

Information for Parents and Students considering joining YDE (YOUTH DANCE ENSEMBLE)

YDE is open to rising Ballet levels 2X, 3 and 3X

Auditions:	Typically early June at the DDC studio
Dues:	\$150 a year, can be made in 3 installments; first payment due before YDE Intensive
Tuition:	YDE is 2 additional class hours
Summer Intensive:	Typically early August at the DDC studio

Dancer expectations

Dancers sign a contract and are expected to be at all practices and performances. YDE is a full year commitment. Dancers are representatives of DDC and are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner.

Parent expectations

All parents of dancers who are members of YDE are part of the YDE Parent Guild. Parents are expected to help with various events (3-4 per year) such as the YDE Showcase performance, fundraising, Nutcracker food tables sponsored by YDE, and backstage help at various events. Parents who wish to become more involved are invited to be part of the YDE Parent Guild Board.

Summer Intensive

Each summer, DDC schedules an Intensive Workshop intended for YDE members only. During the Intensive, dancers begin to work on new pieces for the coming year. Although it is not mandatory, it is strongly recommended that all YDE members attend. Please understand that dancers who do not attend may not be added to the dances learned so they may not perform in these dances throughout the year. They will be placed in new dances learned throughout the dance year.

Performances

YDE performs and attends local dance festivals. Below are some examples of past events:

- Open House Performance (August)
- Newark Community Days (September)
- Maryland Dance Festival (October)
- Delaware Dance Festival (February)
- DDC's Gala Performances (March)
- Spring Dance Celebration (April)
- Cystic Fibrosis Walk (May)
- DDC End of Year Concert (June)

What are the benefits of being a member of the Youth Dance Ensemble?

The experience of performing helps to cultivate technique as well as artistry and is necessary for the growth of any serious dancer. Aside from the exciting performance experiences, dancers have a chance to feel they are part of a family of dancers. The experience gives younger dancers a chance to interact with older dancers and older dancers an opportunity to share their experience with new or younger members of the Youth Dance Ensemble. YDE members also have the unique opportunity to work with multiple teachers and choreographers in ballet, modern, jazz, tap, and musical theatre dance. These experiences are invaluable for developing their skills and confidence.