



Welcome to the Dance Connection Hip Hop Krews!

Thank you for participating in the 2020-21 season Dance Connection Hip Hop Krews. As part of this group, you will have the opportunity to continue your dance training and develop your performance skills through rehearsals and diverse choreography in a team environment. Congratulations on being accepted into this program. We are excited to work with you, and want to provide our students with new experiences and fun activities. Here is some information regarding participation in Hip Hop Krew.

We offer two hip hop-based teams that are grouped by level: Krew A and Krew B. Dancers must be enrolled in two Hip Hop Rehearsals and at least one additional hip hop class. Our team rehearsals are offered twice per week for dancers to learn and prepare together on a consistent basis, and to allow Derek to teach choreography in a timely manner.

Dance Connection's Hip Hop Krew program is the premier opportunity for increased training to prepare dancers for our competition program, Dance Connection Performing Company (DCPC). We encourage all Hip Hop Krew members to experience as many classes as possible. Thus, all Krew members may take advantage of unlimited classes at the team rate.

Dance Connection's Team Programs:

Hip Hop Krew participation may be in-person for a limited number of students as well as online. The following characteristics and requirements listed below describe each cohort group.

Characteristics & Classes:

HIP HOP TRAINING KREW B—level 2 hip hop

- Tuesday 6:00-7:00 Hip Hop II—*Derek*
- **Wednesday 4:30-5:30 Hip Hop Rehearsal—*Derek* mandatory**
- **Thursday 3:30-4:15 Rehearsal—*Derek* mandatory**
- Friday 5:15-6:15 Hip Hop II--*Frankie*

HIP HOP TRAINING KREW A—level 3 hip hop and higher

- Tuesday 7:00-8:00 Hip Hop III--*Derek*
- **Wednesday 5:30-6:30 Rehearsal—*Derek* mandatory**
- **Thursday 4:15-5:15 Rehearsal—*Derek* mandatory**
- Friday 4:15-5:15 Hip Hop III—*Frankie*

Hip Hop Krew Requirements

We hope that the dance teams will be a source of fun and team building as well as an opportunity to grow as a dancer. The purpose of these teams are to create opportunities and team relationships through learning experiences, both in dance technique and in personal development. The following are requirements for our Hip Hop Krew members:

- Enroll in the technique/rehearsal class for the specific team (listed as *mandatory*).
- Attend two prior consecutive rehearsals before any performance in order to perform with their group.
- Maintain consistent attendance.
- At least one additional hip hop class. With the unlimited class option, we recommend enrolling in other hip hop classes as well as other dance styles.
- Be a good student and work hard to excel in all areas academically.

Performance Opportunities and Events

It is our hope that our members have additional opportunities to perform as a team throughout the year. With our fluid health climate, we cannot determine if or when we will participate in events or performances.

Performances are encouraged, but not mandatory. Participation in a performance requires a dancer to attend class for the two weeks prior to a scheduled Hip Hop Krew performance.

Presently, all events are cancelled until further notice, but we are keeping them on the schedule for planning purposes should things change. Potential events include, but are not limited to:

- Benefit Performance: Sunday, March 21 4:00-6:00, Cubberley Theatre
- Let's Dance! Friday-Saturday, June 11-12

Conventions and Workshops

Dance Conventions provide dancers with the ability to work with professional choreographers and instructors from around the country. This year, conventions and competitions will be very different than in past years. They may be online, the competition company may come to our studios, they may schedule specific times when each studio can be present at a given location. We are awaiting details and will plan accordingly.

We have selected some mandatory events, and some optional events for our students—should we be able to participate. Our faculty will chaperone, register, and assist any members of Hip Hop Krews who would like to participate on behalf of Dance Connection. Registration, schedules, and fee information will be available in the coming months.

The mandatory Workshop events we will be attending this year are:

- Monsters Virtual Convention: October 16-18
- KAOS Convention: Friday-Sunday, January 8-10
- Monsters of Hip Hop: March 19-21

Optional Event to attend with DCPC, DCDT, and Connector Teams:

- Hollywood Vibe Convention: Saturday-Sunday, May 1-2 at the Hyatt Hotel, Burlingame

KAOS and Monsters of Hip Hop are hip hop-only conventions. We will join Dance Connection Performing Company (DCPC) and Dance Team (DCDT) dancers to participate in the Hollywood Vibe Convention, which includes all styles of dance including hip hop. Dancers spend Saturday and Sunday attending dance classes at these workshops with competitions offered on Friday/Saturday evenings.

Competitions

Competitions will provide dancers with a new way to train and apply their developing skills. As mentioned above, the format for competitions this year will be different, so we will plan accordingly based on how the competitions are structured. While competitions do provide a new challenge for our dancers, they also require a certain level of discipline, focus, and skill progression. Therefore, Krew participation in competitions will be decided by the Hip Hop Director based on the progression of their training in class. The following are competitions we will be potentially aiming towards:

- Spotlight: Friday-Sunday, March 12-14 in Hayward or May 7-9 in San Jose
- Hollywood Vibe Competition: Friday-Sunday, April 30-May 2

Fees

- Monthly tuition at the team rate of \$370 for August through June will include unlimited class registration in order to encourage further training.
- The convention workshops will be an additional fee, payable to Dance Connection. This tends to be around \$250 from past experience.
- Dancers will need a warm up suit (approx. \$100), and shoes as well as their class attire.
- Costumes will be ordered in the fall, and they will cost \$60-\$150 depending on the costume.
- Competition fees tend to run \$50-\$100 per dancer per routine as entry fees.

Additional Info

Participation in our Hip Hop Krews is by audition only. Any new students may be accepted at the discretion of the Hip Hop Krew Director. The Krew program is a year-round program which begins at the start of our season on August 17 and extends through our final spring performances on June 12. Dance Connection may make changes to the season schedule and events as needed for the benefit of our dancers.

Communication:

Information will be through your Dance Connection account via email. You can always email Derek directly (dc@danceconnectionpaloalto.com).

Team Effort

Dancing is a team effort! Of course, dance technique and learning steps are individually important but choreography depends on partnering and placement on stage. When one person is missing, it affects everyone else in the dance. It is important for every member of the team to be responsible and committed to each other. We can't emphasize enough that this is not just about one person but about a whole group as well as your teacher/choreographer. Therefore, it is important for you to attend all your rehearsals and concentrate on your dance technique in your weekly classes.

Schedule

We want your Hip Hop Krew experience to be a positive one and we like to have fun but it also requires hard work. Although we don't want to place any unnecessary pressure on your dancer or family, being part of this group involves time management, commitment, respect and a multitude of other life skills. When it is available, please look over the schedule carefully. The schedule CAN change and we will do our best to notify you in a timely manner. We DO understand that you don't always know your schedule this far in advance but as long as we keep the lines of communication open, we can generally work things out.

Workshops/Conventions

Groups of talented dance professionals come to the area to put on weekend workshops.

Other Opportunities

We often get requests for dancers to perform at community events, so there may be other local community events that arise during the year.

Costumes

We will be looking at costumes sometime in late Fall/early Winter and will take measurements in class.

Respect

As a dancer, it is up to you to be respectful to teachers, other dancers and everyone you meet. Trust your teacher and know that they are here to help you become a responsible individual. This company strives for discipline, honesty, commitment, dedication, hard work, and teamwork (see the Dance Connection Philosophy/Mission Statement and Code of Conduct). These are things that we, at Dance Connection, believe will help you throughout your life. We are a group that enjoys learning and has fun along the way.

Volunteering

This program cannot run without parent volunteers. There are a variety of jobs ranging from buying/making costume accessories, sewing, donating food, etc. We use Sign Up Genius, and will send a link for jobs as the need arises.

Responsibility Code (Hip Hop Krew and Parents)

Hip Hop Krew Dancer

My parents and I have gone over the accompanying material and I understand the commitment to the **Hip Hop Krew** team. I understand that I will be expected to:

- Be responsible for myself. This includes maintaining good grades in school, getting work done at home, taking care of my health and being punctual for classes, rehearsals and all related events.
- Have a positive attitude, work hard, give the best effort possible, be a good “team” dancer and set a good example for the rest of the dancers at the studio.
- Be dedicated and committed to my dance training and fellow team members.
- Be respectful of ALL dancers and teachers.
- Fulfill my requirements for the team (the more you train, the better your dancing will get) as outlined in the Performing Company Goals and Requirements.
- Attend all rehearsals on time.
- Be prepared to share my dancing with others to enjoy in the form of community performances and/or events.
- WORK HARD and HAVE FUN!

I agree to all of the above. I understand that any misconduct and/or excessive missed rehearsals by me could result in a suspension with the team. I have discussed my involvement in the **Dance Connection Hip Hop Krew** with my parents and they have agreed to support me.

Parents

I agree to support my dancer and be responsible for making payments in a timely manner. I will also volunteer to help when possible and needed. I will encourage, support and help but not push.

ANY EVENT CONFLICTS? *please indicate via email to:*
dc@danceconnectionpalalto.com