



What are the Junior BlazerDancers?

The Junior Blazer Dancers are an energetic team of talented dancers and performers ages 8 to 11 years of age who love to perform and would love to share their talent with the Blazer community. They will attend 10-12 of the Blazer home games and will perform twice during each of those games. Each dancer will learn a total of 20+ dances in a variety of dance styles, primarily including Jazz and Hip Hop styles. Rehearsals for the Junior Blazer Dancers will begin in September 2010 and run through the last game in April of 2011.

When are practices?

All practices will be held on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Elite Dance Studio in Portland OR. www.elitedancedstudio.org. More detailed information and calendars will be handed out after the team is selected.

The Junior BlazerDancers will be run professionally and will teach children the responsibility that it takes to be part of a team. Dancers will be expected to be at every practice, especially before games. Those dancers who miss practices before games or floor practice, for whatever reason, will not be able to perform at that game. All dancers who miss practice will also be responsible to learn all material learned in their absence before the next practice or they may not perform that routine. Dancers will also be expected to practice their dances on their own time and music for each routine will be provided by the coaches. Each dancer is expected to be well rehearsed and they should be fresh and ready to move on to the next dance at the next practice. These are important skills to learn as a dancer and your commitment to the team is essential for everyone's success. It is also required that each dancer continue to train and take classes at their respective dance studios.

On occasion the Junior BlazerDancers will be asked to perform at community or charity events. Once these dates are known dancers will be assigned based on availability and participation will not be mandatory.

What is the cost involved?

Each dancer will be responsible to pay \$400 to Elite Dance Studio by the first Parent/Dancer Meeting. This will cover all the dancers' costumes as well as rehearsal time. All costumes will be selected and ordered by the coaches. Each team member will be responsible to clean and maintain their costumes, and will be responsible to replace any costume part that is lost or broken.

Each dancer will be responsible to provide their own dance shoes, tights, hair accessories, and dance make-up which may require additional expenses throughout the year. As part of the dance education process we expect that all dancers will be self sufficient and will be able to apply their own dance make-up and style their own hair. Once the team is selected we will go over all of the requirements and expectations.



Who are the coaches?

Sara Anderson

For Sara Anderson dance is a way of life. She was a member of the BlazerDancer's for 4 years, and has spent the last 15 years as head coach and choreographer for the Lincoln High School Dance Team, where she has led the team to 10 city titles and 8 state championships. Sara is also owner and director of Elite Dance Studio, where she enjoys working with dancers of all ages. Sara is a passionate teacher, and strives to educate, encourage, and inspire other dancers.

Sonya Duffin

Sonya has taught and danced professionally for over 15 years. She holds a B.A. in Dance from Santa Clara University and was the coach of the Santa Clara University Dance Team for 6 years. Sonya presently is the Artistic Director of Pure Dance Company, Inc., teaches at Elite Dance Studio, is an avid Pilates instructor, an ACE certified Personal Trainer and choreographs for numerous Portland Area dance teams. She loves to teach and create imaginative and unique choreography and is always excited to share her passion and enthusiasm for dance with all ages.

What are the coaches' goals?

To teach not only the dance, but to train the dancer to explore their performance skills, gain a strong sense of self-worth, learn the elements of team work, and most of all, have fun doing what they love... dancing and performing!

What are the responsibilities of a Jr. BlazerDancer?

Each dancer will be expected to be an active, committed and involved team member. They should be at each practice and know that attendance and focus at practice is mandatory. The coaches expect every Junior BlazerDancer to act professionally and respectfully at all times since they will be representing both the Blazer organization and Elite Dance Studio. Each dancer will be responsible for their own shoes, tights, hair accessories and make-up. Each dancer will pay their costumes/rehearsals fee by the first Parent/Dancer informational meeting. Dancers are expected to arrive on time and ready to dance. A phone list will be provided to the team during our first informational meeting.

Tickets?

Blazer Ticket information will be discussed at the first Parent/Dancer meeting with our Blazer Ticket Representative.