



En Croix

a Fellowship of Christian Dancers

En Croix Starter Pack

established in 1999 to promote the Christian spirit within the dance/drill team industry

In this current day and age, it has become more important than ever to strengthen the moral, ethical, and Christian values of our young people. This packet will be a starter kit for you to begin an En Croix Ensemble within your community dance/drill team. There are no fees involved & no age/grade requirements.

Start an En Croix Ensemble with your team, dance classes, local dance community, or friends that just love to dance! Ensembles can be organized by students or teachers, and can include any students currently involved in dance through school, studios or community teams. En Croix Ensembles will meet to build community, discuss scripture, and strengthen moral, ethical, and Christian values within our youth.

- We recommend that you meet a minimum of once a month on a day that will ideally not interfere with other scheduled activities. Meetings can be underwritten by area churches or parent groups to offer refreshments and moral support.
- Utilize group communication i.e. BAND, GroupMe, etc. to promote monthly meetings, vote on topics, and volunteer to bring refreshments.
- Included in this packet will be some recommended monthly themes or topics.
- As your group grows in size, consider assigning members to offices, such as President, Vice President, Chaplain, etc. For support information for you and your group, visit our Facebook Page often (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EnCroix/>). We hope that you will find that students, parents and teachers are ready to rekindle these strong moral and Christian ethics through dance/drill team.

Congratulations on your new En Croix Ensemble and we look forward to hearing back from you soon!

En Croix- A Fellowship of Christian Dancers

(pronounced ahn kwah, a ballet term meaning, "in the shape of the cross")

Application for Charter

Email: EnCroixDancers@gmail.com

Sponsor Name _____ School/Studio/Team _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell phone _____ / _____

School phone _____ / _____ of _____ (name)

E-mail address _____ belonging to _____

(Please try to include an e-mail address of someone in your group if the sponsor does not have one)

This En Croix Ensemble will meet on the _____ of each month at _____ . The first meeting will be held _____ .

This Ensemble will invite students from the following groups in our school, studio or community: _____

As a sponsor for our En Croix Ensemble, I vow to make sure that the group has monthly meetings and will assist the student officers elected to serve their duties to the group so that our group can be successful in promoting both Christian and moral ethics within our school, studio and community.

Signed:

En Croix sponsor signature

En Croix sponsor signature

Please print names below:

***A charter pack and certificate will be mailed to your group within 30 days of your application.**

Please return this form to En Croix PO Box 1189 Salado, Texas 76571 or email to: EnCroixDancers@gmail.com

Duplicate this form for individuals to sign up for membership. Please return this form to be kept on file by the faculty sponsor of your En Croix Ensemble to compile the individual database for your ensemble.

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Name _____ **School/Studio/Team** _____

Home address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Cell phone _____ / _____ **E-mail address** _____

Church affiliation _____ **Hobbies** _____

_____ **I am willing to serve as an officer for my En Croix Ensemble**

Please return this form to _____

Purpose: To promote a Christian spirit and ethics within the dance and drill team world. To better understand the role as a dancer to share your talents with others in the glory of God.

Motto: "God is greater than any problem I have."

Scriptures: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." **Phil. 4:13**

Traditions: At camps and contests, En Croix members will invite others to join in *Rond de Jambe* or a prayer circle to open or close the event. Weekly devotionals can also be held at summer camps.

Ensemble: An individual group within a school, dance studio or community team that meets once a month. The group could combine individuals interested in dance from any source within the community.

"Where there are two or more gathered together in His name..."

Student Officers:

President: Will be responsible for all officers and committees. The other officers and committee persons will report to the president and the president will make sure that all preparations have been made for each monthly meeting and project. The president will preside at each monthly meeting and will serve as the coordinator of these meetings.

Vice President: This person will be responsible for membership recruiting and publicity of all monthly meetings through announcements, posters, or social media. They will also be in charge of publicity for any special community service projects. This person will stand in for the president in the case that they cannot preside at a meeting.

Activities Chairperson: This person would be in charge of all committees and activities for your En Croix Ensemble

Chaplain: This person would be in charge of leading in prayer at each meeting. They would also be responsible for making a prayer request list and would be the contact person where members would call to leave prayer requests. The chaplain would also look up appropriate scriptures to read from the Bible to open or close your meetings.

Community Service Chairperson: These members will make arrangements for adopting a family at Christmas, performing liturgical dance pieces at area churches or nursing homes, working special community activities and organizing volunteers within your En Croix Ensemble.

Suggested Topics for Monthly Meetings

Here are some suggestions for topics for monthly gatherings. You could meet a designated evening each month at a designated location. You could also see about securing corporate or individual sponsors who would provide refreshments to serve at meetings. It would also be beneficial to invite other Christian groups to join in with your meeting on occasion such as Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Young Life and other groups. To publicize your meetings, have volunteers make posters to place in the school and community (grocery stores, fast food restaurants and other heavily trafficked areas). If you are allowed to make school announcements, make sure to do so also.

AUGUST "New Beginnings" This will be an important meeting to kick off the inaugural meeting of your group. You will want to encourage them to bring friends to each meeting so that they will benefit from the group as well. Create your own form where each person can complete and return with their name, address, phone and dance affiliation. You will also want to know if they are interested in contributing to the group. You will want to vote and elect your officers and committee chairs at this meeting as well as recruit new members and set your talents and resources that could benefit the group. Visit the En Croix web site for more resources and information for this first and all important meeting. **"In the beginning you laid the foundations." Psalms 102:25**
"Where there are two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matt. 18:20

SEPTEMBER This month's topic will be **"A Time to Dance."** This is a great opportunity to learn more about liturgical dance: what is it? Where is it used? Where do you find music? and much more. Some of your churches may already incorporate liturgical dance in their worship services. Some of the students may be interested in introducing liturgical dance to their own churches. Visit the En Croix web site this summer to find more references on Liturgical Dance (www.encroix.org) **"Dance before the Lord with all your might." 2 Samuel 6:14**

DECEMBER "Happy Birthday to Him!" At this time of our Lord's birthday, celebrate by having a birthday party for Jesus Christ! This would be a great time for your En Croix Ensemble to invite one of the other Christian groups in your community such as FCA or Young Life. Have each member bring a canned good or new toy and take it to an 'adopted family' for Christmas. Many of your area churches will have Christmas pageants. This would be a great opportunity for your En Croix Ensemble to perform a liturgical dance. **"For unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Saviour who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11**

JANUARY "Friends are Friends Forever" The meaning of being a true friend will be an important subject to cover at this month's gathering. Learning to read who your real friends are and defining those who are a bad influence will be important. Learn to make the right choices in challenging situations. Find support through a positive circle of friends. **"I urge you brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them." Romans 16:17 "A friend loves at all times." Prov. 17:17 "My commandment is love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12**

FEBRUARY This month's topic will be "Christ-like Love," in conjunction with Valentine's. There are many ways to show love to others in our daily lives. Acts of true love do not have to be extravagant – they can be as simple as encouraging someone when they are down or being a good listener. So, let this Valentine's Day serve as a reminder of the importance of showing Christ-like love to others. Remember that true love is selfless and sacrificial. Ultimately, when we show this kind of love to others, we point them to Christ. **"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters." -1 John 3:16**

MARCH "Go for the Gold" Humility and sportsmanship are a challenge when heading into competition season. When you win, it is important to be a gracious winner. When you lose, it is important to show support for those who are your competitors. It is also important not to pass judgment on others, whether in dance or in life. **"Let another person praise you, and not your own mouth: someone else, and not your own lips." Prov. 27:2** As a performer, it is ultimately important that you approach competition with the right frame of mind and for the right reasons. **"If anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victors crown unless he competes according to the rules." 2 Tim. 2:5** Another great project would be to create a performance venue as a guest number in the drill team Spring Show, in the Band or Choir Spring Concert, or as an independent concert inviting the other school groups (band, choir, orchestra) to provide an Easter or Spring En Croix Performance.

APRIL "A Promise Kept" During this month, we celebrate the true meaning of Christianity...how God gave His only son to die on the cross for our sins, so that we might have eternal life. This will be a great meeting to give personal testimonies to share with others. A personal testimony can also be performed in dance, in song or through creative writing or a poem written. Maybe invite a notable person in your community to share their Christian testimony in addition to those within your group. **"Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." John 11:23**

MAY "And I think to myself...what a wonderful world." This last meeting of the school year will focus on growing up...everyone going on their own (graduation or moving on to other activities). Various issues of taking personal responsibility and sorting out personal decisions are important. Accountability for your decisions will be even more important than ever when you are making personal decisions for yourself that may also affect others around you. **"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is— his good, pleasing and perfect will. Rom. 12:2**

Other scriptures on dance:

† "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven. A time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance." Ec. 3:4

† "You turned my wailing into dancing and removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy that my heart may sing to You and not be silent. Oh, Lord, my God, I will give You thanks forever." Psalms 30:11

† "Let them praise His name with dancing and make music to him with tambourine and harp. For the Lord takes delight in His people." Psalms 149:3

† "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him and I am helped. Psalm 28:7