

Contemporary Dance Ensemble 2019-2020

Company Contract

Congratulations! You have been accepted into Contemporary Dance Ensemble (CDE), the pre-professional dance company at Public Academy for Performing Arts (PAPA) as a Returning Company Member or an Apprentice. Because you are in Contemporary Dance Ensemble, you ARE held to a higher standard. CDE has an immense number of opportunities to perform, to take master classes and workshops, to take field trips, and to do community service. CDE is a lot of work, but is also a lot of fun. CDE is a privilege – and as such, all members are expected to adhere to the following:

Attendance & Time Commitment

- **Dancers are expected to be in class on time every day. Additionally, dancers are expected to participate in all outside of school master classes, workshops, performances, field trips, and events.**
- If a student is going to be absent, he/she should make arrangements with Ms. Montoya prior to the absence. If the absence is due to an emergency, a text message prior to the class is expected. If the absence is “unexcused,” points will be deducted from the grade as necessary.
- If a student cannot make an outside-of-school rehearsal or event due to an already scheduled commitment, the student is expected to communicate the absence with the instructor *prior to* rehearsing/preparing for/performing in the event. If the activity is for a grade, an alternative assignment might be given.
- If the student was absent when choreography was given, it is the student’s responsibility to learn the choreography outside of class so they are prepared in class.
- Excessive absences, excused or unexcused, will result in placement on probation and may require a meeting with the Principal for continued participation.
- In many cases for off-campus events, students are responsible for carpooling with other students or providing their own transportation.

Attire

- **Dancers should come to class dressed in dance-appropriate attire that adheres to neatness, good hygiene, and modesty.**
- A black leotard, black tights/leggings or black unitard for girls (in good condition/no runs) is the standard uniform for out-of-school performances. A fitted black shirt and fitted black shorts or fitted pants is standard for boys.
- CDE shirts or other clothing are created on an annual basis for the group at an additional charge.
- Students are expected to maintain a neat, professional and appropriate appearance for events when “all eyes are on them.”

Communication

- **Communication is key!** Unlike other students at PAPA, CDE students have Ms. Montoya’s cell phone number. It is expected that students exercise appropriate discretion regarding use of this information. It is also expected that students do not pass on the phone number/e-mail information of Ms. Montoya or other Contemporary Dance Ensemble students without direct expressed permission.

- Ms. Montoya also has students' phone numbers & e-mail information as this is often the easiest way to communicate a lot of important or last-minute information.
- It is expected that each CDE student checks his/her e-mail, phone messages, and texts regularly and responds accordingly. In the event that the phone is lost/damaged or phone or computer privileges are revoked by one's parent/guardian, students are expected to inform Ms. Montoya.

Etiquette/Behavior

- **Dancers represent Ms. Montoya, Contemporary Dance Ensemble, and Public Academy for Performing Arts in and outside of school, thus it is imperative that each dancer:**
 - o maintains an appropriate "Social Media footprint" on ALL social media including (but not limited to) Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat, etc. If you don't want people to know about something, DON'T DO IT! Derogatory, Inflammatory, Negative, Drug/Alcohol-related, or anything deemed inappropriate (whether intentional or not intentional) will result in probation or immediate dismissal.
 - o is mindful about the "presence" he/she creates; literally, and in regards to demeanor in public or online.
 - o is a role-model and mentor for other CDE members and other students AT ALL TIMES. CDE members make good decisions.
 - o is kind, polite, professional, mature, and respectful to other Ensemble members, Ms. Montoya, and guests of Ensemble at all times. CDE is also EXTRA kind, polite, professional, mature, and respectful when we are guests of others, especially off-campus.
 - o is supportive of each other's endeavors in and outside of school.
 - o remembers to be open-minded and non-judgmental.
 - o gives corrective feedback to each other only when necessary and as appropriate & directed to do so in collaborative activities.
 - o understands that there is no room for negativity. Positive is possible (and is more productive).
 - o understands rudeness, "entitlement" or "pulling Diva" are not appropriate. EVER.
 - o collaborates creatively and cooperative with Ensemble members – past and present.
 - o understands there is no "I" in Ensemble and remembers the past, present and future of Ensemble.
 - o understands Ensemble is about the WHOLE person, not just their talent.

Health/Nutrition

- **Dancers are expected to maintain a healthy and safe body for dance in order to prevent injury, sustain energy levels needed to keep up with the demands of CDE, school, stress, performance, life etc.**
- Dancers are responsible for drinking plenty of water and taking care of themselves.
- PAPA and Ms. Montoya are not responsible for accidents or injuries. If an accident or injury occurs, it is understood that the student's insurance policy or the student's parents are responsible for any charges, reimbursement, or medical expenses (this is particularly important to note when we're out of town).
- CDE is expected to make good choices in regards to mental and physical health and not engage in "risky behavior."

Grades

- **Dancers are required to keep a grade average of a “C” or above in all classes with no “Fs.”** Failure to do so will result in being placed on probation. If the student doesn’t bring up the grade after the probationary period, the student risks being removed from the class and will have to re-audition for consideration at the beginning of the following school year.
- Grade & behavior checks will be done before each event and randomly to “check in” on students’ progress.

And finally. . .everything else. . .

- **All decisions are at the discretion of the director, Ms. Montoya.** Ms. Montoya has the final say on everything. If the student makes changes regarding choreography, costumes, plans, etc. without permission, the student will receive disciplinary action and risks being removed from the group.
- In the event issues/conflicts arise between a member and Ms. Montoya which cannot be solved through communication between the two parties, the issue will be resolved by further mediation which will include school administration.
- Choreography and ideas generated during one’s time in Contemporary Dance Ensemble remain the intellectual and creative property of Contemporary Dance Ensemble.

Acknowledgement Statement

Both dancer and parent have read and understand all that is expected as a member of Contemporary Dance Ensemble. We understand that the rules are created to ensure the absolute best opportunities and most positive and rewarding experiences for all. Both dancer and parent understand that failure to meet the conditions set forth in this contract could result in dismissal from Ensemble including all privileges associated with Ensemble.

_____ I am an Apprentice for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

_____ I am a Company Member for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

Student printed name: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent printed name: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____