



## NDC Student Company Program Information 2017-2018

The NDC Student Company Program was formed to offer students who have a keen interest in regular performance opportunities, and who desire to dedicate serious focus to dance, the avenue through which to increase their abilities and share their artistry with the community at large. In prior years, we have performed at senior homes, libraries, schools, malls, community festivals, and military bases. This year, we will continue these relationships and build new ones.

In addition to these exciting performance opportunities, the NDC company members will be featured in a **first semester holiday show, a second semester company show**, and will have the opportunity to attend enriching workshops and cultural events in the community—such as theater day at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. (Last year's company field trip to tour the complex and see, "An American in Paris" was a great bonding opportunity for the students and served to be an educational, fun and inspiring experience for all)!!

**Our existing branches are NDCcompany, NDC2 and NDC2junior.**

Company classes and performances are intended to enhance a student's dance education, not replace it. Therefore, company members must have good class attendance in all of their classes to ensure performance opportunities and to maintain their spot in Company. Likewise, regular attendance to all company class/rehearsal times is expected. **(Please see attached company attendance policy).**

Dancers are admitted to Company by audition only. It is an honor and a privilege to dance in a performance company. A student is always welcome to train without participating in company. However, if a student has a desire to perform regularly and to join company, they must meet the training and rehearsal requirements to make those performances and company memberships possible.

Weekly company classes/rehearsals focus on performance technique – stage presence, poise, theatrical presentation, establishing a repertoire, stagecraft, and the ability to pick up a variety of choreography quickly. Company class/rehearsal time will also include instruction in technique. The number of class/rehearsal hours is dependent on the specific company level. Requirements will build as students advance in age and level.

Company members at each level are asked to attend company performances whenever possible, even if they are not part of the performances themselves. **For example, we recommend that the younger members of company attend this year's DDD performance to support their older classmates in the NDCcompany branch.**

Because our performances take place in such a variety of venues, many of which we don't see until the day of performance, our dancers become very good at adapting to different situations and gain a tremendous amount of confidence in the process. Performing together creates a bond between all of the dancers, regardless of the company level they are in.

At its heart, the NDC Student Company Program is a community outreach program. We have seen firsthand the impact these dancers have on their audiences, as well as the impact the audiences have on these dancers. Being in Company is an opportunity to grow as a dancer and performer, learn dedication to and love for an art form, make lasting friendships, and share the joy of dance with our community.



## **NDC Student Company Program 2017-2018** **Placement Info**

Placement in each level of Company will be determined by audition.

Placement in technique classes may correspond to, or diverge from, the student's company level.

Students will receive an evaluation advising their technique class placement shortly following company auditions. (Attached).

Enrollment requirements for each level are listed below.

**NDC Company** ~ This level is open to students evaluated as ballet level 4. We may also consider students enrolled in Ballet 3 if their audition and class performance are strong in other styles. Students must also be enrolled in the following:

- **Ballet** (Meeting the requirements for each Ballet level)
  - Ballet 4: Meets 3x/week; includes Pointe 2x/week
  - Ballet 3: Meets 2x/week, includes Pointe/Pre-Pointe 1x/week
- **Jazz**-1 class/week
- **Modern/Contemporary**-1 class/week
- **Tap**-1 class/week
- **Musical Theater**—1 class/week
- **Choreography Concepts**—1 class/week
- **Hip Hop**—1 class/week
- **NDCo Technique & Rehearsal**—Sat 1:30-4:30; *subject to change/increase based on performance dates*

**Total Hour Requirements/wk (Level 4): 17.0 hrs, including Sat Technique & Rehearsal**

**Total Hour Requirements/wk (Level 3): 14.5 hrs, including Sat Technique & Rehearsal**

**NDC2** ~ This level is open to students evaluated as ballet level 3. We may also consider students enrolled in Ballet 2 if their audition and class performance are strong in other styles. Students must also be enrolled in the following:

- **Ballet** (Meeting the requirements for each Ballet level)
  - Ballet 3: Meets 2x/week, includes Pointe/Pre-Pointe 1x/week
  - Ballet 2: Meets 2x/week
- **Jazz**-1 class/week
- **Modern/Contemporary**-1 class/week
- **Tap**-1 class/week
- **Musical Theater**—1 class/week
- **Hip Hop**—1 class/week
- **Choreography Concepts**—Optional but highly recommended
- **NDC2 Technique & Rehearsal**—Sat 10:00-1:00; *subject to change/increase based on performance dates*

**Total Hour Requirements/wk (Level 3): 13.0 hrs required/14.5 hrs available, including Sat Technique & Rehearsal**

**Total Hour Requirements/wk (Level 2): 11.0 hrs required/12.5 hrs available, including Sat Technique & Rehearsal**

**NDC2junior** ~ This level is open to students evaluated as ballet level 1 or 2. Students must also be enrolled in the following:

- **Ballet** (Meeting the requirements for each Ballet level)
  - Ballet 2: Meets 2x/week
  - Ballet 1: Meets 1x/week
- **Jazz**—1 class/week
- **Tap**—1 class/week
- **NDC2jr Rehearsal**—Fri 5:30-7:00; *subject to change/increase based on performance dates*
- **Modern/Contemp 1**—Optional but highly recommended
- **Musical Theater 1**—Optional but highly recommended
- **Hip Hop 1**—Optional
- **Choreography Concepts**—NOT available to this level

**Total Hour Requirements/wk (Level 2): 6.5 hrs required/9.5 hrs available, including Friday Rehearsal**

**Total Hour Requirements/wk (Level 1): 5.0 hrs required/8.0 hrs available, including Friday Rehearsal**



## NDC Student Company Program 2017/2018 Costume Requirements

**In addition to their regular class attire,** Company members will need the following items:

|                                                                                    | NDCo | NDC2 | NDC2jr |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|--------|
| Nude camisole leotard w/clear straps                                               | X    | X    | X      |
| Nude spanks                                                                        | X    | X    | X      |
| Black spanks                                                                       | X    | X    | X      |
| Black camisole leotard                                                             | X    | X    | X      |
| Pink footed or convertible tights (not stirrup)                                    | X    | X    | X      |
| Tan footed or convertible tights (not stirrup)                                     | X    | X    | X      |
| Black footed or convertible tights (not stirrup)                                   | X    | X    | X      |
| Black full-length leggings                                                         | X    | X    | X      |
| Black jazz shoes (in addition to tan jazz shoes required for classes)              | X    | X    | X      |
| Tan/nude character tap shoes (in addition to black tap shoes required for classes) | X    | X    |        |
| Black Character shoes (already required for classes)                               | X    | X    |        |

Other costuming items will be provided by NDC.



## NDC Student Company Attendance Policy

2017/2018

**PLEASE READ ALL**

**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN BOTTOM OF NEXT PAGE TO ENSURE YOUR PLACE IN COMPANY**

Dance is an art form and skill that requires dedication, discipline, commitment and a strong work ethic. A dancer will not progress at a necessary rate if they do not attend regular training classes and rehearsals. Much like team sports and martial arts, dedication, discipline and etiquette are taught in tandem with the techniques and should not be separate from the learning of the activities themselves.

In the same way an individual dancer will fail to reach their full potential if they do not attend regular classes and rehearsals, a dance team will suffer, as a whole, if its members are often absent. It is true that a team--dance or otherwise--is only as strong as its weakest link. Dancers within a company need time to train and rehearse with one another if they are to look cohesive, in tune and polished during their performance presentations. The dancers are more confident when they are able to regularly train and rehearse with a consistent group of dancers. It is not fair to the company team members who are routinely in attendance to have to produce an inferior product due to the excessive absences of their teammates. We encourage each company member to see classes and rehearsals not just from the perspective of their own goals and desires, but from the perspective that they are accountable to their team members.

In addition, choreography often includes formations and partnering sections that depend upon every dancer being present. Much effort and extra time has to be put into re-staging choreography when students are excessively absent. For this reason, **we ask that company members keep their class and rehearsal absences to a minimum and that they attend all company performances where possible. We will make an effort to notify students and family members of upcoming performances as early as possible.** Please manage any conflicts around company rehearsals, company performances and required company classes.

1. **Excused Absences/Conflicts**—NDC will make an effort to work around and excuse serious conflicts. Any serious illness or family emergencies take precedence over dance rehearsals and classes and dancers will not be penalized for missing due to these two issues. In addition, if an out-of-town trip is planned well in advance, before a rehearsal or performance is scheduled, the out-of-town conflict will be honored, but may affect a dancer's ability to participate in a performance if logistics make their participation impossible. Finally, if the dancer must attend a school or church mandated activity during a company performance or rehearsal, their absence will be excused.
2. **NON-Excused Absences/Conflicts**—Accepting a position in Company implies that the dancer plans to prioritize Company classes, rehearsals and performances. If a student needs to miss a company activity for an event not outlined in #1 above, they must notify us far in advance and receive office and company director approval. The absence will be considered non-excused if the student does not receive faculty approval in advance **It is NOT acceptable to call out of a show the night before or the day of a show, unless a student is in the hospital, severely ill or dealing with a family emergency.**
3. **Notice**—Please give as much up-front notice as possible on any known conflict. Once conflicts have been received and approved they will be placed on the company calendar and rehearsals, performances and choreography will be arranged according to these known conflicts. Additional conflicts, if received after a dancer has been cast in an upcoming performance, will not be accepted unless they are emergency conflicts or mandated conflicts, as outlined above in #1. If the additional conflicts cannot be rearranged, the dancer will be asked to step down from the upcoming performance(s). Please understand that missing a company class or rehearsal affects a student's ability to perform. This is not a punishment, but rather a logistical reality.

- 4. **Class Attendance**—NDC Company students are expected to meet their company level technique class requirements each week. If something prevents them from attending a scheduled class, they are expected to make up for the missed class within the week at a class of the same or lower level.
- 5. **Excessive Absences/Conflicts**—If a student begins to miss required classes and rehearsals at an excessive level, we will reach out to communicate with them and their parent or guardian. If the issue is not immediately corrected, a student may be placed on probation within the company. If the issue continues to present itself during probation, the dancer may be asked to step down from company.
- 6. **Additional Rehearsals/Workshops:** Additional rehearsals or workshops may be added on Fridays and Saturdays based on scheduled performances. We will do our best to notify all students well in advance of extra rehearsal dates and times.

Every effort will be made to reasonably manage conflicts and absences. However, it should be the exception, rather than the norm, for a dancer to miss any of their company classes and rehearsals. We want students to enjoy their participation in the company. However, it does affect the enjoyment of the process for a student’s teammates if those teammates have to re-stage pieces or work without one of their members.

Please sign, detach and return the bottom portion of this form in order to participate in the 2017/2018 NDC company season.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_, have fully read the NDC Student Company Attendance Policy. I understand the commitment I am making and agree to uphold the attendance policies to the best of my ability. I understand that excessive absences may result in my removal from a piece, probation from the company or eventual removal from the company. I agree to make a commitment to myself and to this dance team, to be as present and engaged a member as possible.

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Signature Date

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Parent Signature Date