

TRIP Dance Company

General Information and Important Dates

TRIP Dance Company was founded over a 19 years ago, with a mission to promote opportunities for dancers to strengthen dance skills in the genres of ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, musical theater and more. TRIP is an acronym for Technique, Rehearse, Implement and Perform, which embodies the life of a TRIP member. TRIP dancers eagerly attend and succeed at regional New England competitions and conventions. At these conventions, TRIP dancers have the opportunity to train with world-renowned master teachers. TRIP is a non-profit organization run by a Board of Directors, in connection with Stowe / Mad River Dance Academy.

Team Placement

Dancers will be evaluated in multiple dance combinations during the audition. The process of auditioning can and should be a positive and educational experience for every child. However, as with any audition, not all who audition will be chosen for a place in the company. If you are invited to join the company, it should be noted that not all dancers are in the same dances. Whether you are in one dance or five dances, TRIP provides tremendous benefit for the dancer in the forms of additional dance instruction, opportunities to learn challenging choreography, exploration of dance as a competitive sport, and the camaraderie of being part of the company. **Final placement decisions are solely at the discretion of the artistic director and will be emailed within two weeks of auditions.**

SDA Class Requirements

Class requirements are based on group placement.

- Mini group dancers are part of Stowe Dance Academy (separate from TRIP Dance Company) and must take at least 1 ballet class and 1 jazz class. This group will likely attend one regional convention only.
- Junior dancers must take at least 4 classes (2 ballet, 1 jazz and 1 elective).
- Teens and Senior dancers must take 5 classes and those classes must include at least 3 ballet classes and one jazz class per week.
- Development Team dancer requirements will be individually determined by the artistic director.

*TRIP Junior, Teens and Seniors must also participate in a choreography intensive week from August 19-23, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*TRIP highly encourages its members to dance during the summer break.

Rehearsals

Although exact rehearsal times have yet to be determined, a commitment to rehearsals is essential for any TRIP dance company member. Dancers should plan on Sunday rehearsals, as well as additional rehearsals during the week. Once the company is chosen, exact rehearsal times will be posted. Prior to accepting your position with the company, please be sure you can commit to attending TRIP rehearsals. Each year we ask parents and dancers to sign a contract as a demonstration of their commitment to the rights, rules and responsibilities of being a TRIP member.

Sample Fees

TRIP Fee:	\$300
Mandatory Summer Intensive	\$400 (paid to SDA prior to the intensive week)
Sample convention fee:	\$250 per convention (typically 3 conventions)
Sample competition fee:	\$50/dance (usually 2-6 dances) per convention
Sample Hotel fee	\$250-\$300 per night, per convention
Parking and Gas:	\$175 (we recommend carpooling), per convention
Food:	\$100-150 (for dancer and 1 parent), per convention
Costumes:	\$200-250

The TRIP fee is due at the time of team placement. A costume deposit is due early in the Fall. All other fees are broken out into three or four installments that are due throughout the season, with most payments due before January. Fundraising proceeds help offset the costs of participation for all dancers through a dancer “credit” which is applied to any remaining balance or refunded back to the dancer in March. This credit has ranged between \$275.00-\$325.00 per dancer in the past few years, depending on fundraising success.

The TRIP Dance Company operates as a non-profit organization, which is deeply committed to making this opportunity accessible to dancers who have the skill and passion to participate. TRIP is pleased to offer need-based scholarships for dancers requiring extra financial assistance.