



# St. Augustine Dance Academy

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## Purpose

Our dance company is dedicated to nurturing promising dancers, helping them grow in skill while fostering camaraderie and teamwork. Our team journey isn't about collecting trophies; it's about personal and collective growth. Our focus is not on winning but on continuous improvement - both as dancers and as individuals - building character and unity along the way.

Company dancers will be chosen for one or more pieces of group choreography this upcoming year. Dancers will perform at competitions near St. Augustine and at various other events, such as the Company Showcase in January and St. Augustine's Christmas Parade representing St. Augustine Dance Academy throughout our community. All activities are mandatory, and dates will be presented as far in advance as possible. Performances and competitions are typically held on the weekend.

## Teams and Leveling

Our teams are separated into two levels: pre-team and team. Every dancer will also be leveled individually as:

1. Pre - all pre team members
2. Recreational (rec) - Intermediate B Ballet/Jazz and below
3. Intermediate (int) - Intermediate C and Advanced A Ballet/Jazz
4. Advanced (adv) - Advanced B Ballet/Jazz

Dances may include a mix of levels, ensuring that each dancer is showcased for their unique talents while also being appropriately challenged to grow.

All dancers will attend three local competitions. All team dancers (not including pre-team) will also attend a local convention/competition that includes two days of intensive classes along with competition.

All company classes and studio events will be held at our World Golf Village location.

## Tentative Calendar

All company event dates will be posted to Team App as soon as they are confirmed. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from all events. ***The events with dates are already confirmed for 2026-2027. We will not schedule competitions on Easter Weekend or St. Johns County School District spring break.***

Here is a sample schedule for the next school year:

- Monday – Friday, July 27–31, Summer Choreography Camp
- Saturday, August, Dance-a-thon Fundraiser
- Saturday – Sunday, October, In-Studio Convention (*one day per level*)
- Friday – Sunday, November 13–15, Showstopper Convention in Orlando (*optional*)
- Friday – Sunday, Fall, Dancemakers Convention/Competition in Daytona Beach (*optional*)

- Saturday, December 5, St. Augustine's Christmas Parade 8:30am – 11am
- Friday – Saturday, January, Company Dress Rehearsal and Showcase
- Friday – Sunday, Spring, Dance Competition in Jacksonville
- Friday – Sunday, Spring, Dance Competition in Jacksonville
- Friday – Sunday, Spring, Convention/Competition in Jacksonville (*team only, not pre-team*)
- Friday – Sunday, Spring, Dance Competition in Daytona Beach
- Saturday or Sunday, Spring, Community Service Performance (*for select group dances only*)
- Early May Weekday, Romanza Festival (*for select group dances only*)
- April/May – Company End of Year Party

### Cost

All dance accounts must remain on autopay on the 1st of the month. Company costs have been broken into 12 monthly payments. **Company costs begin in May and are *in addition to monthly tuition*.** All company fees are non-refundable for any reason. Uniforms are not included in the company cost. For new members, a full uniform (including jacket, leggings, leotard and required makeup kit) is \$250 and must be purchased separately. Replacement costs are as follows: jacket (\$100), leggings (\$60), leotard (\$40) and makeup kit (\$50).

	Pre - Team	Team
Choreography Camp	✓	✓
Dues	✓	✓
Shirt	✓	✓
Showcase	✓	✓
Local Performance(s)	✓	✓
Costume(s)	✓	✓
Fall In-Studio Convention	✓	✓
Competitions (x3)	✓	✓
Advanced Convention/Competition	---	✓
Monthly Cost (does not include class tuition)	\$105 (1 dance)	\$145 (1 dance) \$190 (2 dances) \$235 (3 dances)

✓ = *included in monthly cost*

--- = *does not apply*

## Placement

There is a \$75 annual evaluation fee due with application. Returning members receive a \$25 discount on this fee. Registration is due by Saturday, March 14 online at [www.staugdance.com/company](http://www.staugdance.com/company). Any registrations made after March 14 will incur a \$25 late fee. ***Dancers will only be considered for duo/trio opportunities if they submit a separate paper application with all appropriate signatures. Solos are by invitation only. Solo/duo/trios will be determined after a separate call back audition on Saturday, May 10.***

Audition times/levels will be determined by age or current ballet class level. If your dancer is not currently enrolled in ballet, ages 6 to 11 will join the Pre and Novice Ballet A group and ages 12+ will join the Novice Ballet B group. Female dancers should wear a solid black leotard, solid black shorts (if desired), tan tights, and either ballet or jazz shoes with hair worn in a professional bun. Male dancers should wear a solid black shirt, solid black shorts and either ballet or jazz shoes with black socks with hair groomed and out of the face.

***Pre and Novice Ballet A*** → Saturday, March 28, 1:00 – 2:20pm

***Novice Ballet B and Intermediate Ballet A*** → Saturday, March 28, 1:15 – 3:45pm

***Intermediate Ballet B and above*** → Saturday, March 28, 2:15 – 5:45pm

***Arrive early - auditions will start on time. Dancers will have a form to fill out that takes about 10 minutes before the audition begins. Tardiness may affect your dancer's placement.***

Auditions will be closed, and parents are not required to stay. Dancers should be prepared to perform in the following styles: jazz, contemporary/lyrical, tap (for Intermediate Ballet B and above only) and improvisation. These students may be asked to demonstrate splits, pirouettes, and grand jetes (leaps). All steps will be demonstrated in detail during the audition. Participants are not required to know all of the steps prior to the audition. The auditions will include a warmup, across the floor work, and age-appropriate combinations in the center.

Participants will be notified by mail during the week following auditions regarding the results and class placement for the upcoming school year. All dancers are carefully placed in company levels and classes where they will grow both socially and as dancers. Dancers selected to audition at solo/duo/trio call backs will be notified by mail as well. St. Augustine Dance Academy reserves the right to audition new students as deemed necessary prior to the beginning of the next company season.

If you are not happy with your dancer's company placement, you can set up a meeting with the artistic director to determine a summer training schedule (at your expense) to include required intensives/classes and possible private lessons based on your individual dancer's needs. During the week before choreography camp, there will be an additional \$75 reevaluation fee due to determine whether a placement change is warranted. Keep in mind that participation in summer training will not guarantee a change in placement but it will guarantee growth in your dancer's ability. Company payments for May through July will also be due before camp.

## Attendance

Consistent training is extremely important for any dancer's success and injury prevention. If a dancer is

absent from a mandatory company class during the two weeks before any performance, the dance will be restaged, and the dancer will not be allowed to perform at the corresponding event. Company members will only be allowed to miss three non-mandatory company classes throughout the year without the excuse of a doctor's note or death in the family. We plan to allow these three days off with no demerits. Company class absences cannot be made up. Subsequent company class absences on non-mandatory weeks would result in two demerits each.

Company dancers may miss a total of five classes in each of their required classes throughout the year (example – missing 5 jazz classes). Dancers will need to schedule makeup classes during normal class times in the same or a lower level at either location to stay below this threshold. After five absences in a required class (without making up classes), company dancers will be dismissed from the team with a \$200 per dance restaging fee automatically charged to the credit card on file.

### Required Training

Dancer Level	Pre	Rec	Int	Adv
Required summer training		Ballet class <u>or</u> technique intensive	Ballet class <u>or</u> technique intensive	Ballet class
			<b>AND</b> additional intensive	<b>AND</b> additional intensive
Required technique classes during school year	Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Company	Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary and Company	Ballet (x2), Tap, Jazz, Contemporary and Company	Ballet (x2), Tap, Jazz, Contemporary and Company
Recommended class (to progress to the next level)	Acro	Acro	Acro	Acro

With this opportunity to grow through dance, there is a necessary commitment to a team. Company members will not be able to participate in other conflicting team activities. Choreography will begin over the summer with mandatory day camp during the week of Monday through Friday, July 27–31. Days/times will vary based on assigned group dances. All choreography will begin for the season during this week. Any missed days will result in dismissal from the company without a refund. There will be a \$200 per dance restaging fee automatically charged upon leaving the team during or after choreography camp for any reason. Beginning in August, each dancer will be required to take the classes for their team listed in the table above. In order to perform acro tricks in choreography, a dancer must be enrolled in acro to maintain strength and technique for their safety.

To better prepare and protect our dancers with technique and continuous strength training, summer dance is required for all team level members according to the chart above. **All summer training must be taken at St. Augustine Dance Academy.** Any alternatives must be approved in advance. Our

intensives are planned and prepared with specific goals for our company dancers.

Specific company class times for next school year will be released with acceptance letters before you commit. **All company team classes will be held at our World Golf Village location.** Solo/duo/trios will be scheduled when studio space, the choreographer and the dancers are available throughout the week.

### **Optional Conventions/Competitions**

Conventions are events where dancers take class in multiple styles of dance from master teachers from around the country. Competitions are events where dancers perform on stage in front of judges.

Showstopper Convention in Orlando (November 13-15) This opportunity is available to any studio dancer in middle or high school. Parents are responsible for their dancer all weekend – including travel arrangements (hotel, gas, etc.) and meals.

Option 1: \$350 total due by July 1

Option 2: \$70 per month due on the 1st, May through September (\$350 total)

*There is no competition at this event.*

Dancemakers Convention/Competition in Daytona Beach (late Fall) This opportunity is available to any studio dancer in middle or high school. Parents are responsible for their dancer all weekend – including travel arrangements (hotel, gas, etc.) and meals.

Option 1: \$350 total due by July 1

Option 2: \$70 per month due on the 1st, May through September (\$350 total)

*Solo/duo/trios can compete at this competition for an added cost (\$290 per solo, \$145 per duo/trio member due July 1) which includes two additional practices before the event.*

Fluid Convention/Competition in Jacksonville (Spring) All team level members (not including pre-team) will participate in this event, which is included in your company cost. Parents are responsible for transportation and meals.

*Solo/duo/trios can compete at this competition for an added cost (\$290 per solo, \$145 per duo/trio member due July 1) which includes two additional practices before the event.*

### **Uniform**

As a performance company, we strive to create a cohesive and polished appearance for all team performances. Uniformity is essential in presenting a professional and unified image on stage, allowing the audience to focus on the artistry of the performance rather than individual differences.

To maintain this standard of uniformity, the following guidelines apply to all dancers during performances:

#### Nail Polish

Dancers should remove any colored nail polish from fingers (and toes if they are dancing barefoot). Only a natural look such as American or French manicures are permitted.

### Jewelry and Accessories

Dancers are not permitted to wear any jewelry or watches during performances. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Newly pierced earrings
- Permanent jewelry (e.g., permanent bracelets or anklets)
- Other body piercings

### Tattoos

Any tattoos that are not fully covered by the costume must be concealed using sweat-resistant and smear-resistant tattoo coverup makeup.

### Hair Color

All dancers must perform with a natural hair color. Any added decorations such as tinsel or beading must be removed for performances.

*Allowed colors:* Blonde, brown, auburn, black, natural red, or other naturally occurring shades. Highlights/lowlights and dyed hair are allowed, provided the colors are within the spectrum of natural shades.

Dancers with non-natural colors such as magenta, blue, green, etc. must use temporary hair color spray or other methods to ensure their hair appears natural for the performance.

These guidelines are in place to ensure a uniform and professional presentation that enhances the visual impact of our performances. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in upholding these standards.

### **Required Supplies**

Dancers may need to purchase special shoes depending on the style of dance they are chosen for.

Male dancers will also need:

- Black dress socks
- Low-top solid white parade sneakers with laces

Female dancers will also need:

- Low-top solid white parade sneakers with laces
- Solid black fitted shorts with no brand symbols or names showing
- Two new Revolution pairs of tights (color/style will depend on dance and will be determined in January) without holes or snags - these tights should be saved strictly for performances
- Nude leotard if in more than one dance
- Make-up will be required for performances, including foundation, mascara, eyeliner, etc. (a studio make-up kit is required, and application instructions will follow)

### **High School Senior Team Members**

Senior year is full of exciting events, and we want to celebrate with your senior too! Our senior dancers will have special exceptions for absences when they notify the director at least one month in advance (such as prom, Grad Bash, homecoming, etc.). Competitions will often work around senior events too

but you will need to give those dates as far in advance as possible so we can make the request on your behalf. Senior dancers also receive these perks: free audition fee and four free tickets to company showcase!

### **Joining Our Team**

To secure your dancer's spot on our team, your electronic commitment and registration payment (\$50 for one dancer and \$80 for multiple dancers) for the next school year are due by April 15.