

# Jubilee Dance Company

2022/2023 School Year

## Jubilee

Jubilee means: *"A joyful time; a time or season of celebration!"* Jubilee Dance Company is an extension program of Dancing For Joy. It is time to dance for joy and to celebrate who we were created to be as we move together to worship our Maker.

## Our Mission Statement

The mission of **Dancing for Joy** is to provide quality dance instruction for every student while encouraging movements and motivations that glorify our Maker. Our goal is to create a positive learning environment for students of all ages, to develop a deeper appreciation for the performing arts, and to "praise His name with dancing..." Psalms 149:3

The **Jubilee Dance Company** is made up of 5 groups of 8 to 12 dancers each; the Junior group, Intermediate group, Senior group, and Advanced & Principal. Each group participates in increased training in technique, performance, choreography, and professionalism in order to dance for others in the broader community. Together we reclaim and encourage dance as a venue for enriching our lives, blessing others, and praising God.

## Achieving That Mission

- We are non-competitive yet professional.
- Our focus is to reclaim the art of dance in the Pacific Northwest, WA, Whatcom county, and Bellingham for the glory of God.
- We provide a healthy and safe outlet for young dancers to expand strengths, work on weaknesses, and build confidence in a loving and encouraging environment.
- We encourage opportunities for technical excellence and personal growth that take us outside the studio walls and into the world we live in.
- We maintain a high standard of commitment to rehearsal and technique classes.
- We have team building times, devotions, and prayer times.
- We use choreography, music, and costumes that are appropriate.
- We place an emphasis on using dance as a way to serve God and others.
- We will divide company members up by age, style, ability levels, years in the company, and availability to foster growth through different dance experiences. Some members may be asked to participate with multiple groups throughout a school year or specific dances. We will also have understudies for different dance works. There will be at least one all company dance.
- Veteran company members have increased opportunities to choreograph, perform, be team leaders, judicators, camp counselors, and have solos etc...

## Requirements of a Company Member

1. **Must be enrolled in at least 3 dance classes @ DFJ (Sept-June), one of which must be the non-performing company ballet class (note - this class is paid for monthly) , and one of which must be a CATS or PBT class. The 3rd class is a class of your choice.** \*Must also take 2 or more classes per week during the summer program in August or be enrolled in one of our intensives,

offered in July. Note - we understand and honor that family vacations take priority please communicate clearly with us when you will be gone. Thank you.

2. **Dancers are expected to be fully active members of all their classes and perform with ALL their classes for the spring show.**

Additional performance fees will apply (\$85 per enrolled class, but may vary depending on performance days, shared costumes, etc.) Non-participation in classes may result in being re-evaluated as a Company Member.

3. **Full payment of Company annual fee of \$400 Company uniform fee of \$125, and Retreat fee of \$125 due upon acceptance. Total -\$650 Late after Sept. 15th**

- A late fee of \$50 will be issued automatically on your account at that time. All dance company member accounts for DFJ are required to keep a current credit card on file with us, and account balances be kept current – no exceptions. Overdue balances may result in not being able to perform or participate.

- There will not be any other costume fees associated with the dance company for the Christmas or June performances. (Spring show fees will apply according to the student's individual class schedule.)

4. **Attend Dance Co. Retreat** (required participation):

**Dates and Cost- August 5th - 7th Day Retreat 9am - 5pm on the 5th. (the 6th will be overnight), pick up on the 7th TBA.**

**Cost - \$125**

The retreat this year will be a day retreat, with the 6th being an overnight. Students will be asked to pack their own lunch and bring it with them. We will provide Dinner on the 6th (for the overnight), and Breakfast and Lunch on the final day, (7th). Students will be dropped off and picked up on the 5th, dropped off on the 6th and then picked up on the 7th. (TIME TBA). The location of the retreat at this time will be outside on 5 acres at Kurt's Parents house, in Bellingham. More info. to come. about drop off and pick up times. The cost covers the cost of the leaders time, food, and also some classes that we will be offering during the retreat.

5. **Attend weekly rehearsals on Wednesdays: Time TBA**

**Rehearsal will start with Dance Wellness, Warm Up, & Devotions/ Worship**

**Required this year-** EACH DANCER NEEDS TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN JOURNAL. Please keep this in your dance bag!

Dance Wellness - we want students to continue to learn how to take care of themselves, know their limits, properly take care of injuries, learn strategies and techniques for stress management, talk about the importance of hydration and nutrition. We will also teach them how to massage their sore muscles using a small ball and/or foam roller.

Warm Up - This time will consist of a cardio exercise to warm up the muscles.

Devotions/ Worship - Leaders will lead a short devotion/prayer time for each of their teams. Once a month we will have a guest lead worship. (We will meet in smaller groups)

### **Wednesday Rehearsals**

- Times are subject to change.
- Some weeks not everyone will be called for the entire time.
- We will communicate clearly with you the plan for each week.
- Additional rehearsals may be called or canceled at any time.
- There is no fee/ tuition for Wednesday rehearsals.

6. **Principal and sometimes Advanced team members will have extra auditions throughout the year** - Nativity Auditions will be held at our August company retreat. Nativity Audition Casting will be posted via facebook, e-mail, and at the studio AFTER the retreat. Auditions for Narnia will take place as well for the Principal company and possibly the Advanced company as well.

7. **\*Participate in Dance Company Performances around the community.**

Please expect on average of once a month, but may be more or less due to scheduling and events. The Company plans on performing at the Ferry Terminal, Christmas Show, March Benefit Showcase, Ski to Sea Grand Parade, and June Show. Other performances may be possible.

**\*SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENTS, CHANGES, AND/OR CANCELATIONS**

### **Eligibility Policy**

Dancers must be age 12 by Sept. 1 of the tryout session. A written appeal may be submitted if the student's birthday is after Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, but before Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, and the student has shown readiness in dance and attitude to be considered for an early tryout.

DFJ reserves the right to add members, or switch dancers to other company groups at any time and for any reason. DFJ Directors reserve the right to reconsider a dancer's eligibility for Jubilee Dance Company at any time, but especially for the following reasons:

- **If they do not attend the DFJ Company Retreat at the beginning of the season.**
- **A dancer's attitude does not reflect respect towards others, or has a spirit of apathy.**
- **A dancer has multiple unexcused absences or their account is 90+ days past due.**
- **A dancer violates the required 'code of conduct' form in which they have signed.**

### **Audition Day**

1. Must be 12 years old as of Sept. 1 of the audition year, or an approved written appeal if turning 12 before Oct. 1st.

**Proper Audition Attire: Ladies - Pink or skin toned tights, Black Leo, Ballet shoes, & Hair in a bun.**

**Men - Black tights, black tank, ballet shoes**

2. **Auditions will be in Studio 4 and 3.** Check in with an instructor and receive an audition number. (we recommend arriving 15-25 minutes early to warm up in an open studio).

3. Students must **complete audition forms PRIOR to audition.** Hand in forms at check-in.

4. Teachers will teach audition groups several combinations, ranging in style, and then dancers will perform in small groups of varying sizes. There will be a panel of judges. Judges critique stage presence, technique, teachability, focus, effort, attitude, willingness, and memorization of steps.
5. Dancers will be brought back for individual or group interviews after the dance portion of the audition.
6. Results will be posted by audition number on our website by 3pm Saturday June 18th. Invitations to join a specific company group will be sent out via email. Please respond within 48 hours if you will be accepting the invitation. For those who do not make the company we will send out an email of what the dancer needs to work on for the following year in order to be considered in the future.

\*There are many variables that go into dancer placement. Some include but are not limited to age, number of dancers that try-out, past trainability, attitude, technique, emotional capacity, confidence, fluidity, group cohesiveness, group dynamics, group size, strength, work ethic, leadership, dedication, experience, class levels they are currently in, past attendance and participation. Also, similarly to our class program, dancers may enter a group or class at the bottom of a group or level ability wise, and then the following year be one of the top dancers in that same group or class; both are essential for training and building confidence. **We ask that you please respect our placement decisions for your dancer's development in the upcoming school year. We strive to push every dancer to be the best dancer and person that they can be. Please do not come into the audition expecting placement in a specific group, or with specific people.**

## **Auditions for the 2022/2023 School Year**

**June 22nd Time Slots: - Pre-sign up REQUIRED**

**\*There is a \$25 Audition Fee**

**CHOOSE AUDITION TIME ACCORDING TO THE GRADE YOU'LL BE ENTERING IN FALL 2022.**

9-10:15 - 7th/8th

10:30-11:45 - 9th - 12th

12:00-1:15 - 7th/8th

1:30-2:00 - Staff Break

2:00-3:15 - 9th - 12th

3:30-4:45 - 9th - 12th

- Please fill out your audition form and turn it into the office at your audition.
- If you are unable to make the audition, a video audition will be accepted if received before the audition date. Please message Sarah Lewis for video audition criteria.

## **Parent Involvement**

Parents are asked to sign up for an area to volunteer. Once teams are created Maluhia will send out a list of areas that you can sign up for.

## **Other Considerations**

Jubilee members are asked during all community performances to not wear glasses, please work with your optometrist, to get contacts. Thank you.

Jubilee Girls are asked to wear FAKE eyelashes at MBT performances.

Piercings - Nose ring studs are fine, as well as studs for cartilage piercings. All other piercings need to come out for performances.

## **COVID -**

DFJ is committed to adhering to all policies and requirements to keep our dancers healthy and safe.

Questions? - Please send us an email: [info@dancing4joy.org](mailto:info@dancing4joy.org).

## **Company Staff**

Executive Director- Kurt Vander Griend

Artistic/Jubilee Director - Maluhia Vander Griend

## **Jubilee Leaders (Jubileaders) -**

Principal - Taylor Melton

Advanced - Amanda Schorer

Senior - Sarah Lewis

Intermediate - Alexandra Miller

Junior - Rachel Yates