



Performance Company 17-18 (ages 9+)

This is a special year for Dance Arts, as we celebrate our 20th year bringing confidence through dance in Santa Barbara! Our Student Dance Companies will be at the heart of this celebratory season. Together with our non-profit partner, the **Arts Mentorship Program** we offer four Companies (**Axis, Impulse, Vibe** and **Impact**) and our Pre Company (**Emerge**) provide a pre-professional experience for serious dancers, ages 9-18 years old. In addition Dance Arts offers a suite of additional performance groups. **Competition Team:** caters to Company dancers who want MORE opportunity to train, perform, and improve outside of the studio walls. **Mini Crew** (ages 6-9) and **Junior Crew** (ages 10-13) offers a perfect introduction to our performance family with a smaller commitment. There are additional informational packets for each of these programs.

Company is the cornerstone of our program and a place where young dancers grow with core values based on quality training, mentorship, leadership and the joy of movement and self-expression. We want your child to have a sense of community, worthiness and a place to belong. Almost all of our students remain in the program until graduation and go on to work in the industry, become leaders inside of their chosen field, and owe a great debt to the discipline dance brought them. Plus colleges and future employers always love to see a child who is committed and grows inside of their passions.... Ultimately... THEY LOVE IT!

What sets us apart from other programs is that we focus on so much more than just dance while maintaining commitment to technical excellence and artistry over trophies and tricks. If your child loves dance, and is ready for a greater commitment, community and an immersive dance experience, then Company can help them on a path of positivity and success.

In order to be considered, students must meet the requirements laid out on the last pages of this packet and audition on **September 8 & 9** to be considered for a spot in Axis, Impulse, Vibe, Impact, or the Emerge Pre Company and Competition Team. Company dancers train in ballet and jazz technique and have extensive performance opportunities. They are also mentored in choreography, production, lighting, and have opportunities to attend Master Classes, travel to conventions, while having many opportunities to attain valuable leadership skills like public speaking, philanthropy, building a resume, music editing, and business communication skills.

Company is an intimate **family** that has the opportunity to get **one-on-one** time with the director and faculty, while having all the advantages of training at a large institution with access to a **faculty of 25 professionals** and a regular series of **master classes** with internationally recognized educators and choreographers (**Alvin Ailey, Pilobolous, Joffrey Ballet** and more. Dance Arts elite master class series has included - **WillDaBeast, Leslie Scott** (Self Esteem seminars), **Tessandra Chavez, Chaz Buzan, Talia Favia, Josie Walsh, Tricia Miranda, Brian Friedman,** and **Peter Chu!**)

We are committed to creating **PATHWAYS** for our dancers outside of performing where they can serve as dance company captains, 'big/little sisters', and teaching assistants, choreographers, and mentors. Company dancers also learn about the business of running and sustaining dance programs at a local level. In addition, the partnership with the Arts Mentorship Program provides financial assistance to help make this program accessible for all, regardless of his/her financial situation.

Performances, Events, and Opportunities

The Companies annual concert: Configuration is a special intimate, and professional quality show, where students perform their repertory and have the unprecedented opportunity to adjudicate their work and share the stage with the professional faculty choreographers. This sold out smash includes five shows over two weekends that are the heart of the Company experience and one of the favorite weekends of the year for dancers, families, and alumni that travel great distance to see it each year!

Each year the Axis Dance Company directs and produces the Student Showcase at La Cumbre Jr High. The entire Company participates, and last year, these young philanthropists raised over \$8,000 for scholarships and educational opportunities. AMP's Student Dance Companies also have the chance to travel and perform at local events including: Harlem Globetrotters Halftime, SBCC Football Game Halftime, MUS Carnival, Earth Day, and other events. They can also choose to attend the RADIX Convention in Anaheim with "So You Think You Can Dance" and other industry professionals.

Each year we will have a **Video Honors Project** that will debut at Configuration that will focus on a unique theme or message. There will be opportunities for Impulse and Axis members to sign up for leadership roles with the video and each year one or more of our advanced level classes will have the chance to be featured in the video. Dancers do not need to be a part of MAD Academy to participate!

We select **Company Captains** based on desire and demonstrated leadership skills. Captains receive special opportunities and gifts from ivviva and a special dinner with a Master Teacher at the end of the year!

Dance Arts is proud to be a member of **More Than Just Great Dancing, Youth Protection Advocated in Dance,** and the **NDEO** and we have created a **National Dance Education Honors Society Chapter** at Dance Arts that allows high school students to log their accomplishments in dance, receive awards, apply for scholarships, and have a singular link to share on their college applications. These ensure that our entire staff is committed to continued training, excellence, and providing a safe environment for your children.

Honors and Accolades

We have had several finalists in the top 10 for **Teen Dance Star** and our very own Frankie Harman was the winner in 2016. The competition was judged by SYTYCD alumni and working LA professionals. The winner received a \$1,000 prize and is an ambassador for dance in the community. In addition each finalist has a scholarship in their name so low-income youth can dance at her home studio. AMP is the proud partner offering these scholarships across the county!

In 2015, the Axis Dance Company was invited to perform the tribute, 'Not One More' at the Isla Vista Shooting Memorial. In 2010 and 2013, Axis Dance Company received the great honor of being the **Faculty Favorite at the PULSE** on Tour and an invitation to **perform in NYC**. In July 2013, the Company travelled to the Big Apple to perform the piece in front of the dance world's most prestigious choreographers and directors. In 2015 and 2016, Axis Dance Company won **Best of Radix** and performed the closing showcase to over 1,000 individuals and industry leaders.

Our Student Choreographers have the chance to win a cash prize of **\$250** courtesy of **American Riviera Bank** and a commendation from an elected official.

Axis Dance Company (5-11 members)

- **Company Class** – Tuesdays 7:00 – 8:30 (with select Saturdays/Sundays in lieu of Tuesdays)
- **Jazz 2x week, Ballet 3x per week**

- Monthly SUNDAY afternoon rehearsal- only if needed plus select weekends to work with guest choreographers.
- 4 Repertory Pieces PLUS ability to participate in the Production Number (with ALL the company members together)
- Required to attend Radix Dance Convention in Anaheim (Dec TBD)
- Performances on Company Calendar and *possibility for additional performances*
- Directs and Produces the Student Showcase

Options and Opportunities for AXIS Juniors and Seniors in High School

- Pro Solo: Axis Juniors and Seniors are eligible to audition for a special solo. We select 1 or 2 soloists to perform in the Configuration Evening performances and Senior Recital. Cost is an additional \$200. Auditions will be a part of the regular Company Audition.
- Start the year with an EXTRA 40 points more than other Company members to help with the extra pressures you are facing with school and college prep
- Shadow a UCSB Dance Major and experience a 'day in the life' of a dance major (note: this is OPTIONAL)

Impulse, Vibe & Impact Dance Companies (6-13 members)

- Company Class – Fridays 5:15-6:45 with some extended rehearsals/select Thursday evening and Saturday rehearsals.
- VIBE and IMPACT - Jazz 2x week, Ballet 2x per week
- IMPULSE - Jazz 2x week, Ballet 3x per week
- Required to assist Axis in the Student Showcase
- Performances, rehearsals and events on Company Calendar
- 3 Repertory Pieces PLUS ability to participate in the Production Number (with ALL the company members together)
- Can attend Radix Dance Convention in Anaheim (Dec- TBD)

COMPANY COST: \$575 (divided into two payments – further payment plans available)

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN FEES (see below for cost details and what is NOT included)

- Participate in FOUR parties at no additional charge (Landshark, Company Sleepover, Stage Ready Makeup Party and End of Year Awards Celebration)
- Company apparel – Top and Lulu/ivviva custom leggings
- Costumes
- Choreography and rehearsal time for group numbers (details below)
- FREE Space for student choreographers
- Access to discounts, special events, work with guest artists, and discounts for Master Classes, trips to LA, and performance opportunities! (additional fees may apply)

WHAT IS NOT IN YOUR FEES

- Technique classes, tickets to shows and Harlem Globetrotter performance, required apparel (dance basics: booty shorts, black leggings, tan and black jazz shoes, turners, nude leotard and undergarments, black leotard, ballet shoes, knee pads), Independent PE Fees, private lessons (if necessary), fees for conventions and master classes, audition, placement classes, company yearbook/photos.

- Tickets to performances (December Showcase, Configuration, Student Showcase, Inspire Recital, and Globetrotters Performance).
- We reserve the right to assess nominal charges if opportunities arise (ie. guest artists, performances). If you need financial assistance you can always come see us.
- The optional Radix Convention trip is about \$500. Returning company and pre company members receive a partial subsidy if they participated in fundraising for the Student Showcase.

TOTAL Cost for a Company Dancer and Payment Options

- We like to remain completely transparent about the cost of this program – no hidden fees!
- TOTAL cost (without scholarship or trade) for September – August for a Company Dancer is \$3455 - \$4195 for required classes, costumes, registration fees, company dues, and summer training. *The national average for a program of this size and caliber is between \$10,000-\$20,000 per year. Our partnership with AMP allows us to keep costs down and make the experience accessible to all facets of the community.*
- Payment Plans are available, but must remain current to keep dancer in company.
- Trade and scholarship available for classes – see ampsb.org for guidelines, deadlines, and applications, plus, learn more about Sponsor A Dancer
- Usually there is a total of \$1000-\$1500 available for scholarships towards Company Dues. In order to be considered for part of these funds please apply for fall/spring scholarship, and indicate you would like to be considered on your Company sign-up form!
- We have a small fund to assist families with small ancillary expenses.

Emerge (Pre Company)

Dancers get a small taste of the Company commitment, and this is the perfect opportunity for dancers interested in the Company experience. You must participate in the Company Audition in order to be selected for Pre Company. The calendar and fee structure is different for Pre Company.

- Company Class – Select Fridays 5:15-6:45
- See separate EmERGE calendar for exact dates/performances
- Jazz 2x week, Ballet 2x per week
- Perform at December Showcase (December 2 or 9- TBD)
- Perform at Earth Day and MUS Carnival (TBD)
- Can attend Spring Dance Convention/Competition
 - We will allow EmERGE to compete if it is unanimous and show-ready!
- Required to assist Axis in the Student Showcase
- Perform at YOUTH Show in Year End Recital
- Perform at Configuration Matinees, March 11 and 17 @ 2pm at Center Stage Theater
- Dancers can specify they want to be considered for Pre Company only, Company only, or either one.
- NOTE- there are no points for Pre Company, but there will be **Blackout rehearsals!**
- COST- \$340
 - Includes: Company Class and Administration, and a Stage Ready Party with Company!
 - Does NOT include: admission to shows/recitals, costumes, required classes, convention or competition fees/hotels/transport.

Competition Team- Company Only/Optional

This is a great opportunity for Company dancers seeking additional performance opportunities-optional! Our Competition Team has been noted for exceptional artistry through a low-pressure positive experience. The team has consistently placed in top categories, including special awards for performance, choreography and sportsmanship. Our students are consistently recognized with scholarships and awards.

See the Comp Team supplement for details, but here are the highlights.

- We use a structure that highlights dancers' strengths.

- *Each dancer can audition for 1-3 Group pieces and can audition to be in solos, duets, and trios.*
- Comp Team will participate in THREE Competition/Conventions: Radix (Dec), 2 Spring events (TBD)
- You MUST be in COMPANY to participate in Comp Team and will audition for your spot inside of the Company Audition.
- Comp Dancers must take 3x per week of ballet- this includes mandatory Saturday am ballet in the Fall session.

Giving Back (Company and Pre Company)

- We mentor our Company and Pre Company Dancers to 'give back' to the community by volunteering for various events throughout the year. Jr High and High School students can also get community service for their time performing in the community, volunteering at our performances and participating in raising funds for the annual Student Showcase.

Commitment for Company Families- IMPORTANT!

More than ever these students are pulled in every direction with commitments. While we love that our students are well-rounded and participate in many activities, it is very important that Company is the **PRIMARY activity** outside of school and can take precedence over other activities. Extracurricular programs such as dance teams, school plays, or playing a competitive sport have caused undue stress and burnout in students and we ***strongly advise*** that both parent and dancers examine calendars carefully before committing to Company.

This also goes for volunteer work, mock trial, musicals, and other endeavors. We have found that these activities are possible to do with Company and help round out your College Applications... **HOWEVER - *They are only successful with Company IF you navigate the calendars before the audition process begins to avoid extra rehearsals, fees, and pressure on the other Company members and Faculty. We use Calendr wiz.com. This will make navigating dates, emails, and rehearsals much easier and more efficient!***

There are many great programs in town and if you opt to add an activity at any point, we approve as long as you understand Company comes first! Please feel free to contact us if you have questions about compatibility with Company and other programs.

Dance Pathways

Students! You are the HEART of the studio. NEW THIS YEAR! Pathways in Dance! Students and parents are invited to schedule a personal one-on-one meeting with Alana to discuss their dreams and goals for dance. Dance Arts is More Than Just Great Dancing and we want to support what is important to you! It is **FREE!**

- Do you want to be in Crew or Company?
- Are you a musician? Do you love singing or acting and want the lead in your next show?? Do you want to be on your school dance team? Would you like to do community service or become a leader here at Dance Arts? Are you thinking about dancing in college? Have you considered dancing professionally or teaching? It's our honor to help you create a pathway in dance that meets your unique interests.
- Alana will be available at the studio April 4-5 and April 11-12 Pathways in Dance conversations. She will offer more appointments if these fill up and more over the summer. Sign up HERE for your free 10 minute meeting today at this link: <https://calendly.com/alana-5>
- Next steps, schedule a private lesson/evaluation to set meaningful goals and strategies with Alana or Lauren if these times do not work for you. Standard rates apply! Email lauren@sbdancearts.com

Should I Audition for Company?

Auditioning is a skill to be mastered, and while it can be scary and intimidating, we will work hard to make it a fun and valuable learning experience. We encourage interested dancers to audition even if it is just a 'practice year' It will make future audition years more relaxed when they know what to expect!

- I am ready to grow as an artist, make a commitment to dance, and to be a role model at the studio.
- I have strong performance skills, and can execute the following on right and left sides: a double pirouette, double chaine, grande jete, pique, and I have strong hip hop fundamentals.
- I am nervous, but I trust the staff and faculty to support me through the audition process
- I am ok with disappointment and will use it to learn and grow as a dancer and as a person.

Before You Decide to Audition:

- **NOTE: Dancers who are 9-13 years old can also apply to be considered for one of our Crews.** Applications are online April 1 and Due May 1, 2017. Crew members can audition for Company and will be released from their Crew commitment if they get placed in Emerge or Company.
- Review this packet as a family and make sure all are on board with the commitment and cost
- Optional: Review **Competition Team Supplement** (avail NOW) and **Team Calendar** (avail 6/1)
- Families interested in **SCHOLARSHIPS** should visit ampsb.org to review guidelines and important deadlines including our **Sponsor A Dancer Program**.
- If you are interested in trade, you should contact alana@sbdacnearts.com
- **Follow the checklist below!**

Audition Checklist

_____ TRAINING – we are requiring all prospective company (including current Company members) members to train at Destination Dance for at least two weeks (full day session). If you would like information on other pre-approved programs or financial assistance/trades, please contact the office. We also strongly recommend the Pre Placement Session!

_____ View the **calendar** for the 17-18 Season: available online on or before June 1

- NOTE: SBHS MAD Academy may affect published dates
- In the interim, please note these important BLACKOUT dates
- **Audition Meeting 8/30 Auditions 9/8-9/9**
- **December Showcase: 12/2**
- **Configuration 3/8, 3/9, 3/10, 3/11, 3/16, 3/17 Inspire Recital 5/12-5/20**

_____ Turn in Audition Sign Up form by August 11 (on website June 1)

_____ Pay Audition Fee \$40 (before July 11) \$45 (after August 11)

_____ Sign up online for Pre-Placement Session to get prepared for auditions. (Sign up before May 31 and SAVE!)

_____ Attend mandatory dancer/parent meeting on August 30 (6:45-7:40)

_____ Turn in Audition Questionnaire on Audition Day 1 (September 8) – DO NOT TURN IN EARLY

- Dancers can confidentially choose to audition for a specific Company on this packet. We recommend dancers audition for ALL companies and allow the judges to dictate their placement, however older dancers may want to be clear about their goals, and Emerge may be selected as an option based on commitment. The risk? Not getting into Company at all.

_____ Audition Day 1 – September 8 – 3:30pm – 7:45pm

_____ Audition Day 2 – September 9 – 9am- 4:15pm

_____ Scholarship information/ guidelines/application review

The Audition Process (Company , Pre Company and Competition Team)

Dancers must audition each year to be considered for advancement and retain their current spot.

Friday, September 8

Time		Events
3:30	4:00	Check in, submit packets, welcome
4:00	4:30	Warm Up
4:30	6:00	Learn Turn/Jump Combo
5:00	6:00	Perform Turn/Jump Combo
6:00	7:00	Learn Dance
7:00	7:45	Perform Dance

Auditions will be judged on a point system based on: technique, performance skills, behavior/attitude, ability to pick up new material and interviews/packets will be rated on a point system as well. Final results are determined by point totals over the entire audition experience. Behavior will affect placement! *Note: Company members from previous years will have a set of bonus points based on their performance and behavior from the prior year. (This is usually a plus factor, but can be a minus factor.)*

Saturday, September 9

Time		Events
9:00	9:45	Ballet Barre
9:45	10:15	Ballet Progressions
10:15	10:30	Break
10:30	11:15	Review/Finish Dances
11:15	11:45	Perform Dances
11:45	12:15	Lunch
12:15	1:00	Learn Hip Hop
1:00	1:30	Perform Hip Hop/Freestyle
1:30	2:30	Break/Open Studio
2:30	4:15	Perform All Dances

Orientation – Mandatory for Parent and Dancer

COMPANY

Sunday September 17 @ 6:00pm

- NOTE: \$200 towards Company Dues and \$100 Convention deposit due.
- We will review the contract for the year.
- Also we use a point system to track attendance, and behavior and maintain accountability to their team. Dancers must remain in good point standing to remain in Company.

TEAM DANCE ARTS (Comp)

- Sunday September 17 @ 11:30-12:30 – Mandatory Parent/Dancer Orientation – Payment 1 due

PRE COMPANY (Emerge)

- Friday September 22 @ 6:45-7:45pm –Mandatory Parent/Dancer Orientation – Payment due