Southeast Alabama Dance Company Rules and Contract, 2009-2010

1. The recommended age to audition for the company is 12, however; all company dancers and apprentices MUST be eleven (11) years of age or older. Required level for the company is Intermediate level and above. Exceptions will only be made by the Artistic Director(s) for rare specific reasons.

2. Dancers are accepted into the company only after audition by the Artistic Director(s). If a dancer cannot be present at the scheduled audition he/she may request another audition time if approved by the Artistic Director(s). The Artistic Director(s) may hold a company audition at any time throughout the year if she sees appropriate.

3. THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR(S) MAKES ALL CASTING DECISIONS AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PRODUCTION MATTERS. ALL CASTING DECISIONS ARE FINAL A ND NON-NEGOTIABLE BY THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR(S). IF YOU ARE NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT ANY PART GIVEN TO YOU BY THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR(S), DO NOT AUDITION!! Make sure you understand this rule! Sometimes choreographers cast dancers in one spot and then move them to another spot in the piece of choreography later on to best suit the choreography. Dancers must fully agree to accept the roles and changes in roles that are assigned to them by the Artistic Director(s) and / or Choreographer(s). All roles are important and dancers must earn their roles by working hard in class. Roles are not cast by age or number of years danced. Dancers must be willing to accept any part and dance with a corps of dancers. If you are cast as an understudy you must attend all choreography times and rehearsals for your understudy role. Please do not question any casting decisions. This is all very important!!

4. Company members must agree to take the full curriculum of ballet technique classes required to be a member of the company which is 3 ballet classes weekly (not counting company class on Sunday) and 1 jazz class weekly. All ballet classes should be on pointe' if you are in the senior company. Class attendance must be maintained throughout the commitment term of this contract which is August 16th , 2009– June 10th, 2010. Each class must be 1 hour in time length or longer to count for 1 class. We do not count half classes or pointe classes. If weekly classes are not maintained they must be made up immediately or the dancer may not continue as a company memb er. ALL CLASSES MUST BE MADE UP WITHIN THREE WEEKS OF THE MISSED CLASS DATE. If you are late to regular class and you are not getting 1 hour in length of the class you may not count that class. ANY DANCER NOT MEETING THIS REQUIREMENT OF AT LEAST 90% ATTENDANCE WILL MEET WITH THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR(S) AND PARENTS TO DISCUSS THAT THE DANCER WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REMAIN A MEMBER OF THE COMPANY. Classes are counted in two terms, August 10th through December 10th, 2009 and December 11th through May 10th, 2010. Classes cannot carry over into another term.

5. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES ARE NOT PERMITTED! UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN DISMISSAL FROM THE COMPANY. IF A DANCER IS NOT PRESENT AT A COMPANY CLA SS OR REHEARSAL OR THEY WALK OUT OF CLASS OR REHEARSAL WITHOUT AN EXCUSE, THEY WILL BE REPLACED

ON THE SPOT AND NOT PERMITTED TO REMAIN AS A COMPANY MEMBER.

6. IF YOU ARE LATE TO COMPANY CLASS OR REHEARSAL AT ANY TIME UNEXCUSED OR IF YOU ARE NOT IN "STUDIO A" OR ON STAGE READY TO DANCE AT THE SCHEDULED TIME YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 4th BALLET CLASS DURING A TWO WEEK TIME PEROID AND IF THIS INFRACTION HAPPENS DURING PERFORMANCE WEEK WHICH IS ANY DRESS REHEARSAL FOR A SEADAC PERFORMANCE ON STAGE - THE DANCER(S) WILL LOSE THEIR COMPANY DEPOSIT. IF THE PARENT(S) WILL NOT PAY THE COMPANY DEPOSIT REPLACEMENT THE DANCERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAVE/COMPETE A SOLO WITH THE DOTHAN SCHOOL OF DANCE OR SEADAC FOR THE NEXT COMPETITION / PERFORMANCE. MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THAT DSD SOLO WILL BE TAKEN AWAY BEFORE SEADAC SOLO EVERY TIME. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND!

7. Dancers should arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time of rehearsal or company class on Sunday in ample time to prepare properly for class and rehearsal. If you are late unexcused and miss rehearsal, you will either be taken out of the part or not allowed to perform your solo with The Dothan School of Dance at one competition, if we cannot take you out of the part due to the production suffering.

8. Company class and rehearsals will consistently be held every Sunday. In the event that it is not possible to have company rehearsal and class on Sunday, the rehearsal will be rescheduled for another day during the week. (examples are holidays, dance related events and performance team competitions)

9. Extra rehearsals and choreography sessions will be occasionally required on other days. Rehearsals will be added on other days of the week (besides Sunday) to learn choreography and rehearse for productions. Dancers MUST be available for all choreography dates and times unless excused by the artistic director. If excused during choreography, the dancer may not be in the choreography that he or she missed. Choreography dates are usually weekends and "extra" rehearsals are usually on Tuesday or Thursday night from 7:30-8:30. You MUST be available on these nights for extra rehearsals for productions. We will try to work with you for important events. Examples: Prom, ACT test ing, College Scouting, ect.

10. Dancers will be allowed 3 EXCUSED absences from rehearsals during one production period. The Artistic Director is the <u>only</u> one who can excuse a company dancer. A production period runs August 10th –December 10th , 2009 and December 11th, 2009 – June 10th, 2010. After 3 EXCUSED absences you will not be granted any more excuses except for hospital stay or death in the family. If you are sick you will be excused with a doctors excuse from class BUT if you are injured you must watch the class or rehearsal. Without a doctors excuse you will be counted absent and must make up all classes. EXCUSED absences are permitted for important personal activities and will b e given ONLY if the director is notified in writing BY A PARENT at least TWO WEEKS prior to the event. In the event of dismissal due to absences, the dancer will leave in a "bad standing" status and will NOT be allowed to audition for the company in the future. You must e mail all requests to Ashlie Wells at aesjazz@aol.com and Tiffany Swan at

shmirtle007@yahoo.com.

11. Absences will NOT be excused TWO WEEKS PRIOR to a major production or performance. No excuses will be given for the dates of November -December , 2009 or April -April , 2010. (You should check your Spring Break plans because no excuses will be allowed). AT ANY TIME IF AN EMERGENCY HAPPENS DURING A REHEARSAL OR PERFORMANCE AND THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CANNOT BE REACHED, A MESSAGE ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE AT DSD OR E-MAIL TO THE ARTISTIC DIRECTORS WILL SUFFICE AS AN EXCUSE IF THERE IS PROOF THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR WAS CALLED FIRST. Rehearsals will be every night the of the week before any major production.

12. Rehearsal schedules will be handed out and posted. They are constantly revised due to excuses handed in by the dancers. It is the dancer's responsibility to know when and where rehearsals and performances are held. The posted schedule must be checked regularly for changes and revisions to the schedule. It is the dancers job to constantly check for updates an d revisions at the studio on the board.

13. Dancers must be neatly groomed. The standard ballet rules must be followed for hair and attire or dancers will NOT be allowed in class. HAIR MUST BE IN A SLICK SECURE BUN (that does not fall out during class), NOT A PULLED THROUGH PONYTAIL, DURING ALL CLASSES AND REHEARSALS. Dancers must wear pink tights and their company leotard to company class and rehearsal every Sunday. The dancers must have full stage make-up, SLICK SECURE BUNS and false eyelashes for performances, photo sessions and dress rehearsals. Dancers MUST have ribbons on all pointe shoes. If the dancers are not groomed properly they will be given a warning and sent out of class or off stage to fix the problem while everyone stops and waits to continue rehearsal. If this problem continues, the dancer will lose their company deposit and the deposit must be replaced to remain in the company and in the production. Improper hair and attire WILL NOT BE TOLERATED and these consequences have been designed to rectify the problem and get rid of the dancers who refuse to follow the rules. If this happens during production week and the parent or dancer refuses to pay a new deposit, then the dancer will be in "bad standing" which means they will not be allowed to audition for SEADAC in the future and they will not be allowed to be a solo dancer with The Dothan School of Dance. (Keep in mind that no dancer at DSD can do a solo unless they are a member of SEADAC.) Dancers MUST have ribbons on all pointe shoes.

14. Dancers are expected to work 100% in classes and rehearsals. The Artistic Director(s), Assistant Artistic Director, choreographers or guest teachers have the authority to dismiss any dancer from class or rehearsal for disruptive or disrespectful behavior and / or not working to his/her capability. The Artistic Director(s) will decide what other stipulations are set before the d ancer returns back to rehearsal if allowed.

15. Should a dancer find it necessary to withdraw from the company he/she will notify the Artistic Director(s) immediately and the dancer must agree to teach his/her choreography to another dancer before leaving the company. The Artistic Director(s) will determine whether the dancer may be able to re-audition for the company in the future.

16. The piece chosen for SERBA this year will perform at the SERBA festival in North Carolina on May 5th – 9th, 2010. IT IS MANDATORY FOR ALL SEADAC DANCERS IN THE PIECE BEING ADJUDICATED TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL. There will be no excused absences for SERBA festival. Those who pull out and fail to attend the festival will not be able to audition for the company in the future. (Keep in mind that no dancer at DSD can do a solo unless they are a member of SEADAC.) In the event of any unforeseen emergency the dancer will be responsible for any expenses incurred by SEADAC. Company dancers are responsible for their hotel, food, airline and travel to and from the hotel expenses. SEADAC will pay the registration fees and workshop fees for all senior company members that are chosen/required to go to SERBA, that joined in Aug. 2009. If a senior company dancer joined after August 2009 they must pay half their kit fee and workshop fees to SERBA. Junior company members and Senior Company dancers not chosen to go to SERBA will be responsible for their registration and workshop fees should they want to attend plus all other expenses. The dancers will all have to miss 2 days of school on Thursday and Friday. All dancers must travel and stay together as a group with chaperones chosen by the artistic director(s).

17. ALL COMPANY MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AND PAY FOR THE SEADAC SUMMER INTENSIVE WORKSHOP HELD JUNE 2-9, 2010. This is part of your commitment to the company and the workshop is MANDATORY so make your plans to attend the workshop. Graduating seniors are exempt from this rule. Any conflicts with school will be excused. If you are unexcused for the summer workshop you will lose your company deposit and will not be able to audition for SEADAC in the future.

18. Costumes, headpieces and accessories are provided by SEADAC. Shoes and tights are the responsibility of each company member. Expenses for any damage, vandalism or loss of costumes, accessories or props will be paid by the dancer responsible for that ite m. Dancers are not allowed to eat in any costume owned by SEADAC. If caught in violation of costuming the dancer will lose their company deposit paid and must pay a new deposit to remain a member of the company. If this happens during production week and the parent or dancer refuses to pay a new deposit, then the dancer will be in “bad standing” which means they will not be allowed to audition for SEADAC in the future and they will not be allowed to be a solo dancer with The Dothan School of Dance. (Keep in mind that no dancer at DSD can do a solo unless they are a member of SEADAC.)

19. All company members must maintain respectable behavior (both action and language) in the studio, theater and at all SEADAC events. Inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated at any SEADAC event. Older dancers are expected to set positive and healthy examples and be role models for younger dancers. Every company member must uphold a healthy and positive attitude to remain in the Southeast Alabama Dance Company. Dismissal will result if necessary at the discretion of the Artistic Director(s) for unacceptable behavior.

20. Merits will be given and documented by the artistic director. 3 merits will result in a free ballet class to count for the dancer. Merits are given for outstanding role model behavior, superior work ethic and/or participating in extra SEADAC events. Merits will be kept on record throughout the 09-10 year. Demerits will not be given, if dancers do not follow the rules set by the artistic directors, the dancers will lose their company deposit and must

repay a new deposit to remain in the company.

21. No cell phones will be allowed at any production rehearsal, performance or class. No cell phones will be allowed in any studio or stage rehearsal. If dancers are caught with a cell phone their cell phone will be taken up by the artistic directors, executive director, back stage workers or producers.

22. All dancers must be responsible for selling $400 in subscriptions by October 1st 2009. Subscriptions must be paid before priority ticket request forms can be mailed out to the subscriber.

23. All dancers must be available for spring show "Beauty and the Beast" choreography dates January 3-10, 2010. All school times will be excused.

24. All dancers chosen to perform will be required to attend all workshop classes and performances at The Alabama Dance Festival, January 16-18, 2010 in Birmingham, Al. Hotel, workshop and registration fees will be paid for by SEADAC. Dancers will be responsible for transportation & food expenses. All dancers must travel and stay together as a group with chaperones chosen by the artist ic director(s). This year 09-10 we want to take Tiffany's Trio. Tiffany will be in charge at ADF this year.

25. SEADAC dancers will be required to participate in all SEADAC fundraisers. Examples: This year they will be asked to all sell 2 tickets to the 30 Rock show, collect auction items for the SEADAC auction, sell spirit cards, bring food items for tennis tournament, lead lock-in activities, dance in special performances, ect. (All dancers joining SEADAC after Aug. 16th, 2009, are required to sell a $400 subscription within 4 weeks of date joined and participate in all fundraisers after the date joined.)

26. Parents must join the DSD/SEADAC Parents Club and must meet the requirements of working as a committee chair or pay a $100 fee. (Parents of dancers joining the company after Aug. 16th, 2009 must fulfill all Parent's Club duties also). Since all dancers benifit all parents must participate.

27. A company deposit of $100 will be paid to SEADAC to be a member of the company. At any time the dancer violates any rule stated in this contract, the dancer will lose their company deposit and must repay a new deposit to remain a member of the company. The deposits will be returned at the end of the year if no infractions are caused for them to be lost. Especially please see rule #'s 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, 18, & 20.

Please sign this contract with respect for The Southeast Alabama Dance Company agreeing that you have faith in the organization and the directors. Make sure you have fully read numbers 1 – 27 of the rules and regulations for the 2009-2010 company year. Please sign only if you understand the rules and the Company Deposit / Merit system fully and that you accept them. Also please note that parent conversations will only take place with the parent(s) that sign(s) the contract. We are not interested in talking with any parent that is not knowledgeable of our up front policies, rules and regulations.

These rules are designed to instill accountability, positive work ethics, organization skills, dependability, respect, commitment, determination, disicipline, confidence, leadership qualities,

responsibility and diligence in these dancers not only as dancers but people leading the next generation. You as dancers and parents are not going to agree with every rule but you will follow them or be asked to resign.

Parent Signature Company Member Signature

_____ _____

SEADAC Representative Artistic Directors Signature

_____ _____

Date

_____ _____

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