



2023-2024

# RYDE RESILIENT



# OVERVIEW

Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or (RYDE) is a community-based dance program for children and youth ages 3-17. The mission of our program is to provide a creative outlet for youth that builds character, raises self-esteem, boosts confidence, and promotes positive interaction through artistic expression. The vision is to inspire youth to use the arts and its disciplines to aid them through life and its experiences. The HOPE is that the arts will act as a vehicle for guiding them through cultural exposure, enrichment, and enjoyment, which leads to healthier outcomes.

We offer ballet, jazz, tap, modern, lyrical, contemporary and hip-hop classes at our studios, located at 4948 Clinton Hwy in Knoxville, TN. We also provide dance outreach by partnering with local youth serving organizations, schools, recreation and community centers,

All classes promote social and emotional development, school readiness, spatial awareness, balance and coordination, and cooperative learning. All performances, recitals and classes are designed to build these 5-core virtues in our dance students: character, self-confidence, self-esteem, healthy self-image, and positive peer interaction.

We invite youth on a journey to proactively develop natural character that will last them a lifetime. The policies described in the following page were created to help further this mission.

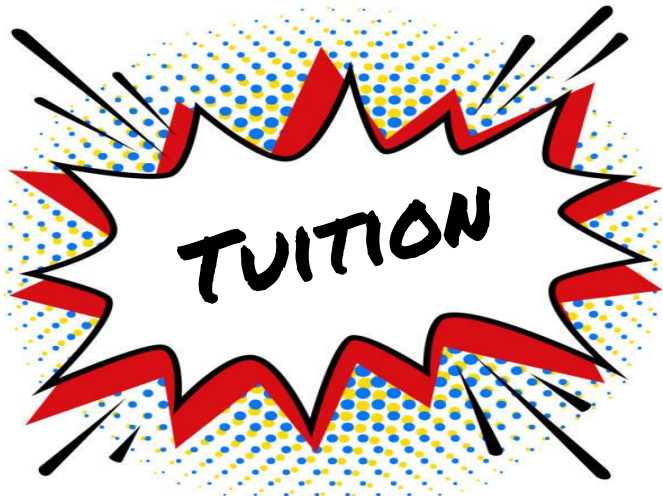


# ATTENDANCE

Our dance instructors spend a significant amount of time preparing for each class, so when a student misses, it takes time away from the whole class to teach what the child missed. From the first class in August thru May, we will be working very hard on special performances, and our year-end spring recital. This makes class time even more valuable.

Chronic absences hurt overall performance—whether it is in class or on stage.

- ★ Students are expected to attend every class and to arrive on time to prevent disruptions.
- ★ If a dancer misses more than the first fifteen minutes of class, she/he would not be properly warmed up. Injuries are less likely with properly warmed up muscles.
- ★ If a student misses more than the first 15 minutes of class, he/she will be asked sit and watch the rest of class.
- ★ Progress in class is dependent upon regular and consistent participation.
- ★ If students miss, they can make-up their class before the beginning of the next month.
- ★ If your student will be absent, please call us to inform us.



- ★ Tuition is due by the 1st of the month during the regular dance season (Sept-June), regardless of attendance.
- ★ Tuition is late if received after the 5th of the month.
- ★ Our regular dance season runs for 10-months, tuition is calculated based on number of operating months, not on the number of weeks/classes in a month.
- ★ If your child has had more than two consecutive absences, in a month, we will contact you to see if they will be returning back to dance.
- ★ We require a two-week notice for class withdrawals.
- ★ You may choose to pay monthly, by semester (Fall or Spring), by the session, or for the entire dance season.

## TUITION RATES \*

### Monthly:

- ★ \$50 1- 45-minute class
- ★ \$65 1- 60-minute class
- ★ \$80 1- 90-minute class
- ★ \$25 for 1st additional class
- ★ \$15 drop-in rate

### SESSIONS:

4-12 week open sessions each semester and during summer

- ★ Waived registration fee
- ★ End-of-session dance demonstration day
- ★ Open sessions: 1 class each week (45-60 minutes)
  - ★ \$15 drop-in/weekly rate

## ANNUAL/SESSIONAL FEES

- ★ Registration fee: \$35 (August of each dance season)
- ★ Winter performance fee: \$35 per student (includes costume)
- ★ Spring recital fee: \$15 per student
- ★ Spring costume fee : \$50 per student, per class (includes new tights/shoes)
  - Costume payments can be made starting October 1st thru March 1st
  - Costumes will be ordered no later than March 1st
- ★ Receive 10% discount if semester tuition is paid in full, per student
- ★ Receive 15% discount if yearly tuition is paid in full, per student

\*Any tuition payment returned to Royal Youth Dance Ensemble as NSF, will be subject to a \$25.00 returned item fee in addition to the tuition owed. After two returned items, all payments for your account will be required to be paid via cash, money order, or cashier's check.

# DANCE ATTIRE

**Parent & Me:** Any color leotard, leggings, bare feet or ballet slippers

**Pre-Ballet:** Pink or black leotard, tights, and ballet slippers (no socks)

**Beginner Ballet:** Pink or black leotards, skin tone tights, and ballet slippers

**Ballet I:** Pink or black leotard, skin tone tights, and ballet slippers

**Ballet II:** Black leotard, skin tone tights, and ballet slippers

**Ballet III:** Black leotard, skin tone tights, and ballet slippers

**Tap:** Black leotards, tights or leggings, and tap shoes

**Jazz:** Leotard/shirt, leggings, or shorts, and jazz shoes

**Modern/Lyrical/Contemporary:** Leotard/shirt, leggings, shirt, and ballet shoes

**Hip-hop:** sweat pants, jeans, or shorts, t-shirt & tennis shoes (no crocs, sandals, or flip-flops)

**Cheer & Tumbling/Performance Team:** black leotard or Company T-shirt, black leggings, and tan jazz shoes

\*We have a dancer's bin for students who may need uniform assistance.

The background is white with scattered black dots of various sizes. On the left side, there is a vertical column of colored circles in blue, yellow, red, and black. At the top right, there are red streamers with blue and yellow polka dots. The word "PERFORMANCES" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right. At the bottom center, there is a pink star with a black outline. A yellow shape is partially visible at the bottom left.

# PERFORMANCES

At the end of the Winter/Spring/Summer sessions, we will have a performance/recital showcase.

It is not mandatory, but we encourage participation and dedication while preparing for these events, as missing classes will cause dancers to miss important routines, techniques, and instructions.

Teachers will make recommendations of students to participate/perform in special performances/events, then talk with parents and students to determine level of commitment for extra rehearsals/practices in preparation for event.

The performance-ready rehearsals will be scheduled accordingly.

# TRIAL AND SAMPLER CLASSES

Sampler classes are trial classes that will determine which class/style is the right fit for your child. Whether your child desires more advanced level classes, performance opportunities, or shorter session classes that are more recreational, which are fun dance classes for children with no prior dance experience, our team is ready to help you choose the best dance experience for your child. We are more than happy to set up a time to schedule your child's first dance experience with us.

For more information about this process, feel free to contact us:

865-745-9363

email us at [royalsdance129@gmail.com](mailto:royalsdance129@gmail.com).



# FREE DANCE DAYS

## October & February

Bring your buddy or best friend to class with you and enjoy dancing together during our Character


Dress-up week in October and during our Love the RYDE week in February! This is a great way to invite kids in our communities to a fun day of dance by trying out a class, commitment free!

We also invite friends to come during the first back to dance week in August and after spring break, in April for our Sampler week.






# DANCERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA



We are working hard to keep our dancers and parents informed. We try to post events, deadlines, pictures, and announcements on our closed Royal Youth Dance Ensemble (RYDE) group page on Facebook. But, many are not on FB, therefore I will send it in an email. There is a Facebook public page that is set-up for general information, upcoming events, etc.

We also use the BAND app, which is a phone texting app that we use to send out mass texts. Please keep us informed when you've had a number change.



# PRIVATE APPOINTMENTS



During the session, if a parent or dancer has a problem that they would like to discuss, we will set up a meeting for you to have with our Director, Sherra Robinson, Studio Manager, and/or Teacher.

Parents, PLEASE address your concerns before or after class, and not in front of other parents and/or the dancers.

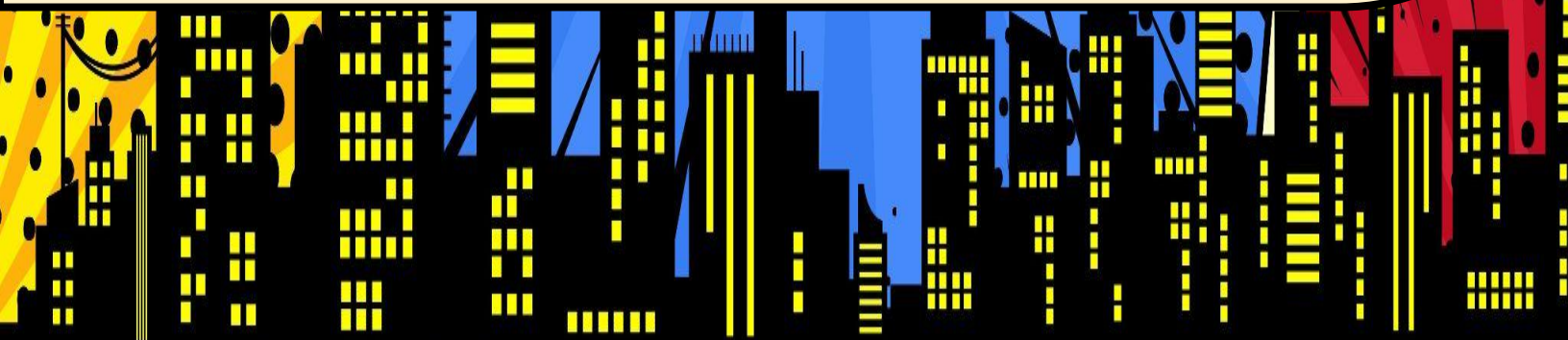
*We value our parents' opinions and concerns.*



## **THE ROYAL BEES - CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

- ★ Be in control of your body
- ★ Be in control of your voice
- ★ Be aware of your personal space
- ★ Be respectful of yourself, others, and our studio
- ★ Be kind to your teachers and your fellow dance mates

**Most importantly, be unique...and be YOU!**





## **GEM AMBASSADOR LEADERS PROGRAM**

At RYDE, we believe the greatest gift we can give our students is not only performing arts knowledge and strong technique, but also leadership skills they can use throughout their life. Therefore, our new and revised leadership program, *G.A.L.s* (Gem Ambassador Leaders) is free to our students.

Performing Arts can be a powerful tool for developing leadership skills. Our process teaches students who are ages 6 and up to set goals, work as a team, build confidence, and a variety of other characteristic building attributes.

### Leadership Program:

Our program meets once a month with our studio Director and Staff where they learn about leadership and do team building activities. Our program does community events as well because we believe in giving back and becoming a pillar in our community. Students who have completed basic technique classes and demonstrated our leadership principles are invited for additional training and will be considered to join our "Student Assistant/Teacher" program. These students will apply our leadership principles, work beside our instructors to learn basic teaching techniques, and be an example to all students. An interview will be set-up once a *GAL* is recognized, referred, and/or nominated by their peers and/or teachers.



# RYDE DANCE COMPANY:

Some dancers thrive on competition. Others enjoy being on stage without as much pressure. The RYDE All STAR dance team is ideal for students who want additional performing opportunities without the rigors of a tryout or the financial demands and time requirements of being on a competition team.

The RYDE Dance is a group of dancers who provide community performances at local youth dance competitions, festivals, TN Valley Fair, local parades, and other community events. They are exposed to a professional dance experience in a non-competitive environment. Company members are required to take a Company choreography class and a jazz technique class during both the fall and spring semester, each dance season. They are also required to take a two dance intensives and one choreography class during the summer months. Dancers are also expected to participate in at least two performances (outside of their normal winter performance and spring recital) throughout the season.



# WAIVER & RELEASE FROM LIABILITY FORM

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print your name) have chosen to have my child, \_\_\_\_\_ (print child's name), participate in dance instruction given by The Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE. I acknowledge that I understand the nature of the activities my child will be participating in and the possibility that despite precautions, accidents and/or physical injury may occur.

I/we agree to release and hold harmless The Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE including its dance instructors/teachers, and staff members from any cause of action, claims, or demands now and in the future. I/we will not hold The Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE liable for any personal injury or any personal property damage or loss, which may occur on the premises before, during or after classes or which may occur at any Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE sponsored event outside the studio.

Furthermore, I/we agree to read and follow the class and facility policies and take full responsibility for my/our behavior in addition to any damage I/we may cause to the facilities utilized by The Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE a hard copy can also be obtained at the location.

I authorize and agree that The Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE may take and use photographs, videos or likenesses of myself or my child as needed for its record keeping, advertising, social media and/or public relations projects and that I have no rights to the same and will not be compensated for the same. Photos will not be sold, exploited, or used for personal gain.

My signature is proof of my intention to execute a complete and unconditional waiver and release of all liability pursuant to the terms herein, and agreement as to all terms and conditions contained above. I am of lawful age and competent to sign this affirmation.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE FORM PRIOR TO SIGNING THE REGISTRATION FORM FOR PARTICIPATION IN The

Royal Youth Dance Ensemble or RYDE.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Legal Guardian (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Legal Guardian (Sign)

\_\_\_\_\_ Dancer's Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Dancer's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date