



26-27 INFO

WHO ARE WE?

Dancers Workshop Performance Team (DWPT) is our competitive program for dancers entering Kindergarten - 12th grade, focused on building strong fundamentals, confidence, and performance skills. Dancers are placed on a new team each year based on age and ability to support continued growth and development. Company members learn three pieces, attend three competitions, and perform in a spring show, all within a structured, manageable schedule that allows for other activities. Dancers may have additional optional community performance opportunities throughout the year. DWPT fosters a positive, encouraging environment where dancers gain stage experience, receive valuable feedback, and grow as well-rounded performers.

AUDITION INFORMATION

You Must register by Monday, May 18th via www.DancersWorkshopAustin.com or your member portal so our staff can prepare for auditions. Auditions are free to current Dancers Workshop members and \$15 per dancer for non-members.

If you require an alternative audition please reach out to Ms. Gelsey at dwatxperformanceteam@gmail.com asap to arrange.

Entering Kinder-2nd Grade: Wednesday, May 20th, 4:30-5:30pm

Entering 3-5th Grade: Wednesday, May 20th, 5:30-6:30pm

Entering 6-7th Grade: Wednesday, May 20th, 6:30-8pm

Entering 8th Grade and Up: Wednesday, May 20th, 8-9:30pm

Your dancer may be asked to stay for the next age bracket's audition following your own. If you are unsure about Dancers Workshop Performance Team or Creative Culture Dance Company, we encourage you to audition for both. Dancers that are not accepted onto CCDC may be offered a placement on the Dancers Workshop Performance Team

How *Teams* Are Determined

After auditions and company commitments are finalized, dancers are placed on teams based on age and ability. Teams will change every year as we welcome new dancers. We believe evaluating all dancers yearly enables us to identify growth and provide the appropriate placement where all dancers can be challenged, grow, and thrive as teammates.

Team placement will be announced in June.

DWPT *requirements*

Entering Kinder-1st: 1 Combo class per week at DW + Thursday DWPT Rehearsals

Entering 2-5th Grade: 1 Ballet & 1 Jazz class per week at DW + Thursday DWPT Rehearsals

Entering 6th & Up: 1 Ballet & 2 Jazz classes per week at DW + Thur DWPT Rehearsals

Summer 2026 Requirements:

Dancers will be required to attend a minimum of 5 company classes over the 9 weeks of summer. We HIGHLY encourage at least 1 summer intensive (Diversity, Ovation, or VIBE, dependent on age/level):

DWPT Thursday Rehearsals

Thursdays, 1.5 hours, exact times are TBD based on team placement.

Rehearsal will begin the week of August 17th, 2026.

There will be one Saturday Dress Rehearsal in January 2027.

Additionally, community performances may necessitate an additional rehearsal, scheduled with as much notice as possible and participation will be optional.

DWPT is a great option for dancers participating in other extra-curriculars or have a variety of interests... but can still maintain their Thursday rehearsal and technique class minimum commitments.

HAVING A

great

AUDITION

What to expect at the audition

1. Auditions are much like class without a warm up. Arrive early to stretch. Bring ballet and jazz shoes (if you already own both), & sneakers. Wear a leotard and tights and a neat bun. Dancers may quickly add a skirt, dance shorts, leggings, or hip-hop pants over their tights for the jazz & hip-hop portion.
2. All movement will be taught and dancers do not need to prepare anything in advance. Dancers may learn a few short ballet combinations center floor as well as progressions across the floor. For jazz and hip-hop, dancers may be taught new progressions and a short combination to be performed in small groups, as appropriate for each age.
3. Auditions are a fun, positive, and encouraging experience! Every dancer will be supported to do their best while enjoying the process. We welcome a wide range of experience levels and are not looking for perfection—just effort, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn. Dancers will audition in small groups and will not be asked to dance alone. There are no cuts during the audition, and the environment will remain uplifting and supportive for everyone involved. Results will be shared via email.

Having a great audition

1. Plan ahead. Plan your ride, outfit, hair and arrival to leave plenty of time for stretching and relaxing.
2. Relax and have fun! This is a friendly, positive experience. Dancers will also gain experience for other auditions, such as show choirs, dance teams, and theater. "Learn the ropes" about auditioning in a safe environment.

WHAT IF I DON'T MAKE DWPT

or

THE TEAM PLACEMENT I'M HOPING FOR?

- Although not every dancer who auditions will be placed on the Dancers Workshop Performance Team, we do accept as many dancers as we can reasonably accommodate while ensuring well-balanced teams based on age and ability. Our goal is for every dancer to feel like a valued and meaningful part of a team environment.
- Every audition is an opportunity for growth, regardless of the outcome. Dancers who are not selected are encouraged to continue training, stay motivated, and return stronger next season. Dancers who are selected should approach their placement with humility, gratitude, and respect for their peers.
- New teams are formed each year based on each dancer's individual growth and progress, as well as the overall development and needs of the program. Families commit to DWPT prior to individual team placements being announced. Placement decisions are made collaboratively by the Director, DWPT choreographers, and Dancers Workshop faculty, taking into account technique class attendance, participation, class etiquette, work ethic, attitude, and overall potential for growth. We ask that families trust the placement process, as every dancer will be placed in a role that is appropriate and supportive to best encourage their continued development within the program.
- Audition results are final. Students are welcome to request written feedback for areas of improvement following auditions. If any adjustments to groupings are needed, they will be made based on developmental progress observed at the end of the summer. Keep working hard!
- Please note that withdrawing after teams are released will result in the loss of the deposit and may make the dancer ineligible to audition in future seasons.

DWPT *philosophy*

Dancers Workshop Performance Team will enjoy performance opportunities and compete at a variety of competitions throughout the season. The performance and competitive culture we intend to impart will be based on seeking out valuable feedback as a way of gauging growth. Each performance will be unique and provide an opportunity for the dancers to be evaluated by industry professionals, DWPT directors and themselves. These experiences will be used as learning tools to set company members on a path of consistent improvement. Each performance is an exciting opportunity to improve upon the last. We want to celebrate what we leave on the stage over what we bring home from it.

important dates

DWPT Informational Meeting: **Tuesday, May 5, 5:30-6:30pm via zoom.**
You must be registered for the meeting in the member portal in advance to receive an email with the zoom link. There is no obligation to register for the audition.

Audition Results will be emailed by Thursday, May 28th by 5pm.

DWPT Mandatory Parent Meeting for those accepted:

Friday, May 29th, Time TBD via zoom

DWPT Commitment Deadline: **Monday, June 1st** via google form provided with results, along with initial deposit.

Learn about Competitive Dance

What? What is a Dance Competition?

Performance dance is performed for an audience. This could be an audience at a community event, a studio recital, a dance festival or dance competition. "Dance Competition" is an adjudicated event. Dance competition formats vary: the common thread is that a performance dance piece receives a "score" from an adjudicator or panel of adjudicators, representing their assessment of the performance piece on that day based on the criteria such as:

- **Technique:** core elements of the dance style based on universally-accepted standards, and how consistently they are executed by the dancers in the routine
- **Choreography:** quality of variations, formations, lines, traditions, and sequences; music selection and editing, quality of highlighting dancers aptitude creativity of a concept.
- **Performance:** quality of execution of the choreography content, facial expression, use of space, musicality reflected in movements, overall connection with the content and story, etc.
- **Age and Skill Level:** how this performance compares in degree of difficulty, performance quality, technique and choreography to other dancers. Divisions typically compare dancers based on hours per week of technique training.
- **Costuming:** how the costuming enhances the performance quality and compliments the choreography and dancers.

Who?

Who runs a dance competition?

Private (for profit) competition production companies host events using their own criteria for format. Dance does not have a sanctioned organization that governs adjudication/scoring.

Why? Why We Compete

For self reflection, experience-based learning, and personal development that emphasizes competitive dance is not so much about competing, but rather an opportunity to:

- Receive valuable feedback from dance professionals to incorporate into dancer's learning framework.
- Watch and learn from how many other dancers compete.
- Spend time bonding with our team and making connections with others in our community whom we share and celebrate this common interest with.

How? How Does Dancers Workshop Select Competition?

Through due-diligence assessment of the competition company ownership and alignment with our mission to provide happy, healthy, safe dance education and experiences that help kids thrive in and out of the studio.

Transparent guidelines, policies and procedures.

Cost, location, schedule availability, and contributions to the local economy and dance community.



3 Reasons to Compete on DW Performance Team!

- Performance Opportunities! Competing helps dancers see that there are many career opportunities in the dance world.
- Team Building Skills! Competing on a dance team helps children understand that this is a team effort!
- Confidence Building! We are instilling dancers with confidence and the joy of movement.

DWPT *finances*

Monthly Fees

Estimated \$175-\$185 per month (August 2026-May 2027). This is in addition to Dancers Workshop tuition for technique classes.

Annual Fees

Estimated \$1,300-\$1,350

Fees include competition entry fees, costumes, choreography, props as needed, directors fees, and show expenses.

There will be a requirement to purchase company year. Price TBD (\$100-\$150). Additional gear will be optional.

Payment along with due dates, will be finalized and published at the parent meeting. However, the first payment of \$500 (non-refundable, non-transferable) will be due Monday, June 1st and will serve as your commitment to the program. That initial deposit payment is applied to your annual fees.

this does not include expenses related to the extention opportunity



extension opportunity

The Dancers Workshop Performance Team is excited to continue the Extension Opportunity into its second year. This exclusive program is designed as an additional growth opportunity for those that express interest. This experienced DWPT dancers that are selected will showcase their talents through a solo choreographed by Dancers Workshop faculty. Participation is by audition only, ensuring that dancers selected are ready for the added challenge and commitment. The DWPT audition on May 20th will also serve as this audition. This season will accept a maximum of 18 dancers.

Extension Program dancers will be assigned both a "choreographer" and a "rehearsal lead" this season. Dancers will learn their choreography over the course of 3-4 rehearsals in June, July, and/or August before transitioning into a twice-monthly (1 Friday in August and 2 September through April) rehearsal schedule with their assigned rehearsal lead. Each dancer will be assigned a 30-minute private time slot on each scheduled Extension Friday. In addition, an open studio will be available for dancers to arrive early, warm up, and review choreography in a self-directed group setting. A finalized schedule of Friday rehearsal dates will be released by August 1. All rehearsals will take place in 30-minute increments within a window of 4:30-7:30 PM.

This opportunity is designed for dancers who have demonstrated the discipline, focus, consistent attendance, effort, and technical ability required to take on additional performance challenges. It's best suited for dancers who are able to retain choreography independently, maintain strong focus in rehearsals and commit to consistent self-directed practice outside of class. Dancers must meet all DWPT technique, attendance, and rehearsal expectations in order to remain eligible for this opportunity. Failure to uphold these standards may result in the solo being removed from competition.

Extension Opportunity participants will compete their solo at the same three stage competitions attended by DWPT group routines, with a possibility of Friday performances that may fall during school hours. Families must be comfortable with this scheduling commitment. Additionally, dancers may have the option to register for extra competitions beyond the required three, should they wish to gain even more performance experience.

We are excited to offer this next-level opportunity to our most committed dancers and can't wait to see them shine on stage!

finances

The total, all inclusive, price for this extension opportunity is \$2,600.

This includes solo entry fees for 3 competitions, a costume, choreography costs and Friday rehearsal costs (August through April).

\$289 Monthly (July-February), 9 payments