

STAR

MAKEYOURMOVE
PERFORMING ARTS

ARTISTS PROGRAM



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WELCOME

Starting a new program or performance team for your child can be overwhelming. You want to be certain your child will enjoy the experience and grow from it. You want to be sure your child takes advantage of every opportunity and that you don't miss a thing.

That's why we created this Parent's Guide to the MYM Star Performer Program. This program is the entry level to extra performance opportunities, and eventually into our competitive team program known as the Dynasty. We want you to know all of the wonderful possibilities that await your child and your family here.

Before we begin, we would like to share some of our core beliefs with you. These will help you understand more about why we exist and what we aim to accomplish with students as well as lay the foundation for much of what you'll find in this handbook.

At MYM, we pride ourselves on training technically brilliant dancers while working equally as hard to help kids achieve their full potential in life. We create a positive environment where they develop character traits like kindness, teamwork and confidence just to name a few. As you become more involved in our studio, you'll find tangible ways that we work to fulfill this goal.



YOUR CHILDS DANCE JOURNEY

Just as each child is unique, the same is for their individual dance journey. Some will dance with us through early childhood, some through middle school and some through their senior year. Some will dance for fun and friendship; others will find it to be their career. Make Your Move has something for every dancer.

Whatever the case for your child, they will have the support and guidance of MYM available to them throughout their journey— guidance that will gradually lead them to take over their own reins as they approach adulthood.

At MYM our mission is to help kids achieve their full potential in life and in dance by creating a positive environment where they can thrive! We strive to provide excellence in education, mentorship and great service with a smile! We continue to be a leader in dance education. We believe that when everyone works together, we can exceed expectations, encourage creativity, contribute to our community, become positive role models, and be "More Than Just Great Dancing".

The MYM Culture of being "More Than Just Great Dancing" is of utmost importance and we appreciate being positive partners with you in helping your child grow and reach their full potential. This Star Performer member handbook provides dancers and families with clear knowledge of the responsibilities and commitments involved in participating in the MYM Star Performer program.

We believe that DANCE lessons teach LIFE lessons! We teach dance to not only create wonderful dancers but to use dance to teach life lessons that they will reflect on all through their life. Understanding commitment, responsibility, respecting instructors and peers, the ability to manage their time and make wise decisions, learning adaptability and being prepared for their commitments are just a few of the values that we are instilling in our dancers.

Parents, we thank YOU for supporting us in teaching these values to your dancers. It takes a village, and we love being a part of yours!

PROGRAM WITH PURPOSE

Make Your Move's Star Performer Program is designed to provide students with a well-rounded, fun, exciting and professional dance experience that includes 4 key elements:

1. ACCELERATED TRAINING

MYM Star Performer dancers will learn skills at an accelerated pace and with higher standards of perfection. Extra classes and an environment focused on growth give dancers the opportunity to develop their technique and skills while learning and perfecting their performance strength.

2. ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

MYM Star Performers perform at two community events: Opelika's Christmas In a Railroad Town, held in December; and the Garden in the Park event held in May. They are also featured in our annual Concert of Love held at the end of our season.

Performance opportunities help dancers gain confidence and build self-esteem while developing more of the skills they need to progress in their training.

3. ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MYM Star Performers will compete at one competition during the season and will gain insight from the judges comments and critiques after competition. These critiques and the high standards of competitive dance give our dancers the drive to work hard, dream big and be the BEST they can be!

4. A FAMILY LIKE COMMUNITY

Our mission is for our studio to be a second home for our students and a positive, encouraging community where they can develop life long friendships. We love our dance family!

Throughout the year dancers have opportunities to connect with others on the team through our MYM brothers/sisters program, fun activities and of course the memories made performing, competing and learning and growing together in the classroom!



PROGRAM WITH PURPOSE

**At MYM we are a dance family.
As a family, we value, encourage and expect
dancers to develop In these character traits:**



01

COMMITMENT

Regular attendance is vital to student progress and group choreography, so please make every effort to attend each class. If your dancer will miss a class, please report it through the MYM office.

02

FORGIVENESS

We all make mistakes and we all have misunderstandings. Forgiveness requires a conscious choice to be empathetic and compassionate.

03

HONESTY

Honesty is about more than telling the truth. It's about being true to ourselves in what we do, how we live and how we relate to others. Let's keep it real with each other.

04

HUMILITY

No one is perfect. Corrections give us a chance to improve ourselves and become better dancers. Outside of dance corrections, when we make a mistake (we all do!), we own it and do what we can to make it right.

05

PATIENCE

Learning new skills takes time and effort, and different movements will come to you at different times. That means we may not advance to the next graded level as quickly as we'd hoped or at the same time as our friends. We need to trust the instructors to know when we're developmentally ready to advance.

06

RESPECT

Dancers must show respect for teachers, choreographers, directors and other students at all times. We ask dancers and parents not to speak negatively about one another or the teachers. We want our language with one another to build each other up and encourage each other to grow into our best selves at all times.

ELIGIBILITY

HOW DO I BECOME A STAR PERFORMER?

While we think that everyone is a "star" at Make Your Move, this exclusive Star Performer Experience is by invitation only!

1) Students are observed all year long by their teachers and are invited via their class recommendations given out at the end of the season.

2) If your dancer is interested in becoming a Star Performer, we suggest taking several classes to enhance their training and prepare them for this exciting experience.

PLACEMENTS

Faculty and staff meet regularly to discuss students' progress and/or placement and recommendations are based on many years of teaching experience. Placement of students into class levels or choreography is highly individual and based on complex factors such as age, experience, physical/technical ability, concentration, skills, ability to take and apply corrections, ability to work well within a group, attitude & behavior. We ask that our dancers and families respect the thought, consideration and care that goes into selecting the best placement for each dancer.

As a reminder, group placements are final. Students are welcome to ask their instructor for feedback for improvement after placements, however, requests for re-evaluation of placement by either students, or parents, **will not** be accepted. If we need to make any adjustments to groupings, we will do so based on what we see developmentally at the end of summer. Keep working hard!

LEVELS

Our levels are designed for dancers to be in them a few years before they are ready to progress to the next level. You will see three types of dancers in each level:

EMERGING DANCERS are new to a level, and will be working hard to learn the skills, technique and artistry that level is focused on.

PROGRESSING DANCERS most likely have been in the level before and are working on consistency, confidence, and muscle memory.

PROFICIENT DANCERS have been in the level a couple of years and are working on mastering the skills, artistry, and focus needed to hone the technical details required to move into the next phase of their dance journey.

WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP AFTER STAR PERFORMER?

If your dancer is wanting to advance into the next level of our accelerated programs, they would begin preparation for the Dynasty.

The Dynasty Competitive Team Program is an advanced competition dance program. This program requires that dancers train in all genres many hours a week, culminating in 3-5 competitions throughout the year, ending in a Nationals experience.

1) If your dancer is interested in becoming a Dynasty member one day, we suggest taking several classes to enhance their training and prepare them for this next level of training.

2) **NEW** this year! We are inviting all Star Performers to enroll in our MYM Summer Intensive Experience: a great opportunity to take class in many genres and learn from Master teachers while also making memories with new friends!

Contact Ms. Sandra for more information if interested in the MYM Summer Intensive Experience!

MEMBER GUIDELINES

CODE OF CONDUCT

Dancers who commit to MYM are committed to working hard, giving their best in class for themselves and for their teammates and doing whatever it takes to be prepared for competition and performances. This also includes supporting their teammates, respecting their teachers and taking constructive corrections and applying them.

Dancers are expected to make their class times a priority. Be well rested, prepared and give yourself the best chance to succeed!

Dancers, please speak to your instructor if there is a reason that you are not able to fully participate in class! We understand that everyone has days with difficult circumstances :). We are here for you and we care!

Parents, by supporting your dancer in becoming a member of the MYM Star Performer program you entrust us with your dancer's education, a role that each instructor at MYM takes very seriously. We are committed to giving every dancer the best education, energy and experience!

We thank you for allowing us to be a part of YOUR dancers life journey!!

RESPECT/BEHAVIOR

Dancers must show respect for teachers, staff, teammates and other students and families at all times. Inappropriate behavior will result in dismissal from the program.

POSITIVE COMMUNICATION

Our most important mission is to create a positive, healthy, happy environment for our dance moms, dads, students and our staff team. We view all dancers and families as a part of our big MYM family. Our language should be used to build one another up and encourage each other. We embrace open communication to address any concerns you or your dancer may have and we ask that all communication or concerns be directed directly to the person or our leadership team.

COMMITMENTS



- July 22-26 - MYM Summer Intensive (optional)
- August 12- Classes begin. Team Fee/comp fees Due
- October 25 Costume Fees Due
- October 31 - Halloween Break
- November 25-29 Thanksgiving Break
- December 6-8 Opelika & Auburn C'mas Parades
- December 13- C'mas In a Railroad Town
- December 20- January 5 - Holiday Break
- March - Spring Break TBD
- April TBD Competition
- May TBA- Opelika's Garden In the Park
- May 26 Memorial Day Break
- May 30-June 1-MYM's End of year Concert! TBD

The full Star Performer season calendar, complete with competition date is released the first week of class in August.

Because commitment is so important on any successful team, dancers who are members of MYM must make their class time a priority. Please read over the commitment requirements detailed below.

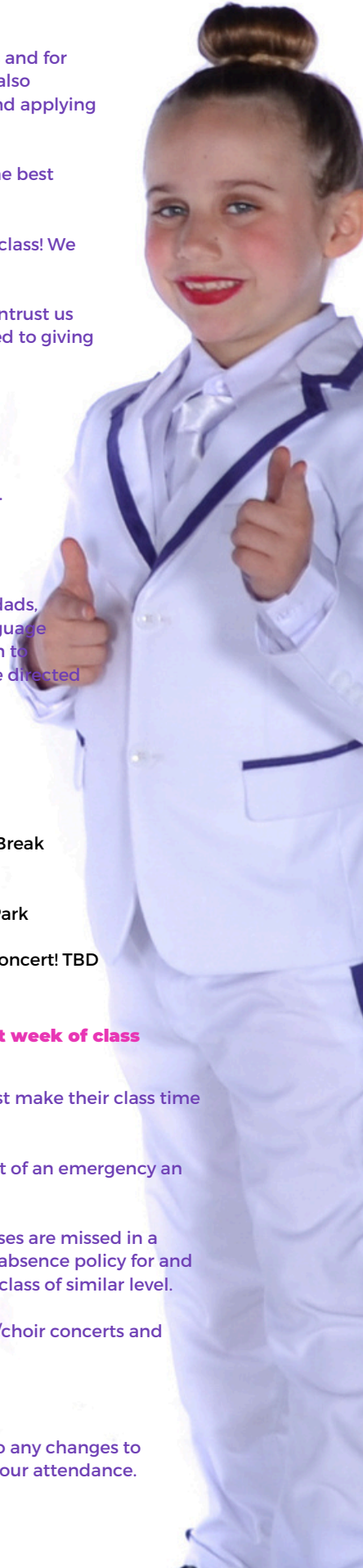
MANDATORY: Rehearsals and performances.. Every member counts at every performance! In the event of an emergency an understudy may be used.

Participants are allowed no more than (2) absences for each class per semester. (If more than two classes are missed in a semester the dancer will be charged a \$35 fee for each routine that they have exceeded the two class absence policy for and asked to attend a make-up class scheduled for that routine). *Technique classes may be made up in a class of similar level.

The following reasons **WILL NOT** be counted as an absence: Family emergency, Required school band/choir concerts and school awards ceremonies.

The following **WILL** be counted as an absence: Homework, extracurricular activities, vacations.

NOTE: In the event of injury, dancers should attend rehearsals and classes to observe and make note to any changes to choreography whenever possible. Please let your teacher know of any circumstances that will affect your attendance.



MAKE YOUR MOVE PERFORMING ARTS

STAR PERFORMER

REQUIREMENTS, CLASSES & TUITION

ABOUT

- Star Performer dancers accelerate their training through focused, exciting classes while building lasting friendships.
- MYM Star Performer dancers attend (1) dance competition each season.
- Star Performers enroll in a minimum of (1) combo class & (1) acro or ballet, and (1) Star Performer choreography class
- Additional studio classes in acro, ballet, and hip-hop are optional and encouraged.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

- 3 classes per week: see below for required classes

(1) STARLET COMBO CLASS

REQUIRED
45-60 MINUTE CLASS

(1) BALLET OR ACRO

REQUIRED
45-60 MIN CLASS
BASED ON LEVEL

STAR PERFORMER CLASS

REQUIRED
30-45 MINUTE CLASS

ADDITIONAL CLASS OPTIONS

Grow by leaps and bounds by adding additional studio classes to your schedule. Classes are offered in ballet, acro and hip-hop. Watch your skills soar!

SUMMER REQUIREMENTS

- Our season begins with MYM's highly anticipated 2024 Summer Intensive Program July 22-26. Summer Intensive enrollment is encouraged for all Star Performer members. Star Performers are allowed to take the full week of of Intensive, but only required to take the last two days. (July 2) *July 22-26= \$375; July 24-25= \$175

DRESS CODE

- Combo class dance wear
- Star Performer Logowear Styles (available for order) and required jazz shoes.
- **COMPETITIONS:** MYM Team Jacket, Make-Up Kit .

STAR PERFORMER FEES AND TUITION

- \$125 Star Performer Costume
- \$60 Team Fee+ \$78 Competition Entrance Fee per routine / per competition + Media Fee* (if applicable*)
- Monthly class tuition bundle: \$155 -\$175 *depending on class

STAR PERFORMER BALLET BUNDLE #1

(3) 45 MINUTE CLASSES

Kinder Stars, Mini/Petite Ballet, Star Performer Class
\$162 PER MONTH

STAR PERFORMER BALLET BUNDLE #2

(2) 45 MINUTE CLASSES (1) 60 MINUTE CLASS

Shining/Rising Stars, Ballet 1A/B, Star Performer Class
\$173 PER MONTH

STAR PERFORMER ACRO BUNDLE #1

(3) 45 MINUTE CLASSES

Kinder Stars, Acro 1, Star Performer Class
\$162 PER MONTH

STAR PERFORMER ACRO BUNDLE #2

(2) 45 MINUTE CLASSES (1) 60 MINUTE CLASS

Shining/Rising Stars, Acro 2/3, Star Performer Class
\$173 PER MONTH

LET'S CONNECT!



COMMUNICATIONS

Communication is a high priority here at MYM, especially with so many opportunities and constant activity, so we take great care to keep you informed.

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER AND MORE

Your number one tool for staying up to date with everything MYM is your monthly studio newsletter. You will receive a copy via email each month during the regular season that will offer details on new classes, upcoming events and more. (Hint: It's especially helpful during concert season!) We will also email you with important reminders and time-sensitive information. Beyond that we offer several other communication vehicles such as text, Instagram and Facebook.

Q & A SESSIONS

Prior to our first competition we hold a parent Q & A session to answer any questions you might have. Our team is also available via email, phone or In person at the front desk during office hours.

FACEBOOK

MYM's Facebook page is great for tracking new classes & programs, as well as other general news about studio happenings. To be sure you don't miss a thing, like the page and be sure to pin it to the top of your feed.

Also on Facebook you'll find a private group called MYM Student & Parent Community that can be really helpful throughout your child's dance journey. This is our general studio Facebook group! We'll share fun photo videos and reminders with important information throughout the season. It is an excellent place to ask questions of other parents. It's a closed group, so simply request an invite to join.

You'll also be invited to join our MYM Star Performer Private Group. This team specific group is a GREAT connection place to meet & connect with other team families, ask questions and follow the great videos & photos our teachers post!

DANCE PATHWAYS MEETINGS

These meetings are a perfect time to learn how your dancer is doing in class. Your child's teacher can let you know what skills still need to be mastered before your child is ready to advance, areas for growth, help planning their next steps and answering any questions specific to your dancer.

QUESTIONS

We are always here and happy to answer your questions about MYM.

If you have a question or concern about what's happening in your child's class, please don't hesitate to ask. Our friendly team will be happy to assist you!

COMPETITION Q&A

What additional clothing/accessories does my dancer need?

- ALL dancers need the MYM Team Jacket which is required for participation in the awards ceremonies. Stop by the front desk to order and purchase your jacket before the first competition.
- MYM make-up kit. Link to order will be provided In August.
- Extra pair of each style of tights your dancer will need. Recommended.

When will we receive our dancers competition schedule?

- The competition sends out a schedule one week prior to the competition therefore it is important to reserve the entire weekend for competition.

What does a competition day look like?

Once you've received the schedule for competition weekend you can begin planning out your dancers day! Your dancer will need to be ready to perform on stage (warmed up, in full costume and make-up) when they arrive at the venue. We request dancers to be ready to take the stage one hour prior to their scheduled time.

After your dancer performs they'll return for the scheduled Awards Ceremony where they will receive their awards.

Awards Ceremony

Awards ceremony's are a fun and exciting experience! Awards ceremonies are held throughout the day with all the dancers from that particular block of time on stage for awards together.

Great sportsmanship is so important to the culture of who we are and what we are instilling in our students at MYM. We are not only training dancers for the stage but for success in every area of life!