



C is for Chicago Informational Packet

North Shore School of Dance
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Contact Information:

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I. History:

Andye Jamieson and David Camit, former co-directors of Dance2xs Chicago, founded C is for Chicago (CIC) in September 2005. The focus of CIC is to introduce the importance of performance to young, hip-hop dancers. Choreography and skill improvement are also priority within the CIC vision. There are so many young dancers that are amazing when it comes to learning the “counts” and “steps” of a dance routine, but lack the performance aspect. To us, the ability of performance is the most important factor that a dancer of any age can possess.

All Instructors for CIC come from the professional hip-hop group Dance2xs Chicago. Members of Dance2xs Chicago represent some of the most experienced and well-rounded dancers of the Chicagoland area. CIC is being formulated under the same principles as Dance2xs Chicago: professionalism, uniqueness, and performance.

II. CIC: The group and rehearsal days

CIC has dancers that range in age from 8 – 17. **CIC stresses the importance of placement based on ability more than age. All dancers must audition once a year to be apart of CIC and are NOT guaranteed a spot even if they were with the group the previous year.**

Mini's: This group is designed for dancers ages 8-10 and aims at honing their hip hop technique while improving their ability to pick up new styles of choreography and enhance their level of performance. This group does not compete, but instead will perform in other shows later in the year, which will be determined by the Director.

Training: Dancers on training (all over the age of 10) still need to improve their level of performance and skill. These dancers do not compete, but need another year or two of practice and focus before they are at the competition level. With this group, there is more emphasis on attention to detail, facials, peer/director feedback, etc. Training dancers will perform in other shows later in the year, which will be determined by the Director.

NEW - CIC Non-Competitive: This level is for the advanced dancer (over the age of 10) that still want to be involved with the team but cannot make the personal time commitment or financial commitment to competing. All conventions and extra activities will be optional. These members are not required to perform in any shows, nor are they required to pay a costume fee.



CIC Competitive: This is for the advanced level dancer (over the age of 10) that has the commitment and dedication for performance and competition. Members will attend the one-hour company class and will also stay an additional 45 minutes to prepare for upcoming performances and competitions. Members will be required to attend all conventions, competitions, and performances. Being a member of this elite group is a privilege and should be treated as such.

Note: If a student makes it as an advanced level dancer on CIC, that member and their family will choose if they would like to be on the Non-Competitive or Competitive team. This decision is a year-long commitment and cannot be changed until the next year's audition.

NEW: Some training members may be invited to attend CIC competition class for a 6-week trial period. During this time, the member will attend both their training class and the competition class – at no additional charge. The director will evaluate the member on their dedication, attitude, and most importantly, their ability to quickly pick up and perform choreography with the rest of the CIC competition team. After this trial period, the Director will decide if they can move up to CIC Competitive or not. Members joining CIC Competitive will pay the difference. If the director decides that the member is not yet ready to compete, then the member will maintain their level as Training. The director's decision is final, and the member will be given an explanation as to why either decision was made.

Rehearsals will be as follows:

- CIC Mini's – Tuesday, Highland Park, 6-6:45pm
- CIC Training – Tuesday, Highland Park, 6:45-7:45pm
- CIC Competition class only – Tuesday, Highland Park, 7:45-8:45pm
- CIC Competition/Performance rehearsal only – Tuesday, Highland Park, 8:45-9:30pm

III. CIC requirements and Expectations:

1. All dancers are required to audition to become a part of the company. The audition fee is \$10.
 - a. **Mini's audition: Saturday, August 29th, Highwood Studio, 10-11am**
 - b. **CIC and Training audition: Saturday, August 29th, Highwood Studio, Noon-2pm**
 - ALL audition participants will have to learn a combination and perform it in front of a panel of judges.
 - **NEW:** People auditioning for CIC (with the exception of Mini's) will have to prepare 4 counts of 8 to perform during auditions if called back. To complete this task, students must: select their own music, make their own choreography, and bring their own prepared CD or tape with their cut of music to the audition. The music will be collected and numbered when registering for auditions. Students will perform their routine as part of the audition process if they receive a call back that day.
2. **Members are expected to attend ALL rehearsals.** Extra rehearsals can and will be called at the discretion of the Director.



3. **If a member is not present when learning new choreography**, that member will not perform in that portion of the routine unless a private lesson is scheduled with the director to individually learn the material. Members are required to strictly adhere to all NSSD policies.
4. **If a member is going to be late or absent to any event, they MUST email the CIC account at least 24 hours in advance.** In the case of an emergency, please call the NSSD office as promptly as you can. A voice message may be left at the North Shore School of Dance during ALL hours.
5. **ALL members will be expected to attend the Monsters of Hip Hop and Urban Jamm conventions** (except non-competitive members). **The Pulse convention will be optional for Mini's and Training members, but CIC Competitive members will be required to attend.** ALL members will participate in the convention classes, however, only competitive members will perform in the dance showcases or competitions associated with those conventions. Even though Mini's and Training members are not competing, they must be there to watch the dance showcase or competition to support their teammates and foster that positive team environment. Please look over the dates for any conflicts that you may have. The Director needs to be informed of these conflicts within one month of joining the group. After that month, you will be expected to attend all events. Any added events will be announced early in advance and will also be considered mandatory.
6. **Members will treat the Instructors, NSSD staff, and other members with respect at all times.** CIC represents the North Shore School of Dance and will have a polite appreciation of costumes, music, technique, and overall performance of CIC and any other dancer or dance company at all times. This will be strictly enforced. **Disrespect of any kind, at any time, may result in a member's dismissal from the team.**
7. **CIC members are positive role models** in appearance, words and actions, regardless of provoking words or actions. **CIC members must take responsibility for their own actions and themselves**, which includes apologies for wrong doings as well as the words and actions necessary to make amends or correction.
8. **Team members' ages 8-12 must be chaperoned by a parent at all events.** In the rare case this is not possible; the parent will assign another parent to chaperone and must inform the director of this decision.
9. Please be careful not to over commit in other activities so that you can give 100% to CIC. Realize that if you can't fulfill your commitment, it will affect the other dancers on the team, as well as yourself.
10. **On the day of a performance**, CIC members are expected to be professional in appearance, conduct and performance. You represent NSSD the second you enter the building. Make a great first impression (you only get one chance with each new person you meet). Make sure your personal belongings are appropriately placed. NSSD is not responsible for any loss or damage to personal property. **Dancers should always arrive one hour before the performance unless stated otherwise on the CIC calendar.**
11. **All questions or concerns regarding CIC should be addressed the Director via email at cicnssd@gmail.com.** The Director will handle all concerns. **All financial questions should be directed to Barb via nssdance@aol.com or phone at 847-432-2060.**
12. **The director, choreographer, or teachers reserve the right, at her/his discretion, to remove any CIC member not in compliance with these policies.**



IV. Fees:

TEAM FEES include weekly class rehearsal, director compensation, and guest choreographer compensation. All other fees are additional.

- **CIC Competitive = \$750**
 - **CIC Non-competitive (company class only) = \$700**
 - **CIC Training Team = \$650**
 - **CIC Mini Team = \$600**
1. **All payments should be made to North Shore School of Dance.** Payment options:
 - a. **Pay the full amount by September 15th**
 - b. **Pay in two installments – ½ on September 15th, and ½ on November 13th**
 2. **All monies are NON-REFUNDABLE unless there is an emergency situation and will be determined by the Director of NSSD.**
 3. Any checks returned to North Shore School of Dance will result in a cash payment within three days, plus any returned check fees, or the dancer will not be allowed to participate in CIC.
 4. CIC is not considered a class, and therefore, members are not eligible for any discounts, credits, or the unlimited payment plan.

COSTUME FEES are \$100/member and will be due 4 weeks prior to ordering. All accessories and props are included in the costume fee. Costume selection will be chosen by the choreographer and approved by the team director.

COMPETITION/CONVENTION FEES will be paid separately and is due two weeks prior to the registration date. Fee deadlines for both conventions and competitions must be adhered to or we will not participate. Fees are listed below (based on last year's costs) and are subject to change. A \$10 processing fee will be added to all registrations.

V. Competitions, Conventions, Other Performances:

1. **Monsters of Hip Hop – October 10-11, 2009 – Payment due by Sept. 15th**
 - a. **Mandatory for Mini's, Training, and Competition group. Optional for non-competitive.**
 - b. Hyatt Regency O'Hare – Convention and dance showcase
 - c. \$185/dancer (there may be an additional cost to perform in the showcase – TBA)
 - d. Showcase ticket \$5 and/or Weekend Observer Pass \$30 – pay at the door
 - e. You must make your own hotel/driving arrangements – additional details TBA
2. **Pulse – November 14-15, 2009**
 - a. **Mandatory for Competition group. Optional for Mini's, Training, and non-competitive.**
 - b. Location TBA – Convention and dance showcase
 - c. \$195/dancer ((there man be an additional cost to perform in the showcase – TBA)
 - d. Showcase ticket \$5 and/or Weekend Observer Pass \$30 – pay at the door
 - e. You must make your own hotel/driving arrangements – additional details TBA



3. Urban Jamm – Date TBA

- a. **Mandatory for Mini's, Training, and Competition group. Optional for non-competitive.**
- b. Location TBA – Convention and competition
- c. \$185/dancer (plus \$25/dancer/dance for competition)
- d. Showcase ticket \$5 and/or Weekend Observer Pass \$30 – pay at the door
- e. You must make your own hotel/driving arrangements – additional details TBA

4. Other Performances

- a. Great America, Date TBA (Mini's and Training only)
- b. North Shore School of Dance's Annual Spring Concert: Date TBA (ALL)

*****Additional performances and competitions may be added throughout the year at the discretion of the Director.** If you have a suggestion for a performance or competition, please let the director know ASAP. The more CIC can perform, the better.

CIC INFORMATIONAL ONLINE CALENDAR:

***Parents and dancers should check this calendar weekly for new and upcoming information. Click on the event to see a pop-up-window, which details each event. Events and details will be added to the calendar as the year progresses. Save this link below as a bookmark so that you will always have easy access to it!

<http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=cicnssd%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>



REQUIREMENTS FOR CIC MEMBERSHIP

(To be signed and turned in at the audition, along with the Audition form)

1. Upon acceptance, team members will receive a contract with a complete description of rules and requirements that must be signed by both student and parent. If a dancer does not accept their spot by _____, the dancer will be taken off the list and the next dancer on the list will be added to the team and notified.
2. Members must give notice to Director or NSSD office for an absence or tardy.
3. Members are expected to attend ALL rehearsals. Extra rehearsal may be necessary at times – in which case, advance notice (at least one week prior) will be given.
4. Team fees are:
 - CIC Competitive = \$750
 - CIC Non-Competitive (Company class only) = \$700
 - Training = \$650
 - Mini - \$600

Fees can be paid in two installments due: September 15 and November 13
5. Costume fees: \$100 (due 4 weeks prior to ordering).
6. Convention fees: Average from \$180-240 (must be paid two weeks prior to the registration date).
7. Competition fees: Average \$30 per routine (must be paid two weeks prior to the registration date).
8. All members are required to have team clothing at a reasonable additional cost.
9. Training & Mini teams are guaranteed one group dance each. CIC will be guaranteed two group competition dances. An all-team production number will be choreographed for the Spring Concert.
10. CIC Production Calendar will be sent out every 2 months with upcoming rehearsals, fees due and other miscellaneous information. Please contact the director should any conflicts arise. These will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
11. **All team members must have a willingness, desire and ambition to learn; take direction openly and respectfully; be positive, helpful, polite, caring, and supportive to all students of North Shore School of Dance. You represent NSSD!**

CIC COMPETITION, CONVENTION AND PERFORMANCE CONSENT FORMS

I, the undersigned, on behalf of _____ (dancer), agree to hold **Monsters of Hip Hop** (convention/competition) faculty and staff harmless for any injury, damage or loss sustained as a result of participation in any events related to said convention/competition.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or guardian if under 18)



I, the undersigned, on behalf of _____ (dancer), agree to hold **Pulse** (convention/competition) faculty and staff harmless for any injury, damage or loss sustained as a result of participation in any events related to said convention/competition.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or guardian if under 18)

I, the undersigned, on behalf of _____ (dancer), agree to hold **Urban Jamm** (convention/competition) faculty and staff harmless for any injury, damage or loss sustained as a result of participation in any events related to said convention/competition.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or guardian if under 18)

Extra Blank Consent Forms

I, the undersigned, on behalf of _____ (dancer), agree to hold _____ (convention/competition) faculty and staff harmless for any injury, damage or loss sustained as a result of participation in any events related to said convention/competition.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or guardian if under 18)

I, the undersigned, on behalf of _____ (dancer), agree to hold _____ (convention/competition) faculty and staff harmless for any injury, damage or loss sustained as a result of participation in any events related to said convention/competition.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or guardian if under 18)

I have read, understand, and am willing to comply with all of the requirements and expectations for CIC this 2009-2010 year.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date



CIC AUDITION FORM

The CIC team guidelines must be read and signed by both the parent and the dancer. Please bring to auditions on August 29, along with a copy of the dancer's birth certificate.

Dancer's Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade in Sept: _____

Birth Date: _____ Parents' Names: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Dad's Work/Cell: _____ Mom's Work/Cell: _____

Student Email Address: _____

Parent's Email: _____

Please give an email address that is most frequently used for both the student and the parent. These emails will be used for all communication between the Director, parents, and members.

Years of dance experience:

Hip Hop: _____ Jazz: _____ Modern: _____ Ballet: _____ Tap: _____ Other: _____

If I were to make CIC this year, I would like to participate in the:

_____ *Non-Competitive group* _____ *Competitive group*