



## Company 2026-2027 Company Information Packet

We are so glad you're interested in joining Ledwig Dance Academy's Company (LDAC). Our competitive dance team is a great way to further one's dance abilities and learn to work with others on a team.

Your child's dedication is important to the Company. When joining a team, your commitment is for the whole year (August-May). **You are committed to attending all practices, working on your dances away from the studio, and attending all performances and competitions. We work as a team and need all members' cooperation for the team to succeed.**

**Parents are also very involved when their child is a Company member.** Dancers need their instructors at dance class to push them and continually help them set goals for themselves. They can only achieve these goals at a quicker rate with practice at home. This is where parents come in. We want you to encourage your dancer to practice at home. It also helps when you sit down with them for a few minutes each day to work on their dances and skills.

Your child will experience excitement when they master that new skill they have been working on for a while or are put in front of the formations in the dance. They will also experience disappointment – when they set a goal that they didn't meet by the end of the year; or when they want to move up in company every year but aren't quite ready yet. It's a great life skill to learn that the answer isn't always going to be yes.

Please remember that we are a dance family. We are to encourage one another and be a part of a team. We do not allow talking down to another parent, student, or staff member from students or parents. Our dancers are in competition together, not against one another.

Because we believe that dancers improve when learning from various teachers/choreographers, we attend conventions and/or travel to other states as a learning opportunity. For MOST conventions you must be at least 5 years of age to attend. Conventions may be required of our Junior-Senior dancers (1 per year). More details are below.

Please read this packet carefully and through its entirety. There is a fees list and important dates sheet included. We schedule meetings, practices, and payments which will be available on the calendar. We will also send out a calendar once dates are finalized.

## 2026-2027 Teams

We have 7 teams in Company:

- Tots (Beginner)
- Intermediates (Intermediate)
- Juniors (Intermediate-Advanced)
- Seniors (Intermediate-Advanced)
- Elite (Advanced)
- Hip Hop Team (ages 8 & up, *by invitation only*)
- Tap (open to Senior & Elite members and select Junior members - *by invitation only*)

If interested in joining the tap or hip hop team, you can email Ms. Kaitlyn (tap) at

[kaitlyn@ledwigdanceacademy.com](mailto:kaitlyn@ledwigdanceacademy.com) or Ms. Hannah (hip hop) at [hannah@ledwigdanceacademy.com](mailto:hannah@ledwigdanceacademy.com) to

let them know you're interested.

**NOTE - We may add or remove any team if circumstances change. Teams can be combined or split at any time.**

Students are placed in groups by audition only. *Auditions are held on May 1st at the studio.* There is an audition fee of \$15/dancer. This fee is due at the time of auditions with your audition form. We will NOT be accepting any payments/forms before May 1st. Any student who misses the audition can schedule a private audition on another day.

*Audition Times: (dancers do NOT need to audition for Tap or Hip Hop Co)*

Ages 5-7 4:15-5

Ages 8-10 5-5:45

Ages 11 & up 5:45-6:45

\*\*Dancer's ages 9 & older may attend the 11 & up audition with Ms. Stephanie's approval

## Class Requirements

All company members must register for their designated weekly company class. Listed below are the classes required for Company. We require regular dance classes so dancers get their technique in.

- **Tots** - Ballet/Tap/Jazz Class (or Ballet/Tap if Kinder), Tot/Intermediate Technique Class, Company
- **Intermediates** – Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Company Class
- **Juniors** – Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Company
- **Seniors** - Ballet (twice weekly), Jazz, Contemporary, Company
- **Elite** – Ballet (twice weekly), Jazz, Contemporary, Company
- **Hip Hop** – Hip Hop Team class & regular Hip Hop class
- **Tap** – Regular Tap class & Team Class

**Please note:** Each year our groups do different styles of dance based on the dancers on that team. If a certain team requires tap and not contemporary but decides to do a contemporary piece, the dancers in that group will be required to take contemporary instead of tap. This is just an example of how classes can/will change.

**NEW:** We will be requiring our Company members to sign up for a minimum of 4 one-day additional classes being offered throughout the year. We will have one class per month (on a Friday or Saturday) where dancers will train in a style that isn't offered regularly during the week – strength, PCT, etc. More details will be announced soon.

## Summer Requirements

All company members are required to register for and attend a certain number of summer classes. They are also required to attend their August choreography classes where they learn their dance(s) for the new season. The August schedule will be posted in early summer.

Below are the requirements for each group:

- **Tot** – 2 regular summer classes, Tot Performance/Strength class
- **Intermediate** – 3 regular summer classes (Tot/Intermediate Performance/Strength class is ENCOURAGED but not required)
- **Junior** – 3 regular summer classes, June Intensive
- **Senior & Elite** – 4 regular summer classes, June Intensive
- **Hip Hop** – 2 summer classes
- **Tap** – 2 summer classes

All company dancers are encouraged to take more classes than is required.

## Attendance

- All company dancers are allowed ONLY 4 absences combined from regular required classes and company classes. This is in effect from September-December.
- From January through the end of competition season (March or April), only 2 absences are allowed from regular classes and company classes.
- To be counted present, the student must be in class for 75% of the class time.
- **NEW:** Dancer's are NOT allowed to miss ANY required classes the week of a performance or competition unless the reason given is unavoidable/necessary. If a dancer misses a required class the week of a performance or competition, they may be pulled from a dance.
- Make-up classes or private lessons are to be scheduled for anyone who is absent more than what is allowed. If our staff are unable to schedule private lessons, your dancer will need to make-up by attending another dance class.
- In the event that more than the allowed number of classes are missed for any reason, the dancer may be pulled from a dance for one competition.

## Dress Code

- For company practices, all members must be in black fitted dancewear.
- Jazz shoes are required for ALL groups (except Hip Hop & Tap).
- Intermediate, Junior & Tot groups will need black tap shoes. (lace up tap shoes, split sole)
- Senior and Elite groups will need lyrical toe paws.
- Required shoes may be changed at the discretion of the team choreographer based on the style of dance the group is doing. Besides jazz shoes, it is not recommended to purchase extra shoes until you know what styles of dance your dancer's group will be doing.
- Hair must be up and away from the face.

## Behavior

- Company members are to always be on their best behavior.
- They are to display respect for their fellow dancers and instructors while in class as well as outside of class. Speaking negatively about others while at the studio or any student events is strictly prohibited.

- If any teacher feels a student is disrespecting the teacher, students, or environment, the student will be asked to leave.

**Parents** – We expect all parents to be respectful to other dancers and staff at LDA. Parents also represent LDA and any negative remarks about other staff, students, or the studio will not be tolerated. Gossiping to other parents or students in public is not acceptable. Please address any concerns you have with Ms. Stephanie directly. We want to create an inclusive and positive learning environment for all dancers.

It's normal for parents to have questions about their dancer's placement level at competition. These can be addressed with your child's instructor. However, worrying about another dancer's placement is NOT your concern. Please worry about your child ONLY.

### Accounts

- Accounts are to be up to date always. This includes company fees and regular dance class fees. Late fees of \$10 will be applied to all fees where payment is more than a week late. No exceptions will be made.
- Communication is key. Please let Ms. Stephanie know if you need to make financial arrangements for the year.
- Students will be dismissed from company if account is more than one month past due.

### Fundraising

- We offer several optional fundraisers throughout the year.
- Dancers are encouraged to do their own fundraisers throughout the year. However, the studio name is NOT to be used when fundraising for yourself or a select few others.
- Even though we offer plenty of fundraising options, the purpose of fundraising is to help offset the cost of Company expenses. Be sure to budget for the extra expenses and not solely rely on fundraising.

### Communication

- We communicate via email and our private Facebook group (Ledwig Dance Academy Company Parents). **READ YOUR EMAILS.** There is always a lot going on in Company and we don't want you to miss anything!

### Competitions

- We attend 3 competitions a year. Competitions are mandatory unless otherwise stated.
- Competitions usually fall between the months of February and April.
- Competitions are in the Austin, San Antonio, and Houston areas.

### Special Performances

- Every year in January, our Company puts on a showcase at the Welder Center. This is to get the dancers on stage before taking their dances to competition. All family and friends are welcome to attend.
- Company dancers perform at least once per year in the community. Performances are mandatory and you are notified as soon as possible.

### Specialty Numbers

- Information regarding specialty numbers (solos, duets, trios) can be found below.

### Conventions/Trips

Every other year, we require Senior and Elite dancers to attend a convention. This year, convention is NOT required but highly encouraged for dancers ages 9 & up. Convention details will be sent out in the summer. The convention is one to two days long (you can choose how many days to attend) and usually held sometime between October-November. If your dancer signs up for one day only and stays the next day, you will be expected to pay for the extra day. The convention cost ranges from \$260-\$365/dancer for the entire weekend.

Dancers must be 6 years or older to attend convention.

## Company Fees

Company can be very costly. Please note that regular dance fees are not included in these fees (Example: tuition, recital costumes, etc.). Budget accordingly as paying late WILL NOT be accepted.

### Tuition/Month

- \$40/month – 1 Company Group
- \$45/month – 2 Company Groups
- \$55/month – 3 Company Groups

This will be added to your monthly tuition for regular classes. When you register, this monthly fee will already be included.

### Other Fees

- **Company Dues** – Each dancer will be required to turn in \$35 as part of their dues. This will help pay for the raffle fundraiser costs. This fee is due by August 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **Competition Fees** – Competition fees vary depending on the competition. As a reminder, we will attend 3 group competitions. These fees are per dance, per dancer, and per competition. Here is a rough estimate:
  - \$85-\$98 Group Fees/ Dance
  - \$140-\$185 Solo Fees
  - \$75-\$98 Duet/Trio Fees
- **Costume Fees** – All dancers will need costumes for company dances.
  - Tot, Intermediate & Junior groups - \$75 per costume plus tax
  - Senior, Elite, Tap & Hip Hop groups - \$80 per costume plus tax
  - Hip Hop Shoes - \$25-\$40 – Black and white converse (same as previous years)
  - Tap Shoes for **TAP COMPANY ONLY** - **\$120 (shoes MUST be the Bloch brand ordered through LDA)** Fee will be added to costume fees. These are the same as previous years.
- **Required Items for Competitions & Performances:**
  - Competition Jacket - \$75-\$120
  - Performance Top - \$25-\$35
  - Performance Earrings - \$14
  - Nude Tights - \$12
  - ANY PLAIN Black Leotard & Black Shorts (needed for class & performances) – price varies
- **Specialty Number Choreography** – It takes time and talent to choreograph a solo/duet/trio. Choreography fees are as follows:
  - \$155 – solo
  - \$85 – duet/dancer
  - \$75 – trio/dancer
- **Private Lessons** (if needed) - \$45/Hour (or \$55/hour for a duet/trio)
- **Drop Fee** –If you must drop company for any reason, there is a \$25 drop fee due within 7 days of the drop day.

**\*\*Anything highlighted in yellow hasn't been finalized for the 26/27 company season. An updated packet will be posted as soon as these fees have been updated.**



## Company Specialty Number Agreement & Interest Form

Please review the following agreement, sign where applicable, and turn into the front office by Thursday, May 28. If we do not have your signed agreement by then, you will NOT be allowed to do a specialty number.

### **Guidelines regarding specialty numbers:**

- Company dancers with at least one year in Company have the option to do a specialty number (solo, duet, trio).
- You will need to turn in TWO forms in order to do a specialty number:
  - \*\*Agreement & Interest Form – due Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> (*this form*)
  - \*\*Specialty Number Form – due July 16<sup>th</sup>
- You will need to turn in this signed agreement by Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and no sooner than May 13<sup>th</sup>. If you already have your song choices picked out, you can turn in your specialty number form with this signed interest form. Specialty number forms **MUST** be submitted by July 16<sup>th</sup>. **Missing any of these deadlines will result in your dancer NOT being allowed to do a specialty number.**
- If your dancer wants to do a specialty number, they (and you as the parent) must understand that a lot of practice and work at home is important to succeed. You are a representation of LDA and we only want the best for your dancer.
- If a dancer is ONLY on tap team or hip hop team wanting to do a specialty number, they **MUST** do a specialty number in the same style as the team they are on. *Ex: Dancer in Hip Hop Company only can only do a Hip Hop specialty number.* This does NOT apply to the regular Company teams.
- Options for choreographers are Stephanie Ledwig, Kaitlyn Schul, Hannah Guerra, and Kelsy Spiller. Alexis Arriaga is available for hip hop choreography but will be limited. If you don't have a preference for a choreographer, we will assign who we think would be a good fit for your dancer. **Requesting a choreographer is not a guarantee.** Each choreographer has their strengths in different styles, with different ages and their own choreography preferences.
- Music must be approved by LDA staff before choreography can be started. Some songs are NOT suitable for a dance competition. Because of this, our staff are to be honest with you about your song choices. You can submit up to 5 song choices to your choreographer. Please do not send more as this takes up a lot of unnecessary time. If your songs are not approved, your choreographer will send you 3-5 songs to choose from.
- **NEW RULES regarding costumes:** You will need to have your costume approved by your choreographer. This includes extra hair pieces, arm bands, leg bands, specialty tights, accessories, etc. Any makeup choices that are not the norm – body art, blue, pink, dark eye shadow, etc. – must also be approved. The way you plan to wear your hair for your specialty number must be approved. The choreographer's name is tied to your dancer's specialty number so the choreographer must approve EVERYTHING. If you plan to make your own costume or order a personalized costume, it must be approved by your choreographer BEFORE ordering/designing. Order forms are required if ordering a costume through the studio and **MUST** be turned in by October 1<sup>st</sup>. **DO NOT EMAIL OR TEXT THIS TO OUR STAFF.**
- The choreography fee varies (\$155 – solos, \$85/dancer – duet, \$75/dancer – trio) and your specialty number will not be started until this fee is paid in full. Lessons to learn the choreography are the cost of a private lesson. Private lessons for solos are \$45/hour. Private lessons for a duet or trio are \$55/hour.
- Dancers 8 and younger doing a specialty number are **REQUIRED** to take a minimum of 5 hours' worth of private lessons.

- Select specialty numbers will have the opportunity to perform in recital. The top 5-12 scoring routines of the season will perform - the length of recital will determine the number of specialty numbers performing. If your dancer competes with two solos, only ONE is eligible for recital. If your dancer competes with 3 or more specialty numbers, only the top TWO will be allowed in recital. The top scoring graduating senior will automatically be permitted to do their solo in recital.
- The choreography belongs to LDA and the choreographer. Dancers/parents are NOT allowed to make changes to the dance without permission. If a change has been made to the choreography without permission from the choreographer, the dance will be pulled from competition.
- Please remember that while our choreographers LOVE what they do, they also have personal lives outside of work. We ask that you do not text/call your choreographer outside of work hours regarding dance related conversations. You can email your choreographer anytime and expect a response Monday-Friday.

Please let us know what specialty number(s) you are planning on doing this year. This helps us plan where our choreographers will be needed. If you know the style of dance, please include that as well. *Note:* If you turn your specialty number form in with this signed agreement, you will not need to fill out the information below.

Specialty Number – Dance 1:

Dancer(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Style \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Choreographer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty Number – Dance 2:

Dancer(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Style \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Choreographer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty Number – Dance 3:

Dancer(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Style \_\_\_\_\_

Requested Choreographer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read below and sign where needed:**

Dancer: I have read and understand the rules and guidelines of participating in a specialty number(s) at LDA. I will follow all guidelines and rules for the 26-27 dance season. I understand that if I fail to follow any of the rules listed, I will have my specialty number pulled from competition.

Dancer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: I have read and understand the rules and guidelines of participating in a specialty number(s) at LDA. My dancer will follow all guidelines and rules for the 26-27 dance season. I understand that if my dancer or myself fails to follow any of the rules listed, they will have their specialty number pulled from competition.

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Ledwig Dance Academy  
Specialty Number Form**

*\*\* You can submit this form starting May 13<sup>th</sup>.*

Dancer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Company Group \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Co \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One:     SOLO             DUET             TRIO

If doing a duet or trio, list the other dancers: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to perform a specialty number?

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List 3-5 song choices WITH artists. Also note what style of dance you're wanting (jazz, lyrical, etc.)

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List your two choices for choreographers. We will do our best to honor your request, but specialty numbers are based on first come first served. Our choreographers also have different strengths in different styles. We may choose someone not on your list due to them being the best choice for your specialty number.

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**Note:** A specialty number is a big commitment for both the dancer and the parent. Practice at home will be required if you want your dancer to improve. Private lessons with our staff are to work with your dancer on cleaning and correcting their dance. Dancers will not improve if they are only attending private lessons but not working on their own. Please keep this in mind. This is a big responsibility for both the parent and dancer.

**Specialty Number Costume Order Form**

Dancer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Co. Group \_\_\_\_\_

Costume Site \_\_\_\_\_ Style # & Name \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_ Choreographer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice (costume site & style # & name) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_ Charged \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Size Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Approval \_\_\_\_\_

**Specialty Number Costume Order Form**

Dancer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Co. Group \_\_\_\_\_

Costume Site \_\_\_\_\_ Style # & Name \_\_\_\_\_

Color \_\_\_\_\_ Choreographer Approval \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice (costume site & style # & name) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_ Charged \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Size Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Approval \_\_\_\_\_

