

2022-
2023

Information
Packet



WHO WE ARE

Rise Dance Collective's essential focus is to offer a path for dancers seeking a higher level of versatile dance training combined with artistic exploration and technical excellence. We pride ourselves on training well-rounded artists and providing opportunities for growth within a tight knit family atmosphere. Company members are given support, instruction, and mentorship, to enhance and personalize their craft, and work toward their goals through intense training, competitive avenues, and commercial and artistic exploration. We value balance in our training and believe to be our best, you need to be committed fully to your growth in AND out of the studio. We are FIRST great humans and very closely second: great dancers.

RISE UP

<https://www.dancespotx.com/rise-company-info/>



PRE-CO

The purpose of Pre-Co is to provide young dancers, ages 5-7, an opportunity to train and compete at an advanced level in preparation to join Rise Dance Collective, if they choose, when older. This company is for the more focused dancer who shows passion and drive for dance and is ready to commit to a more strict schedule and enter and embrace the competitive dance world!



RISE UP

Join The Family

MORE THAN DANCE

We are proud of incorporate the WHOLE person in our training, not just the dancer. We believe in being well-rounded in all facets of your life!

We value and offer:

Tools for Healthy Habits

Emotional Support

Injury Prevention

Character Development

Yoga / Meditation

Imaginative Growth

Personal Mentorship

Community Outreach Opportunities

Cultural Practices within Dance

Dance History Education

& More

PROFESSIONAL, PERSONAL, AND CREATIVE MENTORSHIP

MELISSA BEST, DIRECTOR

Melissa Best has been teaching dance for over 20 years with certifications and trainings in child development and progressing ballet technique, and training with contemporary and improvisational masters around the world. She has studied from Germany to New York, but is an Austin native and has built her roots here in Texas with her family. From 2013-2020, she co-owned Evolution Dance Center and created a nurturing home for professional seeking dancers with the award winning, EVOLVE Dance Company, alongside Brianna Underwood. Melissa is passionate about cultivating an environment that is safe and explorative for her dancers, challenging them to set goals, take risks, and make change as creative leaders. Under her direction, her dancers and choreography have received national awards, scholarships, and accolades. As a military wife, she is ready for anything life throws at her, and is passionate about cultivating a future of leaders that are confident, powerful, fearless, and creative. Melissa's goal is to provide a family dynamic within Rise, teaching them values of support, love, encouragement, and determination, as well as providing a customized dance experience for each of her dancers, based on their own personal needs and goals. She works hard to provide a safe space to explore personal growth, with one on one mentorship, as dancers confidently find their voices to become our future leaders.

AVERY HAMPTON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Avery, originally from Savannah, GA, began her dance journey at the age of 3. She studied a variety of movement styles, including tap, jazz, acrobatics, ballet, modern and contemporary with the Gretchen Greene Dance Company. In 2021, she graduated from Emory University with degrees in neuroscience and dance movement studies. During this time, Avery trained under the mentorship of Kristin O'Neal, George Staib, Greg Catellier, Nicole Johnson and Alex Abarca. It was in school that Avery gained a deep appreciation of dance as a link between mind-body connection. Post-graduation, Avery fell in love with dance pedagogy and helping young dancers find their own creative voice. Her teaching style is deeply influenced by rhythm, breath and anatomical experience.

Avery is incredibly excited to be joining the Rise family and is looking forward to connecting with dancers and guiding them through their own movement identity. She challenges dancers to be creative thinkers within all facets of their life. Avery is thrilled to provide support to Rise dancers and foster technical, professional and imaginative growth.



REQUIREMENTS

Rise Dance Collective is supported by great faculty with weekly classes taught by top quality passionate, inspiring, and qualified instructors! We believe it takes a village to raise these well rounded dancers, and these instructors are all passionate about their growth!

VERSATILE TRAINING

Dancers on Pre-Co are required to take the following classes weekly:

BALLET
TAP/JAZZ
LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY
TECHNIQUE
REHEARSAL

Dancers will also have the opportunity to train in the following genres:

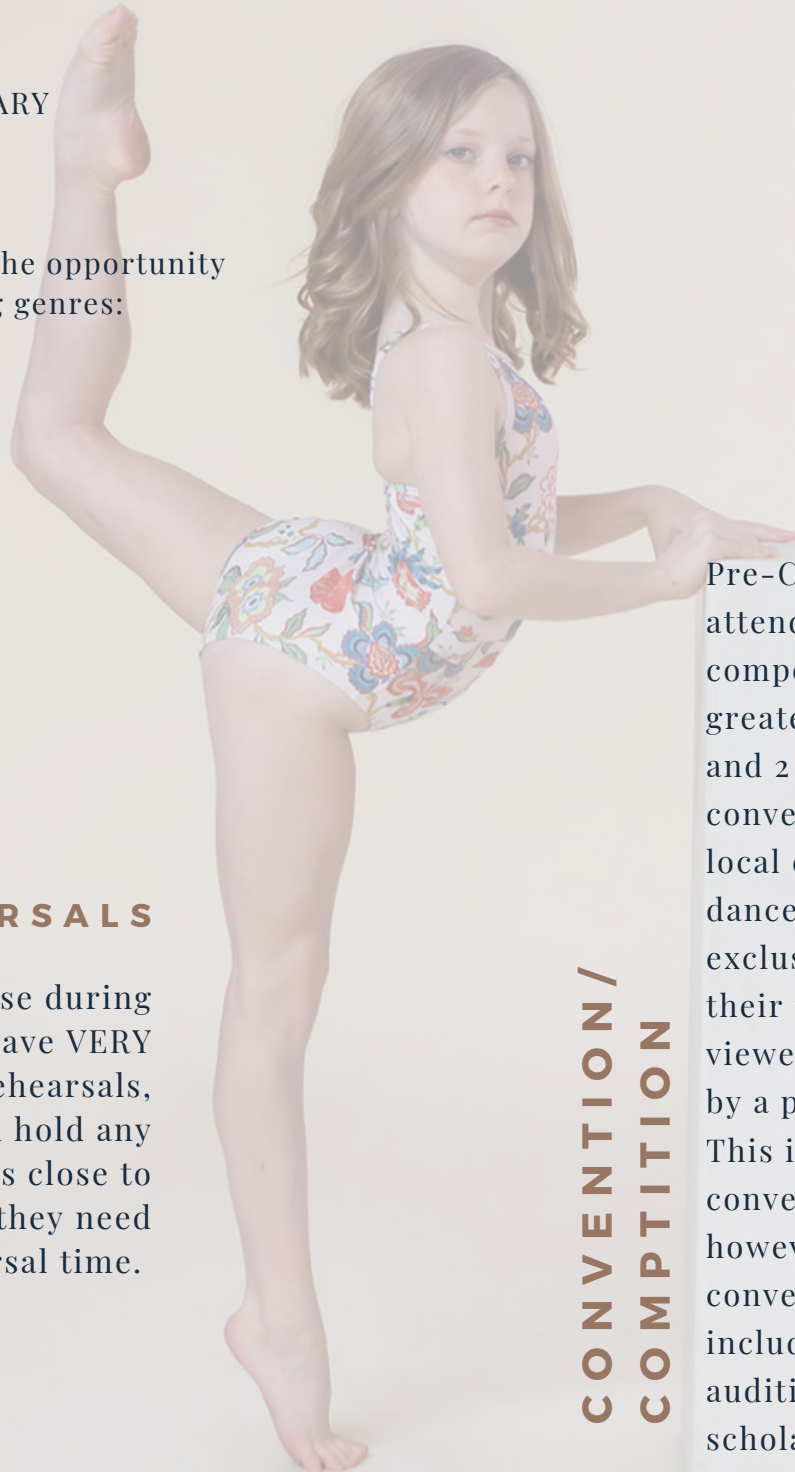
HIP HOP
TECHNIQUE
ACRO
PBT

WEEKLY REHEARSALS

Pre-Co will rehearse during the week and will have VERY MINIMAL Saturday rehearsals, if at all. We will hold any Saturday rehearsals close to competitions if they need additional rehearsal time.

CONVENTION/ COMPTITION

Pre-Co dancers will attend 2 competitions in the greater Austin area, and 2 local conventions. For local competitions, dancers will exclusively compete their piece to be viewed and scored by a panel of judges. This is the same for conventions, however, conventions will also include classes, auditions and scholarship opportunities.



COMPANY PERKS

Training from Local, National, and International Choreographers

Unique Mentorship under the direction of Melissa Best

Training and choreographic opportunities with Avery Hampton

Multi-Discipline Education, resulting in Versatile Dancers

Competitive Growth Opportunities

10% off TDS Master Classes

Technical and Artistic Advancement

Close Knit Family Atmosphere

Professional Photoshoots and Videography Projects

Creative Exploration and Guidance

Versatile Training

Preparation for Professional Auditions and Industry Opportunities

Team Bonding Experiences

Conceptual Video Shoots

Networking within the Dance Industry

Customized Training and Choreography

Discounted Studio Rentals

& More!

RISE UP

Explore Your Potential

PRE-CO | MAY 27 | 5-6PM | \$25
AGES 5-7 (AGE AS OF 1/1/2023)

***8 YEAR OLDS SHOULD AUDITION WITH THIS AGE
IF NEW TO COMPETITIVE DANCE,**

WHAT TO WEAR:

Dancers should wear all black tight fitting dance wear and bring ballet shoes. The first portion will be barefoot, so no tights, please.

Hair should be pulled out of face and professional, light makeup can be worn.

No jewelry or accessories, please.

Audition application and registration should be completed prior to May 27. Both can be found at our website: <https://www.dancespotx.com/rise-company-info/>.

EVALUATION:

Dancers will take "class", where they are to be evaluated based on work ethic and technical variables, and will be taught a short combination to demonstrate movement quality and performance capability.

***Advanced/older dancers may be asked to come back for the next age group if the director would like to see them dance with the older age group.**

Be prepared to come back for the 8-12 year old audition if this is the case, however it is not common.

Dancers asked to stay will not be asked to pay the difference in audition fee.

RESULTS:

Results will be posted on our website by Sunday, May 29 at 10am. Dancers and one parent/guardian will be required to attend a team registration meeting on May 31 from 3-4:30pm.

Company commitment begins with the start of the summer session on June 6.

PRE-CO

**INTRODUCTORY COMPANY
PREPARING DANCERS FOR THE
COMPETITIVE TRACK ON RISE**



**2022-
2023**

IMPORTANT DATES

IMPORTANT DATES

RISE
dance collective

5.27 & 5.28 | AUDITIONS (private auditions available if can't make this date, reach out to director)

5.31 | PLACEMENT/TEAM ONE ON ONES WITH DIRECTORS

6.6 | FIRST DAY OF SUMMER SESSION

7.5-7.8 | THE DANCE SPOT INTENSIVE (REQUIRED)

8.5-8.7 | DISCOVERY INTENSIVE (Optional)

8.10-8.11 CHOREOGRAPHY CAMP W/ MS. AVERY (REQUIRED)

8.12 | COMPANY RETREAT (REQUIRED FOR ALL TEAMS)

8.15 | FIRST DAY OF FALL SESSION

9.17 & 9.18 | TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL PHOTOSHOOT (REQUIRED FOR ALL)

12.9-12.10 | NUTCRACKER

1.6-1.8 | ADRENALINE AUSTIN CONVENTION/COMPETITION (highly encouraged)

DATE TBD | DRESS REHEARSAL/SATURDAY REHEARSAL (REQUIRED)

DATE TBD | AUSTIN DANCE CLASSIC @ WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL (REQUIRED)

2.24-2.25 | VISTA RIDGE DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP @ VISTA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL (REQUIRED)

3.17-3.19 | THE STREETZ SAN MARCOS CONVENTION AND COMPETITION (REQUIRED FOR ALL)

5.12-5.14 | INTRIGUE SAN MARCOS (REQUIRED)

5.19-5.20 | SPRING RECITAL DRESS REHEARSAL AND SHOW *DATE TENTATIVE

COMPETITION AND CONVENTION DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE/BASED ON CURRENT INFO

**If a dancer is unable to make a required summer intensive, directors will find a suitable replacement to make up the training hours. Convention/Competition dates are mandatory but subject to change based on dancer's conflicts/availability.*

RISE UP

Reach New Heights

SUMMER REQUIREMENTS

THE DANCE SPOT INTENSIVE (REQUIRED FOR PRE-CO) :

JULY 5TH-8TH

Ages 7+ / 12pm-2:30pm \$150 | Ages 11+ / HI Int / 10:30am-3:00pm \$275 | Ages 13+ / Adv / 11:00am-3:30pm \$275
This program is ideal for the dancer who would like to broaden his/her understanding of various dance styles and may be new to or interested in getting into the convention or competitive dance team world. Classes will be taught by our passionate, engaging, in-house instructors and is a great opportunity for students to get exposure to more of our TDS faculty.

DISCOVERY SUMMER INTENSIVE (OPTIONAL FOR PRE-CO):

AUGUST 5TH-7TH

Ages 7-9 / 11am-2pm \$165 | Ages 10-12 / Hi Int / 10:30am-3:00pm \$250 | Ages 13+ / Advanced / 9:00am-3:00pm \$300

This comprehensive intensive is designed for motivated dancers who come to be trained, inspired and often transformed by this incredible dance experience. Students will have an opportunity to refine their skills and broaden their dance vocabulary while being exposed to guest master teachers from coast to coast who will "Rise" them to unexplored limits.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS (REQUIRED FOR ALL):

.Pre-Co: 16 required hours (at least 8 of which must be ballet).

We strongly encourage class enrollment so that dancers can progress week to week with the same instructor and classmates, but we understand that, with summer travel, some dancers may have to load up classes in a smaller amount of time. Weekly workshops are offered to allow dancers to submerge themselves in specialities and accumulate hours. Private lessons are also available.

RDC Choreography Camp (required for ALL):

August 10- August 11

Schedule to fall between 9am and 9pm, but will depend on how many routines your dancer learns. Cost is based on choreographer fees and will be broken up in monthly installments. Majority of dances will be learned here. Some choreography to be learned outside these dates.

*Conflicts for this week should be brought to director in Audition Application and may result in ineligibility for certain dances.

COMPANY RETREAT (REQUIRED FOR ALL):

AUGUST 12TH

9am-6pm \$50 (included in your company installments)



Payments for tuition are withdrawn automatically as needed throughout the Summer-August and on the first of each month, between Sept 2022 - May 2023.

Payments for most additional company costs (competitions, conventions, costumes, choreography, etc.) will be withdrawn automatically on the 15th of each month, between June 2022-May 2023.

Spreading your payments out through the year provides convenience for consistent budget planning!

Installments will include:

- All solo competition fees (except if adding a second solo)
- All duo/trio competition fees
- All group competition fees
- All choreography fees
- All convention fees
- All costume fees
- Social/Banquet fees
- Recital fees
- *option to add summer Intensives to these installments if you prefer

Not included:

- Rise Merchandise
- Recital Fees
- Nutcracker Fees (if applicable)
- Additional Competition Categories ((Dancer of The Year, Improv Comps, etc.)
- Observer Bands for conventions
- Optional Convention/Competition Fees

**Fee estimates are based on current pricing available, any deviation in pricing will be reconciled as debit/credit in May 15th 2023 installment*

For any dancer/family who needs financial assistance, we are happy to include fundraising opportunities this coming season through the following avenues:

- Bestow Balance
- Amplify Austin
- Gala
- Silent Auction
- Dance-A-Thon
- Holiday Gift Wrapping
- & More!

**Fundraising Committee will be put together after auditions for parents interested.*



FINANCIAL COMMITMENT



INCLUDED IN INSTALLMENTS (to be withdrawn the 15th of each month)

CHOREOGRAPHY | APPX \$200 per piece
COSTUMES | APPX \$125 PER COSTUME
CONVENTION FEE | PRE-CO: appx \$420 (2 CONVENTIONS)
COMPETITION FEE | PRE-CO : appx \$260 (1 DANCE X 4 COMPETITION FEES)

**ADDITIONAL FEE OF \$240/DANCE APPLIES FOR
ADDITIONAL DANCES, PLUS ONE TIME CHOREOGRAPHY
& COSTUME FEES*

PHOTOSHOOT/VIDEOGRAPHY FEE | \$150
COMPANY SHOW FEE | \$50
CHOREOGRAPHY SHOW FEE | \$50
SOCIAL FEE | \$60 (WINTER AND SPRING BANQUETS/PARTIES)
monthly company fee | \$50
approximately \$160/month

ADDITIONAL FEES:

MERCHANDISE | APPX \$200
RECITAL FEES | APPX \$125
NUTCRACKER FEES | \$125 (IF APPLICABLE)

MONTHLY TUITION (to be withdrawn the 1st of each month)

MONTHLY TUITION | APPX \$233

OPTIONAL FEES

*SOLO/DUO COMPETITION, COSTUME, AND CHOREOGRAPHY FEES
ADDITIONAL COMPETITION, COSTUME & CHOREOGRAPHY FEES IF WANTING TO DO MORE THAN 1 COMPETITION DANCES
ADDITIONAL CONVENTION FEES, IF DESIRING MORE THAN BASE REQUIREMENTS, PLUS COACHING FEE IF DESIRING
DIRECTOR'S ATTENDANCE*

SUMMER COSTS

DISCOVERY INTENSIVE | \$165 (optional with director's approval)
THE DANCE SPOT INTENSIVE | \$150
SUMMER TUITION | DIFFERS PER STUDENT-BASED ON WEEKLY CLASSES OR WORKSHOP RATES *see website for summer pricing

TUITION AMOUNTS ARE ESTIMATES BASED ON MINIMUM CLASSES (AMOUNT MAY CHANGE DEPENDING ON YOUR SPECIFIC WEEKLY SCHEDULE).

*****all rates are approximations until contract is signed with exact prices of each competition/convention and specific choreography.***

RISE UP

<https://www.dancespotx.com/rise-company-info/>