

DDA Performance Troupe 2023-2024 season

Mini ages 5-8 * Junior ages 9 & up * Teen ages 12 and up
NEW! "Project Dream" (adaptive team) ages 4 and up

Weekly Troupe Rehearsal Class

Each individual team (Mini, Junior, Teen, Shining Stars) has a weekly rehearsal - it runs just like a regular class. *Please reference the 2023-2024 season schedule (posted on 7/24) for times.* The cost of the rehearsal class is priced the same as all other weekly classes and are 30-60 minutes, depending on age.

Class requirements for Performance Troupe members

Performance Troupe members **MUST** be enrolled in the following classes, IN ADDITION to their rehearsal class. Flex & Stretch or other electives do not count toward the 2:

- Mini - any 2 classes. *Additional classes encouraged*
- Junior - must be enrolled in a Jazz class and a Ballet class (combo classes count). *Additional classes encouraged*
- Teen - must be enrolled in a Jazz class, Ballet class, and a Lyrical/Contemporary or Hip Hop class. *Additional classes encouraged*
- Project Dream - must be enrolled in any 1 class (can be our Adaptive class, Pre-Ballet/Tap, Jazz/Tap...any class is OK)

How are teams split? What style dance routines will each team have?

Dancers are placed where they best fit, which is why you see some ages overlap between two teams - dancers will be placed where they will best excel and feel most confident. Each team within troupe will learn two group dances, and the choreographer will decide which two styles after auditions. At that time, they will choose dance styles based on what will make that particular group shine in their best light! Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Musical Theatre or Hip Hop.

Project Dream will only have one routine.

There are no longer solos, duos, and trios within Troupe.

Attire/Costume requirements for performances

We are going BACK to the simplicity of how we started this team originally; we've realized that has gotten a little lost along the way. The purpose of this team is low cost, low commitment, laid back, non-competitive, confidence building performance opportunities within our community and beyond. We will not be doing full on costumes; instead we will go back to the simple, clean, sleek look of black leggings and fitted black troupe tank. *Boys attire details will be given to any boys on the team.*

The DDA Performance Troupe tank is \$20. Black leggings are purchased on your own and any brand is fine. They must go to the ankle and be brand new, only worn to performances, with NO writing or logos. The team jacket is a denim jacket with DDA rhinestone emblem on back - you purchase the jacket on your own (any brand and any color denim wash is fine) and we have them rhinestone-ed (\$20-25). Past



members do not need to purchase a new jacket or tank if yours still fits from last year! All dancers must purchase the required shoes (tan jazz shoes) through the studio. **No other brands are acceptable.**

Performance season: Where do we perform?

Our performance season runs November – May. A performance schedule will be provided in Sept. once the session gets started. Examples of performances are: Assisted Living facilities, NIU Basketball game, Windy City Bulls, and other local events. There will be about 4-5 performances. THEY ARE NOT OPTIONAL!! Last season, we saw a huge decline in commitment and constantly had dancers not show up to performances, often not even notifying us. This affects the dancers and choreographers work and time TREMENDOUSLY. It affects the quality of the performance that we spend so much time perfecting.

Please note that Assisted Living facility performances do NOT allow for a crowd - we are going into their homes. This is where they live; this is not a performance venue. If you do not wish to comply with each dancer only being allowed ONE attendee when we are at an Assisted Living or Nursing Home, you should reconsider if this is a good fit for you. Last season this was often ignored and it is NOT ok. That reflects poorly on our studio name to these facilities. We do try to livestream when possible!

Teen Troupe note: Our Teen Troupe will have the opportunity to attend a Dance Convention (optional) and a Dance Competition (IF they all agree to it). Although we like to keep this team non-competitive, we have learned that the older group has enjoyed doing at least one competition (we will not be doing the one we did the last few years as we learned last year they are sadly NOT a recreational competition as they used to be).

Project Dream (Adaptive) Troupe note: We will work with parents to come up with the best performance options as we know some of our usual ones may be too loud or crowded for some of their liking; this is new for us so we want to work together to make it the best fit for all.

Auditions: Monday August 21 and Tuesday August 22

- Ages 5-8 (must be 5 by Aug. 1) * Mon. Aug 21, 4:45-5:30pm
- Ages 9-11 (must be 9 by Aug. 1) * Tues. Aug 22, 5:00-6:00pm
- Ages 12&up (must be 12 by Aug. 1): Tues. Aug 22, 6:00-7:00pm
- Project Dream ages 4 & up (must be 4 by Aug. 1) * Mon. Aug 21 from 5:30-6:00pm

Please register for auditions in our registration portal beginning August 1. This is a “no-cut” team but we still need to have auditions to see everyone’s abilities and know where to best place them.

