



AN INTRODUCTION TO RDT COMPANY

The Roswell Dance Theatre (RDT) was founded in 1985 by Mrs. Nancy Tolbert Yilmaz and Mrs. Mary Lynn Taylor. RDT successfully trains passionate and serious dancers through a combination of rigorous classes, guest artist master classes and continuous performance opportunities. Currently, RDT has three companies: The Ballet Company, the Modern Company and the PreProfessional Ballet Company.

RDT is a time commitment for dancers and their families. Dancers in all companies are required to sign a contract agreeing to exclusively perform with RDT and participate in their regularly scheduled company classes, rehearsals, Nutcracker and recitals. Company members are also expected to meet their financial obligations with monthly tuition and dues.

BALLET COMPANY

The Ballet Company is designed for dancers who exhibit high levels of proficiency in ballet, pointe, jazz and contemporary dance and who are serious about their commitment. There are various groups within the Ballet Company according to level and age. Groups may change from year to year. The current levels range from introductory levels and Level 1 to Level 14. All members of the Ballet Company are cast in two roles in the annual production of The Nutcracker.

Introductory Levels of the RDT Ballet Company

The Preparatory Dance Program (PDP) is designed to allow young dancers to grow and mature in their present abilities and have the optimum opportunity to progress. The curriculum includes ballet, pre-pointe, modern, and jazz, totaling 5 hours of instruction per week. The goal is that the dancers will gain the technique and strength needed to move up in the RDT company in the future. PDP dancers will have the privilege of being cast in one role in The Nutcracker as well as an option to participate in the Spring Concert.

The Apprentice Company division is designed to accommodate dancers who are very serious about their training and have shown dedication and drive. They have an understanding of the technique that is expected of them, and are still working on refining the skills needed to be able to move up in the company. The curriculum includes ballet, pre-pointe, contemporary, jazz and PBT, totaling 6 hours of instruction per week. Apprentice Company dancers will have the privilege of being cast in one role in The Nutcracker as well as an option to participate in the Spring Concert.

MODERN COMPANY

The Modern Company was formed in 2014 to provide training for those dancers who choose to focus on all aspects of modern dance. Modern Company Director, Tracy Vogt Wardlaw, seeks out today's professionals to work with the company. Unique instruction in Modern and Contemporary dance technique, with continuous performance opportunities, sets this select group of dancers apart from other companies in the area. The Modern Company schedule includes modern, ballet, and jazz classes, totaling 7.5 hours per week. Modern Company dancers are cast in one role in The Nutcracker, have the option to participate in the Spring Concert and attend Modern dance festivals each year. A showcase concert of original modern choreography, Straight From the Heart, is presented each year in the Spring.

PREPROFESSIONAL COMPANY

The PreProfessional Company is an additional company within the Roswell Dance Theatre. Dancers that are in RDT Ballet Company are eligible to be considered for PrePro. Students are observed and evaluated throughout the year. Membership in PrePro is by invitation only.

COMPANY TUITION

Tuition payments are billed through JackRabbit, our online registration and account management system. There are two ways you can pay your annual tuition. The total for a full year of classes may be split into equal monthly installments. These payments are automatically charged to your account on a regular monthly schedule. The total for a full year of classes may be paid in full at the beginning of the year, earning you a 5% discount on your tuition total (discount does not apply to costumes or performance fees). Please email admin@tysod.com if you wish to pay for the year in full, stating your intention in your email with your name and contact information.

All Company students take class with the other company members in their level, and are billed a company rate per month.

Monthly Tuition:

- Ballet Company Level 1 & Up \$300
- Modern Company \$300
- PDP \$240
- Apprentice Company \$260
- PrePro \$210
- Add Second Company (ballet or modern) \$180
- Additional class per month \$50 (per class)
- Annual Registration Fee: \$40

DRESS CODE

Each Company (Ballet, Modern, & PrePro) will have a required dress code, including leotard, tights, and footwear. Requirements for each company level are to be determined prior to the start of the season.

POINTE SHOES: The Directors will determine when the PDP, Apprentice Company, and Level 1 and 2 dancers are ready to start pointe work. Information will be provided to the dancers' parents when the time is right. At that time, pointe shoe fitting appointments should be scheduled with Mary Lynn Taylor or Tracey Bayly. Fittings take place at Dance Fashions.

All Company Dancers receive a 10% discount at Dance Fashions Superstore.

HEAD SHOTS

Company head shots are taken in August for the Company picture wall. A professional photo sitting will be arranged. The cost is approximately \$50.

BIG SISTERS

Each Level 1 through Level 4 Ballet Company dancer and each new Modern Company dancer will be assigned a big sister. Mrs. Mary Lynn Taylor matches big and little sisters based on her knowledge of the dancers in the Company. New Company members can reach out to their big sister for any questions they may have regarding company life! A special event will be held where sisters are introduced and share snacks and fun activities. This is a treasured annual company tradition.

YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS' CONCERT "HUGS"

One of your first performance opportunities as a Company member (Level 1 and up) is the HUGS Young Choreographers' Concert. This annual benefit is directed by Mary Lynn Taylor and all pieces are choreographed by the upper level Company members. You may be invited to participate in one of their dances. All company members are invited to participate in the opening number! Rehearsals begin in late summer.

HAIR AND MAKEUP TUTORIAL

Company dancers must follow specific hair and makeup guidelines for all performances. Mrs. Tracey Bayly will host a one-hour hair and makeup tutorial for dancers and parents in the fall. (Date TBD)

COMMUNICATIONS

Our primary mode of communication is email. All studio members receive a weekly e-blast on Monday mornings with studio and performance news. We also send company only emails to dancers and parents as needed. We maintain a library of documents on a members site.

AUDITION INFORMATION AND ACCEPTANCE

**2021-2022 Company Auditions will be held Saturday, May 1, 2021. Must be age 10 by Sept 1, 2021
*Pre-registration is required.**

Ballet Company age 10 - 12 @9:00am - 10:30am
Ballet Company age 13 & up @11:00am - 12:30pm
Modern Company age 13 & up @1:00pm - 2:00pm
Modern Company age 10 - 12 @2:30pm - 4:00pm

Audition fee (online only) of \$25 per dancer per company. Bring a printed headshot to attach to your registration if you have not submitted one during online registration.

Results of company auditions will be made available to dancers on June 1, 2021 online. Company Contracts and Membership Fees Due June 15, 2021. June 16 – July 1: Company Contracts and Membership Fees still accepted – late fee of \$100 will be assessed.

Annual Membership Fees: One Company: \$300; Two Companies \$500

If the Company Contracts and Membership Fees are not received by July 1, 2021, the offer to participate in any company may be revoked including participation in The Nutcracker.

***a faculty recommendation to audition does not guarantee a spot in the Company.*

SAVE THESE IMPORTANT DATES

RDT will kick off its 21-22 season with a 4-week boot camp, starting on Monday, August 2nd! Boot camp runs 8/2 - 8/28. Participation in boot camp is **mandatory**. This dance season "warm up" serves to reconnect dancers and instructors who have been apart for the summer months, while instructors and directors review company placements and assign upcoming Nutcracker roles. Along with Open School students, Company dancers begin their regular class schedule the day after Labor Day, Tuesday, September 7th.

November 22-27 | Thanksgiving Break (studio closed)
November 22-23 | Nutcracker load-in (rehearsal to follow)
November 26 | Nutcracker performances begin
December 5 | Nutcracker performances end and load-out
December 19-1/2 | Winter Break (studio closed)
January 3 | Studio reopens for classes
April 1-3 | Spring Concert performances (SSPAC)
April 4-9 | Spring Break (studio closed)
April 30 | RDT Company auditions for 22-23
May 5-8 | RDA/SE Festival (Daytona Beach, FL) ***
May 13-15 | RDT Recital dress rehearsals and Recitals (RCAC)
May 16-22 | TYSOD Dress Rehearsals and Recitals (RCAC)

All dates subject to change.

****RDA/SE (Formerly known as SERBA is a festival of dance classes and performances for RDT Dancers in Level 3 and up (11 years old and up, principal MoCo and up, no PDP, Apprentice)*