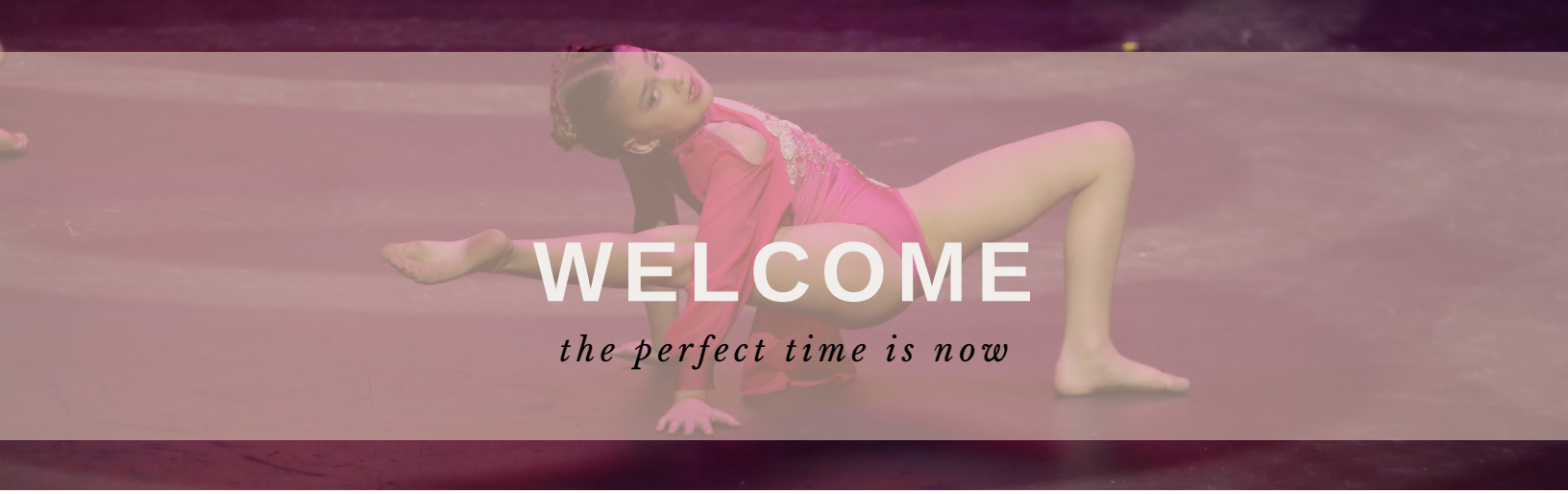
#MSJELITESQUAD

MSJ'S ELITE COMPANY PROGRAM

MSJ
ELITE



WELCOME

the perfect time is now

Dear Performer,

Thank you for your interest in auditioning to be a part of our amazing MSJ Elite Squad!

The first step to becoming a successful performer is making a solid commitment to your classes, rehearsals, and performances. Strong technique is a key ingredient and class is where you develop that technique. Come to each class prepared to learn and without personal distractions. Class time is your chance to focus on yourself, so try to leave your concerns or worries at the studio door. True progress is made when you look at each class, rehearsal, or performance as an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your technique, and make the most of every class.

The MSJ Elite Company is a **privilege** that students and their parents must appreciate and respect. Participation in the program is restricted to students who are ready to make achieving their personal best a priority. There will be times when classes, rehearsals, or performances will be scheduled when your non-dance friends or family may be headed to a party or the movies.

We encourage performers to be as dedicated to their academic studies as they are to their dance/vocal training. Time management is important and will only benefit you throughout your life.

We are excited to be able to share this amazing opportunity with you and hope to see you in the near future! Thank you for your interest in our elite performance development program.

Kind regards,

Michelle Dark
Principal of MSJ Productions

MSJ
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WHAT IS MSJ ELITE COMPANY?

What Is the MSJ Elite Company program?

The MSJ Elite Company is a chance for students of an intermediate to advanced level to further develop their skills, technique and performance skills through additional performances, competitions and specialised training. Our MSJ Elites will be expected to work to the best of their ability both individually in the studio and at home, plus as part of the team. We aim to create all-rounders who are versatile and confident performers in many genres.

Our goals for the Elite classes are to strengthen technique and grow artistry through focus, discipline and positive encouragement. We expect our team members to come to class ready to work, ready to learn and most of all, ready to achieve!

A few things you should think about before auditioning for the Elite program:
- We only accept students into the program via audition.
- Commitment is a huge part of working as a team. Our teachers are making a commitment to you, to guide you, mentor you and give our all to help you and your team grow. We expect a commitment from both the student and their family. We want you committed to try your best, give your all and come to class with a positive attitude. We need your family to be committed to support us by bringing you to class ready and prepared, being respectful of our rules and understanding that their support is imperative to the students growth but that it does come down to the student.
- We understand that families have a lot on but we need to be a top priority. We will work with you where we can, but we expect the same in return.
- The program relies on you fulfilling your pre-requisite classes. We have chosen various pre-requisites for a reason. We believe they will benefit you and assist you to be ready for the elite company.

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GENERAL INFO

Respecting The Teachers Artistic Vision

By accepting a place in MSJ Elite Company, you have chosen to respect our teachers and director. Routines can be changed at any time, for any reason. There are many reasons that we may choose to change something, including (but not limited to) a student missing too many classes or a rehearsal, the routine just not looking right to us, a student struggling to keep up in regards to technique or performance level, heights & sizes, new stage size, a new student being placed in an existing routine, and so many more. No discussion will be entered into in regards to change of solo parts, positions, entrances and exits or anything that is the teachers/directors decision.. Parents and students will respect the teacher/directors decision as final.

We expect all dancers to be on their best behaviour during rehearsals and work as team players at all times.

Respect

Respect for the school, its teachers, and its choreographers is essential. Teachers are selected because of their professionalism and knowledge of what is technically and emotionally right for the dancers.

Guidelines for behaviour

- Leave any personal negativity at the door when entering the studio.
- Arrive at least 5 minutes before the start of every class or rehearsal.
- Choreography must never be questioned.
- Finish every class or choreography session with a thank-you to the teacher or choreographer.

Appreciate the Critique

Listen to each correction given, whether it’s directed to you or another dancer. A correction is an honour; it shows you how much a teacher cares about your progress as a dancer. Always say thank you when a teacher or choreographer offers you constructive criticism. Nothing can stop those students who apply themselves in every class and appreciate their teachers’ knowledge and experience.

Dress Code Requirements

MSJ Elites must have an MSJ Elite Jacket to wear to classes, rehearsals, shows and competitions and - Full MSJ Uniform to wear to troupe/performance group classes – EVERY lesson, no exceptions!

- Correct dance shoes for each style.
- Always be well groomed and well presented whether at the studio or in public at performances.

COMMUNICATION

BAND:

IMPORTANT – MSJ Elite families all need to be on our BAND APP as we organize most information this way in this private app. It's a real team feel on these pages and will keep you aware of all that is going on and feeling a part of Team MSJ!

Private Messaging - Please avoid private messaging teachers. All communication should be done through the private groups. Teachers also like to use Facebook for private use – with friends and family and so messaging this way should be avoided.

COMPETITIONS

Costumes

Costume payments are the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian. Troupe performers require one costume per troupe they are in. MSJ Elite Company usually require 1 costume a year (usually kept for 1-2yrs) per troupe style. The typical cost of a troupe costume is $90 to $165.

Costumes must be paid for promptly when notified as we have many costumes to order and they must all be ordered together to get the best price.

General Competition Information

Performances and competitions are your opportunity to show the world the results of your dedication and hard work. Here's what you can do to make the most of this opportunity.

- Arrive at least one hour before the scheduled time unless otherwise advised by your teachers
- Be sure you are properly warmed up.
- Present yourself in a professional manner, with costumes ironed, shoes cleaned, and all accessories accounted for.
- Treat competitors and teachers from other schools with respect
- Treat the directors and staff of the competition with respect
- Keep your area of the dressing rooms clean and never bring food or drink where it is prohibited
- Wear your MSJ uniform to all competition events and during the award presentations.

Competitions forms will need to be filled in correctly and returned with payment in full by the required date. We will not chase up payments for competition fees, it is your responsibility to ensure you return them on time.

Competition Reports

At the competition events, the performances receive performance reports from the judges. These critiques are the property of the school and will be read for the dancers during rehearsal or class time. Soloists will be able to keep their reports only AFTER the teacher has finished with them

#TEAMMSJ

COMMITMENT

MSJ ELITE

Being part of a company is like being a part of any team. Participation in a group or troupe requires a strong commitment, dedication, personal work ethic and drive. Classes must not be missed as you are letting not only yourself down but also your teacher and your fellow troupe members. All Elite Company members must be enrolled in at least MSJ 3 Membership. This is the MINIMUM you should be doing. We strongly advise more classes as most students will struggle to keep up to standard taking only 3 classes a week.

Class Pre-Requisites

ELITE JAZZ

Min 1 x Ballet Class
All 6/u, 10/u & 13/u Elite Jazz must also take acrobatics
RECOMMENDED EXTRAS: 2 x Ballet, Acrobatics, Commercial Jazz, Technique

ELITE MUSICAL THEATRE

- 1 x Vocal Class or Song & Dance Class
- 1 x Jazz Class

RECOMMENDED EXTRAS: Musical Theatre Production, Ballet, Tap, Technique

HIP HOP CREW

- No pre-requisites other than 3 classes but most of the team will be taking multiple classes

RECOMMENDED EXTRAS: Acrobatics, Extra Hip Hop, Commercial Jazz

LYRICAL

Min 1 x Ballet Class but most of the team will be taking 2 (RAD where possible)
6/u, 10/u & 14/u Elite Lyrical must also take acrobatics
RECOMMENDED EXTRAS: 2 x Ballet, PBT, Jazz, Acrobatics, Technique

TAP

- No pre-requisites but most of the team will be taking multiple classes

Acrobatics is becoming more and more important. We expect our Elite team to be training in multiple styles and working hard on their technique. To stay at the level required the above 3/4 classes should be an absolute minimum. Technique classes are highly recommended for all dancers.

FAQS

Can I dance up the age group?

Yes, in special cases, students may be offered a place in an older troupe. This is a special privilege and can be very exciting for young performers. However it is MSJ Policy that students must first dance in their own age group, before taking an extra position in an older age group. For example- student is aged 14, to dance in a 16/u Song & Dance troupe, the performer must first be performing in her own 14/u Song & Dance troupe to accept the new position.

How soon do we know exactly when we will perform at competitions?

When planning a competition, be prepared for performances at any time during that week/weekend. Once a schedule is prepared you will find that you do not have to attend the entire week, but you must be prepared to be there for whatever troupe/s you are in. There are no exceptions. Approximately two weeks prior to the event, the competition company will supply our office with an itinerary. Schedules will be posted to all dancers and their parents as soon as they are received.

What happens if I need to miss a performance/competition?

If you are planning a holiday and will miss a scheduled competition, please inform us at auditions. We need a minimum of a full term (but preferably longer) to make sure that the routine is re positioned or your child's spot is covered for the comp. If we not given substantial notice of being unable to make a competition or performance it will mean dismissal from the troupe. Missing a performance where a troupe is not prepared for your absence, lets down your team! Please remember we book dates in most cases well ahead of time, so where possible please check the schedule then book.

EXCLUSIVITY

We believe that there is no need to look any further than MSJ for your training and development. We strive to provide the best teachers, opportunities and training for our students in all areas of the performing arts. Students may not take any classes with any other studios/vocal schools/companies without prior written permission from MSJ Productions principal. Taking classes with other schools without permission will result in immediate loss of place in performance groups and troupes/solos/duos/trios.

Preference in all areas will be given to students who make MSJ their main priority. We know we can offer well rounded performing arts training within our studio. Taking on outside extra commitments can mean clashes in performances, rehearsals and shows. It is not fair on the other members of the troupe, teachers and parents who are committed if a family can not commit. Please be clear about other commitments in your application form and any major clashes must be told to us at audition.

Representing MSJ

If you are performing as part of the MSJ Performance Company or as a Soloist representing MSJ Productions in public performances or competitions, we ask that you are exclusively competing/performing for us. We believe it is a conflict of interest to be representing multiple companies/studios/teachers and therefore ask that your loyalty lies with us. We are proud to offer many opportunities to perform and have many more things planned for the future.

#MSJELITE SQUAD

IMPORTANT DATES

POSSIBLE COMP DATES (Subject to change)

MAR 11-13 Follow Your Dreams Perth 1 (Morley Rec Centre)
MAR 17-20 Evolution (Joy Shepherd PAC)
APR 9-12 Express Dance Challenge (Emmanuel)
APR 22-24 Elite Eisteddfod (Claremont Showgrounds)
JUL 30 MSJ Elite Showcase 2022 (Corpus Christi College)
SEPT 3-4 & 10-11 Express Dance Challenge (Emmanuel)
OCT Elite Eisteddfod (dates to come but end of second week of holidays)

MORE TO COME!! Including WA Dance Expo

Note: We will confirm which comps for which troupes once decided for now this will help you save these dates.
Most troupes will do between 4-5 competitions. plus nationals where decided. Solos can do as many as they like
Plus: Any community events, shows that are booked throughout the year.

0447 691 397 | elite@msjproductions.com.au | msjproductions.com.au

TEAM MSJ

ELITE COMPANY MEMBERSHIP

Elite classes are included in membership packages similar to normal classes. If you do two standard classes and 2 elite classes you will be on MSJ 4 Membership level.
However being part of the MSJ Elite Company classes will include an Annual Company Membership.

COMPETE.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:
- Choreography Charges internal only.
- All extra rehearsal charges outside of scheduled class time.
- Costume prep, prop and labour costs
- Admin costs for competition entries and planning
- Teacher & staff costs to be at squad competitions
- Elite competition shirt x 1

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ANNUAL LEVY DOES NOT INCLUDE:
- Registration fees where applicable
- External choreographers
- Competition Entry fees
- Costume requirements
- Solo/duo/trio entries
- Private lessons

PERFORM.

SING
DANCE
COMPETITIONS
PERFORMANCES
MSJ ELITE SQUAD
SOLOS

ELITE COMPANY MEMBERSHIP
$330 A YEAR
OR $70 X 5 WEEKLY PAYMENTS

TEAM.

Siblings Deal:
1st Child: Full Price
2nd Child: $220 a year
3rd Child: $110 a year