

# PRODUCTION PACK

*studio v*

2026 SEASON

@studioschoolofdance





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# OUR STORY

## *production*

**FOR OVER 25 YEARS, STUDIO V HAS PROVIDED A PROGRAM FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING DANCERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO INCREASE THEIR TECHNICAL ABILITIES & PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES. IN 2025, WE HAVE SEEN THIS PROGRAM EVOLVE FURTHER. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO CONTINUE THIS TRAJECTORY IN 2026.**

Production classes provide students with an opportunity to showcase their skills & talents outside our end-of-year concert. Our Production program is for the dancer who wishes to take their training a step further. These classes are for students who are driven, dedicated and work hard to develop their technique, passion & performance.

Weekly training sessions that complement their existing syllabus work in Ballet, Jazz & Tap are full of team spirit, where students learn performance excellence, alongside a myriad of other skills that not only serve them onstage, but in their everyday life. Dancers are guided to strive for their personal best, while supporting teammates to also reach for their goals.

In order to be a part of the program, students & parents must understand that a high level of dedication is required. It is imperative that dancers attend all weekly classes and show strong commitment to their dancing team by appearing at all scheduled performances & competitions.

Studio V has successfully competed for over two decades at a high standard, with magnificent results. Production teams are particularly rewarding as they build teamwork and life-long friendships, while helping dancers excel towards their goals faster.

Joining the Studio V Production Program is a wonderful chance for students to learn the value of teamwork, while gaining performance experience & industry feedback.

Most importantly- it's a whole lot of fun!



# 2025 highlights



Throughout 2025, our Production teams have dazzled audiences like never before - embodying determination, resilience, team-spirit and, of course, a little razzle dazzle!

We are thrilled to recognise our dancers, and their teacher Miss Caitlin, after an brilliantly successful 2025 competition season. This year, we had teams competing across 7 different age categories - including, for the first time, a 6 Years and Under Troupe. Representing Studio V at competitions across Melbourne, our teams bravely took on new challenges and opportunities, making us all incredibly proud in the process.

Not only did our dancers continue to develop their physical & technical skill, they learned the power of teamwork and positivity to overcome adversity, progressed their creative expression & had more chances than ever to hone their stagecraft. While we had the honour of celebrating 25 years of Studio V, we also had the honour of seeing our Production students prove that the future of our dance program is bright!

With an increased focus on strength & technical skill development, our troupes were able to continue their growth & goal achievement, both individually & as a team. We are most proud of the continued growth of our dancers around mindset & team building. With an influx of brand new Production families, students were given the invaluable opportunity of navigating new team environments, alongside new skills & dance styles.

Our troupes debuted their 2025 routines at the Mid Year Demo, where family and friends had the opportunity to witness their hard work before attending our first competition in Nunawading.

A special congratulations to our dancers, who performed with magnificent results at Southern Federation of Dance, Jump Dance Challenge, Spotlight Dance Competition and Time to Shine Dance Competition. We are so proud of our dancers, both onstage and backstage, who received glowing praise from all event organisers on the behaviour and sportsmanship of our teams.

We are also incredibly proud to have had Miss Caitlin's choreography singled out at every single one of the competitions we attended in 2025! This is an incredibly rare honour and a testament to the quality of teaching and expertise in our Studio V faculty.

With exciting plans for 2026 already underway, we are thrilled for what the future holds for all our Production program participants.





# PROGRAM OUTLINE

Next year, our Production teams will be representing Studio V across the following age sections:

6 years & under (U6)  
8 years & under (U8)  
10 years & under (U10)  
12 years & under (U12)  
14 years & under (U14)  
16 years & under (U16)  
Open Age (OA)

At each competition, there are different methods of determining which age section groups can compete in. This may mean that your dancer's team may appear in one age section at one competition, but a different age section at another. Some competitions require you to compete in the age bracket of the ELDEST dancer in the team. Other competitions take an AVERAGE age from the birthdates of all dancers.

For example, if the eldest member of your team was born in 2009, the troupe will compete at some competitions in 16 & under sections. However, if the average age of ALL members of the team comes to 14.3, competitions that take the average age will see your team competing in

14 & under sections. Age for all competitions for the 2026 season is taken as at 01/01/2026.

With this in mind, we will continue to ensure dancers receive the most appropriate training program to challenge their technical & performance skill acquisition.

In 2026, our Production teams will be structured to align with syllabus levels -

Foundation & Level 1  
Level 2 & Level 3 (3 Extension)  
Level 4 (4 Extension) & Level 5  
Level 6 & Level 7  
Level 8  
Level 9+

On top of their syllabus training, each level has a specific Production training component. Production classes are technique & performance based & focus on developing competitive dance skills.

Foundation & Level 1 - 90 mins per week - incl. choreography, flexibility, mobility, skills & drills, jumps, kicks, turns, mindset, expression & improvisation

Level 2 & 3 - 105 mins per week - incl. choreography, strength & conditioning, flexibility, mobility, skills & drills, jumps, kicks, turns, mindset, expression & improvisation

Level 4 & 5 - 120 mins per week - incl. choreography, strength & conditioning, flexibility, mobility, skills & drills, jumps, kicks, turns, progressions, mindset, expression & improvisation

Level 6 & 7 - 150 mins per week - incl. choreography, strength & conditioning, flexibility, mobility, skills & drills, jumps, kicks, turns, progressions, mindset, expression & improvisation

Level 8+ - 165 mins per week - incl. choreography, strength & conditioning, flexibility, mobility, skills & drills, jumps, kicks, turns, progressions, goal setting, improvisation, stagecraft, expression, movement analysis & industry insights

Alongside our Evolve Extension program, a range of Production Acrobatics classes have been scheduled for 2026 - for dancers who would like to accelerate skill acquisition. This includes training in acro dance skills such as balancing, tumbling, aerial movements, limbering & partnering based steps with a greater focus on flexibility, contortion & strength.



# PROGRAM OUTLINE

## PRODUCTION AUDITIONS

Held in Week 8 of Term 4, our Production auditions allow students to experience a 'team try-out' in a fun, familiar & friendly environment. The audition panel use this time to ensure each dancer is allocated to the best Production team for their age, syllabus level & development plan - ensuring each person gets the best opportunity to flourish.

Auditions are guided by a member of our experienced Studio V faculty. Dancers will be led through a warm-up, followed by some skills & progressions. They will then be taught a small section of choreography, which they are invited to perform in small groups. Dancers will also be invited to perform improvisation to a selection of different music & movement styles.

These sessions are invaluable for teachers & choreographers, as they allow them to define opportunities & challenges for 2026 teams. With this, they then establish targeted development plans for the entire year, along with choreography in styles that will best suit the group as a whole. This planning takes place over the school holidays in order to hit the ground running and prepare students for their first competition as soon as possible.

The outcomes of auditions will be sent via email the following week - in the final week of Term 4 dancing. Acceptance of these offers MUST be confirmed with Studio V by our last day of classes on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> in order to secure their position. Imperative, in-depth planning & choreography occurs over the Summer holidays, so it is important that families communicate their intentions by this date so their dancer is factored into all plans and placements. Places in each troupe are limited, so confirmation is essential, or the position may be allocated to another dancer.

Dancers should arrive at the auditions in a black leotard or crop, black shorts, tan jazz tights & jazz shoes, with their hair neatly off their face. Please bring a bottle of water, however there will be no opportunity to snack in the audition room. Auditions are always an exciting & fun chance for students to showcase themselves, while gaining the experience of developing audition & exam room etiquette.

## REPRESENTING OUR COMMUNITY

Studio V has been offering it's most dedicated, committed & motivated dancers the ability to represent themselves, & our dance community, at public events for over 2 decades. In that time, we have garnered a reputation for being a supportive, respectful, positive & inclusive presence at competitions & performance across the globe.

We are proud to maintain this recognition through the behaviour of all staff, dancers & families onstage, backstage & in the audience. It is vital that Studio V Production families continue to uphold our values of respect, positivity, safety, support & fun at all times - both at performances, but also in class, on social media & around the community at large. While we believe that our dancers are always THE MOST BRILLIANT performers onstage, Adjudicators score based on different metrics, using their own subjective experience & opinion, meaning they may see things differently to us on any given day.

Please ensure we are always modelling positivity & resilience to help cultivate our culture of progress over perfection, along with fostering growth mindset. Engagement in negative behaviour will not be tolerated. While placing at competitions is always a bonus, it has never been the core tenet of our Production program. We believe in supporting the development of individual dancers in a safe & nurturing environment to enhance the technical skills of each team as a whole, but most importantly, focussing on engaging & feeding each student's passion for dance.



# 2026

## solos duos trios



Becoming a Studio V soloist is an exciting way to excel a dancer's technical skill & performance experience. Working one-on-one with a Studio V teacher, dances are choreographed to highlight each student's best attributes, while also working on individual development areas. Soloists receive personalised critiques from Adjudicators, which help build confidence, drive goals and allow students to receive valuable feedback from a range of Industry professionals

Dancing in a duo/trio, like when working as a soloist, helps students to develop confidence, resilience & work ethic. Working with another dancer in a small group also allows students the chance to fine-tune skills like timing, precision, contrast & collaboration.

Working on special dances to perform alone, or in a small group, allow dancers a great sense of achievement. Dance competitions are a hotbed of inspiration - they provide students with more motivation to be their best, along with the creative inspiration they gain from watching a range of dancers from other schools perform. Dancing in a solo, duo or trio gives passionate performers an additional opportunity to shine doing something they love, while also learning how to take valuable critique to drive them towards future growth.

### SOLO, DUO, TRIO POLICIES

- Private lessons for solos, duos & trios will only be available to members of the Production program in 2026
- Students must attend technical classes in the same style as their solo/duo/trio dance genre
- While suggestions will be considered, routine song & most appropriate genre of dance for each soloist or group will be the training teacher's choice
- Students must be self-motivated & engage in home practice between private lessons to take full advantage of this opportunity. This will help them make the best use of private lesson time & advance their technical standard to remain competitive within their section
- Students must come to private lessons prepared with any pre-work required to most efficiently & effectively utilise the limited time available in private lessons
- Families are liable to pay the private lesson fee if cancelled by dancers within 24 hours of the scheduled lesson. Hours of preparation time is spent by teachers for each private lesson, which includes, but is not limited to, choreography, skill development planning, goal management plans, strength training, costumes, research, music editing, administration and more
- Private lessons are to be paid in cash to the teacher at the time of each lesson. This fee includes studio hire, which the teacher pays forward.
- Students are encouraged to bring a notepad and pen to each lesson to make notes, record exercises for home practice, or take corrections to work on in their own time
- Students, or parents, may not change the choreography without the teacher's written permission
- Own choreography must not be entered in sections other than 'own/student's choreography' sections
- If dancers are not enrolled in regular private lessons, they must attend a rehearsal with their teacher at least once per month in the lead up to competitions
- Teachers will give guidance on how the routine should be costumed.
- Families are responsible for their child's entries - information for upcoming competitions can be found online at [comps-online.com.au](http://comps-online.com.au), or at individual competition websites/social media
- Please read the rules of each entry careful, as competition rules and regulations can differ
- Solo/Duo/Trio competitions that conflict with troupe dates may not be attended
- SFD Scholarship entry offers will be made by Studio V teachers for outstanding students in Jazz, Tap or Ballet
- If families decide to not continue training with Studio V, ALL solo/duo/trio choreography remain the property of Studio V & cannot be performed anywhere after the exit date
- It's the families responsibility to submit music at each competition - always remember a spare copy! Check rules for each competition as allowable formats, submission instructions & labelling requirements will differ
- Any solo/duo/trio competition entry, music upload or critique organisation that needs to be arranged by a Studio V member of staff will attract an administration fee



# EVOLVE *extension*

**2025 SAW OUR EVOLVE EXTENSION PROGRAM GROW TO NEW HEIGHTS, WITH NEW CLASSES CREATED TO MAXIMISE THE PASSION, MOTIVATION & DRIVE OF OUR STUDENTS, WHO WERE SEEKING THE CHALLENGE OF MORE TECHNICALLY DIFFICULT TRAINING TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS, FASTER**

Our Evolve Extension program was created for passionate dancers who were looking to advance their dance technique and performance skills in an accelerated & positive environment. In 2025, we offered a new stream for our talented Junior students to take advantage of further skill advancement and performance opportunities. 17 Junior, and 25 Intermediate dancers auditioned for a place in our Evolve classes, where coach and mentor, Caitlin Hysted-Adams, worked with them on individual goals & opportunities for growth, while taking a more in-depth and detailed look at practical skills and technical approaches.

These incredible students spent the first half of the year focussing on technical skill development and learning new dance combinations every week, across a range of styles, to help them work on speed of learning and retention of choreography. Our Intermediate troupe debuted a new routine at our Mid Year Demo 'Evolution'.

Our Evolve students also had the honour of representing the Studio V community at our celebratory Gala event in August. Our Junior and Intermediate dancers worked on a brand new, five minute routine to entertain our prestigious guest as we celebrated 25 incredible years of Studio V. We were thrilled to have both classes presenting another new routine each at our end of year Showcases, highlighting their passion, drive and talent.

Not only have we seen the skill base of all these dancers expand at a faster rate than ever, we have seen a marked increase in the growth mindset of these students - allowing them to be more confident in the power of taking chances and learning from mistakes in order for them to evolve.

**ACCEPTANCE INTO THIS PROGRAM IN 2026 WILL SEE DANCERS GAIN IMPORTANT PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION ACROSS STRENGTH & CONDITIONING, FLEXIBILITY, BALANCE, MOBILITY, ADVANCED JUMPS, KICKS & TURNS, IMPROVISATION, MINDSET, CONFIDENCE & MOVEMENT ANALYSIS.**

To register your interest as an Evolve Extension student, please apply using the same TryBooking link at the time of booking your Production Team audition. Performance in the Production Auditions is only one part of the selection criteria, with the audition panel also taking the following into consideration when selecting Evolve members into the limited places available. Invitations will be made to students who consistently demonstrate:

- **Dedication & motivation in class. Students must demonstrate a will & commitment to take their dance training to a higher level.**
- **Excellent exam results**
- **Very good physical skills & facility for a range of dance styles**
- **Musicality - a solid demonstration of physical & emotional responses to music**
- **Ability to learn choreography quickly, & practice to retain it week on week**
- **Growth mindset - an ability to take, retain & work to execute feedback & corrections in a positive manner**
- **Excellent attendance**
- **Self-motivation & discipline**
- **A friendly & supportive nature towards all staff & students**

A first round of offers will be made when Production teams are announced to students who are ready to begin in Term 1. Dancers may be invited into this program at any stage throughout the year as their technique, development and class etiquette demonstrates their readiness. Teachers may make nominations for this program at any time, based on the above criteria.





# PRODUCTION POLICIES

AT STUDIO V, WE WORK TOGETHER AS ONE TEAM. EACH TEAM MEMBER AND THEIR FAMILIES SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT WHILE THIS REQUIRES GREAT COMMITMENT, IT IS INCREDIBLY REWARDING AND, ABOVE ALL ELSE - LOTS OF FUN!

- Production troupe agreements outlining expectations will be reviewed & signed by each member, or their parent, to take up a position within the team.
- Respect during all classes is ESSENTIAL. Students are expected to have a positive attitude & act appropriately. Ongoing issues may result in dismissal.
- Students will follow the dress & behaviour codes, both in class & when representing the school at external performances.
- Attendance is essential for the team to be successful. 90% attendance to all technical classes is required. Regular absences may result in dismissal.
- Competition dates are carefully chosen for each group after canvassing successful team members at the beginning of each year for existing commitments.
- Competition dates that are selected for each team are COMPULSORY. Care is taken by Studio V in the selection of competitions to allow for maximum school holiday/family time.
- Troupes are a team activity. Absences, or 'no shows' at rehearsals & competitions affect ALL students & staff. If the team is let down (with the exception of true emergencies), the student may be withdrawn from all troupe &/or solo/duo/trio commitments, indefinitely.
- Any prior arrangements must be made with Miss Vassie & confirmed in writing ([info@studiov.com.au](mailto:info@studiov.com.au)) prior to signing the troupe agreement.
- Competition absences that have not been cleared according to the above policies will attract a re-staging/re-choreography fee of \$200 for each routine that needs to be re-worked, to cover the hours of additional work that is required to prepare & execute for impending competitions.
- Exact times/dates that each troupe/style is required will be communicated to families as soon as confirmed by event organisers.
- Studio V jackets must be worn to & from external performances.
- Be punctual to competition call times to ensure there is ample time for safe warm up & show ready preparation as a team. Some competitions run earlier than their advertised times.
- Troupe entries & music for competitions are organised by Studio V faculty.
- Families must check emails regularly to keep up-to-date with Production communications.
- Photos & videos of Production troupes may be used in Studio V marketing & promotions.
- Music is sometimes provided for home practice. This is not guaranteed as we have a need to develop student working memory & retention. Any music, or on the odd occasion, video, that is provided is NOT to be saved to personal devices, or shared ANYWHERE, as it would be a contravention of Child Safe Standards (Vic, 2022). Sharing the music would also breach our music licensing conditions.
- Students must be enrolled in all Jazz, Ballet, Acrobatics, Technique & Choreography classes applicable to their team level, for the entirety of the competition year.
- From Level 5 onwards, Ballet & Jazz transition to 2 syllabus classes per week, or 1 longer class per style. This is a normal expectation for senior levels of SFD. Please note, contemporary/lyrical classes do not count as a second Ballet/Jazz class.
- Costumes are purchased by families & are the students to keep. Please ensure all costumes are taken care of & kept at a performance standard for each competition. All elements of each costume should be labelled. Please check you have all items before arriving to, and leaving, each competition. Some costume elements are irreplaceable & losing them will result in the whole team's set needing to be replaced.
- Students should arrive to all performances 'stage ready' with full hair and makeup already done. We do not factor hair and makeup time into our arrival schedule at competitions & concerts.
- Costumes are not to be worn without being covered by a Studio V jacket to & from the theatre
- Undergarments beneath costumes should not be visible at any time.



# MEET THE TEAM

*production faculty*



**VASSIE CATALANO**

Studio V Principal and Director



**CAITLIN HYSTED-ADAMS**

Head of Production, Evolve Extension Program,  
Choreographer



**BRIDGET BUCELLO**

Choreographer





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