



## 2026 RDC Spring Show "Robin Hood" Dancer and Parent FAQ's

### What benefits does RDC offer dancers?

RDC offers dancers aged 6-18 who have at least two years of dance training an opportunity to become more fully educated in the art form of dance (most of the dance instruction provided by RDC will be in ballet, although it could also be jazz, modern, or contemporary depending on what is needed for rehearsal that day).

### 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 2026 Spring Show, Robin Hood, are Sunday, November 2nd, 2025 at Byron Dance Academy. Current RDC company members dancing in the spring show will attend the audition for their age group as it will help with casting decisions.

### Audition Schedule:

- 9 - 9:45am – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders (and current RDC Pre Pros and Senior Corps members)
- 10-10:45am – 6-8th Graders (and current RDC Junior Corps members)
- 11-11:45am – 4-5th Graders (and current RDC Petit Corps members)
- 12-12:30pm – 2-3rd Graders (and current RDC Apprentice members)

If you are unable to audition at that time, please email [RochesterDanceCompanyMN@gmail.com](mailto:RochesterDanceCompanyMN@gmail.com) to make alternate arrangements. All dancers not already in Rochester Dance Company this year are required to participate in the audition process.

### Who should audition for RDC?

A serious dance student who has taken at least two years of dance training and 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.

### When do we find out Company placement and return the contract if our family decides to commit?

Contracts and/or letters will be emailed to all dancers by November 7th, 2025. By Wednesday, Nov 12, families need to reply to the email letting us know if they accept their contract. Your Jackrabbit Dance account must be set up by Friday, Nov 14th with needed contracts and forms signed to be cast in Robin Hood. The cast list will be released towards the end of November.

### What is the commitment?

RDC members are expected to attend at least two dance technique classes at your own studio per week in addition to company class. Apprentice members and the other younger Pre Company dancers are expected to attend at least one dance technique class a week. We highly recommend that dancers participate in more than one type of dance class (i.e. ballet, modern, contemporary, and/or jazz). RDC company members will have weekly company ballet class on Friday and/or Saturday, with a rehearsal following class; additional rehearsal time may be scheduled as needed.

To achieve the maximum results of training and proper progression, students are asked to attend all RDC classes and rehearsals to which they are assigned. To minimize absences, parents are urged to take into consideration classes and rehearsals when scheduling their children for appointments and when planning family vacations.

Consistent attendance is vital in maintaining a student's mastery of dance technique. Dance is a physical activity that requires consistent weekly training to establish muscle strength and muscle memory. Classical ballet training is a highly specialized technique that requires excellent instruction by a knowledgeable teacher and committed attendance by the student in order to achieve the desired results. RDC supports dancers participating in other activities but reserves the right to cast accordingly based upon the conflicts that the dancer will have during each production season.

At the auditions on November 2nd all dancers need to turn in the form with all their known conflicts (ie. vacations, prom, other sport commitments, etc.) for Fridays and Saturdays from January 3- March 8th. Up to 4 planned absences on Fridays and/or Saturdays will be allowed but having more than 2 planned absences requested will most likely affect casting. All dancers must be available for full tech week March 2-8, 2026. Other than the conflicts listed at the audition, dancers will only be allowed to miss rehearsals due to illness or family emergency (ie a funeral, etc). If you will be absent for more than half of the time you are supposed to be there on any given day, that will also count as an absence.

### **RDC 2026 Rehearsal and Performance Dates (times subject to change as needed)**

Fri & Sat Jan 3-Feb 28 Depends on roles Company Class and Rehearsals at Byron Dance Academy  
March 2, 3, 4 Evening rehearsals Tech week rehearsals at the Rochester Civic Theatre  
March 5, 6, 7, 8 TBA Spring Production of Robin Hood at Rochester Civic Theatre

### **What are the fees associated with RDC?**

\$50 Dancer Level Spring Registration Fee for new to RDC dancers only and Monthly Tuition Fee Feb - March  
Pre-Professional Tuition = \$115/month  
Senior Corps Tuition = \$110/month  
Junior / Petit Corps Tuition = \$105/month  
Apprentice Tuition = \$80/month  
For families with multiple dancers, there is a \$75 maximum family registration fee for spring  
And a 10% discount for 2nd child, 3rd child, etc. for monthly fees

### **What else is expected from parents?**

Parents are required to promote all RDC's productions by purchasing/selling a minimum of 10 tickets per family 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**

In an effort to streamline our fundraising for the costume fund, all Rochester Dance Company families will be required to participate in RDC's Spring 2026 fundraiser. If you would like to opt out you may write a check for \$50 and have no further spring fundraising requirements.

### **Volunteering**

All families will also be required to volunteer a minimum of 20 hours for this production. Hours will be logged and monitored.

### **Additional Items**

Parents will be asked to purchase low-cost costume elements such as leos, tights, shoes, and make-up for their dancers. RDC members are required to own a black camisole leotard and a black wrap skirt or a black t-shirt and black dance pants for class and rehearsal.

Optional additional purchases include RDC spirit wear, Cast Pictures, and a DVD/USB of the spring show.

### **Scholarships**

A limited number of need-based partial scholarships can be awarded each year to help with tuition costs. To be eligible for a reduced tuition scholarship, dancers must provide proof of receiving free or reduced lunches at school. Contact RochesterDanceCompanyMN@gmail.com to ask for a scholarship application. The scholarship committee shall determine the number and amounts of scholarships awarded within the constraints of available funds. The committee's decision is final. All information provided, committee discussions, and decisions will be kept confidential.

**Additional questions, please contact RDC at RochesterDanceCompanyMN@gmail.com**