

Spark *ALL STAR* COMPETITIVE TEAM

INFORMATION PACKET

2024/2025 SEASON





INTRO

Welcome to the SPARK family! We are SO excited to have you join us for the upcoming 2024/2025 season!

At SPARK, we work with dancers to provide a breakdown of the unfailing fundamentals necessary to succeed. Dancers acquire refined skills as they focus on strength, alignment, injury prevention, power, and flexibility in a carefully calculated layout.

Within our All Star team, dancers will specialize in *both* pom and hip hop, with an emphasis on learning and refining technique, choreography, and performance quality for each style. Throughout the season, the dancers, coaches, and choreographers will work together to create dynamic, entertaining, and engaging routines that showcase their skills and give the team a competitive edge.

We value your interest in our All Star team and look forward to seeing your passion and energy as you work hard to become the best dancer you can be!

GENERAL INFORMATION

In years past, our competitive teams have been divided based on location, school district, style, and more. For the second year in a row, we are combining all of our competitive dancers under one single team - the "SPARK All Stars".

Middle school aged dancers from any and all school districts are invited to try out for our All Star team. Dancers do NOT need to reside in any specific boundary or school district in order to participate.

Tryouts are required for ALL dancers who are interested in joining the competitive team. Any and all ability levels are welcome!! Dancers must attend *both* days of the tryout to be considered for the team.

Dancers who make the team will have the opportunity to compete in *both* Pom and Hip Hop. All participants will compete in both genres, unless an individual is unable to meet the required skills, in which case, the SPARK All Star staff reserves the right to pull the dancer from the routine. In addition to each style, dancers will attend a weekly technique class to help refine their skills and to promote continued growth.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 10th - 6:30 PM
Cimarron Middle School - Cafeteria

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

****A parent/guardian must attend the meeting****

Dancer attendance is optional but highly recommended.

Tryouts will be held on April 20 & 21, 2024

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Michelle Latimer Dance Academy

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



TRYOUTS

We believe that everyone has unique talents and strengths, and we strive to provide an opportunity for those that have a passion for dance! We aim to make the tryout process fun and stress free. We want dancers to feel comfortable and excited to show us who they are and what they can do.

ALL dancers who are interested in joining the All Star team must be registered and attend both days of tryouts. (See registration link/QR code below)

TRYOUT FEE

There is a \$20 tryout fee due at the time of registration. This fee is non-refundable and goes towards covering the facility rental and staffing costs for the two days of tryouts.

TRYOUT PROCESS

April 20th

Dancers who have registered will sign-in and receive a number when they arrive. We will start with a group warm-up & stretch. Dancers will then be asked to demonstrate various skills (see recommended skills) followed by learning choreography for 2 short routines; one routine for Pom and one routine for Hip Hop. Dancers do *not* need to be proficient in both styles in order to make the team but they do need to do their best to learn and demonstrate both routines.

April 21st

Dancers will receive their same number at sign-in when they arrive. Again, we will begin with a group warm-up & stretch. Dancers will be asked to demonstrate skills again, and additional skills may be added on this day. We will then briefly review choreography for each routine and answer any questions that the dancers may have. The dancers will then be asked to perform the choreography multiple times. Pending timing and the number of dancers, dancers may be called in to perform the routine or skills in smaller groups.

WHAT TO WEAR/BRING

We ask that dancers wear all black athletic clothes (no sweatshirts, sweatpants, etc.). Hair should be securely pulled back and completely out of your face. Please bring the following items:

- Jazz shoes and/or tennis shoes
- Water
- A snack (*optional*)
- Pants or sweatpants for Hip Hop choreo (*optional*)

RECOMMENDED SKILLS

The following skills are NOT required. This list is provided as a reference for dancers to utilize as they prepare for tryouts. All skills will be demonstrated and broken down (taught) during the tryout process.

Pom Skills

Turns
 Single Pirouette
 Double Pirouette
 A La Second (tours)
 Jumps
 Toe Touch
 Charge
 Calypso
 Other Skills
 Right splits
 Left Splits
 Leg Holds (both sides)
 Kicks (both sides)

Hip Hop Skills

Strong motions
 Fast Footwork
 Top & Back Rocks
 Freezes
 Stalls
 Specialty Trick
 Head Springs
 Kip Ups

For BOTH

Strong Facials
 Enthusiasm
 Desire to learn

RESULTS/PLACEMENTS

Team & routine placements will be made at the discretion of the SPARK All Star team staff. We make every effort to accept all dancers who show passion, energy, and a strong desire to learn, dance, and compete.

Dancers will compete in both pom and hip hop unless an individual is unable to meet the required skills, in which case, the SPARK All Star staff reserves the right to pull the dancer from the routine.

****PLACEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED VIA EMAIL BY 8:00 PM ON SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST****

****Dancers who make the team will have the opportunity to compete in both Pom and Hip Hop****

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We continually aim to be transparent with our costs here at SPARK. As you read through the following financial information, we ask that you please carefully consider the financial responsibility that is tied to participation in our competitive program. Once you and your dancer have committed to the team and signed the team contract, you are financially responsible for all contracted months or until SPARK is notified in writing a minimum of 30 days in advance.

TUITION **\$271/month**

Your monthly tuition for our All Star competitive team includes annual registration, practices, technique classes, choreography, music, and competition fees. These costs/fees are added and divided equally across the 11 months of our season.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

Uniform & Costume

Each dancer is required to purchase a pom uniform and hip hop costume. Items that fall within this category for the POM routine include uniform, tights, poms, and any additional accessories as decided by the choreographer. Jazz shoes and undergarments must be purchased separately. Coaches will send out requirements for both of these items at the start of the season. Items that fall within this category for HIP HOP include costume, performance shoes, and any additional accessories as decided by the choreographer.

In total, these items (for both pom and hip hop) will not exceed \$650. The assessed total will be due around Mid-June.

Team Gear & Apparel

All dancers must purchase the team gear and 24/25 season apparel assigned by team coaches after tryouts. These are items that will be worn & used for practices and events throughout the season and includes a matching team tank top, t-shirt, jacket, backpack, & tennis shoes.

In total, these items will not exceed \$375. The assessed total will be due by August 1st.

Out-of-pocket Items

All dancers must have the correct jazz shoes (style & color) for competitions. The coaches will share information on jazz shoes after tryouts unless information is requested beforehand. For competitions, jazz shoes must be in good shape (i.e. clean and no holes).

Each dancer will also need to have appropriate hair & makeup items for competitions. This may include but is not limited to: a full bun kit, eye shadow, fake lashes, & lipstick. Coaches will send recommended & required items as we get closer to the competition season.

Each family will be responsible for purchasing these items on their own as needed.

USASF Fee

All dancers on the competitive team are required to complete USASF registration through the USASF website in order to compete. USASF charges an annual fee of \$45 per dancer.

Re-using Items

Dancers who have previously purchased a uniform, team jacket, and backpack may re-use these items as long as they are in good shape and still fit appropriately.

PAYMENTS

Tuition payments begin in April 2024 and run through March 2025. The first payment is due by April 26th and secures your dancer's spot on the team. **Remaining payments are due by the 10th of each month (excluding May).** All payments will be made through our website via Sports Engine. We do not mail invoices or statements. All account information and charges can be accessed via your Sports Engine profile. All payments are run on an auto-pay system and **a valid card is required on file at all times.**

PAYMENT SCHEDULE & FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

[Click here](#) for our 2024/2025 detailed payment schedule and financial agreement.

PRACTICES/TECHNIQUE

Please review the season calendar for specific dates & times for all classes through the end of the season

[Click HERE for calendar link](#)

Regular season practices for all dancers are broken up as follows:

- Tuesdays (2hrs) - Technique
- Wednesdays (1.5 hrs) - Pom Practice
- Thursdays (1.5 hrs) - Hip Hop Practice

COMPETITIONS

Dancers will compete their pom and hip hop routine at a minimum of 3 competitions in the Denver Metro area, starting in November and ending in January.

Dancers will compete in both pom and hip hop unless an individual is unable to meet the required skills, in which case, the SPARK All Star staff reserves the right to pull the dancer from the routine.

Competition fees are included in your monthly tuition.

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES

SPARK staff will schedule times in February for the All Star team to perform at multiple Mini's classes. The purpose is to develop community amongst SPARK programs and to generate excitement for the next levels for the Minis.

Additional performance opportunities may be available throughout the season and will be communicated well in advance by coaches.

IMPORTANT DATES

April 10 @ 6:30 PM

Info Meeting - [RSVP HERE](#)
Cimarron Middle School - Cafeteria

April 17 @ 6:30 PM

Mock Tryouts *FREE*
Grandview High School - Dance Room

April 20 & 21 | 10:00-12:00 PM

Tryouts for the 2024/2025 Season
Michelle Latimer Dance Academy

April 24 - June 26

Technique/Team Bonding classes
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 PM
No class on 6/12 or 6/19 due to choreography

June 11-13

Hip Hop Choreography
Time & Location TBD

June 18 - June 20

Pom Choreography
Time & Location TBD

July

****NO PRACTICE****

August 6

Regular season practices begin

February 2025

Mini Class Performances
Locations vary

[Click HERE to register for tryouts!](#)

OR SCAN TO REGISTER



QUESTIONS?

Check out the FAQ on the next page OR contact Antoinette Golesh at SparkJrPrograms@gmail.com

www.spark-dance.com/all-stars

Question

Are tryouts required? What if my dancer was previously on a competitive SPARK team?

Answer

Yes, tryouts are required for ALL dancers who wish to join the SPARK All Star team for the 2024/2025 season. Dancers who were previously on a competitive SPARK team are required to try out as well.

Question

What if my dancer is unable to be at tryouts?

Answer

Let us know! We will do our best to make sure all interested dancers have a fair chance of placement on our competitive team.

Question

Do all dancers who try out make the team?

Answer

We make every effort to accept all dancers who show passion, energy, and a strong desire to dance and compete. Placements will ultimately be at the discretion of the SPARK All Star team staff.

Question

Will SPARK have any other competitive teams like they have in previous years? Like the Junior Wolves or Junior Raptors?

Answer

At this time, we have chosen to disband our school specific competitive teams to form one single competitive team - the "SPARK All Stars".

Question

What style of dance will the SPARK All Stars compete in?

Answer

For the 2024/2025 season, dancers will have the opportunity to compete in *both* pom and hip hop. Final placements for competitions are at the coaches discretion.

Question

What if my dancer doesn't want to do one routine or the other? Do we have a choice for which routine they are placed in?

Answer

All dancers will participate in both styles and will receive both a uniform and costume. Skills from both styles are transferable and will aid in the dancer's growth.

Question

Why do dancers need to attend a technique class each week?

Answer

The weekly technique class gives dancers the opportunity to focus on improvement of technical skills. These skills include but are not limited to: general dance technique (pointing feet, body alignment, placement, etc.), recommended skills listed above, energy, sharpness, levels, projection, confidence, and more! These are skills that can be applied to all styles of dance and will help dancers as they continue to high school dance teams and beyond!

PARENT & ATHLETE CONTRACT

DUE AT TRYOUTS

I acknowledge that I have read and reviewed all All Star documents provided by SPARK including the "24/25 Information Packet", "Payment Schedule & Financial Agreement", "Dancer Expectations & Guidelines", and the team calendar. I understand and agree to adhere to all terms contained within these documents. I also fully understand that if any of the terms stated within these documents are violated, the result could lead to my athlete/dancer's immediate removal from the SPARK All Star team.

By signing below, I/we agree to all of the above statements.

Athlete Name: _____

Grade: _____

Athlete Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date: _____