



Canyon Concert Dance Center

Youth Dance Ensemble Program

In keeping with Canyon Concert Dance Center's mission, the Youth Dance Ensemble is dedicated to creating and sharing the passion of dance through artistically enriching performances and dance education. Our goal is to enrich the lives of young dancers in our community in a warm, positive, and fun atmosphere while showcasing and sharing their talents within the community. Participating in the ensemble program gives each dancer the opportunity to let their true light and spirit shine through on and off stage while developing their technique! Dancing in the ensemble is a fun way to share your love of dance with others!

This ensemble is designed for the dancer that would like to primarily emphasize and excel in ballet, lyrical, jazz and/or modern. Each member may designate which disciplines they would like to concentrate on, although ballet is the primary focus. Dancers participate in an Ensemble Showcase at the Lincoln Center, community performances including Nursing homes and Senior Care facilities, First Night Fort Collins, New West Fest, as well as special pieces for our Annual Spring Showcase. Dancers may also choose to participate in up to two Dance Conventions in Denver, attend the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancers Competition or audition their dances for New Visions Dance Festival in the spring. Students have the opportunity to be part of a Student Mentor Program where the older ensemble members mentor the younger members. Participation in the Ensemble is a year long commitment.

Dancers will spend the summer preparing for their end of the summer performance scheduled at the Lincoln Center in August. Rehearsals during the summer are primarily on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Rehearsals are on Saturday mornings during the school year. The Ensemble program comprises of the **Senior Dance Ensemble** (ages 12 and up), **Junior Dance Ensemble** (ages 8-11) and the **Mini Dance Ensemble** (ages 6 & 7).

Auditions

The Canyon Concert Ballet Dance Center's Youth Ensemble is open by audition only. Auditions are held each spring.

Audition Date: Saturday, March 7 2009

12:30-2:00 pm	Ages 6-10
2:00-3:30 pm	Ages 11 +

There is no audition fee. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the audition. Dancers should be prepared to dance in ballet, jazz and lyrical. Ladies should wear tights and leotard and have their hair pulled back neatly. Boys should wear a tight fitting shirt with leggings, tights, or pants. Please bring ballet and jazz shoes if possible.

Fees

We have done our best to make the Dance Ensemble fees as reasonable as possible while still providing quality instruction, staff, guest choreographers and costumes.

Participation Fee: Each Ensemble member pays a monthly rehearsal fee. From June-August, dancers pay \$10/ month per for each dance that they choose to participate in, not to exceed \$80/ month. For example, if your student dances in 3 pieces, the total monthly participation fee would be \$30. From September-May dancers pay only half their original monthly rehearsal fee/ month in order to maintain pieces and schedule run-through rehearsals. Any new dances that are added throughout the year are assessed new \$10/month per dance monthly rehearsal fees. Participation fees are due with your monthly tuition.

Choreography Fees: Choreography fees are charged according to the number of dancers in each dance and according to the type of dance. These fees are divided by the number of dancers in each piece. Fees for group dances are \$300, small group dances (4-6 dancers) \$250, duet or trio \$200, and for a solo \$150. This is a one-time fee and most dances will be performed several times throughout the year. For example, if your student was cast in a group piece with 10 members the total choreography fee for that dance would be \$30. Any new dances that are added throughout the year are

assessed new choreography fees. All choreography fees for the August performance are due by Monday, June 1.

Costume Fees: We do our best to find quality costumes for each dance at a reasonable price. A costume can range anywhere from \$15 to \$60. Costume fees are due by Monday, July 6.

Expectations

Members of the **Senior Dance Ensemble** (ages 11 and up) are required to take at least 4 classes/ week, 3 must be in ballet technique and it is encouraged that additional classes are in jazz, lyrical or modern. Of course development in all techniques is encouraged and dancers should participate in classes they feel are vital to their development and bring them joy. Pointe is not considered a regular ballet technique class. Members of the **Junior Dance Ensemble** (ages 8-10) are required to take at least 3 classes/ week, 2 must be in ballet technique and 1 additional class in another dance discipline. Members of the **Mini Dance Ensemble** (ages 6 & 7) are required to take 1 ballet class/ week. *Each dancer will be asked to sign a letter of Commitment upon acceptance to the Dance Ensemble Program.*

Absences: Dancers must understand that participating in Canyon Concert Dance Center's Ensemble Program is a commitment. All absences must be excused at least one week prior to rehearsal by written letter or email. Each dancer is allowed 2 absences from June- August and 4 absences from September- May. We understand that some of you may be attending other Summer Intensives. This is taken into consideration upon casting and automatically excused. Many of our students also participate in Canyon Concert Ballet's annual production of **The Nutcracker**. The Ensemble program will maintain the absolute minimum of rehearsals from September- December.

For Additional Information:

For additional information about the Ensemble program or auditions please contact Amber Mazurana, the Ensemble Director, at (970)472-4156 or by email at schooldirector@ccballet.org.

