



# THE REPERTOIRE PROGRAM AT YOUTH DANCE ENSEMBLE

Now in its 34th year, the Repertoire Ensemble, made up of junior and senior levels, is the performance company of YOUTH DANCE ENSEMBLE (YDE). Students in this program represent YDE and participate in the annual Nutcracker Ballet performances/tours, Dances at the Lakes, The Modern Dance Project Community Concert and featured performances at Winterfest & the Spring Concert and other performances throughout the Twin Cities as scheduled.

## **Placement into the Repertoire Ensemble program is based on:**

- technical level
- commitment to participate in rehearsals and performances
- strong dance retention skills
- dependability
- seniority

Placement into junior and senior levels is determined by choreographers, staff, and YDE Directors.

The Repertoire Ensemble program is a year-round commitment 6/1 through 5/15. Repertoire choreography is learned during the summer months and performances take place throughout the year. Mandatory attendance and a commitment to participation in performances is required for this program. Repertoire rehearsals are based on two hours per week, including but not limited to the Repertoire rehearsal time slot (SAT 12:00-2:00) from Sept 1-May 15 and summer session dates. All Repertoire dancers are expected to work with and learn choreography from guest artists and choreographers on staff. Repertoire dancers are not permitted to pick and choose which choreographers they want to work with. Students unable to attend summer rehearsals because of vacations are required to find a sub.

Dancers must attend required technique classes and be available to rehearse as required by the choreographer/director. Effort is made to communicate timely schedules, but flexibility is needed and appreciated to accommodate last minute schedule changes due to Instructor/Choreographer performances, and professional obligations outside of YDE. All casting and placement into new choreography will be determined by the Youth Dance Ensemble Staff and Choreographers. Throughout the year, selected students may be invited to audition for or participate in special projects by choreographers. These opportunities are by invitation/audition only.

## **Required classes include:**

BALLET TECHNIQUE (including SAT CLASS)-1.5 hr ballet class, two times per week, and attendance at all scheduled REP rehearsals.

YDE nurtures and supports dancers who choose to participate in outside dance activities including, but not limited to school dance programs, dance teams, theatrical performances, and professional/community theater. In all cases of outside dance participation, YDE requires weekly technique classes to ensure technical strength and artistry is maintained during time away from the studio. For those dancers who are out more than two months, YDE will request a written commitment to the responsibilities of the REP ensemble and all choreography. YDE understands that each situation is different and will attempt to work with families to make participation possible.

Email is the main form of communication for all REP programming, but we also use a private Facebook page for choreography retention, and texts for quick reminders and emergencies (like snowstorms or last minute class cancellations).

We hold two parent meetings where attendance is required. One in September (where we set the Nutcracker rehearsal schedule) and one in January when we start back to class in the new year (where we set the Spring Performance Schedule). If you are unable to attend, we ask that an older sibling, relative or even a neighbor be present.

# YDE REPERTOIRE PERFORMANCES & ACTIVITIES 2025-2026

## **JULY**

- Dances at the Lakes
- Summer Classes including at least two ballet classes/week continues
- Choreographer's Initiative

## **AUGUST**

- Choreographer's Initiative

## **SEPTEMBER**

- Mandatory Parent meeting
- Nutcracker Rehearsals

## **OCTOBER**

- Nutcracker Rehearsals

## **NOVEMBER**

- Nutcracker Rehearsals
- Burnsville Tree Lighting Performance

## **DECEMBER**

- Community Nutcracker
- Winterfest
- Local Nutcracker outreach
- Out State Nutcracker
- Annual REP Holiday luncheon

## **JANUARY**

- Mandatory Parent meeting
- Choreographer's Initiative rehearsals

## **FEBRUARY**

- Choreographer's Initiative rehearsals

## **MARCH**

- Modern Dance Community Concert
- Choreographer's Initiative rehearsals

## **APRIL**

- Choreographer's Initiative rehearsals

## **MAY**

- Spring Concerts

## **JUNE**

- Rep Prep for 1<sup>st</sup> year REP students
- Summer Classes including at least two ballet classes/week
- Choreographer's Initiative