but has proven to be a tremendous inspiration to ALL dancers. Danceforce may attend an additional convention later in the year. Necessary funds would need to be in your account at least one month prior. Information will be distributed.

FUNDRAISING

Our program is fortunate to have a hard-working and dedicated parent fundraising committee that organizes a series of activities through which we, as a company, raise funds for our overall expenses (GENERAL FUNDRAISERS) and you can raise money to be used specifically for your personal fees and expenses (INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISERS). The general fundraisers are mandatory. In most cases, a minimum will be set for each event or activity that each dancer MUST do, but all dancers and families SHOULD do their best since the funds will benefit each and every dancer. **Our mandatory general fundraisers are TAGGING AND COOKIE DOUGH SALES. If you choose not to participate in the minimum of any of the 2 MANDATORY GENERAL FUNDRAISERS, you will have to pay a \$50 fundraiser buy-out for each fundraiser you choose not to do.** If you've ever seen a Danceforce competition or concert, you know how extensive and beautiful the costuming and set/prop designs are, but the dancers see NONE of this expense. These types of expenses are completely paid for by our general funds, as is all bus transportation to/from events, parties and awards, etc., so all children benefit from these funds. Individual Fundraisers are optional, but highly encouraged, since the money raised will go directly into your personal account to be used for ANY and ALL Danceforce-related expenses, including session fees. Details will be provided as they become available.

FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available for qualifying households. Simply pick up a financial aid form at any of the front desks and submit it for consideration prior to the start of the 2013-2014 season.

DANCEFORCE JAMM TEAMS

Auditions for 2013-2014 Jamm Teams will be held Tuesday, May 28, 2013. Eligibility for Jamm Team includes attendance of audition for Company (5/22 or 5/23, depending on age), attitude, and technique capabilities. A separate audition packet with more detailed information will be provided.

JAMM TEAM - PLANNED ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY EXPENSES

Because Jamm Team is a high commitment with extra rehearsals, the fee will be higher than those members of Company. Other additional expenses include dance conventions/competitions (approximately \$300 per dancer per regional convention; higher if a 3-day convention is scheduled in the summer). Regional conventions usually take place anytime between January and April. Summer convention (if attending) would be in June/July.

DANCEFORCE PARENT ASSOCIATION

All parents are members of the Danceforce Parent Association and are welcome to contribute their thoughts, concerns and suggestions to program affairs. Elected officers and committee heads are required to attend monthly meetings (1st Monday of every month, 6:30PM, locations vary), but ALL parents are encouraged to attend and be informed. Elections for officers and company representatives take place in the fall. Danceforce parent representatives are nominated and elected in early Fall, and DPA officers are nominated and elected shortly after. DANCEFORCE PARENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ARE:

Christine Buerger, President
Paris Cannon, Vice President
George Patterson, Treasurer

Gayle Floresca, Secretary
Jana Crouse, Communications Secretary

PARENT COMMITTEES

The Danceforce has a parent association, "FORCE BEHIND THE FORCE," that is unprecedented and admired by many other youth organizations. DPA was awarded the 2006 Character Counts award for excellence in a business/association. Multi-faceted and extremely active, these parents work throughout the Danceforce season in one or more areas that they enjoy and are willing to assist. Additionally, these committees have been the means through which the Danceforce parents discover what we dancers call, "the Danceforce family". Be a part of the "Force behind the Force". Sign up for one or more of these committees and discover how the parents make it all happen. This program is not possible without the efforts of effective and supportive parent committees.

Fundraising Committee (Plans and facilitates all fundraising activities)

Special Events Committee (Plans and facilitates a variety of activities)

Audio/Visual Committee (Alternates filming and handles all A/V aspects of all appearances)

Communications Committee (Phone trees/calls; maintains up-to-date dancer contact information)

Production Committee (Operational: organize manpower at all Danceforce events; Construction: design, build and maintain sets as needed)

Concert Program Committee (designs & creates the official concert program, to include advertising)

Costume Committee (handles all aspects of costuming the company, to include sewing, shopping, crafts, inventory, distribution and maintenance)

Charity Committee (develops character-building activities and lessons throughout the year; chart dancers' progress and assist in leadership development)

Danceforce Company Care Committee (addresses the internal needs, hardships, concerns of the entire dance company/families – organizes carpools, meal deliveries for serious illnesses or injuries, etc.)

PARENT COMMITMENT AND EXPECTATIONS

The involvement of parents/family members is crucial to making this program run the way that it does. Parent volunteering is MANDATORY and at least one parent should serve on a committee (listed above). In addition, at least one parent MUST volunteer for at least one of the Danceforce Concert nights and at least one of the May Concerts. Those parents that choose NOT to volunteer will be held responsible and required to pay a monetary consequence.

MANDATORY DANCEFORCE PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING & REGISTRATION NIGHT BOLINGBROOK RECREATION & AQUATICS COMPLEX

**Monday, June 3, 2013 (Kidz and Juniors)
ALL PARENTS: 6:30~8:30PM**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2013 (Teens and Seniors)
ALL PARENTS: 6:30~8:30PM**

Meet the DF staff, officers and committee heads.

Find out the details of the program, and the details of all of the program changes/additions.

Website member log in procedure will also be provided or reviewed at these meetings.

Register for ALL your dancer's classes.

2013 – 2014 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF APPEARANCES & EVENTS

These are appearances known to date. Additional appearances will come up and be added to their schedule. You will have access to an on-line, members only Master Calendar for up to date information on all events.

SUMMER

JUNE 2013

Tues & Wed, 11 & 12 Summer Training begins!

AUGUST 2013

Sat, 24

Summer's Last Blast –
DEBUT PERFORMANCE OF THE 2013-2014 DANCEFORCE COMPANY

FALL

SEPTEMBER 2013

Sept. 8

Bolingbrook's 47th Annual Pathways Parade -Perform with the Power Dancers

OCTOBER 2013

Oct. 25 & 31

Fall Jamboree
No Class
Danceforce Concert Preparation Begins

NOVEMBER 2013

Nov. 22

Charitable work/Volunteer work- Project Thanksgiving

Nov. 27-29

Thanksgiving Break – No Danceforce

WINTER

DECEMBER 2013

Dec. 23-Jan 5

Possible holiday performances
Charitable work/volunteer work-Christmas
Danceforce Holiday Party
Winter Break – No Danceforce (unless extra specialty practices are called)

SPRING

JANUARY 2014 -

Jan. 7 & 8

VERY IMPORTANT MONTH OF TRAINING (Attendance must be a priority, no conflicts)
Danceforce Training Resumes
Concert Preparation resumes

FEBRUARY 2014 –

Feb. 17-19

VERY IMPORTANT MONTH OF CONCERT PREPARATION (attendance must be a priority, no conflicts) Entire month, Danceforce in full swing for concert preparation
Tech Rehearsals at BHS Auditorium; No Department Classes all week except for Thursday (2/21) and Saturday (2/23)

Feb. 21 & 22

12th Annual Danceforce Concert (2 weeks prior – very busy)

Feb. 25 & 26

No Danceforce (Unless extra rehearsals needed for Competition Prep)

Feb. 28

All Companies Invited to watch the Concert DVD 4:30-6:30P

MARCH 2014

2nd, 3rd weekends

Bolingbrook Community Basketball Championship Half-time shows
Jamm Team intensive month – competition preparation

April 2014

April 8-12

Spring Break – No Danceforce

May 2014

May 3

Dance Department Picture Day

May 5-9

Tech Rehearsal Week

May 10

Bolingbrook Park District's May Concert Series

TELL US ABOUT YOU!

Dancer Name: _____

Age: _____

How do you know about Danceforce?

Do you have any dance experience? If so, please describe (and don't worry if you don't, we don't expect you to!). ☺

Will you be able to participate in Danceforce starting this summer and continuing on through the school year? (June 2012 – May 2013)

YES! If no, please explain: _____

Have you done any volunteer work in the past? What was it and did you enjoy it?

Do you feel you have good character (make good decisions, care about others, act responsibly and respectfully) and would you be willing to learn more about these traits throughout the Danceforce season?

What would you like us to know about you?

BPD Dance Force Information

This document will be kept on file throughout the Danceforce season for your child. If any information changes, please let us know.

Please check the appropriate dance company

**Age should be based upon the upcoming 2013-2014 school year*

- Kidz Company (Ages 5-10)
 Jr. Company (Ages 8-12)
 Teen Company (Ages 10-15)
 Senior Company (Ages 13 +)

PARTICIPANT'S INFORMATION

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____
 Home Address _____ City, Zip Code _____
 Home Phone _____ Dancer Cell Phone _____
 Dancer E-Mail Address: _____
 Birth Date _____ Gender Male / Female
 Medical Concerns _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN & EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Parent's / Guardian's Information

Mother's Name _____ Work Phone _____
 Cell Number _____ E-Mail Address _____
 Father's Name _____ Work Phone _____
 Cell Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

In an emergency if parent/guardian cannot be reached, please contact:

Name _____ Home Phone _____
 Cell Number _____ Work Phone _____
 Name _____ Home Phone _____
 Cell Number _____ Work Phone _____

Parent Approval:

From **June 2013** To: **June 2014**

I give my child named on this form permission to participate in Danceforce event(s) between the listed dates. In the event of an emergency and I cannot be reached, I give permission to a licensed physician or hospital selected by the person in charge to hospitalize, secure proper treatment, anesthesia, or surgery for our named child on this . I also consent to routine, nonsurgical medical care.

My child: _____ May receive Tylenol/Ibuprofen _____ May NOT receive Tylenol/Ibuprofen

Signature of Parent / Guardian _____
 Date: _____

BPD DANCEFORCE

2013-2014 Letter of Agreement

I have thoroughly read and understand the BPD Danceforce program description and schedule and, if selected, will adhere to its requirements as well as any rules, policies and procedures that will be implemented during the program.

I also understand that this is a year-long activity/commitment (June 2013 – May 2014) and if selected, I will make the commitment to this program for the entire year. My commitment also includes participating in the 2 mandatory general fundraisers or paying the buy-out fee for each that I do not participate in.

Further, I understand that my participation depends upon my positive attitude and commitment. I also understand that my position in the company is earned, and that it may be relinquished at any time if the Director deems it necessary for the better of the overall program.

Finally, I have the support of my family in my decision to audition for and participate in this program. My parents/guardians have read and understand the program description and requirements and agree to them. All benefits I may gain, as well as sacrifices I may have to make throughout the year in order to participate fully in this program will be supported and encouraged by my family.

Participant's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date



2013-2014 BPD Danceforce Jamm Team

Description, Expectations & Eligibility

Description

The Bolingbrook Park District Danceforce Jamm Team is the award-winning, nationally acclaimed division of the overall Danceforce Company. Jamm Team dancers are divided into teams based upon age as determined at tryouts. You must be at least nine years old to try out. Your age at the time of national competition may dictate the team to which a dancer is assigned.

The Jamm teams have set a very high standard of excellence and expectation, and therefore require a large commitment on the part of each individual on the team. In addition to the regularly scheduled company training and events for Danceforce, Jamm Teams perform frequently at a variety of additional events and venues. Most performances will be scheduled in advance, however, there are often performances that come up throughout the season without much notice, and these performances **MUST** take priority over other activities. **All dance training ,rehearsals/ practices, activities, events and performances must take priority over all extra-curricular and social activities as described in detail later in this document.** The Jamm team commitment is a full year from the time of Jamm team auditions to August of the following year. **Failure to fulfill the entire year will result in ineligibility for Jamm team the following year, and until a full year of Danceforce company participation is completed successfully.**

Eligibility

Dancers 8 years of age and older are eligible to audition for Jamm Teams.

AGE CONSIDERATION

First and foremost, your child will be placed on a team based on skill level. We place the age categories as a guideline and try to stay with the age category but we also need to make sure all the dancers are challenged. Age on the date of regional competition will be considered in determining what team a dancer may be selected for. Once the dancers have been selected after tryouts, birthdays and ages will be examined to see if the ages assigned to a specific team will result in the team moving from a particular competition category and force competition between teams. In this case, it may be concluded that a particular dancer must move up to an older Jamm team, if their age places them in that age group at the date of national competition. Please be prepared for this possibility before trying out.

Overall Expectations

A Jamm Team dancer is expected to do the following:

All Jamm Team dancers are REQUIRED to have mastered technical skills as listed below, and must exhibit the highest level of showmanship and professionalism in ALL styles of dance. Skill requirements will be included in the audition process and routine. Note: placement in class levels will be determined by teachers, and may not be consistent within a team. Class training is individual, and level placement is important for the individual development of a dancer.

- Participation in all conventions and competitions throughout Danceforce year. Fundraising activity specifically for Jamm team dancers to take place throughout the 2013-2014 season to offset expenses.
- Perform more frequently and with the highest level of showmanship. Activities will include all Danceforce appearances, additional Jamm Team appearances, Elite team performances, if selected, and all required volunteer/charity work, conventions, competitions and special events.
- Take dance training and conduct very seriously. Required class(es) and company training conduct, attendance and effort should be 100% at all times. Excessive absences from training and/or classes, or conduct/attitude issues may result in loss of position on team, and placement back into Danceforce.
- Demonstrate an understanding and following of rules and expected behavior for Danceforce, dance classes and performances/events.
- Exhibit the highest standard of character. Professionalism is determined by both performance and behavior. Jamm Team dancers are expected to show good character, work ethic and teamwork AT ALL TIMES.
- **Danceforce and Jamm team events/performances must be a priority above extra-curricular activities and social events; this includes sports, dance team, school plays/musicals.**
- Maintain and demonstrate technical requirements, showmanship and good attitude THROUGHOUT the season. A benchmark testing day will take place at the end of each season to make sure that all Jamm are keeping up with their technical requirements and capabilities. If technique, attitude or showmanship in performance is deemed lacking at any time during the current season, a dancer may lose his/her position on the team.
- Must be a team player and understand that the program, performance and best interest and reputation of the team precede the individual. Must be willing to accept decisions made by teachers and choreographers with grace and good attitude.
- Be a role model to the entire company in Danceforce training, in classes, at performances and at any events where they are representing Danceforce – effort, attitude, responsibility, punctuality, respect, dependability and care for others.
- Should be first to volunteer when needed, and be willing to lead when called upon.
- Maintain a good academic standing, and keep grades/studying up based upon the personal standards of that dancer's school and family.

Family Commitment & Expectations

The Danceforce program and the Bolingbrook Park District provide a great deal of financial support and equipment/resources to the efforts of the Jamm teams (competition fees, costuming, sets/props, appearance transportation when necessary, additional rehearsal time when needed, etc., staff for performances and extra rehearsals, etc). For this reason, it is important that the entire family understands the commitment level, and ***the need for parent/family participation in activities or events necessary for the financial and overall well-being of the program their child is participating in.***

- ***Jamm team parent volunteering is MANDATORY and at least one parent should serve on a Jamm Team committee. If you already serve on a company committee, you will not be expected to join a Jamm Team committee. Jamm team committees will consist of a fundraising sub-committee, a convention/competition committee and any other committee as a need arises during the year.***
- ***If a fundraiser is deemed a Jamm team or convention/competition fundraiser, Jamm team parents MUST participate and will be provided with information on how and what they can do. Fundraising activities specifically for Jamm team dancers required to attend convention/competition will be mandatory for all Jamm team dancers and families.***
- ***Jamm Team parents are expected to fulfill the minimum required fundraising for each general fundraising endeavor as announced throughout the year. Participation in general fundraisers is expected, since much of the Jamm team expenses are offset by our general funds. Much like the dancers themselves, we expect the Jamm team family/parents to set the example of commitment and responsibility.***
- ***Plan ahead for upcoming Jamm team expenses and make them a priority. Competitions and travel relating to competitions are mandatory, so funds must be in place for them. The dates and details will be provided ahead of time, so we expect households to be prepared for them. A monthly payment plan for all required conventions/competitions will be combined with payments starting in November/December.***
- ***We try to attend 2 conventions/competitions per year, but this is not a guarantee. It also depends on finances and scheduling. All conventions/competitions are chosen by our Danceforce Directors.***

Training Requirements

DANCE TRAINING Throughout the Year (June 2013 through June 2014) (NO EXCEPTIONS)

- 2 regularly scheduled practices per week as scheduled based upon assigned team. Slightly later or earlier start/end times for a season of an extra-curricular sport will be considered, but approval will be based upon what is in the best interest of the teams during the season requested. **A dancer must not become involved with an activity that is in direct conflict over an extended length of time. Consistent absences due to an extra-curricular activity will not be tolerated, and may result in loss of position on Jamm team or loss of eligibility to perform in an upcoming performance or competition.**
- 1 required technical class (ballet, jazz or lyrical) each week throughout the year as scheduled and at the assigned level, as determined at the audition – included in the Danceforce Payment Plan
- 1 Hip Hop class (at the DF 50% discount) each week throughout the year as scheduled and at the assigned level, as determined at the audition – Included in the Danceforce Payment Plan
- Technical and Hip Hop class attendance is mandatory and will be monitored for Jamm team requirements/expectations. Failure to comply will result in loss of position on Jamm team and/or loss of participation in May Concert Series.

REHEARSALS

Required to attend ALL rehearsals as scheduled, and required to attend additional rehearsals as they come up (preparation for Spring Concerts, special performances, etc.). This schedule will take precedence over ALL other activities participant may be involved in. Notice of unscheduled, additional rehearsals will be provided at least a week prior to the date, and must be attended unless the conflict is academic or a preplanned family vacation/commitment. Anticipate additional weekend rehearsals in January and February (preparation for competition and concert).

COSTUMING

Being a Jamm Team member will require more costuming. Expense is always kept at a minimum, however, as costuming needs arise you will be notified and the payments MUST be in your park district household accounts by the deadline. Fundraising participation is highly encouraged to offset expenses, but the dancer will ultimately be responsible for the expense by the deadline date.

Jamm Team Season Overview

November:	Fox Valley Showcase, Dance Live, Symphony of Lights Performance, World of Dance, etc. performances
December - February:	Concert Intensive; month preceding Danceforce Concert
February:	Danceforce Annual Concert (rehearsals all week before)
March:	Hollywood Vibe Regionals
March-May:	Dancers concentrate on class choreography in preparation for May Concert Series. Danceforce routines and Jamm team routines will be rehearsed as needed for these concerts.
May:	May Concert Series performances
June – August:	Possible Summer Convention, Summer performances and conclusion of Jamm team season with an August performance TBA.

Keep in mind that Jamm team is a facet of Danceforce. All Danceforce scheduled events and activities include Jamm teams. This is an overview of what a Jamm team dancer should expect.

- Technique requirements listed on the front page of the Jamm Team Audition Packet
- Additional skills and abilities in other styles of dance or performance (tap, stunting, breaking, etc.) will be considered.
- All Jamm should be maintaining and demonstrating technical requirements, showmanship, attendance in company and technical classes, and good attitude THROUGHOUT the season. A benchmark testing day will take place at the end of each season to make sure that all Jamm are keeping up with there technical requirements and capabilities. If technique, attitude or showmanship in performance is deemed lacking at any time during the current season, a dancer may lose his/her position on the team.
- Dancers returning from the 2012-2013 season must have a good record for both attitude and attendance (dancers must not have been on probation or suspended during the season, and have not exhibited negative or detrimental behavior during the season).
- Dancers who have quit Danceforce or Jamm Team before the end of their season will be ineligible for a full year, and must participate successfully in a full year of Danceforce as a company dancer before being eligible again.

JAMM TEAM RULES

- Positive attitudes **MUST** be maintained at all times.
- Must work at the highest level in classes and rehearsals and must demonstrate good behavior and follow the rules at all times. Must be a leader in class and rehearsals.
- The six pillars of character are thoroughly understood and exemplified at all times (even when you are not with the Danceforce).
- Must be willing to take on additional responsibilities for the Danceforce program.
- **Must make participation in Jamm Team the priority above all other activities throughout the upcoming year.**
- **Must not commit to extra curricular activities if they will conflict with rehearsal schedules or performances.**
- Must clear schedule for a Jamm Team appearance or practice that has been announced at least one (1) week in advance. If conflict is not academic related or a pre-planned family event, schedules must be cleared even within a week's notice.
- Is not allowed more than 5 absences as stated in Danceforce attendance policy.
- Must not be on academic probation (subject to parent/school standards as communicated)
- Parents and participants must actively participate in General Fundraisers.
- Participants are expected to fulfill the charity/volunteer company requirements.
- Must plan on attending dance conventions/competitions scheduled for the year.
- Must keep 30 minutes of time immediately following scheduled ending time of rehearsals free, in the event a rehearsal runs overtime. Sometimes this is unavoidable. Parents should be aware of this and plan accordingly.
- Must have the support of family – their willingness to plan family activities and appointments around Jamm Team schedules.
- Must be organized and keep track of schedules & announcements –**DANCERS AND PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SCHEDULES, UPDATES AND INFORMATION.**

BPD DANCEFORCE JAMM TEAM

2013-2014 Letter of Agreement

I have thoroughly read and understand the BPD Danceforce program description and the BPD Danceforce Jamm Team description. If selected, I will adhere to their requirements as well as any rules, policies and procedures that will be implemented during the program.

Further, I understand that my participation depends upon my ability to adhere to the requirements of the BPD Danceforce Jamm Team. I agree to make Jamm Team the highest extra-curricular priority from the date I am selected until the date the Jamm Team's schedule is completed. I also understand that my position as a Jamm Team dancer is earned, that dance technique and positive attitude must be maintained throughout the year, and that if I unexpectedly fall short in the expectations of the program for any reason at any time, that my position may be relinquished if the Director deems it necessary for the better of the overall program.

As a parent, I understand that this requires commitment and involvement on my part. Further, I understand that the success of my child in this program depends largely on the family support and encouragement toward the efforts of my child and this program. I also understand that I am committing to the financial obligations of this program. I realize that my child, as a Jamm Team dancer, will receive a great deal of support from the Bolingbrook Park District and the Danceforce Parent Association, and to do my share to make this support possible, I will donate my time toward the necessary fundraising activities of this facet of the Danceforce program as required, and if possible, I will actively participate with a parent committee that supports the efforts of my child in this program.

We, as a family, support the decision to audition for and participate in the BPD Danceforce Jamm Team, with the understanding that it will require a big commitment by dancer and family. Both parents/guardians and participants have read and understand the program description and requirements and agree to them. All benefits gained, as well as sacrifices made throughout the year in order to participate fully in this program will be supported and encouraged by dancer and family.

Participant's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Jamm Team Questionnaire

The answers to these questions must be truthful and sincere. If you are a younger child and do not understand the question or need help filling in the answers, please ask your parent to help you.

Please share this questionnaire and your answers with your parent/guardian before turning in at the audition.

The answers to these questions will be considered during the selection process.

1. Why do you want to be a Jamm Team dancer?

2. What does the word "DEDICATION" mean to you?

3. What does the word "TEAM WORK" mean to you?

4. If you are a returning dancer, other than performances, what have you contributed to the Danceforce program so far and how should this impact our decision to select you?

5. How have you exemplified good character in this program so far?

6. Describe in your own words what you believe the Jamm Teams represent:

7. What are you prepared to offer or contribute, if selected?

8. Describe yourself in three sentences or less

7. List the extra-curricular activities you are or are planning to become involved in and explain how you will be able to make Jamm Team a priority above them:

2013-2014 Jamm Team Tryouts

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

BRAC

Junior Jamm – 5:00PM-6:30PM

Teen Jamm – 6:30PM-8:00PM

Senior Jamm – 3:30PM-5:00PM

Bring the following required items:

- Completed Questionnaire (attached to Jamm team information packet)
- Signed Letter of Agreement (attached to Jamm team information packet)

AUDITION – 1.5 hours

Audition will consist of a warm-up, center technique evaluation, across the floor combinations, and a routine.

<u><i>Junior Jamm</i></u> <u><i>REQUIREMENTS</i></u>	<u><i>Teen Jamm</i></u> <u><i>REQUIREMENTS</i></u>	<u><i>Senior Jamm</i></u> <u><i>REQUIREMENTS</i></u>
Chaine turns Double Pirouettes Jetes (R/L/C) Pas de bourres Chasse Pique turns Freestyling	Chaine turns Attitude turns Double Pique turns Triple Pirouettes Grande Jetes (R/L/C) Switch Leaps (R/L) Splits (R/L) Freestyling	Chaine turns Attitude Turns Double Pique turns Triple Pirouettes Grand Jetes (R/L/C) Switch Leaps (R/L/C) Splits (3) Fouettes Freestyling

- While demonstrating the required skills the dancer should demonstrate showmanship and individual style.
- Judging is based upon dancer's execution of technique, ability to pick up and demonstrate the choreographer's style in the progression, comprehension and execution of the progressions as taught and the dancer's showmanship & performance level.

PREPARATION

Dress to Express! Wear clothing that exemplifies your personality, but that you can dance in. Keep in mind the elements of this audition are demonstration of technique and freestyling. Be sure that your clothing and hair style will not get in the way of your dancing. Demonstration of skills and flexibility must take priority. Bring a variety of dance shoes to be prepared for the choreography. You will not be allowed to wear socks, so you either dance barefoot or in dance shoes.

Dancers will be notified of the results by email before June 1, 2013.

***MANDATORY Orientation /Registration Night – June 3rd (Kidz & Jrs) & June 4th (Teens & Srs)**