



## Stars Dance Company Parent Information

The Hoffman Estates Park District is excited that your dancer is interested in the Hoffman Stars Dance Company. This handbook includes important information for the 2026–2027 season and should be reviewed in full to understand the commitment and expectations for company dancers and families.

Stars Dance Company is a competitive program focused on technique, performance skills, growth across multiple dance genres, and a love of dance. The company offers ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern, musical theater, tap, contemporary, and hip hop.

The program is open to dancers aged 8–18. Dancers must be at least 8 years old by January 1, 2027.

### **The 2026-2027 Schedule:**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday A</b>	<b>Tuesday B</b>	<b>Wednesday A</b>	<b>Wednesday B</b>
5:15-5:45p Choreo 1 Ms. Stef	5:00-5:30p Junior Ballet Ms. Stephanie	5:00-5:30p Choreo 1 Ms. Wendy	4:45-5:15p Junior Tap Ms. Olivia	
5:45-6:15p Choreo 2 Ms. Stef	5:30-6:15p Elite Ballet 1 Ms. Stephanie	6:00-6:30p Choreo 4 Ms. Wendy	5:15-5:45p Elite Tap 1 Ms. Wendy	5:15-5:45p Junior Specialty Ms. Olivia
6:15-6:45p Choreo 3 Ms. Stef	6:15-7:00p Elite Ballet 2 Ms. Stephanie	6:30-7:15p Elite Specialty 1 Ms. Wendy	5:45-6:15p Elite Tap 2 Ms. Wendy	5:45-6:15p Junior Choreo Ms. Olivia
6:45-7:30p Elite Specialty 2 Ms. Stef	7:00-7:45p Elite Ballet 3 Ms. Stephanie	7:15-7:45p Choreo 2 Ms. Wendy	6:15-6:45p Elite Tap 3 Ms. Wendy	6:15-7:00p PC Technique Ms. Olivia
7:30-8:15p Elite Specialty 3 Ms. Stef	7:45-8:15p Choreo 4 Ms. Stef	7:45-8:15p Choreo 3 Ms. Wendy		7:00-7:45p PC Choreo Ms. Olivia
8:15-8:45p Choreo 5 Ms. Stef		8:15-8:45p Choreo 5 Ms. Wendy		

## **Stars Dance Company Expectations**

### **Attendance & Commitment:**

Dancers are expected to attend all weekly classes, choreography classes, and dress rehearsals. Stars Dance Company depends on the commitment of the entire team. Absences must be communicated to instructors at least 1 week in advance (unless due to illness), and multiple absences may affect competition/performance participation. Missing class impacts the dancer and teammates; exceptions may be made for school events with advance notice. Dancers are responsible for learning missed choreography and should stretch/practice dances weekly. Dancers should arrive 5 minutes early with a notebook, writing utensil, and closed-lid water bottle. Arriving more than 10 minutes late requires independent stretching before joining class, and arriving more than 15 minutes late or leaving more than 15 minutes early counts as half an absence. Dancers may only attend another company's rehearsal if invited by a teacher.

### **Accountability & Team Behavior:**

Dancers are expected to show respect, professionalism, focus, good sportsmanship, and teamwork in all classes, rehearsals, and performances. Talking should be kept to a minimum; after 2 reminders, dancers may be asked to leave class until invited back by the teacher. Dancers should support teammates, act as role models for younger dancers, avoid negativity, and accept teacher corrections without giving corrections to peers.

### **Dress Code & Personal Care:**

- **Ballet:** Solid black/purple leotard, pink tights, pink canvas ballet shoes, hair in a tight bun, and optional ballet skirt/black shorts/ballet belt.
- **Specialty:** Solid black/purple leotard, fitted plain black bottoms, black sports bra if needed, clean ponytail/braids/bun, and bring tan jazz shoes, lyrical shoes, modern sandals, and ballet shoes weekly.
- **Solo/Duet/Trio:** Solid black/blue leotard with tights, black shorts, or leggings depending on style. No T-shirts.
- **Stars Days:** Outfit details will be provided before each event.

Sweatshirts/warmups must be removed after 5 minutes. Dress code violations result in strikes; after 3 strikes parents will be notified. Dancers must maintain hygiene, wear deodorant (required for dancers at/after puberty), wash dancewear regularly, avoid jewelry (stud earrings allowed), and leave valuables at home. Spirit weeks occur the first week after competitions.

**Injuries:**

Injured dancers must provide a doctor’s note before returning to participation. Dancers should still attend class to observe and take notes to stay involved with the team.

**Technology:**

Cell phones and smart watches may not be used during class. Phones should be silenced/off and stored away; watches should be silenced and removed for specialty dances. Continued use after a warning may result in devices being held by the teacher and parents being notified.

**Team Support:**

All company dancers are part of one team and should support all levels at competitions. Attendance is taken at competitions whether performing or not, and carpooling is encouraged. Negative comments about teammates, teachers, or the company are not acceptable—we are a team working toward a shared goal.

**Disclaimer:**

Stars Dance Company is an inclusive community and does not tolerate discrimination. Dancers may be asked to resign their team position if company expectations and rules are not followed.

**Competitions:**

Hoffman Stars Dance Company will compete in four competitions throughout the season (Juniors will compete in two; Performance Company does not compete). Each company level will perform two group dances, and group competition fees are included in Company tuition. Competition schedules are released 1–2 weeks before each event, so dancers should keep Friday–Sunday available for competition weekends.

If we do not compete on Friday, a dress rehearsal will be held in the dance room. If we compete on Friday, dress rehearsal will replace the regularly scheduled class during competition week.

**Tentative Performance Schedule:**

December/January	Winter Showcase – Performance in Hoffman Estates
February-May	Competition 1
February-May	Competition 2
February-May	Competition 3
February-May	Competition 4
Mid/End of May/Early June	Dance Recital

## **STARS Days:**

We will be having 4, 2.5-hour sessions throughout the season for the dancers to interact with one another and have group rehearsals.

Friday, November 13 <sup>th</sup> 5:30-8:00p	Friendsgiving
Friday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> 5:00-7:30p	Holiday Party
TBD	Large Group Rehearsal for Opening/Closing
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## **Pre-Season Parent & Dancer Meeting:**

We will have a meeting with all new parents and dancers for the 2026-2027 season.

Followed by a fun get together with all 2026-2027 company dancers and parents. The get-together and parent meeting will be Wednesday, August 19th.

Meeting for new parents will be 5:30-6:00pm

Get together 6:00-8:00pm

## **Parent Involvement:**

Throughout the year, we will be looking for our Company parents to support the dancers with additional duties at competitions, performances and recital.

## **Stars Dance Company Seniors:**

Stars Dance Company seniors have the opportunity to perform a senior solo during their final season. Dancers must be in good standing and have been part of Stars Dance Company for 2 consecutive seasons before senior year (sophomore and junior years). Solos may be competed or performed only at recital, with rehearsals beginning in the fall either way. Fees follow the current solo fee structure. Dancers may provide input on style, costume, and song, but choreography will be created by a Stars Dance Company teacher. If there are at least 2 graduating seniors, they may also perform a senior dance at recital. Seniors will choreograph the dance, while music, costumes, and choreography require teacher approval.

All seniors, regardless of years in the company, may wear senior sashes at competitions and recital.

## **Company Tuition:**

What's included?

### **Juniors:**

Fall session of ballet & spec	2 – 30-min classes for 13 weeks	\$256
Fall session choreography	1 – 30-min classes for 13 weeks	\$128
Winter/Spring ballet & spec	2 – 30-min classes for 18 weeks	\$354
Winter/Spring choreography	1 – 30-min classes for 18 weeks	\$177
STARS Days	4 – 2.5 min classes	\$35
Opening/closing costumes	2 costumes	\$140
1 group dance costumes	2 costumes	\$90
1 group competition fees	2 competitions	\$170-190**
Competition media fees	2 competitions	\$50-80**
1 recital video fee		\$35
End of year banquet for dancer		\$30
		<b>\$1,465-1,515</b>

*Resident fee*

*\*\*\*These are estimated fees and will be confirmed when competitions are selected.*

### **Stars Dance Company:**

Choreography Week	2 - 45-min classes	\$30
Fall session of ballet & spec	2 – 45-min classes for 13 weeks	\$384
Fall session choreography	2 – 30-min classes for 13 weeks	\$356
Winter/Spring ballet & spec	2 – 45-min classes for 18 weeks	\$531
Winter/Spring choreography	2 – 30-min classes for 18 weeks	\$354
STARS Days	4 – 2.5-min classes	\$35
Opening/closing costumes	2 costumes	\$140
2 group dance costumes	2 costumes	\$180
2 group competition fees	4 competitions	\$610-720**
Competition media fees	4 competitions	\$80-140**
1 recital video fee		\$35
End of year banquet for dancer		\$30
		<b>\$2,765-2,935</b>

*Resident fee*

*\*\*\*These are estimated fees and will be confirmed when competitions are selected.*

**Performance Company:**

Fall session of technique	1 – 45-min classes for 13 weeks	\$191
Fall session choreography	1 – 45-min classes for 13 weeks	\$191
Winter/Spring technique	1 – 45-min classes for 18 weeks	\$266
Winter/Spring choreography	1 – 45-min classes for 18 weeks	\$266
STARS Days	4 – 2.5-min classes	\$34
Opening/closing costumes	2 costumes	\$140
2 group dance costumes	2 costumes	\$180
1 recital video fee		\$35
End of year banquet for dancer		\$30
		<b>\$1333</b>

*Resident fee***Additional fees will be charged for:****Junior Tap:**

Fall session choreography	1 – 30-min classes for 13 weeks	\$128
Winter/Spring choreography	1 – 30-min classes for 18 weeks	\$177
1 group competition fee	2 competitions	\$170-190**
1 group dance costumes	1 costume	\$80
		<b>\$555-575</b>

*Resident fee**\*\*\*These are estimated fees and will be confirmed when competitions are selected.*

Dancers enrolled in Junior Tap are strongly encouraged to take a recreational class that includes tap to continue to work on tap skills.

**Elite Tap:**

Fall session choreography	1 – 30-min classes for 13 weeks	\$128
Winter/Spring choreography	1 – 30-min classes for 18 weeks	\$177
1 group competition fee	4 competitions	\$310-360**
1 group dance costumes	1 costume	\$90
		<b>\$705-755</b>

*Resident fee**\*\*\*These are estimated fees and will be confirmed when competitions are selected.*

Dancers enrolled in Elite Tap are **required to also be enrolled in a recreational tap class.**

**Apprentice:**

If your dancer is asked to be an apprentice, you will need to pay the following fees. Apprentices are dancers who are not part of the Stars Dance Company team but do compete with a specific style only (Acro or Tap).

STARS Days	4 – 2.5-min classes	\$35
Opening/closing costumes	2 costumes	\$140
Competition media fees	2-4 competitions	\$50-140**
1 recital video fee		\$35
End of year banquet for dancer		\$30
		<b>\$290-380</b>

*\*\*\*These are estimated fees and will be confirmed when competitions are selected.*

**Competition Line:**

The 2026-2027 Stars Dance Company will compete opening and/or closing dance(s) from the previous season. There will be some rehearsals throughout the fall session and into the new year. These dates and competition fees will be distributed at our parent potluck meeting in August. This will be a 1 time fee to cover the competition fees and rehearsal time.

**Solo/Duet/Trio/Extra Small Group:**

Dancers selected for a solo, duet, trio, or extra small group will have additional fees. Approximate pricing is listed below, and rehearsal schedules will be released by the end of August. Rehearsals will take place Monday–Thursday evenings.

Not all dancers will be offered additional dances. Consideration is given only to dancers who participated in the previous season and are in good standing with the company.

**Approximate price per dancer if offered a solo:**

\*\*Competition fees will be finalized once we know what competitions we will be attending.

Costume	1 costume	\$80
Rehearsal/Choreography time	20, 30-minute sessions ***	\$210
Competition fees	4 competitions	\$710-800**
		<b>\$1000-1090</b>

*\*\*\* First two rehearsals will be a 30-minute rehearsal to learn the dances. Then the remaining 18 rehearsals will be split with another soloist. 15 minutes for 1 dancer and 15 minutes for the other soloist. While 1 dancer is working with the instructor the other may practice their solo off to the side by themselves.*

**Approximate price per dancer if offered a duet:**

\*\*Competition fees will be finalized once we know what competitions we will be attending.

Costume	1 costume	\$80
Rehearsal/Choreography time	20, 30-minute sessions ***	\$210
Competition fees	4 competitions	\$395-435**
		<b>\$685-725</b>

**Approximate price per dancer if offered a trio:**

\*\*Competition fees will be finalized once we know what competitions we will be attending.

Costume	1 costume	\$80
Rehearsal/Choreography time	20, 30-minute sessions	\$145
Competition fees	4 competitions	\$395-435**
		<b>\$620-660</b>

**Approximate price per dancer if offered an extra small group:**

\*\*Competition fees will be finalized once we know what competitions we will be attending.

Costume	1 costume	\$80
Rehearsal/Choreography time	20, 30-minute sessions	\$125
Competition fees	4 competitions	\$310-360**
		<b>\$515-565</b>

Options for extra small groups include; acro. **If enrolled in an acro extra small group, dancers are required to also be enrolled in a recreational acro class.**

**What is not included in tuition? What are parents responsible for?**

- Attire for ballet and specialty classes
- Pink canvas ballet shoes
- Nude jazz shoes
- Any other specialty shoes
- Tights for competitions (will finalize all colors once costumes are ordered)
- Nude under suit/under garments
- Personal hygiene products
- Competition earrings
- Dance bag
- Makeup for competition (an email list will be provided with links)
- Company/competition jacket – will be worn at every competition and at our Winter showcase performance.
- Travel/lodging for any competitions

**Possible extra performances not included in company tuition:**

- Possible National/Championship invites
- Current 2026 dancers that were invited to NY to attend in summer of 2027
- Any other performances we are invited to participate in

**Payment options:**

1. Pay in Full
2. Payment Plan: \$100 deposit when officially registering for company, then 9 monthly payments on 15th of month (August 2026 – April 2027).

**Refunds:**

Competitions, conventions, workshops, and costumes are non-refundable. If a dancer decides they do not want to continue with the company, you can submit a refund request. Refunds will only be issued for all classes that were not attended from the time the refund request is submitted.

**Company Handbook Acknowledgement:**

Dancers and parents will need to sign a company handbook acknowledgement when accepting a spot for the season. Forms will be provided at the dancer/parent meeting in August.

