



2025-2026

audition information

You Must register by Friday, May 23rd 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 dwatxperformanceteam@gmail.com asap to arrange.

Entering Kinder-2nd Grade: Tuesday, May 27th, 4-5pm
Entering 3-4th Grade: Tuesday, May 27th, 5-6:30pm
Entering 5-7th Grade: Tuesday, May 27th, 6:30-8pm
Entering 8th Grade and Up: Tuesday, May 27th, 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 (previously "Prep" and "Pro"), 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

DWPT is a competitive team for entering Kindergarten and Up.

Dancers will be placed on a team 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 grow and be challenged.

Dancers will be cast in 3 pieces, will compete at three stage competitions, and perform in a spring show. This is a great option for dancers participating in other extra-curriculars or have a variety of interests... *but can still maintain their Thursday rehearsal commitment and technique class minimums.*

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 2025 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 21st, 2025. There will be one Friday/Saturday rehearsal EITHER September 19-20 OR September 26-27th. There will also be one Saturday rehearsal in January 2026.

HAVING A *great* AUDITION

What to expect at the audition

1. Auditions are much like class without a warm up. Arrive early to stretch. Wear a leotard and tights and a neat bun.
2. You will learn a few short ballet combinations and perform them center floor as well as progressions across the floor. For jazz you will learn a combo and perform it in smaller groups.
3. Auditions are fun and friendly! Every dancer will be encouraged to do their best and to enjoy the experience. There will not be cuts during the audition and we will be positive and encouraging to everyone! Results will be emailed.

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 it" or "make the team I wanted"?

- Although not everyone who auditions will make the DW Performing Teams, we accept as many dancers as we can reasonably accommodate and that would fit in well within a group.
- There is something to be learned from any audition, regardless of the outcome. Dancers who are not selected should be encouraged to keep dancing and try again next season! Dancers who are selected should be humbled by the opportunity and gracious towards others.
- You will be required to commit to being a member of the DW Performing Team before individual companies are announced. You must trust that your dancer will be placed on an appropriate spot by Directors. Dropping after teams are released will result in losing your deposit and making you ineligible to audition in the future.
- Audition results are final. Students are welcome to ask for written feedback for improvement after auditions. If we need to make any adjustments to groupings, we will do so based on what we see developmentally at the end of summer. Keep working hard!

HAVING A *great* AUDITION

Optional: AUDITION PREP 4 WEEK SESSION

APRIL 23-MAY 21 (No class May 7)

Session Meets:

Wednesdays 6-7pm with Ms. Gelsey

Designed for any dancer (Kinder-5th Grade),
wanting to prepare for next season's auditions.

\$125 for Current Members

\$135 for Guests

Register in your Member Portal by April 2nd.

DWPT *philosophy*

Dancers Workshop Performance Team will attend a variety of competitions throughout the season. The 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: **Wednesday, April 30th 6:15-7pm 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 Friday, May 30th by 2pm.

DWPT Mandatory Parent Meeting for those accepted:

Friday, May 30th, 6pm via zoom

DWPT Commitment Deadline: **Monday, June 2nd** 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 \$170-\$180 per month (August 2025-May 2026) This is in addition to Dancers Workshop tuition for technique classes

Annual Fees

Estimated \$1,250-\$1,350

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

There will be a requirement to purchase a company jacket. Price TBD (approx \$100). 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 2nd 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

NEW!

extension opportunity

Dancers Workshop Performance Team is thrilled to introduce an exciting new Extension Opportunity for dedicated and driven dancers! This exclusive program allows selected dancers to showcase their talents through a solo, duet, or trio, choreographed primarily by the directors of Creative Culture Dance Company. Participation in this opportunity is by audition only, ensuring that dancers chosen are prepared for the added challenge and commitment. The audition on May 27th will serve as their audition for this program, too.

Dancers will learn their choreography over the course of 3-4 rehearsals in July and August before transitioning into bi-weekly rehearsals beginning August 19th. These rehearsals will take place on Fridays in an open studio format, where dancers will be assigned a studio space and receive valuable, rotating feedback from choreographers throughout their session. A finalized schedule will be released in August, but rehearsals are expected to take place within a window of 5:00-7:00 PM.

This is an opportunity for dancers who have demonstrated the discipline, focus, and technical ability required to take on additional performance challenges. It is not suited for those who need to prioritize group choreography retention or who struggle with maintaining focus in rehearsals. Dancers must meet all technique and rehearsal expectations—failure to do so may result in solo/duo/trio being pulled from competition.

Extension Opportunity participants will compete their solo/duo/trio at the same three stage competitions attended by DWPT group routines, with a possibility of Friday performances that may fall during school hours. Additionally, they will perform in the spring show. Families must be comfortable with this scheduling commitment. Additionally, dancers will 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 entry fees for 3 competitions, a costume, choreography costs and Friday rehearsal costs (August through April).

A payment plan will be arranged and published at the parent meeting in June.