



COMPANY INFORMATION

The Dancers' Studio Company



Dear Students and Parents,

Thank you for your interest in our competition team recognized as The Dancers' Studio Company. We are entering our 17th year with our Dancers' Studio team, and are very excited to get going again. Our studio team competes in a variety of areas of dance including jazz, tap, hip hop, and contemporary. By offering this variety to our students, we have opened the doors for our students to expand their training in the performing arts, and become well-rounded performers. Many of our former and current team members have had success at auditions within the industry and are recognized for their professional training. Some of our former members have received college scholarships for colleges like UCI, CSULB, and NYU. We've also had members find success performing for artists on tour, Emmy award winning tv shows, music videos, community arts, and Disney! We are so proud of the performers our program has produced. Our company directors and choreographers are all looking forward to working with so many new and talented young people!

Our goal for each of our team members is to develop excellent performance skills by being given extra opportunities to perform each year and by receiving an elevated form of training. Our fabulous performers have had the opportunity to dance at a variety of wonderful events including community events, Disneyland, and Storm Stadium. They've also earned high scores and honors at competitions and conventions across Southern California and the fabulous Las Vegas!

"Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life."

Audition Eligibility: All students enrolled at The Dancers' Studio are eligible to audition for The Company as long as the student's tuition, costume, and team accounts are current with no past due balances from previous seasons, and has completed his/her commitment during any and all previous seasons. All team members are expected to commit to the full season of events and attend all team performances and competitions. Any conflicts must be presented to our director well in advance. Students who do not honor their team contract will not be allowed to finish the remainder of the season on team, and will not be eligible to audition for teams in future seasons.

Solo/Duo/Trio auditions will be held on Friday August 2nd from 5:00pm-7:00pm and Company auditions will be held Saturday August 3rd from 10:00am-2:30pm. For a solo/duo/trio to be approved, dancers must prepare a 25-45 second combination in the style they wish to compete with. For example, if Dancer A and Dancer B want to compete a duo together, they must create and perform a piece together. During check-in, parents or dancers will fill out a form stating which style and choreographer they would like to request. However, ultimately approval of the routine and the choreographer is left to the directors' discretion. The Company audition process will include a morning of choreography followed by auditions. Dancers wanting to audition for jazz, contemporary, lyrical, tap and hip hop groups will learn their audition combinations and perform for the instructors. Dancers will be divided by age and evaluated by skill and overall dance experience.

Ages 3-5

11:00am-11:30am	Check-In
11:30am-12:00pm	Mini's Class
12:00pm-12:30pm	Mini Audition

Ages 6+

9:30am-10:00am	Check-In
10:00am-10:30am	Contemporary/Lyrical
10:30am-11:00am	Jazz
11:00am-12:00pm	Contemporary/Lyrical/Jazz Auditions
12:00pm-12:30pm	Snack/Break
12:30pm-1:00pm	Tap
1:00pm-1:30pm	Hip Hop
1:30pm-2:30pm	Tap/Hip Hop Auditions

If you are not able to attend auditions, please arrange a private audition in advance. During audition check-in, you will fill out a form where you will give us a little information about you and your child and list any conflict dates you may have for the season ahead (August-June). This will help us plan ahead for the new year.

Routine Placement: After auditions, the dancers will be placed in the routine(s) he or she will be working and performing in throughout the year. The audition experience is good practice for future performance opportunities and is also the time in which instructors can observe and invite students into solos or groups. For groups, each dancer will be considered for placement in whichever style(s) they auditioned for and a full team production number (required). **Dancers who audition are carefully chosen by our directors to participate in groups that are thought to be the best fit for both the individual and the collective team. Dancers do not have the option to select specific groups to perform in; instead, they are placed where their talents and potential will shine brightest. It's essential to note that if a dancer decides to drop from a group they have been selected for, they will forfeit their place on the team entirely. We hope that both parents and dancers will place trust in our professional judgment and rest assured that we always prioritize the best interests of our dancers, aiming for their growth and success.**

Note: We divide our groups into 5 possible divisions: Minis, Petites, Juniors, Teens, and Seniors. After auditions, should we not have enough students in any division to create a group of 4 or more, special arrangements may be made to accommodate that group of dancers.

After Auditions: All company members will receive an email with placement information and details. We thank you in advance for your patience as our directors take time to create groups for the new season. Our company groups and soloists **list will be posted no later than Saturday, August 10th. A mandatory parent meeting will be held on Saturday, August 17th at 10:00 AM** followed by the first choreography weekend. The meeting will cover what to expect throughout the season as a team member. We would also love to answer any questions you have during this time. **Weekly scheduled rehearsals will begin the week of August 12th.**

Choreography Weekend Rehearsals:

August 17th	11:00am-6:00pm
August 18th	12:00pm-6:00pm
August 24th	10:00am-6:00pm
August 25th	12:00pm-6:00pm

This time will be used to get a jump start on learning routines. Some company members may need to attend most hours of these rehearsals, while others may need to attend fewer. A detailed schedule for the rehearsals will be made after auditions.

Weekly Rehearsals August-June:

Auditions and the information you provide on your Audition Form will determine the number of groups and selected styles of dance that best fit our dancers. Groups will rehearse weekly. A weekly schedule will be available in the Company placement email **August 10th.**

Required Classes:

In order to join The Dancers' Studio Company, you must be enrolled in a minimum number of classes at The Dancers' Studio each month from August 2024 to June 2025 (Recital month). **Mini company members in only 1-2 routines will have a Company Fee of \$65 per month and company members in our petite, junior, teen, and senior groups participating in 1 or more groups will have a Company Fee of \$150 per month.** These rates are in addition to regular monthly tuition. Please see our studio price sheet for more details on our class prices. Students who are taking unlimited classes still pay the flat rates for teams. Company rates are not included in tuition prices.

Each year we strive to make changes and improvements to our program and find ways to help students build their technical skills to a level that will be competitive. Our Company members are required to take classes that will work on their strength, flexibility, and technical skill.

A breakdown of requirements to participate in our Company is listed below:

Minis Ages 3-5: Weekly Team Rehearsal (\$65 per month), plus a ballet class and jazz class weekly.

Petites, Juniors, Teens, and Seniors Ages 6+: Weekly Company Rehearsal(s) (\$150 per month), plus the requirements below.

Ages 6+	Levels 1 and 2	Levels 3-5
Required If Competing In Jazz or Contemporary	Conditioning/Technique	Conditioning/Technique
	Leaps & Turns	Leaps & Turns
	Ballet 1A or 2A (Once Weekly)	Ballet (Twice Weekly)
Must be enrolled in the following classes if competing in these styles:	Jazz 1A or Jazz 2A	Jazz
	Tap	Tap
	Hip Hop	Hip Hop
	Contemporary	Contemporary
Additionally Recommended:	Acro/Tumbling	Acro/Tumbling
		Pointe

*Conditioning/Technique and Leaps and Turns are included in the monthly Company fee flat rate.

Solos, Duos, Trios:

All Company members will receive a \$20 monthly discount off private lessons. You **MUST** be in a group of the same style of dance in order to perform and compete with a solo, duo or trio, and must be enrolled in a private lesson to work on that routine. Students who are on the company team may compete and perform a routine in the disciplines of ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop, acro, or tap. A maximum of two solo routines can be prepared in one private lesson time slot for ages 12+ at the instructor's discretion. Soloists under 12 may only prepare one solo routine in one private lesson time slot. It is important that our soloists and groups be well rehearsed, clean and prepared for competition. Duos and trios cannot be rehearsed during the same private lesson as a solo.

***Note: A Solos/Duos/Trios-only option is no longer available. We feel it is necessary our company members understand the importance of working amongst peers who support and push one another to a higher standard. We believe that the essence of competitive dance extends beyond individual excellence. Hence, we've made the decision to no longer offer a solo-only option. Our goal is to instill in our members the value of teamwork, camaraderie, and the power of peer support. A performer who has the opportunity to perform as a soloist or as a member in a duo or trio, should also be receiving the additional training that comes with performing in the same style of dance as a group. Solos, duos, and trios are a privilege. This change aligns with our commitment to fostering not only exceptional dancers but also well-rounded individuals who understand the significance of

working together to achieve greatness. Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to nurture both the skills and character of our talented dancers.

Recital/Showcase Participation: All company members are required to participate in the December Showcase and June Recital. At recital, Company members are expected and required to perform all team routines, as well as class routines with all of the minimum required classes. Students must purchase a recital costume for each of the required classes for the Recital. The only exceptions to this rule are technique only classes. We expect our team members to be good examples of how hard work and dedication can pay off with serious training. Company members are representatives of our studio.

Fee Calculation and Invoicing (CPP): This season, we will be calculating the total for all choreography, prop, costuming, and competition fees for each dancer. Individual invoices will be provided at the parent meeting which will include the sum of all fees for the 2024/2025 season. In the event of any unexpected costs, a separate invoice will be issued at the time of the expense. We will strive to be comprehensive with the initial invoice to minimize or eliminate the need for additional invoices.

Payment options:

1. **Monthly installments:** The total invoice can be divided into 8 monthly installments, due on the 18th of each month from September through April.
2. **Klarna Financing:** Parents can apply for Klarna through the parent portal. Klarna is a financial service that allows you to split purchases into manageable payments. It offers flexible payment plans to spread out the cost over time, making it easier to budget for the season's expenses.

An approximate breakdown of costs for the year is listed below: (Not including Tuition)

	<u>1-2 Groups</u>	<u>3-5 Groups</u>
-Team Jacket	\$120.00	\$120.00
-Costumes and Accessories	\$300.00	\$700.00
-Tights and Shoes	\$200.00	\$300.00
-Competition Fees	\$1275.00	\$2125.00
-Studio Fees (\$80 per event)	\$400.00	\$400.00
-Recital (Cast Fee, Costumes, etc.)	\$250.00	\$600.00
-Disneyland Performance	\$200.00	\$200.00
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Approximate Total Cost:	\$2745.00	\$4445.00

Please be aware that this is only an estimate; costs may be lower or higher, and this is the approximate cost for the full year. This cost breakdown does not include tuition for the year, just Company expenses, and does not include hotel accommodations if you choose to stay multiple days at any event. This is a base amount. Please be sure that you are comfortable with the financial commitment before auditioning. If you would like a more accurate total for the entire year, please include your monthly tuition and private lesson costs (each person's will vary, based on the number of classes/private lessons you take), and any additional travel expenses you may incur from traveling to competition locations.

Attendance: In past years, consistent attendance has been a struggle for some team members. **Absent team members cause a great deal of work for instructors and other students, and ultimately compromise the quality of the pieces. A very strict attendance policy will be enforced in regards to company rehearsals and required classes:**

- 3 missed Company rehearsals per season, per routine (August 2024- June 2025) will be tolerated. A doctor's note is required to dismiss an absence. Zero tolerance for missed rehearsals within 7 days of a competition or performance.
- 4 missed rehearsals- the student must provide a doctor's note excusing the student from all activity. **Should no doctor's note be provided, the student will no longer be allowed to participate in the group routine for the remainder of the year, and the alternate may take his/her place.** Should a doctor's note be provided, the alternate will fill in and perform in the following competition or performance, after which, the original student may resume his/her spot in the routine, as long as we receive a doctor's note releasing the student to participate again. Competition fees and studio fees will still be charged.

Required Class Attendance: We can not expect the standard of our teams to improve if team members are not consistent in their technical training. Regular class attendance is an important part of making sure our performers are receiving the proper training required to compete. In an effort to improve the skills of our competition teams and each individual equally, **there will be a ZERO absence policy** for any required class to be on the teams they are a member of. **Any missed required classes MUST be made up within two weeks of the absence.** For example, a company member in a jazz or contemporary group who misses a ballet class for any reason, with or without a doctor's note, must make up the ballet class in the level equivalent or below within two weeks. If a performer does not follow these regular class requirements they will be removed from the group number(s) for the following performance/competition.

What's Excused: Excluding the week of competition/performance,

1. Any injury or illness where a doctor's note states that the dancer should not engage in physical activity or expose others
2. School events such as graded/required events/trips (with proof*), graduations/promotions, and award ceremonies
3. Bereavement

* Teacher/school email specifying the event is required, copy of invitation for an award ceremony

* In unforeseen circumstances, it is up to the directors' discretion if an absence is excused

Company Contract: Each student and parent will be asked to sign a contract at the time of auditions outlining the information contained in this packet, and all attendance requirements. Please read the contract carefully, so that you are aware of the requirements and commitment required to participate. Contracts will be available for you to read and sign at auditions.

In past years we have accepted all students who have auditioned for our teams, and hope to do so again this year. As our studio continues to grow, we strive to accommodate students of all levels on our teams, whether beginning, intermediate or advanced. Should we have a large number of beginning/intermediate level students audition, we may add extra groups to allow these dancers to be training at a comfortable level, rather than the students feeling as though they must keep up with advanced dancers who have been competing for multiple years. Should we not have enough new students audition at a beginning/intermediate level to create separate groups, we may encourage beginning/intermediate students to study for an additional year in classes before placing him/her on a team.

We have watched our performers grow immensely over the past years, and we are confident that participating in our competitive teams will be a rewarding and positive experience for you in developing your performing arts training. We look forward to seeing you at The Dancers' Studio's Company Auditions!

-TDS Company Directors

Tentative Season Schedule

July 8th	2024-2025 Season Classes Begins
August 2nd	Company Solo/Duo/Trio Auditions (5pm-7pm)
August 3rd	Company Group Auditions (10am-2:30pm)
August 10th	Company Placement Email
August 12th	Company Weekly Rehearsals Begin
August 17th	Parent Meeting (10am-11am) Choreography Rehearsals (11am-6pm)
August 18th	Choreography Rehearsals (12pm-6pm)
August 24th	Choreography Rehearsals (10am-6pm)
August 25th	Choreography Rehearsals (12pm-6pm)
September 14th	Production Rehearsal (10am-6pm)
October 26th	Progress Rehearsal/Halloween Party (10am-2pm)
October 31st	Halloween- Studio Closed
November 27th-30th	Thanksgiving Break- Studio Closed
December 14th-15th	Company Lock-In/Sleepover
December 19th-20th	Winter Showcase Tech Rehearsals
December 21st	Winter Showcase
December 22nd-January 5th	Winter Break- Studio Closed
January 11th	Company Dress Rehearsal (10am-4pm)
January 18th	Mock Competition (2pm-6pm)
February 8th	Extra Rehearsal Day (10am-2pm)
February 14th-16th	Leap Competition San Diego
March 1st	Company Picture Day
March 14th-16th	Revolution Competition Upland
March 29th	Extra Rehearsal Day (10am-2pm)
March 31st-April 6th	Spring Break- Studio Closed
April 11th-13th	Starpower Competition Anaheim
April 26th (subject to change)	Disneyland Performance
May 2nd-May 4th	Countdown Competition Long Beach
May 23rd-26th	Showstopper Competition Anaheim
June 6th-7th	Recital Picture Days
June 16th-18th	Recital Tech Rehearsals
June 19th	Nationals Rehearsal/Company Send off
June 20th-21st	Recital
June 22-July 6	Summer Break - Studio Closed
June 23-27	Starpower Nationals Las Vegas
July 7	2025/2026 Season Begins
August 1-2	2025/2026 Company Auditions