

## **2024/2025 Briscuso Dance Studio Competition Information**

Our competition team is a positive learning environment intended to advance our dancers' training. They receive more training and unique experiences and are also expected to show a greater commitment than their peers.

Our season is set up with a growth mentality. We continuously strive to make ourselves and our team better. After each performance, we see where we can improve and make adjustments before our next event. No matter the scores, our goal is always to get better with each performance.

We have a place on the team for dancers of every level and age group. Placement on the team and in specific routines is at the discretion of competition team staff and is based on the best interest of the dancers and the team to ensure success and growth during the season.

### **Audition**

August 3rd

9:00-10:00 4-8 year olds

10:00-11:30 9-12 year olds

11:30-1:30 13+

Dancers may be asked to stay and dance up with the next age group. Please come to the audition for your age group as of JANUARY 1st, 2025.

*\*All 4-6 year olds must have completed one year of classes at Briscuso Dance Studio. Unlike recital, at competition, dancers must perform their choreography without any assistance from teachers and some kids may not be ready for that expectation. If we decide that any 4-6 year old is not ready for the team, we will speak to the parent prior to the audition to let them know.*

### **Choreography Week August 19th-31st**

Evenings/Saturday TBA

A detailed schedule will be given out for each group after everyone has accepted their place on the team. Please hold as much time as possible and bring conflicts with you to the audition date. These rehearsals are mandatory.

### **Summer Intensive**

All prospective team members MUST attend summer intensive. Intensive is held July 29th-August 2nd. (Current team members should check team communications for their intensive requirements).

Mini/Petite Intensive (4-8 year olds): 9am-11am

Junior Intensive (9-12 year olds) 9am-12pm

Teen/Senior Intensive (13+) 12:30pm-3:30pm

If you cannot attend summer intensive due to a scheduling conflict, please email us to discuss alternative options.

## **Rehearsals**

Rehearsals are scheduled on Saturdays (generally between 9am-4pm). A detailed schedule for the entire year will be given out after all dancers have accepted their places on the team. We block schedule our rehearsals with A, B, and C weeks. A weeks will be group rehearsals, B weeks will be duet/trio rehearsals, and C weeks will be all dances.

Each week, a final rehearsal schedule will be sent out. While we make every effort to stick to the published schedule, we sometimes have to move or extend rehearsals.

Dancers will rehearse approximately one hour for each piece they are in. Rehearsals may not be scheduled back to back. Dancers are not allowed to miss more than three rehearsals/per dance/per year. Dancers are also not allowed to miss the last rehearsal before any competition or any rehearsal in January.

We will have extra rehearsals during Christmas Break and/or on Presidents Day/MLK Day as needed.

## **Required Attire**

For all competition rehearsals and classes, female dancers must have black leotards and any color tights. Black shorts or tight fitting black leggings are optional. Hair must be back away from the face. Male dancers should wear all black.

## **Competition Schedule**

***\*We are waiting on competition tour schedules to be released. Once those are updated, we will select our four full team events for the season\*.***

Competitions are generally on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday. **The competition has the sole discretion to assign performance times, and no changes can be made to the schedule.** Team members must hold the entire weekend on their calendar. Competition weekend dates will be available prior to auditions.

We offer several optional competitions a year. Several months prior to each competition, we will ask for interest and determine which solos or duet/trios, if any, will attend. Dancers are not required to attend ANY optional competitions.

## **Required Classes**

Please see the chart below for required classes. Dancers competing a duet/trio or solo are expected to take more classes than dancers just competing a group dance. Dancers are only allowed to miss 3 of any required class per year. Any additional absences must be made up within two weeks of the missed class.

Parents may elect to have less than the maximum number of dances. We also reserve the right to give any dancer less than the maximum number of dances. This is meant as a guide to help you determine your personal family maximum as well as potential costs and rehearsal time for the year. The maximum number listed here does not include solos. Solos are by invitation only and all soloists must also perform in group routines.

Select soloists and routines may be invited to participate in UBC or YAGP at the director's discretion.

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Required Classes— Group Dances only</b>	<b>Required Classes —Duet/Trio</b>	<b>Required Classes —Solo</b>	<b>Max # of Dances</b>
<b>Minis (6 and under)</b>	Leveled Ballet AND Leveled Jazz	No additional classes	No additional classes	3
<b>Petites (7-8)</b>	Leveled Ballet or Ballet Technique AND Leveled Jazz	Leaps and Turns	Additional class in the style of the solo	5
<b>Juniors (9-12)</b>	Ballet Technique AND Leveled Jazz	Leaps and Turns	Additional class in the style of the solo	6
<b>Teen/Seniors (13+)</b>	Ballet Technique AND Leveled Jazz AND Leveled Contemporary	Leaps and Turns	Additional class in the style of the solo	7

Please note that these are minimum requirements, and we strongly advise our competitive dancers to take all classes offered for their level. Dancers who take more styles and hours of class are more likely to be offered additional routines. Acro is not a required class for our competition dancers, but is strongly recommended. Not taking acro could limit casting in pieces, especially as many skills learned in acro are now considered basic transitional moves in competition choreography.

The above chart lists our requirements by age and does not necessarily correlate to casting in specific age group routines. Competition routine age groups vary by competition and are based on the average age of the kids in the routine. Dancers may be asked to dance in routines with an age group above or below their age on this chart.

## **Expectations**

BDS Competition Team is a **full year commitment** from August-June and dancers are expected to meet all of their rehearsal and class requirements. This is a team sport, and not being in attendance negatively affects every other member of the team. If you will not be able to commit to the requirements of the team for the entire length of the season, we invite you to audition in the future.

If dancers are not meeting expectations, the artistic staff reserves the right to remove them at any time with no refund.

Dancers are required to check and re-check that they have all of their required costume pieces in advance of each competition. If a dancer does not have one of their items, they may not be allowed to perform.

**All competitions are required for all dancers.** If a dancer chooses not to attend any competition on the schedule, they will be immediately dropped from the team. Failure to attend a competition or deciding to drop the team mid-season will result in a \$250 reblocking fee per routine.

Competition fees are broken up into monthly payments for your convenience. These are due in full for the entire season. If you choose to leave the team at any point during the season, all of these fees are still due.

If a dancer decides to drop a routine but stay on the team after their contract has been signed, they will also owe a \$250 reblocking fee and may lose other dances, including duet/trios and solos.

The only exception to these policies is for injured dancers. Dancers who have to miss an extended length of time or sit out of a competition due to an injury with a doctor's note will have an understudy dance in their place at no cost to the dancer. The injured dancer is expected to continue to attend rehearsals and keep up on all choreography and notes. A doctor's note is required to return to competition team, and the artistic staff will make a decision how to integrate the dancer back into the routine (this may include returning to their exact placement, participating in different parts or spacing in the routine, or not returning to the routine). These decisions will be made in the best interest of the injured dancer to protect their recovery as well as the other dancers in the routine.

All replacements/understudy assignments are at the sole discretion of the competition team staff.

Team members and parents are committed to representing Briscuso Dance Studio in a positive manner. Students and parents must always display good sportsmanship. ALL participants are to be respectful of teachers, dancers, and parents from all studios. Inappropriate behavior will result in dismissal from the program.

## **Financial Commitment**

### **Due Monthly**

Monthly Tuition

Monthly Competition Team Payment  
(varies by dancer)

### **Due in August**

Audition Fee \$25—Due at registration  
Team Fee \$250—Due August 19th

### **Due September**

Costumes \$100-\$200 per dance  
(includes rhinestones, shoes, tights,  
garment bag, props, accessories)

### **Due October**

Jacket \$65

T-Shirt \$25

These will be reused from year to year

### **Competition Entry Fees**

\$75 per group routine/per competition

\$85 per person for duet/trio per  
competition

\$165 per solo/per competition

Media Fee (required at some events)

Nationals Fee—will be determined based  
on location and length of event (YAGP  
Finals, UBC Finals)

### **Other Expenses**

Makeup—false eyelashes and required  
lipstick (under \$10). All other makeup is  
a neutral palette with no required brand.

## **Payment**

All competition dancers are required to be on auto-pay and competition payments will be split into monthly payments (September-June). This allows you to pay over the course of the year to provide smaller and more predictable payments. A complete list of charges and a monthly breakdown will be available after auditions.

*Fundraising Opportunities Available—1-2 per year, generally involve sales. Parents may also help with costumes and at recital for studio credit, and students age 12+ may be asked to assist classes for studio credit.*