**Coronado High School Dance Company Handbook 2018-2019**

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**Dance Department Mission and Goals**

The Coronado Dance Department is committed to the education and personal growth of all students through dance as a fine by fostering:

* ***Understanding and respect for others and their cultures through the study of a variety of dance styles.***
* ***The study of dance history and the relevance of dance within society.***
* ***Community Outreach.***
* ***Providing an artistic outlet where students can develop self-confidence and maintain good health*.**
* ***Pre-professional and college level dance preparation****.*
* ***Dance Performance and Choreography***
* ***Collaboration with other core subjects and areas within the fine arts as well as other core subjects.***

**Coronado Dance Company Yearly Events/Opportunities**

* *Fall Show*
* *Spring Show*
* *Coronado Fine Arts Programs*
* *EPISD Dance Festival*
* *Meet The T-Birds*
* *Workshops/Master classes/Guest Choreographers*
* *TDEA Conference – All State Dancer*
* *IB Dance*
* *Monthly Fundraisers*
* *Company Trip*
* *Community Service*
* *UTEP Dinner Theater High School Nights*
* *Field Trips*

**Behavioral Expectations**

Dance Company is one part of the entire dance department. Company members are expected to exemplify what it means to act as a family and to promote the mission and goals of the department. Company members are always: Respectful of themselves, others and the space they are in, on time, dressed appropriately, and well prepared.

**Eligibility Requirements**

***Dancers must be passing all classes with a 70 or higher to participate in any company performances. We will follow the UIL eleigibility guidelines and calendar.***

Eligibility to perform will also depend on your other commitments. ***You are expected to split your time 50/50 with major activities outside of dance***. ***When a major performance is coming up you are required to attend the final week of tech/dress rehearsals.*** If you are unable to attend you will not perform.

**Attendance, Rehearsals and Meetings**

Rehearsals and meetings will be necessary to prepare for the various performances throughout the year. These rehearsals and meetings may take place before, during and/or after school. ***Absences excused or unexcused from more than three scheduled classes, meetings or rehearsals or a single absence from a tech/dress rehearsal without prior notification will result removal from a performance and/or suspension from the next upcoming performance***. Four or more unexcused tardies will result in a referral and removal from a dance performance.

* For rehearsals arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time in order to warm-up on your own. Rehearsals will not always include warm-up time.
* Meetings will start promptly at the scheduled time.
* During the regular class day you must be ready and dressed to dance no more than five minutes after the tardy bell.

Rehearsals and meetings will be scheduled at least a week in advance in order to allow adequate time to adjust schedules and avoid conflicts. Emergency meetings and rehearsals may need to be held but students that are unable to attend because of the sudden notice will not be penalized for any legitimate absence.

**Performances**

There will be many exciting performance opportunities throughout the year. Performances are the product of all of your artistic ability, talent and hard work. As a member of the Dance Company you are expected to attend and perform in all of them. The sponsor reserves the right to cancel any performance if the group is not prepared. ***Always arrive an hour and a half before performance time to warm-up and get dressed.*** It is important that everyone be in the same place at the same time to get in the proper mindset and take care of any last minute changes that might occur.

**Auditioning for Roles**

Auditions will be held for places in all dances. ***Not all dancers will be in every dance but all dancers will have equal opportunities to perform based on attendance, commitment, effort and technical ability***. Understudies will be chosen for most dances.

**Student Choreography**

All company members will be expected to create choreography proposals for our Fall and Spring show as well as the National High School dance festival. Not all pieces will be selected. ***Pieces will be selected by the director using an agreed upon rubric based on originality, technical skills, artistic merit and the dancers ability to lead the group.***

**Accommodations**

***If you are injured or in need of accommodations please alert me as soon as possible so that we can address any necessary changes***. It is important that your experience is enjoyable and that you do not worsen any injuries you might have. Official documentation is necessary for refraining from participation for any prolonged amount of time.

**Fundraising**

All Dance Company members are expected to participate in all fundraising events throughout the year as they will go to benefit costumes, performance venues, workshops, equipment, yearbook pages, trips and more. ***District policy states that all fundraising is done collectively and is to benefit the group as a whole.*** Meaning, all funds are evenly distributed among company members. Therefor it is important that all company members fully participate in fundraisers and meet all fundraising goals.

**Travel**

Each year the Dance Company will be given the opportunity to travel. Fundraising opportunities will be provided to pay for part of the cost of the trip. ***Members who commit to a trip must be prepared to pay the full cost of the trip if they do not meet their fundraising goals.*** Again all fundraising benefits the group as a whole. There are no individual student accounts. Members must be eligible and maintain a clear discipline record in order to travel. If a member becomes ineligible to attend a trip they are still responsible for the remaining cost of the trip.

**Workshops/Master Classes**

Workshops and master classes will be available all year. ***Dance Company members are expected to attend all workshops and or classes hosted at Coronado and at least one outside of school per semester***. If you are aware of a workshop or class please share it with the group. It is very important that you have the opportunity to learn from a variety of people. If an opportunity presents itself that conflicts with rehearsal exceptions will be made so that you may attend unless a major performance is coming up.

**Community Service**

Throughout the year the Dance Company will participate in community service events and put on special performances to benefit those in need.

**Dance Captain(s)**

Dance Captains will be selected by the director from the Company to act as student leaders. ***These dancers must show excellent leadership skills and mastery of the dance styles the Dance Company performs.*** Only former Company Members will be eligible to audition for dance captains. Separate auditions/interviews will be held before company auditions. Those selected as dance captains do not have to re-audition for the upcoming school year. Dance captains will be in charge of keeping the group on task and will assist with rehearsals, choreography, warm-up, the planning of group events and delegating different tasks to other Company Members.

**International Baccalaureate (IB) Dance Option**

Interested dancers who are currently enrolled in the IB Diploma programme will have the opportunity to earn IB credit for their participation in Dance Company. There are extra academic measures that must be completed including written research, choreography and portfolio work that will be submitted for internal and external assessment. A separate syllabus will be provided.

**Texas Dance Educators Association**

Once a year the director and one company member will attend a weeklong dance conference in Houston, TX. One junior or senior dancer will be selected by the director to attend this event based on their commitment, leadership, technical ability and need.

**Parent Support**

A huge part of dance company’s success is the support of our families. We will be organizing parent volunteers throughout the school year. For example: providing meals during dress reahearsal week, donating concesssions, helping plan fundraising events and scheduling guest artists.

**Grading:**

* 10% - Written Assignments (Resumes, Dance History/Appreciation Projects)
* 10% - 9 Weeks Test (Technique Check/Practical Exams)
* 30% - Performance Participation (Whether eligible to perform or not all members are expected to assist in the productions)
* 50% - Daily Participation in class and during before/afterschool rehearsals. (Grades will be affected by ones level of participation and professionalism.)
* 100-90=A 89-80=B 79-70=C 69 or Below=D

**Discipline**

All company members are expected to adhere to the behavioral expectations, attendance, eligibility and company responsibilities as outlined above. Failure to do so will result in the following consequences:

* 1st offense: Conference with students and call to parent.
* 2nd offense: Student/Parent/Teacher Conference and assignment of community service.
* 3rd offense: Student/Parent/Teacher Conference, assignment of community service and suspension from upcoming dance performance.
* 4th or Severe offence: Removal from Company.

**Financial Responsibility**

No one will be turned away because of financial reasons. Please let me know if you have extenuating circumstances. Students are responsible for purchasing all required dancewear. If you commit to attending a company trip you will also be responsible for the entire cost of the trip. Fundraisers will be provided to help supplement trip costs and costume costs.

I have read and understand the policies and procedures of the 2018-2019 Coronado Dance Company Handbook.

Student Name (Please Print) Student Signature Contact #/E-mail

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) Parent/Guardian Signature Contact #/E-mail