

Ballet Expressenz is a pre-professional ballet company for dancers ages 5-18 years old. The purpose of this company is to develop the technical and artistic skills required for dancers preparing for college or a career in the performing arts.

Ballet Expressenz will present a yearly ballet performance featuring classical and contemporary works. Admission into the company is by audition only. Those selected will possess the following:

- Must be physically fit with emphasis on healthy mind and body
- Must be self-motivated and able to self-evaluate
- Must have solid technical and performance skills
- Strong desire to grow and develop as a dancer
- Must have a sense of humor, bright smile, and positive attitude
- Have respect for the team and staff
- Show support for the studio, teachers and fellow dancers
- Must have a supportive family base that shows respect for the teachers and students at all times
- Understand that we will not tolerate racism, inappropriate and unkind social media posts (private or public), or bullying of any kind, from dancers or parents

**Commitment:**

Ballet Expressenz participants are required to participate from August 2024 through the end of May 2025. This is a serious commitment and not to be taken lightly. Participants are expected to fulfill this obligation. All students and their parents will be required to sign a parent/student letter of commitment. Any violation of this handbook/commitment/contract may result in a dancer's immediate removal from the Ballet Expressenz. If a dancer quits Ballet Expressenz mid-season, said dancer is never allowed into Ballet Expressenz again, unless special circumstance, which is approved beforehand by the Director. For any reason and at any time, Karla, Director, has the right to dismiss a dancer/family from Expressenz Dance Center. If said dancer/family were to be dismissed and/or quits Company, no refunds will be given. This includes, and is not limited to, tuition, private fees, performance fees, YAGP fees or other competition/event fees.

**Attendance:**

Attendance is mandatory for all BNZ classes and rehearsals. Ballet, modern, jazz, contemporary, hip-hop, tap and conditioning classes are extremely important. When it comes to school and family activities you will find Expressenz Dance Center to be accommodating and flexible. By accepting placement in this program, you have agreed this is a priority in your schedule.

Missed classes for any reason other than illness or emergency must be approved in advance by Karla, the Director.

**Illness:** Dancers are not allowed to come to the studio while sick. If a teacher believes a student to be ill, they will be sent home. Dancers will not be allowed to come in "to watch" while ill. Dancers are only required to come in "to watch" while injured. In addition, dancers are only allowed 2 unexcused absences each season. Student absences will be recorded. Any ballet/ jazz/ tap/ technique/ conditioning class missed must be made up as best possible. Being a well-rounded individual is important and we support students pursuing other activities. However, when it comes to participation on a competitive team, skills are constantly being taught which necessitates students being present.

**Injuries:** We realize that injuries happen. Be sure to notify Expressenz immediately when an injury occurs. As soon as possible, please provide proper documentation such as a doctor's note, physical therapy directions, etc to NZ Staff. Injured dancers will be expected to attend and observe all rehearsals and classes unless specified by Karla. Please note that no refunds or credits will be given during the time a dancer is required to sit-out/observe due to an injury. When a dancer must sit out while healing, it can be a valuable time for them to gain new insight into their technique/routines while remaining an active role as a teammate.

**Attendance at events/opportunities affiliated with Expressenz, which result in missed class are considered excused absences. Examples may include, but are not limited to the following:**

- Breakfast with Santa (kids are excused to promote Nutcracker)
- Television appearances
- Yuletide
- YAGP

#### **Pre-planned Absences:**

**New this year: ACE Google Request Form** If you are wanting to request a pre-planned absence (ie. vacation, school events, college auditions, etc), please use our new ACE form (**A**ttendance, **C**ompetition/Convention Registration, **E**ducation Google Request Form) so that Karla may review/approve your request and your absence noted for our staff in regards to missed classes and rehearsals. Please note: It is your responsibility to notify private teachers of any upcoming absences (planned or unplanned) to avoid any charges/fees. Last minute absences due to illness can be emailed/called into the studio, but you still need to notify any private teachers personally.

**Dance education passes & Competition/Convention Registration Requests:** A link for the ACE Google Request Form will be sent at the beginning of the season

- **Optional Convention/Competitions:** Ballet Expressenz dancers have the option to attend convention/competitions with The NZ Dance Company. Please notify the studio 90 days in advance if you would like to attend a convention/competition with The NZ Dance Company. The only solos allowed to compete at a competition are YAGP soloists who would like additional practice. Any Ballet Expressenz member may participate in conventions with The NZ Dance Company. Additional fees will apply.
- **Additional Independent Competition/Conventions registered by parent:** Permission must be obtained in advance from Karla if your dancer wishes to attend any independent competitions/conventions and is entering any solos not scheduled through Expressenz Dance Center. This includes any events that you are registering your dancer independently on your own. Please submit an ACE Google Request Form for this approval request. See ACE google form instructions on page 2 to submit your request for approval
- **Additional Independent Competition/Conventions:** There will be a non-refundable administration fee of \$50 to register a dancer for any extra competition/conventions a dancer would like to attend independently that requires the studio to register them. The dancer's account at Expressenz must be completely current before they can be registered for the additional event. They will receive an invoice for the requested convention/competition fees which must be paid in full before the dancer can be registered for the requested event.

*Please note: It will always be your responsibility to notify any private teachers of any absences, including those related to education/independent competition/convention events in order to avoid any charges/fees.*

**Rehearsals:** Ballet Expressenz will have occasional mandatory rehearsals on Friday, Saturday, and/or Sunday.

#### **Performance Opportunities:**

- Youth American Grand Prix—by invitation only
- December Ballet Production (Nutcracker)

#### **Class Requirements and Fees:**

- Being in a program such as this requires a certain financial commitment
- Registration fee \$75 (\$35 for additional dancers in the same immediate family)
- Base fee for Ballet Expressenz (including Ballet Expressenz program dues and required technique classes)

Payment for classes is due on the first of every month. **Any payment for classes made after the 7<sup>th</sup> will be assessed a late charge of \$25.00.**

#### T11 level:

- \$245 per month (family discount \$240 for second dancer and \$235 for third + dancer)

Includes: 2 ballet technique classes, jazz technique/stretch, conditioning, & BNZ program dues

Additional monthly fees include:

- Any additional classes cost \$40.00 each per month
- Optional tap technique class (additional class fees apply)

#### T12 level:

- \$245 per month (family discount \$240 for second dancer and \$235 for third + dancer)

Includes: 2 ballet technique classes, jazz technique/stretch, conditioning, & BNZ program dues

Additional monthly fees include:

- Any additional classes cost \$40.00 each per month.
- Optional T1 2 Contemporary Class (additional class fees apply)
- Optional tap technique class (additional class fees apply)

#### T13-T14 level:

- \$295 per month (family discount \$290 for second dancer and \$285 for third + dancer)

Includes: 3 ballet technique classes, pre-pointe/pointe classes, contemporary technique, jazz technique/stretch, conditioning, & BNZ program dues

Additional monthly fees include:

- Any additional classes cost \$40.00 each per month.
- Optional tap technique class (additional class fees apply)

#### T15 level:

- \$310 per month (family discount \$305 for second dancer and \$300 for third + dancer)

Includes: 3 ballet technique classes, pointe classes, contemporary technique, jazz technique/stretch, conditioning, & BNZ program dues

Additional monthly fees include:

- \$50 per month for specialty ballet with Butler professors (only applies to some)
- Any additional classes cost \$40.00 each per month.
- Optional tap technique class (additional class fees apply)

#### T16-T18 level:

- \$335 per month (family discount \$330 for second dancer and \$325 for third + dancer)

Includes: 3 ballet technique classes, pointe classes, modern, contemporary technique, jazz technique/stretch, conditioning, & BNZ program dues

Additional monthly fees include:

- \$50 per month for specialty ballet with Butler professors (only applies to some)
- Any additional classes cost \$40.00 each per month.
- Optional tap technique class (additional class fees apply)

**Any additional ballet technique, tumbling, or jazz technique classes cost \$40.00 per class each month, as well as any other additional class which is not on your schedule (i.e. hip-hop, leaps & turns, etc.)**

**NZ TapZ:** NZ TapZ is an additional \$45 per month, and NZ TapZ JuniorZ is an additional \$30 per month

**NZ TapZ Showcase Fee:** All NZ TapZ and NZ Tapz JuniorZ are required to pay the fee when due (\$100)

**Student Choreography Class:** Student Choreography is an additional \$45 per month

**Student Choreography Showcase Fee:** All Student Choreography participants are required to pay the fee when due (\$100)

**YAGP:** Please note there will be a \$4.00 administration fee placed on each entry for YAGP events plus a \$15.00 YAGP participation fee.

**Technique Privates:** Lessons cost \$45.00 per ½ hour.

**Technique Semi-Privates (Privates with 2 dancers):** Lessons cost \$60.00 per ½ hour (\$30 per dancer).

**Nutcracker Participation fee:** All Ballet Expressenz members are required to pay the fee when due (\$130)

**Expressenz Event Ticketing:** Pricing for Expressenz Performance Events (such as Nutcracker and Spring Showcase Recital) will range from \$25-35 per ticket. Children 2 and younger are FREE, but must sit on a lap.

**Tights:** All dancers are required to purchase tights through the studio for Nutcracker if applicable for Role/Routine.

**Costumes:** Nutcracker sometimes requires the cost of a separate leotard and/or costume (estimated price range is \$25-\$85 before sales tax).

**Jewelry, Make-Up and Costumes:** All BNZ members may be required to purchase jewelry for their role in Nutcracker. Cost is approximately \$10-\$15. Specific make-up is required for their performances and will need to be purchased by you. Everyone is required to purchase the same eye shadow, blush, and lipstick.

**El Toro Weights:** All Company and BNZ dancers TI 3 & up are required to purchase El Toro Training Speedwraps. These weights can be found online at [www.eltorotraining.com](http://www.eltorotraining.com). We recommend 1.5-pound weights. Please use the discount code EXPRESSENZ15

**Competition/Convention Fees:** BNZ dancers are allowed to compete their YAGP at competitions if interested. They are invited to participate in any convention the studio attends. Fees associated with each competition/convention are based upon prices set by the competition/convention itself. Solos can range from \$85-\$200 per competition. Convention participation fees generally run between \$265-\$465 per dancer. Fees for competitions/conventions are due to the studio by the invoice due date indicated on the invoice. In most instances this is at least 60-120 days in advance of each competition. **Missing an assigned invoice due date will result in a \$25 late fee.** Please note there will be a \$4.00 administrative processing fee placed on each entry for competitions and conventions. There will be an additional \$10 convention fee for all regional conventions. NO DANCER WILL BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE IF FEES ARE NOT PAID IN FULL AND TUITION PAYMENTS ARE NOT CURRENT.

**Competition/Convention Solo Awards:** If a dancer receives a cash award and/or gift certificate at a competition for their solo or if they receive a scholarship at a convention, the parent/dancer is responsible for notifying Expressenz Dance Center. **Parents must submit copies of all information and documents via email or to the front office within 2 weeks of receiving these awards, certificates and/or scholarships.** You will not receive a credit towards your account for the cash award and/or gift certificate from a competition solo or convention scholarship **until** the said competition and/or convention has approved and applied your cash award and/or gift certificate. Your scholarships won with Expressenz can only be used if you are still dancing with Expressenz. Scholarships will not be transferred or released in the event that you quit or are no longer a member of Expressenz.

**Additional Independent Competition/Conventions:** Please refer to the information regarding this found on page 2 of the handbook.

**Late Pick-up Fee:** If you are more than 15 minutes late picking up (after closing time), your dancer's account will be charged a \$25 dollar late pick-up fee, except in emergency situations. We understand things happen so please contact the studio if you are going to be late. This fee will be invoiced following the incident.

**Missing an assigned invoice due date will result in a \$25 late fee. This includes all fees & invoices.**

## Ballet Expressenz EXPENSES \*TENTATIVE (per dancer)

Category	Page	Details	Amount
Registration Fee	2	Paid at beginning of each season- *additional dancer(s) get a discount	\$75
Tuition (August-June)	3	Base Tuition   Routine Fee   Tap Class Fee*   Specialty Ballet*	*Refer to Page 3
Additional Class Fee	3	*see page 3 for what counts as an additional class	\$40
NZ TapZ	3		\$45
NZ TapZ JuniorZ			\$30
NZ TapZ Showcase Fee		One time fee for showcase at the end of the year	\$100
Choreography Class	3		\$45
Choreography Showcase		One time fee for showcase at the end of the year	\$100
Technique Private	3 & 4	Per 30 minute private	\$45
Semi-Technique Private		Per 30 minute private with 2 dancers	\$30 per dancer
Competition Fee (general/estimation)	4	Per Solos/Duets/Trios	\$85-\$200
Administrative Fee		Placed on each entry for competition and convention	\$4
Convention Participation (general/estimation)	4	Optional for BNZ	\$265-\$465
Convention Fee			\$10
Additional Independent Comp/convention Fee	2	A non-refundable administrative fee **these are optional	\$50
Travel Expenses	**	Applies to out-of-state competition & conventions Includes: gas, food, lodging, and flight Depends on location, length & stay of travel	
YAGP Administrative Fee	3	Per entry fee, Optional for BNZ	\$4
YAGP Participation Fee			\$15
Nutcracker Participation Fee	4	One time fee to participate	\$130
Master Classes	**	Classes with guest teachers – if payment is required the class is optional	\$25-\$45
Jewelry	4	Typically, just earrings	\$10-\$15
Make-Up/Hair Products	4	Pricing dependent upon family/dancer	
Tights	4	Nutcracker and Recital (purchased through studio, per tight)	\$10-\$15
Shoes	**	Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, etc; dependent upon dancer	
El Toro Weights	4	TI 3 – TI 8 only (use code: EXPRESSENZ15)	\$80-\$100

# **Ballet Expressenz Letter of Commitment**

**(COPY TO KEEP)**

*This correspondence serves as an agreement between you and Ballet Expressenz as produced and directed by Karla N. Curatolo, Owner and Director of Expressenz Dance Center. Your child has been selected to be a member of the 2024-25 Ballet Expressenz, an honor as well as privilege. Your signature below indicates that you have read and fully understand all of the requirements associated with participating in the program, as outlined in your Ballet Expressenz Handbook. Furthermore, your signature and that of your child indicates your acceptance of those terms and conditions, and that you are well aware of the commitment involved in this program.*

**Dancer:** Being a member of the 2024-25 Ballet Expressenz means that you will be actively participating in all scheduled events from August, 2024 through the end of May, 2025. Your commitment to this program means that you will be participating in all classes, performances, competitions, and showcases that are scheduled during this time period. Your commitment to this program means you will come to class each time dressed appropriately with proper shoes, attire, and ready to learn. Your commitment to this program means you will respect all teachers and teammates at all times. We will not tolerate racism, inappropriate and unkind social media posts (private or public), or bullying of any kind, from dancer to dancer or dancer to parent.

*In addition to the above, I understand a violation of my commitment to this program/contract has serious consequences that may result in my being permanently dismissed from the program. If a dancer is dismissed or quits from the program, I understand that there will be NO REFUND on any fees and/or payments.*

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent:** Please be sure you feel comfortable with your ability to handle the fees incurred for this activity, as with most competitive activities, there are many uncontrollable circumstances and we don't want to catch anyone off guard.

*Monthly tuition, competition fees, costume fees, choreography fees etc...all have due dates. Monthly Tuition is due at the beginning of each month and is late after the 7<sup>th</sup>. All other fees are late after the posted due dates. Late fees of \$25 will be added to any late payments. A \$35 bank fee will be assessed for a non-sufficient funds payment/canceled/returned payment, as well as a corresponding late fee of \$25. There shouldn't be any excuses for lack of knowledge of a due date or amount. It is each parent/student's responsibility to be aware of fees due, schedule changes, and etc. We suggest coming into the studio at least weekly to check updates and to check emails daily for studio information and updates. **Families are required to pay full August-May tuition.** \_\_\_\_\_ Initial*

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If dancer/family were to be dismissed and/or quits no refunds will be given, this includes and is not limited to costumes, costume fees, tuition, privates, performance fees and competitions fees. \_\_\_\_\_ Initial

*I have read the above information and will be responsible for my child's account and activity requirements. I will follow the rules, policies and procedures of the studio as outlined in the Ballet Expressenz Handbook.* \_\_\_\_\_ Initial

## **PLEASE CHECK BEFORE SIGNING!**

☐ I have read the company handbook and agree to the rules set forth within and the fees associated with this program. I understand my failure to comply or pay may result in my dancer being removed from the company.

X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this signed agreement with August tuition and registration fees to the front desk by July 30, 2024. Please complete one form for each of your children who have accepted placement in Ballet Expressenz.**

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