

Contractual Agreement for Participating Member of the Shenandoah Contemporary Dance Theatre

SCDT members and families are asked to understand that many people are committed to providing them with this exceptional opportunity and many people are giving of their time and energy for them to succeed.

SCDT has as its ultimate goal to provide young dancers of outstanding talent intensive dance training and performance opportunities beyond the scope of the normal technical classroom training.

Furthermore, we aim to provide the community with professional quality Dance Theatre and educational performances. It is thus assumed that the **SCDT member will demonstrate an unquestionable commitment to the performance group and make SCDT a priority in their schedule.**

Dance and Company and _____, hereinafter, SCDT Member, agree that the SCDT member will, without exception, adhere to the following rules and regulations. This is in order to maintain membership and to stay in good standing with the performing group, SCDT:

1. SCDT member **will attend all regularly scheduled rehearsals: Friday afternoon from 5:00-6:30 p.m.**
2. If SCDT member auditions for and is accepted into the cast of other additional pieces of choreography associated with the SCDT; said **member will attend all prearranged extra rehearsals** necessary for the completion of and the on-going rehearsal for the piece.
3. SCDT members **will arrive on time** for all required rehearsals and **stay for the entire time of the scheduled rehearsal.**
4. Members and families are contracted for a period of one academic year, to commence upon the signing of this contract.
5. SCDT member will demonstrate an understanding that the studio space used for rehearsals as well as performances is a public meeting environment and should be treated with respect regarding removal of trash and personal belongings. **Studio will be left in a manner of general cleanliness and care.**
6. All SCDT members will attend at least 3.5 hours of technical dance classes per week. **Of these, one class must be of modern dance technique and two must be of ballet training** (five hours of class is recommended in order to maintain appropriate progress). Ballet training is the foundation upon which all other disciplines are based. SCDT members are receiving professional quality instruction and to fulfill their potential, **this requirement must be met.**
7. SCDT members are **required to attend all master classes and guest artists' intensives and residencies** offered by the studio space, Dance and Company, unless there are major family event obligation conflicts. Parental consultation must occur in this case, and member will not be cast in any subsequent work of choreography produced during member's absence. **No more than one such conflict will be excused.** Both SCDT directors must be notified in writing by parents, should this occur, **as soon as possible.**
8. SCDT members are allowed only 2 absences first semester, and 3 absences second semester, of each academic year. Any SCDT member, ill or injured, is expected to attend rehearsals and observe unless under physician's orders to remain quarantined.
9. SCDT members are required to attend all SCDT performances in which the SCDT has committed to participate.
10. Members are expected to **help in all preparations for and recovery from performances.** This means providing the muscle-power to carry sound equipment, lighting equipment, props, and costumes. Likewise, following all performances, members are required to assist in striking the set, checking the performance areas and backstage areas for all belongings and equipment used for the performance, and loading these items into vehicles. They are then responsible for returning to Dance and Company to unload equipment into the studio basement for storage. Members are not to leave the performance location until after the company director has dismissed them.
 - a. **NOTE: Unless the directors are sitting on a couch and/or waiting at the door with keys in hand, members are expected to be on their feet and asking what else needs to be done.**

b. **NOTE: Parents and family of SCDT members are kindly asked to lend a hand with these tasks, following local performances. Furthermore, parents are asked to allow time for these mandatory after performance tasks when calculating family events.**

11. **SCDT members will maintain a positive and respectful attitude when interacting with directors, fellow members and guest artist educators.** This is further defined as respecting the directions and artistic decisions of the company and dance center directors. SCDT members must demonstrate by respectful behavior that being a member of the SCDT is a unique and valuable privilege. Dance and Company Center pays the company directors salary out of proceeds generated through the dance center. The promotional materials, company classes, photographs, music, ASCAP fees, insurance, postage, and numerous other miscellaneous expenses are provided free of charge to the member by Dance and Company. In exchange, it is expected that the members conduct themselves respectfully at all times as chosen emissaries of the studio and SCDT.
12. SCDT member will accept decisions regarding casting and performance programming made by the directors without conflict, argument, or controversy. SCDT members will be exposed to various works of choreography and need to realize that not all works may be performed. It is the process of learning works sometimes that is as valuable as the public performance of that work.
13. Performance venues are not often easy to secure. Members are asked to realize that the studio and company director work hard all season to engage guest artists and master teachers as well as book performance venues. Members and their families are urged to seek out performance opportunities for the company on their own and help us in this undertaking. SCDT repertoire is flexible and can be made audience specific. The company repertoire is appropriate for schools, houses of worship, youth groups, adult assisted care facilities, community events, arts fairs, festivals, and other performances.
14. The company tries to schedule one out-of-town adjudicated performance venue per year. **This is not a guaranteed happening, but we try to make it work. Funds for travel and touring are to be provided by the company members themselves.** Participation in all fund-raising events is expected and required. Those necessary funds that are not obtained by the group's efforts are to be made up by the members out-of-pocket or the trip will be cancelled. Every effort is made to keep expenses down.
15. Members and their parents understand that by signing this contract they have read, understand, and will comply with the preceding policies. **Members and their parents will not be obligated financially in any way other than center-wide costs for required attendance in: intensives, master classes, and/or guest artist workshops, and the fact that out-of-town travel will not occur unless sufficient funds are obtained. Members and their parents are responsible for the cost of guest artists** because Dance & Company can not afford to fund two free hours of dance training each Friday and also pay for guest artists.
16. Members and their parents demonstrate by the signing of this document that members have a commitment to the SCDT and that if members do not fulfill this commitment as herein described, their involvement in the SCDT may be terminated.

Date: _____

MEMBER'S SIGNATURE- *I have read and understood, and agree to comply with the above stated tenants of membership.*

Printed name

Date: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE- *I have read and understood, and agree to comply with the above stated tenants of membership.*

Printed name