

# **SUN CITY GRAND DRAMA & COMEDY CLUB**

## **INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES FOR GRANDETTES 'N GUYS**

**The mission of the Grandettes 'N Guys is to provide dance instruction with the intent of performing in musical productions by the Drama and Comedy Club for the community of Sun City Grand, or simply for personal enjoyment and exercise.**

This document is intended to provide information for instruction of performance dances and dance technique for the members of the Grandettes 'n Guys (hereafter referred to as "Grandettes").

The Grandettes are a performing arts group reporting through the Drama and Comedy Club Charter Club. Basic or introductory through advanced technique instruction is provided. Dance routines are taught for the annual Variety Show and other Drama Club performances each year. The Grandettes are represented on the Drama Club Board of Directors by a Grandettes Liaison. Five (5) Dance Committee members are appointed by the Drama Club President to perform all of the duties related to dance instruction, make decisions, assist the Choreographers as Dance Representatives (hereafter referred to as "Dance Reps"), and resolve issues relating to dance instruction with the assistance of the Club President and Grandettes Liaison.

To become a member of the Grandettes, a resident in good standing of the Sun City Grand Community and a current, paid member of the Sun City Grand Drama and Comedy Club may apply. General Drama Club membership meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month from October through May. Notifications are sent to Drama Club members announcing time and location of all meetings.

### **CLASSES AND SCHEDULING**

Various levels of classes are offered for non-performance technique as well as performance numbers, e.g., the Variety Show, and are open to all Grandettes. Any dance member may participate in the technique classes or choose to audition for the performance numbers. Following an audition, the selection of dancers will be announced by the Dance Committee.

Scheduling of classes will depend upon availability of the Adobe and the Cimarron dance facilities and the Drama Club contracted Choreographers. A schedule of both technique and performance classes is communicated to the Grandettes. The Dance Committee works in conjunction with the Activities Office of CAM to secure and ensure space availability.

Class schedules may be modified prior to Drama Club performances. More class days and times, including weekends, will be devoted to learning and ensuring the dances are stage ready. The offering of technique classes may be reduced during performance rehearsals.

### **REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT FOR TECHNIQUE (TECH) CLASSES**

Dancers may register for any regularly scheduled classes. However, the Choreographer reserves the right to suggest a more appropriate class level for any student.

Registration fees for tech classes will be paid for in advance and are generally offered on a month to month basis. A minimum of eight (8) students is required in each technique class for the class to be held. If fewer than 8 students register, the class may be canceled.

The cost of each class for the session will be shown on the registration form. A check for the total amount for the session should be attached to the registration form. Cash is not accepted. Complete forms should be mailed to the designated Dance Rep. If a class is canceled, dancers will be notified and may elect to attend an alternate class, have their fees reimbursed or applied to a future class.

## **REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT FOR PERFORMANCE CLASSES**

The performance dance classes are offered from October to February. The first 2 weeks of October are preview and audition weeks (unless otherwise noted) for the Variety Show. Choreographers may choose between 8-14 dancers to perform on stage at any one time without rotations (16 may be accepted under certain circumstances). When a dancer is selected for a Variety Show number, the dancer must register and pay the entire amount for classes as soon as they are informed of their selection. The cost of each class for the session will be shown on the registration form. A check for the total amount for the session should be attached to the registration form. Cash is not accepted. Forms should be mailed to the designated Dance Rep. There will be no charge for the audition classes if a dancer is not selected. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE IF A DANCER DROPS OUT OF A VARIETY SHOW NUMBER FOR ANY REASON.** It is important to note the dates each performance class will be in session.

The Choreographer may choose up to two (2) alternates for a performance class. The alternate(s) will be responsible for payment of the classes with the understanding they may not have the opportunity to perform. The alternate(s) will attend all rehearsals and be stage ready if the occasion rises that they will be asked to perform. **Effective 2016, choreographers will no longer reserve positions for any dancer not physically auditioning for a number. Family deferments will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Dance Committee.**

## **ATTENDANCE**

All performance dancers will make every effort to attend every rehearsal, particularly in preparation for a show when attendance is mandatory. Missing dancers make choreography and catch-up more difficult for everyone. After **three (3)** absences, continued participation will be assessed by the Choreographer. The Choreographer will make the final determination as to whether a dancer is stage ready and able to participate in a scheduled show performance. The dancer will be required to schedule a private lesson, at their expense, with the choreographer before rejoining the class.

The Dance Committee will communicate the maximum number of choreographed dances each Grandette may participate in for the Variety Show. Each dancer should consider carefully how many numbers they audition for or participate in, particularly when they may perform in others areas of the Drama Club and outside Sun City Grand. Stage time for practice of individual dances for the Variety Show will be made available beginning in January with consideration of each Choreographer's schedule and availability of the venue. Many rehearsals, e.g., Tech, Dress, can be long so be patient and be prepared to wait.

## **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

Dancers will respect Choreographers in and outside of class. Dancers must be respectful and considerate of other dancers and their abilities. Dancers are expected to give full attention to the Choreographer. No dancer will cause a disruption in class, or make non-applicable remarks or comments. Criticizing or correcting another dancer is unacceptable; teaching is the job of the Choreographer.

Arrive a few minutes ahead of the class start time. In order to eliminate disruption, dancers must wait in the lobby area if another class is being taught. Remove chewing gum and turn off all cell phones. Classes will begin on time. Once class has concluded, exit immediately and change shoes outside the dance area. Conversations with the Choreographer and other dancers should not take up class time. Choreographers will inform their applicable Dance Rep concerning class disruptions by a dancer or a group of dancers. Dancers are asked to refrain from using fragrances while participating in classes, and minimum jewelry will help ensure fellow dancers will not be scratched or injured during class.

Dancers should come to class prepared to dance with proper shoes and appropriate dance clothing which allows dance movement. The Choreographer will recommend appropriate foot wear and no dancer may dance in bare feet. It is recommended that female dancers wear supportive undergarments for all dance classes and performances. Examples of acceptable dancewear include:

Sports/support bras (under tops)	Leotards with shorts or skirt
Exercise/dance tops or shirts	Jazz pants
Exercise shorts or capris	Dance skirts

Examples of inappropriate dance wear: Blue jeans, tight shorts and shirts, bermudas, any restrictive street clothing or street shoes.

## **DISCIPLINARY ACTION PROTOCOL**

- The Choreographer will discuss with their applicable Dance Rep the conflict or issue in question.
- The Choreographer may choose to address the issue or have their applicable Dance Rep address the issue with the dancer or dancers involved.
- If the Choreographer and Dance Rep are not able to come to a resolution, the Dance Committee will meet to discuss the issue and decide on an appropriate resolution.
- If the issue cannot be resolved by the Dance Committee, the Dance Committee Chairperson will escalate the issue to the Grandettes Liaison who may work with the Drama Club President for final resolution.

## **COSTUMES AND MAKE-UP**

Most costumes for the performance shows are purchased by the Drama Club and remain the property of the Drama Club. A storage unit is rented by the Drama Club and costumes belonging to the Grandettes will be inventoried and collected at the conclusion of each performance show. At times, dancers may also incur some costume expenses. A Costume Committee is led by a member of the Dance Committee. Choreographers have the final decision regarding costume choices.

Dancers will be responsible for purchasing their own footwear and shoes should be polished. Only jewelry that is part of a costume will be permitted. Personal rings, bracelets, watches and earrings are to be left at home.

Being organized is crucial to the success of any performance. Assemble complete outfits (including shoes, undergarments, shoes, hose, etc.) in garment bags and label all items including clothing hangers and the bottoms of dance shoes. Keep garments in order of performance and paste an individual performance roster in a handy place. A dancer should not leave the dressing areas in costume; a cover-up or oversized shirt should be used.

Proper undergarments are essential for women to eliminate the 'bounce' and create a smooth look. Dancers should wear a nude-colored body suit (underwire, molded cups for firmer control and high-cut legs). Use clear straps for numbers revealing backs and shoulders unless the Choreographer requires a different look. Dress rehearsals should include all proper undergarments. A determination will be made at that time if a dancer will require adjustments prior to the performance

Make-up Assistants will be available one hour prior to opening number. Once the performance begins, the make-up will not be available for touch-ups. If an experienced dancer arrives in full make-up, each will be required to be assessed by a Make-up Assistant under a lamp light with the same spectrum as the stage light and adjusted as needed. Do not apply fragrance for any performance.

Each dancer will bring their own base foundation, powder, eye shadow, eye liner, mascara and lipstick for touch-ups, as well as their own make-up brushes. Red lipstick/liner (cherry red, Revlon red) is the standard Grandette performance color with no exceptions. Consider using Vaseline on teeth to keep lipstick from bleeding. The standard eyeliner is dark brown or charcoal; mascara is black. The primary eye shadow should be dark (browns, grays), using a light iridescent shade on the upper lid. The Make-up Assistants will assess proper application and adjust accordingly. Assistance is available to apply false eyelashes. Each dancer will bring their own lashes, glue, liquid liner and toothpicks.

Consider bringing a small table mirror to check make-up. Prioritize and be cognizant of who needs to be helped by the Make-up Assistants based on performance schedule and allow those dancers to be assisted in that order.

## **THE PERFORMANCE**

Alcohol is not permitted during any performance.

If any dancer is available, please assist other dancers with their costume changes and organize their 'just removed' costumes and accessories.

Move quickly on and off the stage. Stay in character when entering and leaving the stage, as well as down the stairs. Be aware of props being brought on stage. Remain QUIET at all times. The stage mikes could be live and performers could be heard. Do not peek through the curtains. Tap shoes are noisy so walk with care.

## **SPECIAL PERFORMANCE GROUPS**

There are different teaching techniques, dance styles, skill levels and performance desires within the Grandettes. To accommodate these, some specialty groups may be formed after conferring with the Dance Committee. These subgroups may elect to hold auditions and limit membership.

## **PERFORMANCES OUTSIDE OF SUN CITY GRAND**

On occasion, members of the Grandettes may be asked to perform outside of Sun City Grand for other clubs or benefits. These requests should be forwarded to the Dance Committee and the Grandettes Liaison for approval. Approval for participation in such outside performances will be based on the current activities of the Grandettes and whether or not the outside performance will impact current performances in Sun City Grand. In most instances, dances already choreographed, learned and performed within Sun City Grand will be used for these outside performances.

## **2019-2020 GRANDETTES DANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD ROSTER**

Scheduling	Pat Tsotsos	(623) 544-7889	ptsotsos@cox.net
Registration, Fees and Attendance	Ruth Carpenter	(623) 214-7002	scgdanser@yahoo.com
Communications	Barb Riessen	(623) 556-5423	riessenbarb@gmail.com
Costumes	Susan Weidenbach	(206) 399-0863	sweidenb@hotmail.com
Costumes	Mary Panther	(502) 521-1638	mepanther@gmail.com
Dance Committee Chairperson	Barb Riessen	(623) 556-5423	riessenbarb@gmail.com
Drama Club VP and Grandette Liaison	Jolene Nerdahl	(952) 237-2410	janerdahl@yahoo.com
Drama Club President	Kate Heiser	(623) 544-7107	kheiser2@cox.net

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