

Performance Ensemble Application

JouVay Jumpers Performance Company of the Greenbelt SITY Stars 2019-2020

The JouVay Jumpers' Performance Company (JJPC) is focused on the development of jump rope and dance artistry within the spirit and community of an ensemble.

The Greenbelt S.I.T.Y. Stars (GSS) have been delighting audiences with their unique showcases and demonstrations of jump rope skills for many, many years. Performing is an important aspect of jump rope training as it prepares jumpers for performing in front of others, and encourages jumpers to push past their comfort zone, especially if shy, and challenging themselves to soar to new heights.

This year, GSS has formed a Performance Company with an Ensemble program. This program requires dedication and a commitment to attendance. An application and commitment contract to perform/compete is required to become a member of the JouVay Jumpers Performing Company.

The Performance Ensemble gives the jumper the opportunity to be pushed in an advance level of training and dancing. This is a highly committed and accelerated program with levels from Advanced Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced jumpers. The focus is on creative & stylized movement with technical emphasizes on musicality and the development of personal style for performance precision, fluidity of movement, the intricacies of creating and executing routines, stage presence, and combinations are developed with attention placed on personal presentation.

The jumpers will work on the planning, rehearsal, and presentation of a work. Such a work is presented to audiences and/or judges at performances, workshops and competitions using their ropes and routines as a medium of presentation which may be either dramatic or nondramatic, depending upon the activity presented but always FUN in the end!

Performing is a commitment of time, energy, and effort. Choosing to make JUMP ROPE *your sport* means taking into consideration your individual and family commitments and schedule. Ensemble membership is an experience that involves time, hard work, discipline, responsibility, growth, and much fun, laughter, lasting friendships, & experiences that you are sure never to forget - and, of course, a whole lot of JUMPING!

This program requires dedication and a commitment to attendance. A commitment contract to perform is required.

Auditions are required each year for placement on the Performance Ensemble team. Jumpers who have previously participated on the Performance Ensemble Team will have to audition every season for placement.

REQUIREMENTS / COMMITMENTS:

➤ 2019-2020 PROGRAM

- Required commitment : September 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020

➤ WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Attendance is VERY important. Attendance to rehearsals the week before and the day of the performance is REQUIRED. The choreography has to be planned and rehearsed, and it is important that all dancers attend the few rehearsals scheduled. If you cannot make this commitment, please rethink your decision to be part of the ensemble. Absence could result in a performer sitting out part of or the entire performance or relinquishing solo parts previously enacted.

Training is ESSENTIAL! Performers must attend Saturday & Sunday classes and will be released from their position if they do not meet the minimum amount of training hours. The schedule is as follows:

Practice Schedule (10 hours per week)

1. Performance Training: Creative Movement & Stylized Routines Monday: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
2. Performance Training: Creative Movement & Stylized Routines Wednesday: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
3. Dance / Skill Development / Conditioning / Tumbling Saturday: 9 am – 12 pm
4. Performances Rehearsal: Production & Choreography Saturday: 12 pm – 2 pm
5. Dance / Skill Development / Conditioning / Tumbling Sunday: 4 pm – 7 pm

- **Weekly *Creative Movement & Perfecting Stylized Routines*:** (Monday & Wednesday)

This class will focus on stylized movement, tumbling and creating routines with technical emphasizes on musicality and the development of personal style for performance precision, fluidity of movement, the intricacies of creating and executing routines, stage presence, and combinations are developed with attention placed on personal presentation.

- Mondays: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
- Wednesdays: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

- ***Ensemble Rehearsal*:** (Production & Choreography)

The jumpers will work on the planning, rehearsal, and presentation of a work. Such a work is presented to audiences and/or judges at performances, workshops and competitions using their ropes and routines as a medium of presentation, which may be either dramatic or nondramatic, depending upon the activity presented but always FUN in the end!

- Saturdays: 12 noon to 2 pm
 - Mondays: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (as needed)
 - Wednesdays: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm (as needed)
 - Sundays: 4 pm to 7 pm (as needed)

- **Weekly *Dance, Tumbling & Skill Development*:** (Saturday & Sunday -- required)

This class will focus on ballet and acro dance, tumbling, conditioning and learning skills to develop stylized routines.

- Saturdays: 9 am to 12 pm
- Sundays: 4 pm to 7 pm

➤ **PERFORMING GROUPS**

The Performance Ensemble consists of:

- *Ensemble Kids! (5 – 8 year olds – Yellow Stars)*
- *Junior Performance Ensemble (JPE) (9 year olds & above – Yellow & Green Stars)*
- *Senior Performance Ensemble (SPE) (9 year olds & above – Blue & Red Stars)*
 - Jumpers must be on the yellow level and above
 - Placement is based on a combination of skill level testing, performance experience, performance knowledge and student interest. The directors are looking for showmanship, passion, technical ability and potential for development. Placement is made based on a jumper's attendance availability, attitude, willingness to learn and skillset.

➤ **SESSIONS** (8 week sessions)

2019

- Fall Session: August 26 – November 30

2020

- Winter Session: January 4 – March 31
- Spring Term: April 1 – June 30
- Summer Intensive: July 12 – August 22

➤ **JJPC TUITION (as registered with GSS)**

- \$25 registration / placement fee (non-refundable)
- \$50 uniform fee (one-time fee) (non-refundable)
- REGULARLY MONTHLY TEAM FEE (non-refundable)

Payment (whether cash, check, money order or online) and registration must be complete for the required classes and rehearsals prior to the first day of each new session.

➤ **PAYMENTS**

- Parents agree to make timely payments of tuition, event fees, uniform fees, costume charges and any other ensemble expense.
- Accounts must be current for a student to attend regular practice and rehearsals, and perform at events.
- All accounts are required to keep a valid credit/debit card on file for payment of charges and fees, and the fees are non-refundable.
- Costumes that have not been paid for in full will not be released to the student.

➤ **REQUIRED PERFORMANCES**

- Holiday Show – December 2019
- Spring Show – April 2020
- End of Year Showcase – June 2020

➤ **JJPC ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Solid commitment is required to join the JJPC program. If unable to commit fully to the program, it is best for your child to attend regular class programs instead of joining JJPC.

Jump rope with the inclusion of dance and tumbling is physically and mentally demanding and takes repeated practice to learn. In order to teach young jumpers the challenging choreography and prepare them for performances, excellent attendance to class and rehearsals is critical.

➤ **ENSEMBLE TRAINING / REHEARSALS**

- All Ensemble rehearsals including extra scheduled rehearsals are mandatory.
- Attendance is Essential! Jumpers are required to be at all scheduled practices. Participants must maintain an 80% attendance record (i.e., 32 hours per month or 8 hours per week) for their technique and rehearsal classes during the season. Excessive absences or tardiness will result in removal from the performance team. If a jumper misses more than two weeks of practice without prior notification, he/she will automatically be removed from the team and lose all benefits. If a jumper leaves the team without notice and would like to reenroll, the jumper will be placed on a probationary status and a \$50 re-enrollment fee will have to be paid before returning to the team.
 - Absences are allowed for events such as personal illness, family member illness, school events, previously scheduled family commitment, or family emergency. Proof of school events may be requested
 - An attendance report will be given out monthly to the student. You are responsible to schedule make-ups and keep attendance in good standing.
 - A jumper will be given a substitution position if the minimum hours are not met.
 - If you miss the last rehearsal before a performance, or are not prepared for a performance due to an absence, your ability to perform with the group is up to the discretion of the Head Coach.
 - If you plan to miss a rehearsal, you must give notice via email three (3) days prior to that class. In the case of an emergency, please leave a message at your earliest opportunity. (email: kl_bradshaw@yahoo.com)
- Additional rehearsals may be required to prepare for certain performances. If you are unable to attend these rehearsals, you may not be able to perform.
 - Participants are allowed no more than three (3) days of rehearsal absences per session, including both weekly and special rehearsals.
 - Your ability to perform when a rehearsal is missed is dependent on your position, whether a substitute has been placed in the position and is at the discretion of the Head Coach.
- Private lessons may be required to make-up for any missed rehearsals at an extra cost. (\$15 per hour)

➤ **PERFORMANCE AUDITION / TRYOUTS**

It is at the discretion of the Head Coach to decide whether to include solos, duets, or other types of jumper highlights within a performance piece. These highlights are based on multiple factors (which may vary) such as, but not limited to:

- Work ethic and/or enthusiasm (in class)
- Dedication to improve (outside of class)
- Special talent (improvisation skills, acrobatic abilities, acting/singing/personality)
- Seniority

All jumpers on the same level receive the same technical training when they are coming to class regularly and participating fully. All jumpers are expected to learn routines, and practice at home for improvement. Additionally, all students have equal opportunities to demonstrate (through their energy, focus, work ethic, and behavior in class) that they are deserving of performance highlights. Please also remember that each student is responsible for being attentive in class, practicing at home and applying themselves fully to the improvement of their technique.

There will be an audition for placement within the Ensemble Company and tryouts held before each performance for solo parts and special dance/theatrical additions. If for any reason a member is not prepared for tryouts, does not attend practice, does not know the routines and /or position, or they didn't make the cut for that performance, they are still required to dress and show up to that performance for support.

➤ **COMMITMENT**

Jumper

- Keeping a minimum of a 2.5 GPA (in school)
- Enthusiasm and Love for the Sport
- Aspire to Set and Achieve Goals and Perform at Personal Best
- Willingness to Always Learn New Skills and Techniques
- Determination to Improve and Develop a Strong Work Ethic
- Commitment to Practicing and Studying
- Openness to Correction and Adjustment
- Being diligently responsible for schoolwork completion, chore completion and jump rope requirements
- Respect the Policies of the Ensemble, Coaching Staff and fellow jumpers

Parent

- Respect the sport of jump rope, the staff, coaches and policies of the ensemble
- Willingness to Support the Coach's Effort to Improve Jumpers and help Jumpers to Shine
- Support the team and jumpers;
- Communicate suggestions and/or problems to the Coach;
- Inform the coach immediately if your child suffers any injuries (in or out of practice) that the coach is not aware of;
- Refrain from conflict with any other parent and/or coach. Conflicts between parents and/or coaches should be resolved quickly or brought to the attention of the Coach and/or Executive Board
- Guarantee Performer attends a Minimum of 8 training hours per week, and has all necessary uniform and required items
- Volunteer on a Parent Committee to assist the team

➤ POLICIES

- **Availability Response:** Electronic Response is required within 24 hours of Performance Invitation being sent via email. If you plan to miss a performance, you must send notice via email at least three (3) days before the performance. In the case of an emergency, please leave a message at your earliest opportunity. If you miss a performance and do not give notice for your absence, your place in the company will be given to an alternate, and you may possible be removed from your position on the performance team.
 - Participants are allowed to miss one (1) scheduled performance per month, unless special circumstances have been previously approved.
 - Participants are expected to be fully committed members. Ensemble is expected to take priority over non-academic events.
 - Missed events/performances without notice will jeopardize your placement on the ensemble.
- **Transportation:** We travel together as a group by carpool. All jumpers must be able to travel with the team in the designated mode of transportation (team van, bus, car pool with other parents/coaches) to a performance, whether locally or out of state and they must remain with the team until that time that they are released to a parent or guardian or returned to the designated return point. The jumper must be able to travel to a performance destination in the designated mode of transportation with the team.
- **Attire & Appearance:** *Personal grooming must be at its best.* Each jumper must wear the designated and/or given team uniform. The uniform must be clean and neat, ironed and tucked in. The hair should be neatly pulled back in a smooth ponytail with a bun in the back of the head. Makeup should not be worn with the exception of clear lip-gloss, unless decided by the Head Coach to be a part of the costume. NO GUM, CANDY, COLORED DRINKS, JEWELRY OR LONG and/or CHIPPED FINGERNAILS are allowed during a performance.
- **Costumes and Uniforms:** are the property of GSS and the responsibility of each member to take care of them while in use. Uniforms and costumes are to be kept clean and in performing condition. If costumes and/or uniform become lost, damaged/ or soiled, member forfeits the right to perform until the situation is rectified. Should a uniform/costume become lost, member has the responsibility to supply the funds to replace the missing article.
- **Cell Phones:** Phones will have to remain in the jumper's bag or backpack at all times during the performance, unless approved by the Coach. In emergency (injury, illness, accident), the parent's will be contacted by the coach and/or chaperones immediately.
- **Personal Items:** Do not bring any valuable items (video games, etc.), candy and/or toys. GSS is not responsible for any lost or broken items.
- **Conduct/Behavior:** Jumpers have agreed to voluntarily perform so their best effort is expected. Every jumper is under the direction of the coach and must adhere to all team rules and policies, as instructed and enforced by the chaperones. When the team travels for business purposes, jumpers and parents must remember the sole purpose for the trip is to jump, perform, compete, teach, etc., what is requested. Unless the trip is designated as a leisure trip or an outing, the focus of the trip will be on the business at hand. After the business is concluded, if time allows, extra activities may be scheduled. The jumper must remain with the team at all times, notifying the coach/chaperone of whereabouts at all times.

- **Presentation and Professionalism:** Team members are required to maintain and uphold the reputation of GSS through their own conduct and team spirit. Members are required to be courteous, polite, and friendly and attempt to have a genuine smile for everyone viewing a performance. Members will make every effort to ignore or dissuade negative responses at events and not become confrontational. It is important that the jumpers show their enjoyment for performing at all times.

Upon entering and exiting any building or establishment for official team business (perform, compete, train), the team will walk QUIETLY and ORDERLY in a single file line to and from the performance location with all appropriate equipment.

During the performance, jumpers must:

- show respect and courtesy for our hosting facility, organization, and staff during performances. Pick up after yourselves at the gym and performances -- this includes snack items and hair accessories.
 - look professional, both on and off stage -- this includes, but is not limited to, the clothes you wear to performance, the condition of your costume and shoes, your hair, and make up. Be aware that you are role models for other jumpers.
 - stay focused on the task at hand, always presenting themselves and the team in a good light;
 - be courteous and polite to everyone - reply and smile when greeted and/or given compliments;
 - notify the coach/chaperone immediately of anyone with weird behavior or inappropriate comments; never leaving a performance location without notifying the coach/chaperone;
 - NOT be loud, playful and unprofessional. Private low key conversations and appropriately talking with an inside voice during breaks at the performance is acceptable; however, loud laughing, loud talking, inappropriate conversations and behaving as if on a playground is NOT ACCEPTABLE during a performance; and
 - NOT tweet, text, Facebook or utilize the cell phone or any other electronic game or gadget unless it is an absolute emergency. Jumpers will not be allowed to contact parents via text or call during the performance unless an injury, illness or emergency has occurred. Any problems will be addressed and discussed after the event and if consultation or a meeting is needed with the parents, then it will be scheduled.
- **Business First** – When the team travels for business purposes, jumpers must remember the sole purpose for the trip is to jump, perform, compete, teach, etc. After the business is concluded, if time allows, extra activities will be scheduled. Jumpers must travel with the team, remain with the team and do all activities with the team at all events until which time the event is complete. All approved activities and functions while on travel will be done uniformly as a group, i.e. eating, outings, housing, etc. Any other activities that parents would like to schedule with their child other than those listed on the trip's itinerary will have to be approved.
 - **Emergency Procedures** – In case of emergency (physical harm, injury, illness, accident, disappearance, etc.), the parent(s) will be contacted immediately by the coach or an adult chaperone and 911 will be called immediately, if necessary. The coach will make a judgment call based on the severity of the incident of how to handle the situation at that time, especially if it does not involve physical harm and/or endangerment to the jumper or team. Please be sure that all contact numbers are up-to-date and alternate contact information is listed.

➤ **CODE OF CONDUCT (applicable to jumpers and parents)**

It is our high expectation to progress as a team in a positive, non-competitive, inclusive, supportive, hard-working, respectful environment. While participating in any team activities (practices, performances, fundraising, appearances, regular dance class, etc.), only behavior and attitudes that are conducive to these ideals is expected.

Members are positive representatives of the TEAM, their families, and their community, and, therefore, are expected at all times to conduct themselves as such. Members have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner that is a positive reflection on the team, community, and themselves. Any action that is in direct opposition of this code of conduct will be addressed on an individual basis. GSS staff reserves the right to withdraw team membership immediately from any member whose behavior is not in keeping with this philosophy, and the fees are not refundable.

- All Ensemble Members are expected to maintain good grades and positive social activities. Any members found to be participating in inappropriate activities for role models (i.e. drinking, smoking, cursing, etc.) may be asked to leave the Ensemble. Any jumper who does not demonstrate courtesy, respect, or teamwork will jeopardize his/ her place on the ensemble.
- Parent Code of Conduct: All Ensemble Parents are expected to conduct themselves in a positive manner at all times and at all places while representing GSS and JJPC. Any and all questions, conflicts, or concerns will be directed to the directors, not to other parents. Parents who do not demonstrate courtesy, respect, or good sportsmanship may jeopardize their child's place on the ensemble.
- Derogatory remarks toward other members of the team, the coaching staff, or other teams/organizations will not be tolerated. Fighting, inappropriate touching or groping, bodily contact or interactions with fellow teammates, malicious gossiping, bullying of fellow/other jumpers, improper tones of voice or communication with adult coaching staff will not be tolerated from jumpers and/or parents.
- Defamation, which is judicially defined to mean, the unprivileged oral or written publication of a false statement of fact which exposes the person about whom it is made to hatred, contempt or ridicule or subjects that person to loss of the good will and confidence of others or so harms that person's reputation as to deter others from associating with her or him. Cyber defamation is hereby defined as false communication that is published with the specific intent of harming the reputation of another individual, group or business. Defamation of GSS or any of its representatives or members will not be tolerated and is considered a separation offense, which will lead to an expulsion or suspension from the team under the GSS team policies.
- The Head Coach has full authority in managing the team and any dispute, complaint or criticism involving coaches, jumpers or parents of the team should be brought to the attention of the Head Coach. The Head Coach reserves the right to suspend/remove a jumper and/or parents from the team if the jumper and/or his/her parents are causing problems that cannot be resolved.

However, a meeting can be requested with the Team's Board of Directors to resolve any dispute, complaint or issue that cannot be resolved on the staff level.

➤ **PROBATION/DISMISSAL**

- Any breach of contract can result in a probation period and /or immediate dismissal from Ensemble.
- A probation period of 90 days will occur after any breach of contract.
- After 90 days, a meeting with the Ensemble director, the student and the student's parent will determine the status of the student.

Performer Information

Jumper Name_____ **Age**_____ **D.O.B.**_____

Shirt Size_____ **Short/Pants Size**_____ **Shoe Size**_____

Contact Email_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Medical Conditions/Restrictions_____

Special Instructions_____

Parent Name_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Volunteer Committee_____ (see volunteer packet)

Emergency Contact_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Performance Agreement

I, _____ (Jumper's Name) am committing to be a member of the GSS Performance Ensemble Company, JouVay Jumpers.

By signing this form, the jumper and parent(s) attest and affirm that they have read and have been clearly informed of the GSS Team Policies and the Ensemble Company's Performance Policies and Procedures. They also agree to comply with the terms and conditions outlined throughout this packet and the GSS Team Handbook. Non-compliance with the regulations will lead to either suspension or immediate removal from the Ensemble Company, and possibly the GSS team depending on the severity of the violation. All rules and policies are interpreted and enforced at the sole discretion of the director/head coach..

I, _____ (parent/guardian) also give permission for my child to be transported to and from the event in the designated mode of transportation, and if by carpool, will not hold the driving party liable for an accident or injury caused to my child unless they are proven to be negligent. I give my consent to have proper medical attention rendered to my child in case of emergency and will not hold the Greenbelt SITY Stars, the City of Greenbelt or any person connected with the performance trip liable in case of accident.

Jumper Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

Parent Signature:_____ **Date:**_____