



Marr Mac Performance

Competition Handbook
2025/2026

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P E R F O R M A N C E

Table of Contents

1 – Introduction

2 – Competition Program Overview

3 – Competitive Attendance Policy

4 – Competition Fees & Deposits

5 – Solos, Duets, Small Groups

6 – Travel (OPT OUT DECEMBER 1)

7 – Costume/Hair/Makeup

8 – Pre-Competition Showcase

9 – Competitions 2026!

10 – Competition Etiquette

11 – Day-Of Competition

12 – PERMISSION FORM TO BE PRINTED AND RETURNED

1/ Introduction

It's our absolute pleasure to warmly welcome you into our family at Marr Mac Dance. Our team is thrilled to see many familiar faces return to the studio and always excited to see some new faces join our community. We have created this **COMPETITION** handbook to hopefully shed some light on how things will run throughout the year as well and answer a lot of queries you may have as the year begins. While we would love you to take the time to read this information carefully and keep your handbook in a safe place to refer to as you need, don't forget that our friendly office staff, Chloe, Deanna, and Bridget, are always here to help and will happily answer any questions you may have. We pride ourselves on having open communication with all of our parents and students, and will always do what we can to make sure that everyone's voices are heard. Nothing is too big or too small, we promise! 😊

QUICK REFERENCE STUDIO INFORMATION

Marr Mac Dance

Address: 8627 – 109 Street, T6G 1E7

Phone Number: 780-434-9281

Email: 1968@marrmac.com

Website: www.marrmac.com

Directors:

Cathy McFarlane – 1968@marrmac.com

Office Administrators:

Deanna Ketsa 1968@marrmac.com

Bridget McFarlane bridget@marrmac.com

Parking Lot

Please park in the South lot of Windsor Plaza.

License plates must be registered at Marr Mac using the QR code located in Marr Mac's reception area.

2/ Competitive Program Overview

Marr Mac's competitive program is meant for the dancer who is looking for a more intense training program to either help fulfil their love of dance, or to prepare them for the pre-professional/professional dance world beyond their years of training at Marr Mac. Competitive classes are offered in Lyrical, Jazz, Contemporary, Ballet, Hip Hop & Tap, with the option of doing solos, duets and/or small groups outside of class time in all levels. The level of class commitment varies for each discipline and dance level. Dancers are held to a high standard of commitment to their classes, and are assisted to reach their full potential as dancers and as a group. Spring competitions expose students to the world of dance outside of the studio, and help them grow into well-rounded performing artists. Hard work and determination are key, and dancers are encouraged to learn from the experience by remaining positive, gracious, humble, and appreciative of successes.



Marr Mac is proud to offer a competitive program that still allows time for school and family life outside of the dance world. Although training hours and expectations are increased, we understand that dancers are also students, sons, daughters, friends and siblings, and our schedule and class requirements are built with that in mind.

Competitive Stream Timeline:

- Sept- Jan: Classes start in September, with choreography starting in the fall
- Feb/Mar: All competitive groups, solos, duets, trios participate in our Pre-competition showcase. This is a time for students to space out/run through their numbers on a stage and get feedback from teachers
- Apr/May: Competitions! We typically participate in 3 in town and 1 out of town competition during our dance season. ONLY dancers level 3 and up participate in our out of town competition.
- June: Year end recital! All of our competitive groups will be included in our year end show in June!

3/ Competitive Attendance Policy

A competitive dancer's attendance in class is very important to their peers and our teaching staff. As a member of the team, it is a commitment for you to ensure your child attends their classes on time each week and attends all lessons planned for them. Not only do absences impact their progress and competition routines we create, it also impacts the team-building principals we work hard to foster in each age group.

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent due to holidays/vacations, commitments or school trips, please let us know ahead of time so the class impact is minimal. If your child is too unwell to attend class, we ask that you inform our admin team by phone (780-434-9281) or email (1968@marrmac.com) as soon as you can so they can let the teachers know and preparations can be made to catch up on any missed work.

Marr Mac follows a strict attendance policy for dancers in the competitive stream, as dancers need to maintain a certain level of technique and training. This attendance policy applies to all classes that dancers are enrolled in: technique, support, choreography etc. The competitive schedule has been constructed to ensure the dancers are receiving the adequate balance of strength, stretch, cardio, and instruction based on their level and age.

Competitive dancers have a "3 miss" attendance policy, where 3 misses are allowed per class between September and the end of competition season. If there are more than 3 misses in a class, participation in competition may need to be assessed by the instructor. We, at Marr Mac, understand that rare circumstances may come up and every one must be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

4/ Competition Fees & Deposits

Competitions and festivals charge an entry fee per student, per entry. Families are responsible for these costs in full.

Entry fees range, depending on the competition/festival:

Groups – Typically \$40-60 per student, per competition

Duets – Typically \$50-65 per student, per competition

Solos – Typically \$70-\$115 per student, per competition

Deposits

Dancers are charged a competition deposit per competitive class upon registration. This deposit is \$200.00 and allows Marr Mac to enter the dancers into competitions in the fall. Competitive class competition deposits are automatically charged to your card (unless paid otherwise) on Nov 15.

Students who wish to enter solos/duets/small groups will have competition deposits of \$200.00 added to their accounts per solo/duet/small group, due by November 15.

Competition Deposits are **NON-REFUNDABLE after November 15**, as Marr Mac has paid competition entry deposits to the competitions and festivals by this time. These are only deposits, see below for details on remaining fees.

Fees

Once competition entries are completed, Marr Mac will invoice families for the remainder of the competition fees. These fees will be added and charged to your account in January 2026.

Administration Fees

There are additional costs to Marr Mac in order to enter dancers into competitions, therefore there is a \$100 Administration Fee charged once per competitive dancer.

When entering an out-of-town competition, there is a \$100 administration fee charged per dancer to those entered in the out-of-town competition. This is only for dancers **level 3 and up**.

If you need clarification on your dancers competition fees posted in January, please visit the office for a more detailed breakdown.

5/ Solos, Duets, Small Groups

Students wishing to enter a solo, duet or small group (outside of class time) into competition are always welcome to. The only requirements for these extra competition pieces are that the dancers are training in the discipline they wish to compete in. Additional competition requirements do not apply.

We highly encourage the use of our in-house teachers for solo/duet/extra group choreography. If you would like to use a choreographer from outside of the Marr Mac instructor roster, please contact us!

Solo/duet sign-up sheets are posted at the studio in September. Dancers can choose the discipline they wish to compete in and approach an instructor they would like to choreograph the piece. If an instructor agrees, students may sign up by **October 1**.

Instructors set their own choreography fees, and choose how much choreography and cleaning time this fee includes. Please speak to each individual instructor for this information.

Choreography fees are paid directly to the instructor and are due at the time of FIRST rehearsal.

There is also a one time \$50 solo cleaning and studio rental fee. This covers the cost of the studio rental time that is associated with the choreography, cleaning, and any extra rehearsal type time. This fee also allows them to take part in the Monday night cleaning sessions that will occur from Nov-Apr on a drop in basis. Students are also welcome to book studio space to rehearse their competition dances when convenient for them. Bookings can be made through the office.

Costumes for solos, duets, small groups may be ordered from costume catalogues or made by our seamstress, rented from Marr Mac, or purchased from stores. We have found that some solo or duet costumes are easy to find in clothing stores rather than in costume catalogues, if a more simple costume is desired. The decision is left to the student and family. The fees applied will depend on what is decided between the dancer(s)/Families and the choreographer. Fees will be charged as costumes are ordered.

6/ Travel

Students in level 3 and up are entered in the out-of-town competition in the Spring. This year we are attending Breaking Bounds in Calgary, Alberta. It is the expectation, (and hope!), that all dancers from level 5 and up can attend this competition as part of the team, unless an extreme circumstance prevents them from doing so. Please approach us if there is a concern regarding the attendance of your dancer, and we will do our best to help you get your dancer to the competition.

Dancers must be accompanied by a designated adult, therefore if parents or guardians are unable to attend for financial or other reasons, we are willing to help you find another family for your child to travel and stay with. Please approach us with any concerns regarding this out-of-town competition. Dancers who absolutely cannot attend, despite everyone's best efforts, must opt out with the attached competition permission form by DECEMBER 1. Dancers who do not opt out will be entered and be held responsible for competition fees.

There are additional fees associated with an out-of-town competition, such as hotel, travel, food, and a \$100 administration fee (explained above in the Competition Fee section).

7/ Costume/Hair/Makeup Requirements

Costume

In order to present well at competition, the competition costume fee is higher than it is for recreational classes. Some instructors order from costume catalogues and some choose to have the costumes made by our professional seamstresses.

The costume fee for level 1- Level 2 is \$120.00 per class, and Level 3 and up is \$185.00

Earrings

Rhinestone earrings are worn with each costume unless instructed NOT to do so by the teacher. Please check with your teacher if unsure. Earrings will be available for purchase from the Marr Mac office prior to competition for \$10 per pair. Clip on versions will be available.

Hair

Marr Mac chooses a studio hairstyle for competition season to make parent and dancer lives easier. This hairstyle can be done for most dances, unless a specific style is required for a costume. Hair style will be sent out closer to competition season.

Make Up

Stage Make-up is meant to accentuate the dancer's face on stage, so the judges and audience members can see their shining faces from the back of the balcony! Stage lights tend to wash out the faces of the dancers, therefore "stage make-up" is much darker and bolder than everyday wear. Foundation, blush, eyeliner, eye shadow, dark mascara or fake eyelashes (preferred), and bold lipstick are required. Individual instructors will choose the shade of lipstick based on the costume.

8/ Pre-Competition Showcase

Last year, we held a pre-competition showcase at the Maclab Theatre at Lillian Osborne in February. We intend to plan another event like this so please look out for more details!

9/ Competitions 2026

Exact days and times will be sent once received in the Spring. Please note that Competitive Levels 5 and up are entered into [Breaking Bounds](#).

- [Ballet Harmony – Feb 6-9 2026](#)
 - Myer Horowitz, Edmonton
 - All competitive ballet and Contemporary dancers
- [Terpsichore - April 9-12 2026](#)
 - JW Marriott Ice District, Edmonton
 - All competitive dancers
- [Breaking Bounds– April 16-19 2026](#)
 - Calgary Westin Airport Hotel, Calgary
 - [Select Competitive Dances \(See List Below\)](#)
- [Dare to Dream – April 24-26 2026](#)
 - Triffo Theatre, Macewan University, Edmonton
 - All competitive dancers
- [Fever Dance Championship - April 30-May 3 2026](#)
 - Edmonton Expo Centre, Edmonton
 - Level 5+ Solos and Duets only
- [5678 Showtime - May 8-10 2026](#)
 - Edmonton Expo Centre, Edmonton
 - All competitive dancers

OUT OF TOWN COMPETITION – [Breaking Bounds – Calgary Westin Airport Hotel](#) – Levels 5 and up

We understand that not all dancers may be able to attend this competition; in that case you would **not** be responsible for the entry fees as long as we receive this form by December 1. Please make sure your teacher knows a.s.a.p. if your dancer is **not able** to attend the Calgary competition. Dancers who are allowed to attend but need a chaperone to ride with and stay with (i.e. another family or a teacher) are most welcome to do so, and is highly encouraged so as not to disrupt the group with missing dancers.

It is held at the Calgary Westin Airport Hotel in Calgary and the host hotel information has not been released. Usually there is a group rate associated but keep an eye out for further details. Please feel free to stay at any other hotel of your choosing

Participating Classes

- MMP 5+ Lyrical
- MMP 5+ Contemporary
- MMP 5+ Jazz
- MMP 5+ Tap
- Level 5+ Solos/Duets/Small Groups are discussed with the choreographer/teacher

Costs for Breaking Bounds

- Administration fee
 - \$100 fee for all dancers attending (please see section 7 for explanation of admin fees)
- Competition entry fees (please see section 7 for estimate of fees)
- Students are responsible for their own transportation, hotel, food and travel costs.

10/ Competition Etiquette

Marr Mac prides itself on being a welcoming and respectful school with thoughtful and humble dancers, teachers and families. It is important to keep this in mind while at competition, and continue to represent Marr Mac 's philosophy in this setting. Please take note of the following competition rules and etiquette. More specific rules are listed in each competition's program at the venue.

- **Photo and Video** - PICTURES AND VIDEOS DURING THE COMPETITIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED AND MAY RESULT IN THE ENTIRE STUDIO'S DISQUALIFICATION! There are often pictures and videos available for purchase at the competition if you are interested.
- **Auditorium Rules** – Please only exit and enter the theatre between performances and remain quiet and respectful in the theatre during all performances
- **Adjudications** – Remember that every adjudicator is different, with varying backgrounds, expertise and preferences. There is always something to be learned from an adjudicator no matter the outcome, and our goal is to remain positive about the experience
- **Costumes** – Please wear a jacket or hoodie over top of costumes while watching from the theatre
- Applaud for all schools, not just Marr Mac and remain positive about other schools

11/ Day-Of Competition

Please drop your child off with their class in the rehearsal hall listed below and then proceed to the theatre. You can watch in the audience until after adjudication is over and then meet back where you dropped your child off. Some competitions have a fee to get into the theatre to watch (dancers get in free)

Please note that all competitions may run up to 30 min ahead-of schedule, therefore it is imperative to be on time! Please arrive at the theatre 1.5 hours ahead of time, with hair and make up already done so time can be spent warming up and rehearsing.

EXACT DAYS AND TIMES OF PERFORMANCES ARE RELEASED BY THE COMPETITION IN THE SPRING, USUALLY MARCH. THESE WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU AS SOON AS WE HAVE A HOLD OF THEM

12/ COMPETITION ENTRY PERMISSION FORM

To be returned by all competitive dancers

Attendance & Fee Policy and Parent Permission

Your child will be entered into Spring competitions/festivals held in the new-year. These take place in April– usually on the weekends but at times they are scheduled during a weekday for which they may need to miss school. We have 3 local competitions for all competitive dancers, 1 out of town competition for dancers level 3 and up, and 1 ballet only competition. There is an entry fee for each competition that you will be billed for. Competition fees need to be **paid in full before the first competition date.**

A competition deposit of \$200.00/dance, including Solos, Duets and Small Groups will be added to their account due November 15.

Dancers who participate in competitions are required to follow the competition policy you agreed to at registration to ensure the students in the group are committed equally. Further clarification of this policy follows;

- Please refer to attendance policy in Competition Handbook/Parent & Student Handbook
- It will be at the teacher's discretion as to whether or not the dancer will participate in competitions if they miss more classes/rehearsals than what is described in the attendance policy.
- If you are going on an extended holiday (more than one missed class) during the dance season, please let the teacher know up front so she/he can decide if your dancer can participate in competitions/festivals.
- There will be **no refunds** from Marr Mac of competition entry fees if a dancer is unable to participate in the competition/festival for any reason.
- For Choreography done outside of class time (ie; solos, duets, small group, guest choreographer), choreography fees must be paid to the Choreographer on the **prior to/on the first day of rehearsal**

PLEASE RETURN TO THE OFFICE ASAP

Dancer (s) name (s): _____

LOCAL COMPETITIONS (Parent please initial, or dancer if 18 or older):

_____ I understand that by registering my child in a competition class or solo/duet/trio, they will be registered in the local competitions outlined above. I understand the commitment involved including the attendance policy and payment of fees.

_____ I would like my child to participate in Spring Competitions/festivals as outlined above; however, we will be on vacation during these dates _____. I will make a point of discussing this with the teacher and directors by December 1.

Breaking Bounds Calgary:

_____ I would like my child to be entered in the **out of town competition**, if my child's class/solo/duet is participating.

- I will be traveling with my dancer(s) to Calgary _____.
- I need a chaperone arranged to bring my dancer(s) to and from Calgary and also to stay with while in Calgary _____.
- I will not be going but I have arranged for my dancer(s) to stay with the following family/teacher _____.
- I am aware there is an additional \$100 administration fee per dancer (not per dance) for those attending the competition _____.

My dancer (s) _____ will **not** be participating in the Calgary Competition.

Date: _____ Name (print) _____

Signature _____