



Performing Companies 2022/23 Information

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER FOR AUDITIONS! THE LINK TO REGISTER IS ON TDC'S MAIN WEBSITE.

Dear Dancers and Parents,

The Dance Company's Performing Companies allow both our students with potential and motivation and our more technically advanced and dedicated students to greatly increase their skills. This is achieved through choreography classes and various performances, guest choreographers and teachers, workshops, and competitions. We do this *for the dancers* and want to make this the best experience possible! We need your cooperation and full support to reach these goals.

Age and Ability Requirements: All those auditioning must be 7 years of age by September 1st and entering into 2nd grade. If you have a dancer entering kindergarten or 1st grade, please enroll him/her into our "Micro Mini" Company. Our oldest dancers should not be older than 18 or a senior in high school.

All dancers auditioning should have previous dance experience.

Summer Commitment: All Company members 8+ must enroll in ballet, one jazz, one contemporary and one tap class over the summer session (JUNE 13-AUG 14). These classes meet weekly and run at our current tuition rate. Upon enrollment, you will be charged for half tuition, the balance being due June 1. We strongly encourage enrollment in enrichment classes such as pointe, hip hop, tumbling, etc. If you are considering auditioning for Company, we recommend that you sign up for summer now. If spots for summer classes are full before you register, it may mean your dancer being put on a waitlist or placed in a lower level class. Dancers will register for their CURRENT level class and assessments will be made midsummer for Fall placements. If your dancer is new to TDC we will schedule a placement time to assess your level for summer classes.

Company Class, starting June 27 dancers will also have a weekly 2 hour company class over the summer. The company class begins the week of June 27 and runs until August 14. This will be charged to your Studio Director account on July 1 and is \$175 for the summer. You will find out the day and time of your company class by Monday, June 6.

Company members must also participate in the Choreography Workshop, August 15-20 (exact schedule TBD). Rehearsals will be afternoon, after school. If you have a conflict with those days, it is important that you tell us as soon as possible, as we will have choreographers working with each Company to set routines. We are also planning to have extra

rehearsals around the middle/end of August, before the regular dance season begins. We will get that schedule out as soon as possible, and please let us know of conflicts.

Regular Season Commitment: Company dancers must enroll in Company class, ballet (dancers 8+ come twice a week), contemporary, jazz and tap. We strongly recommend that all Company members add tumbling, ballet technique, jazz technique, hip hop, pointe/pre pointe and any specialty classes such as jumps and turns. Company classes will most likely be held once a week, with occasional extra rehearsals, especially as performances and competitions near. ***Regular*** class attendance is ***required***, as is on-time attendance to all rehearsals and performances. The first step to becoming a successful dancer is making a solid commitment to your classes. Strong technique is vital, and class is where you develop that technique. Company members must be enrolled in classes the entire year. **Those who miss classes without making them up ahead of time or within two weeks may be dismissed from Company.** The same will occur with those who do not have a consistently positive attitude. **Company members should be our most dedicated students who are the best examples, and respectful to both teachers and other students.**

Placement: We usually have several different levels of Companies. The number of Companies we have, how we group the dancers, and whether or not we have younger or older Companies all depends on who attends the audition. We do not have a set amount of Companies every year because we do not know beforehand who will audition. Please recognize that the grouping of students is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex. We strive to place each dancer in the Company that will best facilitate her individual growth. Participation in Companies gives a tremendous opportunity for progression, regardless of the level.

Competitions: Depending on Company placement, students may attend 2+ competitions and 1-2 conventions. Some teams may be expected to attend additional competitions and conventions. These details will be provided after auditions.

Exact participation and number of routines each Company will perform will be determined after auditions. Perfecting routines and getting them competition-ready is a huge part of what helps dancers reach a higher level. This is also a way for our students and teachers to “see what’s out there” and continue to push harder and grow from there. Our Companies consistently score high and have won awards for best overall choreography and best studio.

Concert Year/Showcase: In the non-Concert years, we generally hold a Company Showcase in the later half of the dance year. We will have more information available as we get closer to the start of the dance year.

Fees: \$100 is due at the time of audition. If your student is not selected for a Company, the \$100 will be refunded immediately. PLEASE PRE-REGISTER ONLINE FOR AUDITIONS! Pre-registering will help to make audition day run much smoother.

Exact fees per Company will be determined AFTER auditions but will be between \$75 - \$200 per month (dependent upon Company placement) paid August 1 – May 1. (The

August payment will include a non-refundable “Security Deposit” for the month of July and will therefore be twice the regular amount.) This includes:

- Conventions, workshops, choreography fees, and extra rehearsals
- Costumes, tights (for competitions), Company T-shirt, garment bag, earrings, make up
- Company warm ups
- Competitions and other performance fee

Fees do **not** include:

- Class tuition (Tuition will be paid separately according to participating hours in regular classes and Company classes.)
- Master classes
- Extra choreography (optional solos, duos, trios or group pieces)
- Extra competitions or conventions
- Hotels and Travel (when necessary for competition/convention)
- Company trips
- Costumes for end of year concert or showcase (for regular classes)
- Any expenses related to end of year concert or showcase.

Please note that part of the commitment of being in Companies is being current with all accounts related to participation.

Fundraisers: Although we work very hard to keep costs down, we know Companies are still a big expense. We don't want money to prevent talented and hard-working students from being members, so every year we encourage fundraisers. We rely on parent help to organize fundraising efforts. If additional financial support is needed, please speak with the TDC directors.

Parent Volunteers: The support of parents is critical for the success of our Companies. Please understand the commitment to participate does include parents' help with carpooling, organizing fundraisers, and other activities. We require each parent to fulfill at least one volunteer assignment per student in Companies.

We realize that all of this is a big commitment for the dancers. Therefore, it is necessary for Companies to be a top priority in their extra-curricular activities. The more committed each dancer is to this program, the more enjoyable the experience will be. Our Companies have proven to be extremely beneficial to our students. They become stronger dancers, well-rounded performers, and learn to have fun while working hard! Truly, students who make Companies a commitment throughout high school have better preparation for college and professional dance opportunities if they desire them.