

# YDP Performance Series Costume Guide 2025

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Welcome to the YDP Performance Series 2025! As you know from reading the [Performance Packet](#), most of our classes source costume pieces from home. Some classes may receive accessories distributed in advance (dancers may keep these after the performance), while other costume pieces are “rentals” from our costume collection, which dancers will receive at the theater the day of the performance and return before the end of the show. **Please check the chart in the second half of this document to see what your dancer is expected to source from home and what will be provided by the studio**, noting that each level has a slightly different costuming system:

- **Creative Movement and Combo** faculty may provide tutus and/or bowties from the costume collection. These are considered rentals and will be distributed to dancers at the theater and collected by faculty after performance.
- **Level 1-3** faculty have the option to order unique accessories that complement their vision to tie the costumes together. These will be distributed to families this spring and may be kept by dancers after the show. Faculty may also source costumes from the costume collection (rentals) for this age group. If they choose to do this, dancers will be sized in class and costumes will be distributed at the theater and returned before the end of the show.
- **Level 4-6** faculty have the option to source costume pieces from the costume collection. If they choose to do this, dancers will be sized in class and costumes will be distributed at the theater and returned before the end of the show.

## Performance-related fees

**Performance fee:** Dancers in all performing classes were auto-charged a performance/costume fee of \$15 per class at the beginning of April. These fees pay for the administrative time retrieving, sizing, tracking, and logging costumes from our collection; the cost and tax for new accessories ordered online; and the long-term replacement costs for costumes as they wear out over time.

**Replacement fees:** All costumes rented from the costume collection must be returned to the designated costume coordinator at the end of the performance. Our costume coordinator will be backstage each show, working to ensure that all costumes are maintained and collected from dancers after they perform, but it is ultimately the dancer/family's responsibility to ensure that costumes get back to us. *Costume pieces rented from eXit SPACE that are lost before/during/after a show, returned late, or returned damaged will result in a \$50 replacement fee.*

## Resources & reminders for stage readiness

**In-Studio Dress Rehearsal Week:** April 28 – May 3 is our designated in-studio Dress Rehearsal week when dancers wear their costumes to class for a final costume check-in. On this week, dancers should plan to arrive 5-10 minutes early for class with their hair done, makeup applied (if applicable), and either in costume (if it's entirely sourced from home) or wearing the necessary base layers (such as a leotard/tights) to put their costume pieces on quickly and modestly in the studio. Don't forget performance footwear! Please note that PROGRAM dancers are exempt from hair/makeup requirements during Dress Rehearsal Week due to the number of back-to-back classes they have each day and their advanced preparedness from countless performances earlier in the season.

**Makeup:** Stage makeup is highly recommended for dancers in levels 2+. Here is a video tutorial on makeup by Ballet Center of Houston for young dancers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6o9qq-hHAA>. Please note: we do *not* recommend dropping the lower eyeliner line down below the eye. Our theater is very small and the audience will be close to the dancers, so this is not necessary. For older dancers, consider searching YouTube for stage makeup ideas. Here are some recommended places to start:

1. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rKYO\\_xNyc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rKYO_xNyc)
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLHap72GEO0>

**Hair:** If teachers have requested for hair to be pulled back, it must be pulled back cleanly. Please use hairspray and/or gel to minimize "wispsies" on stage. For buns, see the ballet bun tutorials attached at the end of this season's [Dress Code](#) document.

**Tights:** Please refer to the costume chart below for more information on tights. For dancers wearing tights and a leotard, please remember: your tights are your underwear! Dancers of all ages should *not wear underwear under their leotards* as it peeks out and looks unprofessional on stage.

**Shoes/socks:** Every year, we have dancers forget footwear. Please know which shoes your dancer needs, noting that some classes require multiple types.

**Performance day costume expectations:** Dancers are expected to arrive at the theater with their hair done and makeup applied (if applicable) as outlined in their class' costume guidelines. They should either be entirely in costume if they had all of the pieces at home, or arrive wearing the necessary undergarments/base layers (such as a leotard, tights, etc.) under their street clothes so that they can quickly and easily change into their costume pieces at the theater. Dancer performing in multiple pieces in one show should arrive in the *first* costume they will be wearing on stage. Reminder: No dance shoes on the sidewalk! Arrive in outdoor footwear and change into dance shoes at the theater.

## Costume Guidelines by Class

Class	Costume Guidelines
Creative Movement (all sections)	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> [Option A] Leotard (any color, solid color preferred; no attached skirts) with pink/bronze/brown flesh-toned footed tights OR [Option B] Black leggings with a white fitted t-shirt or leotard</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Matching tutus, bowties, and hair pieces</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Pink or brown ballet shoes (to match dancer's skin tone tights) &amp; black tap shoes. No socks for dancers wearing tights. If dancers in leggings must wear socks with tap shoes, they must be black or flesh-toned ankle socks.</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Long hair pulled back into a clean ballet bun; hair too short pulled back half up/down, into a ponytail, or clipped back depending on length.</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Makeup not required; lipstick and blush will brighten faces!</p>
Combo (all sections)	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> [Option A]: White leotard (no attached skirt) with pink/bronze/brown flesh-toned footed tights (color must match dancer's skin tone) OR [Option B]: Black leggings with a white fitted t-shirt or leotard</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Matching tutus, bowties, and hair pieces</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Pink or brown ballet shoes (to match dancer's skin tone tights) &amp; black tap shoes. No socks for dancers wearing tights. If dancers in leggings must wear socks with tap shoes, they must be black or flesh-toned ankle socks.</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Long hair pulled back into a clean ballet bun; hair too short pulled back half up/down, into a ponytail, or clipped back depending on length</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Makeup not required; lipstick and blush will brighten faces!</p>
Modern Five w/ Tyra Mon 4:15pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Undergarments</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Bronze high neck dress</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Tan socks</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> half up, half down</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Stage make up with a soft or nude lip</p>
Modern Six w/ Marlo Mon 4:15pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Dancer's choice in tones of blue; denim, pedestrian look</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Middle part, low pony</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Basic stage makeup</p>
Modern Two w/ Rose Mon 5pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Leotard/undergarments for underneath jumpsuit</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Teal jumpsuit</p>

	<p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Simple, pulled back (pony, bun, braid, etc.)</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> None required, light stage makeup okay</p>
<p>Ballet Four w/ Annie Mon 5pm &amp; Thurs 6:30pm</p>	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black leggings or fitted shorts and a black fitted tank top, crop top, sports bra, or leotard to be worn as base layers</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Semi sheer black button up top</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Ballet slippers</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Low pony/pulled back</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Basic stage makeup to accentuate features</p>
<p>Ballet One w/ Miranda Mon 6pm</p>	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Pink/brown flesh tone full-length or convertible tights; dancers may choose to wear a silver hair piece of their choice such as a silver flower, bow, etc. Larger hair pieces are more visible to an audience.</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Girls Cap Sleeve Glitter Dress</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Pink or brown flesh tone ballet shoes to match tights, if applicable</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Long hair pulled back into a clean ballet bun; hair too short pulled back half up/down, into a ponytail, or clipped back depending on length</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Makeup not required; lipstick and blush would be great!</p>
<p>Jazz Two w/ Rose Mon 6pm</p>	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Pink or green outfits of dancers' choice (based on characters)</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep) :</b> Tiara or witch hat headband</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Jazz shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Pulled back away from face (pony, braid, half up half down etc.)</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> None required, light stage makeup okay</p>
<p>Ballet Five w/ Nicole Flores Tues 4pm &amp; Wed 6pm</p>	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black leo, black skirt, pink tights or black pants and tank top, ballet shoes</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Flesh colored ballet shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Ballet bun</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Natural</p>
<p>Modern Three w/ Hayley Tues 4pm</p>	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black pants/shorts/leggings, black shirt (any sleeve length okay, tank top okay)</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Bandana</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p>

	<p><b>Hair:</b> Half up or low ponytail</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Light stage makeup</p> <p><b>Additional notes:</b> Dancers are welcome to get creative with their bandanas. They may make them into arm bands, headbands/hair bands, etc. Please have them run their idea past Miss Hayley if it involves sewing anything into other clothing.</p>
Ballet Two w/ Miranda Tues 5pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black leotard with pink/bronze/brown flesh tone full length or convertible tights; dancers may choose to wear a silver hair piece of their choice (provided from home) such as a silver flower, bow, etc. Note that larger hair pieces are more visible to an audience.</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Purple plum midi mesh skirt</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Pink or brown flesh colored ballet shoes to match tights</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Long enough hair pulled back into a clean high ballet bun; hair too short pulled back half up/down, into a ponytail, or clipped back depending on length</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Makeup not required; lipstick and blush would be great!</p>
Jazz Five w/ Lauren Tues 5:30pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If wearing black leggings: Strappy black crop to from juniors tyra dance</li> <li>• If wearing unitard: undergarments that will not show under costume</li> <li>• All: black socks, undergarments that will not show under the costume.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Either strappy black leggings or mesh bodysuit</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> As needed for other dances (individual) but up and off the face and clean.</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Stage makeup as needed for other pieces</p>
Contemporary Styles 4+ w/ Rotating Tues 7pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black leggings/pants, tightfitting black top</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> White mesh overdress or white shirt</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> As needed for other dances (individual) but up and off the face and clean.</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Stage makeup as needed for other pieces</p>
Modern Four w/ Marlo Wed 4pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Dancer's choice in tones of pink, cream, satin-champagne (pants, skirts, any combination); flowing and fitted</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Middle part, low pony</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Basic stage makeup</p>
Modern One w/ DaeZhane Wed 4pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black pants</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Yellow or green t-shirt</p>

	<p><b>Footwear:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Pulled back into a bun</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Natural</p>
Ballet Six w/ Bri & Carol Wed 4:15pm & Thurs 4pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black leotard, black skirts/dresses/pants, skin-colored tights</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Black lace masquerade masks</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Ballet shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Low buns</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Traditional stage makeup w/ red lipstick</p>
Hip Hop Two w/ DaeZhane Wed 5pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black pants</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Red long sleeve t-shirts</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Black or white tennis shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Dancer's choice</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> None</p> <p><b>Additional notes:</b> We are squid games!</p>
Hip Hop Three w/ DaeZhane Wed 6pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Pants, western-themed accessories</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Cowboy hat</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Black or white tennis shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Dancers choice, must be pinned to hat</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Stage makeup ie. lashes/mascara, neutral lip colors, etc.</p>
Jazz Six w/ Tyra Wed 6:30pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Black wide leg loose athletic pants, black socks, and form fitting colorful top of choice. Sporty spice vibe.</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Black socks</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Slicked back high pony</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Stage makeup with bright colors</p>
Hip Hop Four w/ DaeZhane Wed 7pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Pants, sunglasses, lime green and/or black t-shirt</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Stretchy long-sleeve blazer or black blazer</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Black or white tennis shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Pulled back / ponytail</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Stage makeup ie. lashes/mascara, neutral lip colors, etc</p>

Ballet Three w/ Annie Wed & Thurs 4pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> White top (leotard, tank top, t-shirt, etc.) and black bottoms (leggings, fitted shorts, skirt, etc.)</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Hair bows and bow ties</p> <p><b>Footwear:</b> Flesh toned ballet slippers</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Low pony or pulled back if too short</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Natural</p>
Jazz Four w/ Tyra Thurs 4pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Form-fitting black top or leotard of choice</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Red shiny leggings or red sequined leggings</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Black jazz shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Slicked back pony</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Red lipstick and stage makeup</p>
Pointe w/ Carol Thurs 5:30pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Pink tights</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Eggplant skirt w/ asymmetric hem &amp; leo</p> <p><b>Footwear:</b> Pointe shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Low bun, middle part</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Classic, red lips</p>
Jazz Three w/ Skylar Thurs 6pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Pajama pants and a black top</p> <p><b>Accessory provided by eXit SPACE (to keep):</b> Sleep masks</p> <p><b>Footwear:</b> Jazz shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> High pony</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Anything</p> <p><b>Notes:</b> Slumber party theme!</p>
Hip Hop One w/ Rose Fri 4pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Jeans if not borrowing (Nova, Arbor, Cleveland, Ava)</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Black shirt with gold sequin detail OR gold and black hooded t-shirt, Denim jogger (some dancers)</p> <p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Tennis shoes</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Dancers' choice, but neat</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> None required; light stage makeup okay</p>
Modern Two w/ Rose Fri 5pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> Undergarments for underneath jumpsuit or shirt</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> Navy blue jumpsuit or navy shirt, black pants</p>

	<p><b>Footwear provided by dancer:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Simple, pulled back (pony, bun, braid, etc.)</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> None required, light stage makeup okay</p>
Modern Three/Four w/ Nicole Sat 12pm	<p><b>Costume piece(s) provided by dancer:</b> undergarments, black bike shorts</p> <p><b>Rental (distributed &amp; collected at the theater):</b> periwinkle leotard, navy skirt</p> <p><b>Footwear:</b> Bare feet</p> <p><b>Hair:</b> Creative ponytail</p> <p><b>Makeup:</b> Natural</p>

**Questions?** Email Young Dancer Program Director, Miranda, at [miranda@exitspacedance.com](mailto:miranda@exitspacedance.com)