HELLENIC DANCE PROGRAM

The goal of the Hellenic Dance Program is to bring the youth and adults of the Holy Trinity community together in Greek Orthodox Christian fellowship while promoting and preserving our Greek heritage & culture.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
1. Must be a Fairshare member in good standing of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Orlando (HTGOC). Anyone outside of HTGOC must ask for and receive written approval from Fr. Constantine Simeonidis and their parish priest.

POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

CHURCH ATTENDANCE
Church attendance is mandatory in order to attend practice.
1. Strive to be in church early enough to hear the Gospel.
2. Must be in a pew (not standing in the narthex).
3. Avoid showing up at Communion and going straight to Catechism.
Those found not to be abiding by these rules will be contacted by the ECYD.

ATTENDANCE
1. Attendance is vital to the continual growth and understanding of the material being covered in class. Excessive absences affect the individual as well as the other students.
   a) Legitimate excuses for absences are illness; family, school, and work commitments (must be limited); vacations; etc.
2. Dancers will not be allowed to perform if they do not attend at least 75% of the scheduled practices.
3. Dancers who miss more than 3 classes after August may not be adequately prepared to perform at Greek Fest.
4. Dancers who miss more than 3 classes after November may not be adequately prepared to perform at HDF.

ATTIRE
1. Proper clothing that is easy to dance in should be worn at practices.
   a) Athletic wear is preferable (t-shirt, gym shorts, yoga pants, etc.).
2. Shorts and skirts must be at least mid-thigh or longer (no shorts that are too revealing or too short).
3. No crop tops.
4. Dancers may choose to wear either dance shoes or sneakers. No backless shoes or flip-flop style shoes.

BEHAVIOR
1. Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately in class.
2. Disruptive students may be asked to sit out of class.
3. Students are expected to practice three basic rules of behavior (listed below) at ALL times:
   a) BE RESPECTFUL
   b) BE KIND
   c) MINIMIZE UNNECESSARY TALKING

****NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED DURING PRACTICE. PARENTS MAY COMMUNICATE WITH INSTRUCTORS IN CASE OF EMERGENCY****
PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
The following standards are guidelines that will be used to measure each dancer's ability to perform and will be applied for each dance.

1. Attendance in 75% of classes in which instruction was given for the dance that is desired to perform.
2. Participation and attentiveness during rehearsals.
3. Ability to take/receive instruction.
4. Knowledge of the dance steps and corresponding music without being prompted.
5. Dancing the steps in synchronicity with the rhythm of the music.
6. Proper foot placement, hand/arm placement, and body placement.
7. Posture & dance etiquette. Examples: Confidence, body language, enthusiasm, and teamwork. ***Each dance will be determined separately using this evaluation.***

PARENTS/GUESTS

Parents/Guests in the Classrooms
Parents/guests will not be admitted into the classroom during rehearsals due to the noise and disruption. However, we want our parents/guests to be able to view our dance progress. Therefore, we will arrange special times for our parents to view the dancers. Parents of Little Aegeans are asked to have one parent present.

Respectfulness of Instructors
Please respect the decisions of the instructors regarding performance readiness. If there is ever a question, please contact the instructor outside of class time to discuss. More times than not, there is a viable reason a dancer has been removed from a dance.

"3 Strikes" Policy - Behavior
1. Verbal warning by the instructor.
2. Student sits out on the side until instructor calls them back into the dance line.
3. Student is done for the class session. The instructor will complete an incident report which will be filed with the ECYD. Parent/guardian will be notified.

"3 Strikes" Policy - Practice Attendance and Church Attendance
If you miss 3 practices (unexcused), Catechism classes, or Divine Liturgies (on Sundays on which there is practice), then you will not be allowed to participate in the dance program for the rest of the dance year.

***Dancing is meant to be a positive experience. These may seem like a lot of rules, but their purpose is to benefit the dancers by creating a positive learning environment.***

HELLENIC DANCE PROGRAM AGREEMENT
I agree to abide by the policies set forth by the Hellenic Dance Program. Failure to abide by these policies will result in not being allowed to participate in the Hellenic Dance Program for the remainder of the dance year.

Date ___________________

___________________________________     _____________________________________
(Name of Dancer - Print)         (Name of Parent/Guardian - Print)

___________________________________    _____________________________________
(Signature of Dancer)         (Signature of Parent/Guardian)