



RDC Dancer and Parent FAQ's

What benefits does RDC offer dancers?

RDC offers dancers aged 8-18 who has at least two years of ballet training an opportunity to become more fully educated in the art form of dance. RDC provides:

1. Opportunities to work with master teachers, guest artists and choreographers.
2. An unmatched training program.
3. One-of-a-kind performance opportunities.
4. An atmosphere that nurtures a healthy balance of creativity and self-discipline.

When are auditions?

Auditions for the 2010-11 season are Sunday, April 25, 2010 at the Janet Lang Dance Studio and are as follows:

12:30 pm – Auditions for dancers who have previous commitments and have contacted and received pre-approval from Cindy Hanson.

1:00 pm – Auditions for current RDC Students

1:45 – 2:30 pm – Auditions for Ballet 1, 2 and 3

2:45 – 3:30 pm – Auditions for Ballet 4, 5 and 6

Who should audition for RDC?

A serious dance student who:

1. Enjoys the challenge of learning new choreography.
2. Accepts constructive criticism that is essential for development.
3. Strives to excel and is supportive of his or her fellow dancers.
4. Is passionate about the art form of dance.
5. Loves the excitement of performing to live audiences in professional quality productions.

What is the commitment?

RDC members are expected to place RDC first in their extracurricular activities, following family and school obligations. Attendance at all classes and rehearsals is mandatory and will not be excused except for family, illness or school functions. All RDC members are expected to attend at least two ballet classes per week in addition to company class. We highly recommend that dancers participate in a jazz class and strongly encourage Junior, Senior and Pre-Pro dancers to take additional weekly ballet classes. RDC Pre-Professional, Senior and Junior company members have weekly company class on Saturday, with a 2-4 hour rehearsal following class. RDC Apprentice members have class twice monthly on Friday, with a 1-2 hour rehearsal following class. Depending on casting, Apprentice members may rehearse on additional Fridays and Saturdays. In addition to company classes and rehearsals, all RDC members must be present during the following 2010-11 periods. If you cannot attend during these weeks, please do not audition.

RDC 2010-11 Mandatory Rehearsal and Performance Dates

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>What</i>
August 2-13	9:00-5:30 pm	Ballet Boot Camp
November 15-21	4:30-9:00 pm	Nutcracker rehearsal at JLDS
December 5	11-5 pm	Sugar Plum Fairy teas
December 6-9	TBA	Tech week at MCC/School & Special Needs
		Show
December 10-12 TBA		Nutcracker Performances
January 2011	TBA	Winter Showcase???????????
TBA		Spring Production

Dancers may also be asked to participate in promotional mini-performances that usually occur the month before a public performance. We do our best to coordinate these with school schedules.

What are the fees associated with RDC?

The fee chart below explains:

1. Fees that are charged and the annual fundraising contribution.
2. The break down of hours each company member is in class or rehearsal.
3. Cost per hour or instruction or rehearsal.
4. Annual fundraising contribution in addition to Fundraising/tech week Volunteer hours and a buy-out option.

Company	Monthly Fee	Monthly Class Hours	Monthly Rehearsal Hours*	Cost/Class Rehearsal Hour	Ballet Boot Camp	Annual Fund Fee**
Apprentice	\$65	3.0+	9.0	\$5.42	\$250	\$65
Junior	\$90	4.5+	12	\$5.62	\$265	\$90
Senior	\$90	4.5+	12	\$5.62	\$275	\$90
Pre-Pro	\$90	4.5+	12	\$5.62	\$275	\$90

*This is an average figure based on the projected total rehearsal hours for 9/2010-5/2011

**Each RDC family is required to contribute the equivalent of one month’s fee to RDCA’s fundraising budget to help offset fundraising costs. Families with more than one dancer do an average of the monthly fees (e.g. one apprentice and one junior company member’s fee would be \$77.50 (\$65+\$90/2), not \$155. This contribution is a tax-deductible donation to RDC.

What else is expected from parents?

Parents are also required to promote all RDC’s productions by purchasing/selling a minimum of 10 tickets for each RDC production. These tickets sales are **mandatory** and if not sold, the fee will be added to the monthly statement. Past ticket sales data proves that parents and company members are a driving force in ticket sales.

Fundraising Activities and Opt-out option – New Policy

Parents of all RDC members are part of the Rochester Dance Company Associates (RDCA). In an effort to streamline our fundraising activities all parents will be asked to sign up for a **minimum of ONE additional fundraising activity in addition to peach/cherry fundraiser to sell and/or volunteer and hours will be recorded. All families must participate in RDC’s annual Peach/Cherry Fundraiser.** RDC will require each family to write a check to RDC at Ballet Boot Camp for \$125, which will not be cashed and will be returned in May 2011 if fundraiser volunteer hours/sales are completed according to policy. If parents decide to “opt-out” of fundraising, their check will be cashed and there will be no further fundraising requirements. If fundraising requirements are not met, the check will be cashed in March 2011 after all fundraising activities have ended.

Tech Week Volunteer Hours and Opt-out option – New Policy

Tech week volunteer hours are also mandatory for RCDA. There will be sign up sheets for Nutcracker and Spring Production at Ballet Boot camp and **each family will be required to sign up for 10 hours of time.** Hours will be recorded. RDC will require each family to write a check to RDC at Ballet Boot Camp for \$125, which will not be cashed and will be returned in May 2011 if volunteer hours are completed according to RDC policy. If Tech Week volunteer hours requirements are not met, the check will be cashed the week after the Spring production.

The 2010-11 Fundraising Event Calendar is as follows:

August	October	November	December	February
Peaches Cherries	Halloween Dance Camp	Butterbraids	SPF Tea	Valentine’s Dance Camp

Parents will be asked to purchase low-cost costume elements such as tights and make-up for their dancers and to make small contributions to the Holiday Dance Camps. RDC members are required to own a black, camisole leotard, and a black wrap skirt and black jazz pants/boot cut for class, rehearsal and some performances. Additional questions, please contact Cindy Hanson at 288-9653.