

New to Emerge? Or, is this your first time participating in dance festivals/competitions?

Here are a few important Q & A's to help you plan for your dancers competition season this year.

#### 1.) Who?

All classes at Emerge Dance Academy EXCEPT Mini-Merger Ballet, Tap and Hip Hop, Teen Jazz, Adult Ballet and Stretch & Tech classes are entered in 1-3 competitions during the year. (What's the difference between a competition and a festival? Festivals are typically set up in a way that all dancers receive a medal regardless of their performance. Competitions are set up in a way that dancers receive a medal and are also ranked 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.)

#### 2.) Why?

The main reason we enter all our dancers into competitions is for fun! The second is for a positive stage experience. Competitions are great for dancers as it gives them the opportunity – several times a year – to be on stage and show off all they have been working so hard toward. We want to encourage our dancers at all times to be proud of their hard work and to share it. Although we are considered a competitive dance studio- we do not push our dancers to win. Rather, we encourage them to enjoy dancing and to help build their confidence in themselves and their trust in their fellow dancers and their teachers!

#### 3.) When?

Scheduling is done by each organization and we do not know exact days/times until about a month prior. You will be notified as to the specific day/time of your performance via newsletter and information will be posted on our website. On the day of festival, dancers will be required to arrive at the theatre a minimum of one hour before scheduled dance time with hair and make-up already done. Teachers may request that students arrive earlier than 1 hour ahead since festivals reserve the right to run a full half hour ahead of schedule. Things may look different this season due to Covid, but all details will be sent out prior to the event.

#### 4.) What happens?

In early March we will begin to send out more in-depth competition information. Specific hair and make-up may be requested by your teacher. A parent viewing day prior to festival time will be held for each class to answer questions about hair, make-up and costume details. It should be noted that the reason we have our dancers wear any make-up is simply because it is stage makeup for the intense stage lighting at all venues. A small amount of make-up goes a long way so that we can see the facial features and expressions during their performance. Dancers at this age do not need very much- so we will do our best to help guide you through preparing. All of

our information is posted online under:

<http://www.emergedanceacademy.ca/competitions-festivals>

We will also be having a staging rehearsal for all of our students who are entered into festivals/competitions on Sunday, March 6th 2022. The rehearsal is mandatory.

5.) Photos! We do bring in a wonderful professional dance photographer to snap solo and group photos of your dancer in costume. This year- it is scheduled for Saturday March 12th. We will make sure to have all costume related information out to you by this date. This includes new tights. All dancers will be ordered a pair of new stage tights for each dance they are in. The price of the tights are \$13.50 per pair and this will also be sent out in a reminder email. We hope we have helped answer a few questions regarding competitions for this age group. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Emerge Dance Academy