

# 2026-2027 GDU STAR Competitive Dance Company Audition Information

## What is a Competitive Dance Company?

Competitive dance is for the dancer who wants to become more involved in dance and take dance training to the next level. As a competitive dancer, one will receive advanced technical training that is designed to challenge and inspire growth both as a dancer and as a person. At GDU, we believe competitive dance also teaches important life lessons including teamwork, self confidence, dedication, and perseverance.

GDU Star Company is a serious commitment. Once you have committed to our company you must remember that we require you to make us your **FIRST COMMITMENT**. Classes, rehearsals, and performances must take precedence over all other extra-curricular activities.

## What are dance competitions?

Dance competitions are events where dance studios in an area (usually the state) come together to compete against each other with pre-choreographed dance routines. Competition categories are generally grouped by dance style, group size, and age of competitor(s). A panel of professional judges will score the dance, and provide comments and critiques. Winners receive awards, prizes, and chances to compete at higher-level competition (National Championships).

## Informative Company Meeting:

Tuesday, April 28th 7:15-8:00

## Audition Dance Combo Classes

Your dancer will need to attend the combo classes that best correlate with the desired company level for the 2026-2027 dance season in order to learn the combos performed during auditions. For example, if your dancer is currently 10 and plans to audition for Rising Stars, please come on May 16th to both the 5:00 Jazz and the 6:00 Lyrical Combo classes.

### Mini/Shooting/Returning Sparkling

May 11th	6:15-7:00	Sparkling/Shooting Mini/Performance A Combo	Ages 3-6
May 11th	7:00-7:45	Sparkling/Shooting Jr./Performance A Combo	Ages 7-10
May 11th	7:45-8:45	Sparkling/Shooting Teen/Performance A Combo	Ages 11 and up

### Rising/Shining

May 11th	5:00-6:00	Jazz Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 10 and under
May 11th	6:00-7:00	Lyrical Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 10 and under
May 11th	6:00-7:00	Jazz Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 11-14
May 11th	7:00-8:00	Lyrical Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 11-14
May 11th	7:00-8:00	Jazz Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 15 and up
May 11th	8:00-9:00	Lyrical Combo for Rising/Shining	Ages 15 and up

# Dance Company Auditions: Saturday May 16th

- \* Please join the Rising/Shining Company audition that matches the dancer's current grade level.
- \*\* Please join the Shooting/Sparkling Company audition that matches the dancer's current age.

- Dancers will need to wear ALL black, have all dance shoes available, and have hair up in a nice, neat ponytail.
- Each dancer will need to pay an \$40.00 audition fee (**cash or check only**).
- Dancers must be stretched and ready to audition at scheduled time.
- **Please remember it is VERY IMPORTANT TO BE ON TIME TO ANY AUDITION!!**

Saturday, May 16th

9:00-10:00	Shooting/Returning Sparkling Star Company Ages 7-10**
10:15-11:00	Shooting/Returning Sparkling Star Company Ages 3-6**
10:15-11:15	Shooting/ Returning Sparkling Teen Company Ages 11 and up**
4:30-5:30	Rising/Shining Star Company Elementary School *
5:45-7:00	Rising/Shining Star Company High School*
7:15-8:30	Rising/Shining Star Company Middle School*

## Important Company Dates: 2026-2027

May 16	Rising and Shining Company Auditions
June 2	Summer Classes Begin
June 8-12	Dance Intensive #1 (One week is mandatory for Rising/Shining/Shooting Teen*)
June 16-18	Mini Dance Intensive #1 (One is mandatory for Shooting Junior/Sparkling)
June 15	Company Contracts Due Signed and Returned to Studio
June 29 -July 3	Studio Closed...no classes
July 7-9	Mini Dance Intensive # 2 (One is mandatory for Shooting Junior/Sparkling)
July 13-17	Second Dance Intensive (One week is mandatory for Rising/Shining/Shooting Teen*)
July 15	Booster (incidentals) Fee and Registration Fee Due
<b>July 15</b>	<b>1st Monthly Payment Due (payments runs July-May. Due on the 15<sup>th</sup>)</b> <b>Choreography Days (NEW to 2026-2027 season)</b>
	August 1-2: All Day
	August 3-4: Will be working around school days for Barrow, Walton students.
	August 10, 12, 14: Evenings Only
	August 15-16: All Day
	August 17: Evenings Only
Aug 18	Regular Classes Begin at Studio
Aug 22-23	In House Convention
Sept 7	Closed for Labor Day
Sept 15	Money due for Warm Up Jackets/Pants
Oct 11-18	Studio Closed: Fall Break
Oct 16-18	Encore Convention- Columbia, SC (optional for Shining's second convention)
Oct 24-25	Open Call Convention- Athens GA (option for Shining's second convention)
Nov 7	Thanksgiving Feast after rehearsals
Nov 22-29	Closed for Thanksgiving Break

Dec 14	Winter Party
Dec 21-Jan 2	Closed for Winter Break
Jan TBA	Stage Rehearsal
Jan/Feb TBA	Mock Competition/ Parent Show

## Saturday Rehearsals:

Sept 12	ALL COMPANY Rehearsal
Sept 26	Shooting Teen, Rising, and Shining Rehearsal
Oct 3	ALL COMPANY Rehearsal
Oct 24	Shooting Teen, Rising, and Shining Rehearsal
Nov 7	Shooting Teen, Rising, and Shining Rehearsal
Nov 14	ALL COMPANY Rehearsal
Dec 5	Shooting Teen, Rising, and Shining Rehearsal
Dec 12	Shooting Teen, Rising, and Shining Rehearsal

Saturday rehearsals for January, February, March, April and May will be determined after the Competition schedule is released in August. Company Dinner attendance is required for all dancers.

## Additional Information:

We will have a parent meeting in August to go over details for the rest of the year including the Competition schedule.

All dancers will compete at 4 dance competitions during the spring and perform in our annual spring recital. We consider a distance of 3 hours or less to be a local competition and 3.5 hours or more to be an out of town competition. For this season, we plan to do 2 out of town competitions or less.

Shooting Teen, Rising and Shining Star Companies will rehearse two Saturdays a month.

Shooting Juniors will come one Saturday a month during the months of September, October, November, January, and February. One additional rehearsal may be required for March and for April. We will also have a mock competition on Saturday in either January or February (date TBD). We will announce all Saturdays for the entire year as soon as we receive the competition schedule so that you can mark those dates on your calendars.

**New to this year:** We require all Shining Students 12+ to volunteer at one GDU event, examples include Trunk or Treat, fall festivals, Sparkling competition, winter show, parades, etc.

We require all company parents to volunteer a minimum of two times during the year for events such as helping with our Saturday dinners, prop building, costuming, charity events, etc. A form will be available at our Parent Meeting in August.

# Shooting Star Junior Company (Ages 3-9)

## Requirements:

- Attend mini dance intensive AND at least 8 classes in summer 2026
- Attend company choreography days. All conflicts on choreography days must be discussed and approved before contracts are signed
- Attend weekly required classes
  - Assigned shooting combo class
  - Assigned rehearsal\*
- 5 Saturday rehearsals (Sept, Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb). One rehearsal for March and April if needed.
- Perform one dance at competition
- Attend four competitions in the spring (two out of town)
- Perform company and class dances in the winter (if applicable) and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time may be shared with multiple shooting star junior dances

## Company Costs:

● Tuition \$75 x 9.5 months	\$ 712.50
● Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals \$25 x 9.5 months	\$ 237.50
● Choreography Fee x1	\$ 130.00*
● Costume x1	\$ 90.00
● Competition Entry Fees (\$75** x4 competitions)	\$ 300.00**
● Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00
● Company Dinners	\$ 25.00

\*additional charge for duet/trio

\*\*prices are subject to increase if competition fees increase

**Annual Total = \$1515.00**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$138.00 per month July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 installment option: \$719.63 each in August and January (5% discount applied.... Check/cash only or processing fee will apply)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals and props) fee of \$200.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$40.00), required warm up jacket (\$70), shoes (\$25.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$75), and recital costumes (\$75.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Shooting Star Teen Company (Ages 10-17)

## Requirements:

- Attend one week of Dance Intensive and at least 8 classes in summer 2026
- Attend company choreography days. All conflicts on choreography days must be discussed and approved before contracts are signed
- Attend weekly required classes
  - 60-minute jazz/tap or 60-minute jazz class
  - An additional class  
(pick between lyrical, hip hop, musical theater or ballet)
  - Assigned rehearsal
- Up to Two Saturdays a month rehearsal
- Perform two dances in competition
- Attend four competitions in the spring (two out of town)
- Perform company and class dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time may be shared with multiple shooting star teen dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition \$100 x 9.5 months	\$ 950.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals \$25 x 9.5 months	\$ 237.50
• Choreography Fee (\$130* x 2)	\$ 260.00*
• Costumes (90 x 2)	\$ 180.00
• Competition Entry Fees (\$150** x 4 competitions)	\$ 600.00**
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00
• Company Dinners	\$ 40.00

\*additional charge for duet/trio

\*\*prices are subject to increase if competition fees increase

**Total for year = \$2,287.5**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$208.00 per month July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment options: \$ 1086.75 each in August and January (5% discount applied. Check/cash only or processing fee will apply)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals and props) fee of \$200.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$40.00), required warm up jacket (\$70), shoes (\$25.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$75), and recital costumes (\$75.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Rising Star Company (Ages 7 and up)

## Requirements:

- Attend one week of dance intensive **AND** at least 12 classes in summer 2026
- Attend company choreography days. All conflicts on choreography days must be discussed and approved before contracts are signed
- Two days a week and two Saturdays a month time commitment:
- Weekly required classes
  - Assigned ballet class
  - Assigned jazz class
  - Assigned strength/conditioning class
  - An additional class  
(pick between tap, lyrical, hip hop, musical theater or tumbling: must coordinate with competition dances)
  - Assigned rehearsal
- Two Saturdays a month rehearsal
- Perform a minimum of two dances at competition (priced below)...extra dances are optional
- Attend four competitions in the spring (two out of town)
- Attend one In-house dance convention
- Perform company dances in the winter (if applicable) and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time will be shared with multiple rising/shining star dances

## Company Costs:

• Tuition (\$165 x 9.5)	\$ 1567.5
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals (\$30 x 9.5 months)	\$ 285.00
• Quest In House Convention	\$ 290.00
• Choreography Fees (\$130.00 x 2)	\$ 260.00*
• Costumes (2)	\$ 180.00
• Competition fees (\$150** x 4 competitions)	\$ 600.00**
• Saturday dinners (\$5 x 8 months)	\$ 40.00
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00

\*additional charge for duet/trio/solo

\*\*prices are subject to increase if competition fees increase

**Total for year = \$3242.5**

## Payment Options:

- 11 monthly payments: \$295.00 July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$1540.25 each in August/January (5% discount)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals and props) fee of \$200.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$40.00), required warm up jacket (\$70), shoes (\$25.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$75), and recital costumes (\$75.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

# Shining Star Company (ages 7 and up)

## Requirements:

- Attend one week of dance intensive **AND** at least 12 classes in summer 2026
- Attend company choreography days. All conflicts on choreography days must be discussed and approved before contracts are signed
- Three days a week and two Saturdays a month time commitment:
- Weekly required classes...
  - Assigned ballet class and one extra technique/ballet class a week
  - Assigned jazz class
  - Assigned strength/conditioning class
  - Assigned lyrical class
  - Assigned tap class
  - Assigned hip hop class
  - Assigned tumbling class
  - Assigned rehearsal\*
- Two Saturdays a month rehearsal
- Perform a minimum of three dances at competition...extra dances are optional
- Attend four competitions in the Spring (max two out of town)
- Attend two dance conventions (one out of town and In-house)
- Perform company dances in the winter and spring recitals

\*Weekly rehearsal time will be shared with multiple rising/shining star dances

## Company Costs

• Tuition (\$200 x 9.5 months)	\$ 1900.00
• Weekly/Saturday Rehearsals (\$30 x 9.5 months)	\$ 285.00
• Choreography Fees (\$130.00 x 3)	\$ 390.00*
• Convention (2)	\$ 525.00
• Costumes (3)	\$ 270.00
• Competition fees (\$ 225** x 4 competitions)	\$ 900.00**
• Dinners	\$ 40.00
• Company t-shirt	\$ 20.00

\*additional charge for duet/trio/solo

\*\*prices are subject to increase if competition fees increase

**Total for year = \$4330.00**

## Payment Options:

- 11 Monthly payments: \$395.00 July-May (last payment is due May 1st)
- 2 payment option: \$2,056.75 each in August and January (5% discount)

Please note: Booster Club (incidentals and props) fee of \$200.00 is due July 15th along with July's tuition and annual registration fee. The above fees **DO NOT INCLUDE** required summer class, camps/intensives, studio annual registration fee (\$40.00), required warm up jacket (\$70), shoes (\$25.00-\$85.00 per pair) and additional tights (\$8) needed for competitions, tentative winter show fee (\$50), spring show fee (\$75), and recital costumes (\$75.00-100.00 each costume). **ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

## **Additional Dances** (These dances do not qualify for the 5% payment discount)

### **Solos: Rising and Shining Star Dancers only**

\$ 350*	choreography fee and rehearsal up to 6 hours.
\$ 640**	entry fees (\$160 x 4 competitions)
\$ 100	costume
<b>\$ 1090</b>	<b>Total</b>

### **Duets/Trios:**

\$ 175*	choreography fee (per person) and rehearsal up to 6 hours.
\$ 340**	entry fees (\$85 x4 competitions)
\$ 90	costume
<b>\$ 605</b>	<b>Total</b>

### **Groups: Additional Groups (see maximum total groups for each level below)**

\$ 130	choreography fee (per person)
\$ 85	rehearsal fee
\$ 300**	entry fees (\$75 x 4 competitions)
\$ 90	costume
<b>\$ 605</b>	<b>Total</b>

\*additional charges will be assessed after choreography/rehearsal hours are reached.

\*\*prices are subject to increase if competition fees increase

### **CONVENTION STYLE DANCE COMPETITIONS (assessed in September).**

#### **Shining**

\$150.00	Additional cost of convention if Encore, Ignite, ASH, etc.
\$85.00	Entry fees for group dance (if your dancer is placed in a dance that attends, notice will be given... this will be an additional competition fee)

#### **Rising**

\$350.00	Encore, Ignite, ASH, etc. Out of house conventions are not built into Rising tuition)
\$85.00	Entry fees for group dance (if your dancer is placed in a dance that attends, notice will be given... this will be an additional competition fee)

Shooting Star Jr. 1st Year- maximum one group dance

Shooting Star Jr. Veteran- maximum two group dances or duo/trio

Shooting Star Teen- maximum two group dances

Shooting Star Teen Veteran- maximum 3 dances: two group dances and duo/trio

Rising Star 1st Year- maximum 3 dances

Rising Star Veteran- maximum 4 dances

Shining Star 1st Year- maximum 4 dances

Shining Star Veteran- unlimited (maximum one solo)

Senior Class Shining Star Veterans-unlimited (maximum two solos)

Elite Soloist Performers (maximum two solos)

## Solo Requirements (Rising and Shining Star Only)

Solos will not be guaranteed to every dancer that wants one. Solos cost a great amount of time and money. A solo requires the dancer to learn quickly and practice independently. Therefore, we will be examining the following.

1. Dancer's work ethic: First we expect 110% effort in rehearsing their group dances. Group dances are and will always be our primary focus.
2. A soloist must commit to practicing independently at home each day, listening to their music, and completing the weekly practice log.
3. A soloist must exhibit excellent classroom behavior and effort.
4. A soloist must exhibit the ability to listen to corrections from choreographers, other GDU teachers, and judges and apply those corrections.
5. A soloist must be able to demonstrate skills and techniques applicable to both age and competition levels.

Please note, we do not want to discourage anyone desiring to perform a solo, but we also have noticed a need for better quality control. This may sound harsh, but please know this comes from a place of respect for our choreographers' talents, our dancers' passions, and our parents' budgets.

**Your dancer must submit a handwritten essay explaining why they would like to learn and perform a solo for 2026-2027. Please bring your essay along with Dancer's Bio and Resume (if applicable) to auditions.**

# 2026 Summer Company Classes

June 2<sup>nd</sup>- July 23<sup>rd</sup>

(we are closed the week of June 29-July 3)

## TUESDAY:

### STUDIO ONE:

4:15-5:15 class)	Jazz/Lyrical	Ages 6-10	(\$15 per
5:15-6:00	Turns, Leaps & Jumps	Ages 6-10	(\$12 per class)
6:00-6:30	Musical Theater	Ages 6-10	(\$12 per class)
6:30-7:30	Jazz/Lyrical	Ages 11 & up	(\$15 per class)
7:30-8:15	Turns, Leaps & Jumps	Ages 11 & up	(\$12 per class)
8:15-8:45	Musical Theater	Ages 11 & up	(\$12 per class)

## WEDNESDAY:

### STUDIO ONE:

5:30-6:15	Strength & Conditioning	Ages 6-10	(\$12 per class)
6:15-7:00	Tumbling	Ages 6-10	(\$12 per class)
7:00-7:45	Tumbling	Ages 11 & up	(\$12 per class)
7:45-8:30	Strength & Conditioning	Ages 11 & up	(\$12 per class)

## THURSDAY:

### STUDIO ONE:

5:00-6:00	Technique	Ages 6-10	(\$15 per class)
6:00-7:00	Guest Class	Ages 6-10	(\$15 per class)
7:00-8:00	Guest Class	Ages 11 & up	(\$15 per class)

### STUDIO THREE:

5:15-6:00	Hip Hop	Ages 11 & up	(\$12 per class)
6:00-7:00	Technique	Ages 11 & up	(\$15 per class)
7:00-7:45	Hip Hop	Ages 6-10	(\$12 per class)

# Dancer's Bio

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Promoted Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ School/County: \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you been dancing: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the star level you are auditioning for:

Shooting Star Junior

Shooting Star Teen

Rising Star

Shining Star

## Groups/Duos/Trios

\_\_\_\_\_ # of group dances (maximum #: we will not exceed this # but this # is NOT guaranteed to be offered)

\_\_\_\_\_ # Duet/trio (not guaranteed) If a duet/trio is not offered, I preferred to do another group **YES / NO** (circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_ # Total dances for the season

I want to be considered for an ELITE dance that will travel to extra competitions (not included in the prices below) Yes/No

I want to be considered for a solo and I have completed my solo essay? Yes/No

Favorite Dance Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Least Favorite Dance Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include 3-4 sentences about yourself including what you would like to accomplish this year, how you can improve this team, and why competitive dance is important to you.

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Please note, if you are a rising middle schooler or older you will need to submit a professional resume along with this page. This is not optional. Please do not arrive at your audition without it. Thank you!