



**Performing Company – 2016/17  
Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon,  
South San Francisco and Fremont**

**Team:**

A group of people who share the same interests and work together to achieve the same goals.

**Our Mission:**

Our mission is to offer professional dance training in all genres of dance. We strive to expose young aspiring dancers to opportunities that will enhance their dance knowledge and training. We will work as mentors to dancers and give them ample opportunities to perform dance as an art form. We will nurture dancers in a positive structured environment.

We have created this document in order to answer the most frequently asked questions regarding the financial and time commitment and dedication involved in becoming part of the Tiffany's Dance Academy Performing Company. We hope you will take this information and use it to make a well-informed decision regarding your involvement in the TDA Performing Company during the 2016/17season.

**What is the Tiffany's Dance Academy Performing Company?**

The true definition of a "Company" or "Team" of any kind is a group of people who share the same interests and are all working together to achieve the same goals. There is a level of commitment by each individual to the "Company" as a group in order for the "Company" to achieve its goals. The level of commitment needs to be equal by each member of the group.

### **TDA Performing Company Goals and Purpose:**

The main objective of the TDA "**Company**" is to give dancers who want to take dance to the next level adequate technical training and opportunities to perform their art. The Company serves as a guide for older dancers (ages 12-18) on their path to a professional dance related career or college. We achieve these goals by requiring each student to train in a wide range of technical dance classes, participate in many different performance venues, attend professional dance performances and maintain a sincere love and passion for dance in all of its forms.

### **TDA Faculty, Mission and Purpose:**

All TDA Company members train under our professional, salaried teachers. We believe that our teachers are the best in California. They are experienced, highly trained, loyal and dedicated to teaching dance. We have done our best to make tuition rates affordable while supporting our high-quality teacher salaries.

We understand that each child and young adult possesses a different learning style and progresses on different timelines. The TDA faculty is committed to understanding these differences and nurturing each student regardless of learning style. Additionally, some students are born with certain favorable or ideal physical or anatomical body characteristics, such as turn-out, hyper mobility in joints, musicality, etc. Although these characteristics are certainly a bonus, *they do not make an automatic professional dancer*. Dancers turn professional when they have learned how to affect an audience emotionally through movement. This is the goal for all of our students, regardless of their long-term dancing goals. We as teachers are here to pass our enthusiasm for dance to your children and your family. All that we require from the students is a genuine love for dance and consistent attendance in class. All that is required of the parents is trust in our abilities as teachers and support of our vision for your children.

### **What are my dancer's options in choosing to participate in the TDA Performing Company?**

- **Competitive** – Our traditional Performing Company experience. These dancers are on track for readiness for a college dance program, professional dance educator/performance career.
- **Company "Lite"** – Geared toward dancers new to the Performing Company who want to participate, but want a lighter course load. Also appropriate for older dancers who want to maintain their participation in the Performing Company, but with fewer commitments. Groups may encompass a wider span of ages and abilities. Dancers must be at least 10 years of age.
- **Debut Dancers** – For our 5-7 year old, first year Performing Company Members
- **TDA Hip Hop Crew** – Hip Hop for dancers ages 7+

### **Performance Casts and Class Requirements:**

Mini dancers in their first year in the Company, Hip Hop Crew and Company Lite dancers will only be cast in 1 dance. Competitive dancers will be cast in a minimum of one additional dance. Intensive dancers will be cast in more than 2 dances. Competitive dancers who are cast in more than 1 dance and Intensive dancers who are cast in more than two dances who do not wish to participate in all of the dances will have the opportunity to discuss which dances they would like to participate in. Please see the following page for sample class requirements.

**Sample Class Requirements for Debut Dancers in their first year with the Performing Company:**

- 1 – Mini-Ballet – 45 minutes
- 1 – Mini-Jazz – 45 minutes
- 1 – Mini-Tap – 45 minutes
- 1 – Mini rehearsal – 30 minutes

**Sample Class requirements for Competitive Dancers (Approximate ages 7-12):**

- Ballet Classes– Class load determined by placement audition
- Jazz – Class load determined by placement audition
- Company Rehearsal(s) – 30 minutes
- 1 – Elective Class – Tap or Hip Hop – Depending on group placement this may be required or optional
- A second optional tap performance group will be offered. If your dancer chooses to participate in the tap piece they must be enrolled in a tap class.

**Sample Class requirements for Competitive Dancers (Approximate ages 12-17):**

- Ballet Classes– Class load determined by placement audition
- Jazz – Class load determined by placement audition
- Tap – Class load determined by placement audition
- Company Rehearsals – 30 minutes per week per dance
- 2 Supporting Technique Classes – Hip Hop, Turns and Jumps, Contemporary, etc.

**Sample Class Requirements for Company Lite (Approximate ages 10+ years old):**

- 2 – Ballet Classes– 45 minutes – 1.5 hours each depending on the class level
- 1 – Jazz Class – 45 minutes– 1.5 hours each depending on the class level
- 1 – Company Lite Rehearsal – 45 minutes

**Sample Class Requirements for the TDA Hip Hop Crew (Approximate ages 7-18 years old):**

- 1 – Hip Hop Class – 45 minutes
- 1 – Hip Hop rehearsal – 30 minutes
- Dancers can be a member of just the Hip Hop crew or they can participate in the Crew in addition to any of the above groups.

**What are the general costs involved in participating in the TDA Performing Company?**

**Tuition:** Your monthly tuition is directly related to how many hours per week your dancer takes class. Approximate total tuition cost can be determined when the dancer's specific level and class load has been announced after the placement audition in April. On average the company dancer tuition is approximately \$175 to \$300 per month.

**Costumes:** Costumes are custom designed by the choreographer and tailored to fit each dancer. They cost from \$220-\$275 each depending on the dance and costume manufacturer. We make every effort to keep these costs down without compromising the artistic quality of the dance and the durability of the garment. All dancers are measured and costumes are ordered during the summer.

**Make-Up and Accessories:** Each dancer is required to purchase a pair of earrings and choker. They cost approximately \$15-\$18 for the earrings and \$20-\$30 for the choker. They will also need some basic make-up. We recommend the make-up from Mode Dion which runs between \$15-\$30.

**Shoes and Tights for Competitions:** Shoe and tights requirements for Performing Company dances are determined at the time we see the costumes. Depending on how many dances your student is cast in you may be required to purchase more than one pair of jazz, tap or hip hop shoes.

**Rehearsal and class attire:** For Jazz and Tap classes, dancers are required to wear black spaghetti strap leotards, black shorts and jazz or tap boots. Ballet dancers need a leotard, pink ballet tights and the appropriate shoes for their level. All attire is available via CostumeManager.com. All hair must be worn up and away from their face.

**Company Warm-ups:** We will be ordering on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. The cost for Warm-ups is approximately \$150-\$175 for personalized/embroidered jacket and pants. Rhinestoning can be added for an additional \$45.

**Summer Training Requirements:** Dance is a year-round activity that requires training in the summer months in order to maintain technique and encourage growth. We will be holding summer Dance Intensives for all of our dancers during the summer months. Intensive classes will include ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop and lyrical. The cost works out to be \$40-\$45 per day and the hours generally run from 9am-12noon each day for our younger dancers and 12:30-4:30 for our older dancers. Our dancers in the pre and jr level of Ballet will be required to choose 3 days to attend, dancers in Basic Ballet and Ballet 1 attend 5 days and dancers in Ballet 2 and higher will be required to attend 10 days of the Ballet Intensive. Company Lite and Hip Hop Crew dancers are not required to participate in the Summer Intensive but are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Competitive Events:** A full schedule of competitive events will be given to all company parents before costume deposits are due. Debut Dancers, Company Lite and Hip Hop Crew attend 1 competition and 2 dance conventions throughout the season. Competitive Track Dancers attend 1 competition and 3-4 dance conventions throughout the season.

### **What is the Difference Between a Competition and a Convention?**

A Dance Competition is usually a multiple day event where each dance will be given the opportunity to compete against other dances based on the dancers' age and ability. Once the schedule for the competition becomes available families will be able to determine what day they need to attend and at what hours. At competitions you only need to be there when your dance(s) are competing and during the awards ceremonies. Dance Conventions are weekend long events where master teachers from across the nation hold classes. Conventions are awesome for young dancers. Our dancers meet dancers from other studios and they are mentored by top-notch professionals. These master teachers inspire young dancers and are great role models. Over the two days dancers take classes in tap, jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, musical theatre as well as have an opportunity to audition for national scholarships to private professional studios. Conventions also include a competition where the master teachers comprise the panel of judges. The costs for conventions and competitions vary from event to event. Most of our events take place in the spring. This results in a large amount of the payments for these events coming due in January and February. It would be typical for a parent to be asked to pay for 2 competitions and a convention all in the month of January.

- Conventions - \$200-\$225 (Depending on age group) plus competition fees – see below.
- Observers Passes for Parents or Guardians - \$45-\$48 per person
- Competition Fees- \$40-\$50 per dancer per group dance (depending on competition)

**Performing Company Showcase:** Each year towards the end of February we host our Performing Company Showcase at Chabot College. This gives the dancers a chance have dress rehearsal on a real stage with a real audience. In addition it gives you the chance to see all of the dances and invite all of your family, friends and neighbors to come and see them too. There is a per Performing Company family fee of \$55.

**Nutcracker:** All Debut Dancers and Competitive track dancers participate in our production of the Nutcracker. Nutcracker costumes run between \$80-\$120. There are also additional tuition costs for Nutcracker rehearsal classes.

### **Summary of General Expenses in addition to monthly tuition:**

#### **Debut Dancers**

- **TDA Warm-ups** – Approximately \$150-\$175
- **Costume - \$220-\$275 each.** Each dancer is cast in 1 dance.
- **Convention** – Two Conventions at the approximate cost of \$180 per dancer Convention fees and \$40-\$50 per dance Competition fees.
- **Competitions** – 1 at the approximate cost of \$40-\$50 per dancer.
- **Shoes, tights, accessories, make-up** – Depending upon group, see CostumeManager.com for general pricing.
- **Nutcracker Performance** – Costumes for the Nutcracker are approximately \$80-\$120 per dance. There are additional tuition costs for the rehearsal classes.
- **Summer Intensive** – Approximately 3 days of class at \$45 per day.
- **Performing Company Showcase** - \$55 per Performing Company family.

#### **Company Lite**

- **Costume - \$220-\$275 each.** Each dancer is cast in 1 dance.
- **Convention** – Two Conventions at the approximate cost of \$180 per dancer Convention fees and \$40-\$50 per dance Competition fees.
- **Competitions** – 1 at the approximate cost of \$40-\$50 per dancer.
- **Shoes, tights, accessories, make-up** – Depending upon group, see CostumeManager.com for general pricing.
- **Performing Company Showcase** - \$55 per Performing Company family.

#### **Competitive**

- **TDA Warm-ups** – Approximately \$150-\$175
- **Costumes - \$220-\$275 each.** Each dancer is cast in 2 dances. Some will be cast in more than 2 dances.
- **Conventions** – 3 at the approximate cost of \$250 per dancer Convention fees and \$40-\$50 per dance your dancer is competing Competition fees.
- **Competitions** – 1 at the approximate cost of \$40-\$50 per dance your dancer is competing.
- **Nutcracker Performance** – Costumes for the Nutcracker are approximately \$80-\$120 per dance. There are additional tuition costs for the rehearsal classes.
- **Summer Intensive** - Varying depending on Ballet level.
- **Performing Company Showcase** - \$55 per Performing company family.

#### **TDA Hip Hop Crew**

- **Costume - \$220-\$275 each.** Each dancer is cast in 1 dance.
- **Convention** – Two Conventions at the approximate cost of \$180 per dancer Convention fees and \$40-\$50 per dance Competition fees.
- **Competitions** – 1 at the approximate cost of \$40-\$50 per dancer.
- **Shoes, tights, accessories, make-up** – Depending upon group, see CostumeManager.com for general pricing.
- **Performing Company Showcase** - \$55 per Performing Company family.

## **My dancer is ready to participate in the TDA Performing Company! What do I do now?**

Each year all TDA Performing Company dancers must audition for placement on the TDA Performing Company. This is a "Placement" Audition – **No dancers are eliminated**. This audition is for **group placement** purposes only. The free audition includes a ballet barre, jazz combination, and a tap combination for our Debut Dancer, Company Lite and Competitive dancers. There are separate auditions for our Hip Hop Crew dancers. All dancers are evaluated and grouped according to the ability of the dancer and artistic vision of the director/choreographer. All decisions are final. Dancers are placed in the quantity of dances that the directors believe they can handle. To register your dancer for the placement audition please see your studio manager or visit [www.tiffanysdanceperformingcompany.com](http://www.tiffanysdanceperformingcompany.com). If your dancer is unable to attend the audition please sign up anyway and they will be placed based on their teacher(s) recommendations.

After auditions, company dancers will be placed into their classes by TDA staff prior to the April 27th registration day. Parents will then be able to log onto their TDA account to see their dancer's schedule and will be asked to accept or decline by May 6, 2016. Tuition for Summer Intensive will be required at that time. No charges will be processed until you accept your class schedule.

## **2016/17 Tentative Calendar of Events and Deadlines**

### **2016**

- Free Company Information Night – March 24 – Hyatt Place Dublin/Pleasanton - Livermore - 7pm
- Free Company Information Night – March 22 - SSF Studio 7:00pm
- April 11 - Tri-Valley Free Tap Placement Audition - Livermore Studio
- April 12 - Fremont Free Company and Hip Hop Crew Placement Audition - Fremont Studio
- April 13 – Tri-Valley Free Hip Hop Crew Placement Auditions – Livermore Studio
- April 14 - SSF Free Company and Hip Hop Crew Placement Auditions - SSF studio
- April 15 – Tri-Valley Free Company Placement Auditions – Livermore studio
- April 25 - Performing Company class lists viewable
- May 6 - Deadline to join Company for 2016/17 season
- June 27-July 1 – Summer Dance Intensive – Jazz, Tap and Hip Hop
- July 5 – First day of classes for Company Lite
- July 18 – 29 – Summer Dance Intensive - Ballet
- August 1 – First day of classes for Hip Hop Crew, Debut Dancers and Competitive Track Dancers – Performing Company Contracts Due for all dancers
- August 10 – Performing Company Costume Deposits Due
- August 19 - SSF Nutcracker Auditions
- August 20 - East Bay Nutcracker Auditions
- October 5 – 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline to order Warm Ups, Dance Bags, Jewelry and Make Up
- November 26-27 – Tremaine Dance Convention, San Francisco
- December 9-10 - Nutcracker Performance, Chabot College, Hayward

### **2017**

- February 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Deadline to order Warm Ups, Jewelry and Make Up
- February 18 – TDA Performing Company Showcase, Chabot College, Hayward
- March - NYCDA Dance Convention
- April - OnStage NY Dance Competition
- April - JUMP Dance Convention
- May - 24/Seven Dance Convention