

Fall 2026 -
Spring 2027

Description of classes



AMERICAN YOUTH
Dance Theater

*Where joy and technique
take center stage*

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Children 18 months – 3 years of age

At American Youth Dance Theater, we introduce young dancers, 18 months to age 3, to movement in a joyful, supportive, environment. With a strong focus on developmental readiness, our Early Childhood classes for babies and toddlers nurture coordination, confidence, and creativity – with guidance of a parent or caregiver. The Early Childhood Program gently and joyfully prepares children for Pre-Ballet, Tap Intro and Hip Hop Intro in our Junior Division. Classes are broken into two 9-week sessions for your convenience. No recital yet for this age group, but each class brings our tiniest dancers closer to the stage!

JUNIOR DIVISION

Children in Grades Pre-K 3 through Kindergarten

Our Pre-Ballet, Tap Intro and Hip Hop Intro classes provide a structured balance of learning and fun for children in Pre-K 3 through Kindergarten. Classes are taught by professional dance educators, and the same teacher stays with the class for the entire school year. All Junior Division students have the opportunity to perform in our Holiday and Spring recitals, presented in an intimate and familiar setting, providing a gentle and joyful introduction to performing for family and friends.

SENIOR DIVISION

Children in Grades 1 through 12

AYDT provides solid foundational classes followed by progressive levels in Ballet, Tap, Hip Hop and Broadway Jazz as well as Contemporary Dance and competition and community service Dance Teams for more advanced students. Classes are taught by highly experienced professional dance educators, including our ABT accredited ballet staff and we pride ourselves on having class offerings for all interest levels, recreational through pre-professional. All Senior Division students have the opportunity to perform in our annual Holiday and Spring recitals presented for family and friends in a professional theater.

NOTE FOR ALL PROGRAMS ON FOLLOWING PAGES

Foundational Level classes are based on age and are open to beginners as well as students who have had some previous training. New students, please contact us for placement.

* Placement in higher level classes is by teacher recommendation or audition.

* SEE CALENDAR FOR DATES OF MANDATORY SATURDAY HOLIDAY RECITAL REHEARSALS

BALLET Ages 18 months - Teens AYDT provides quality ballet training for students of all levels, recreational through pre-professional. All classes are taught with a motivational and caring approach and strong emphasis on technique and proper alignment. Our Senior Division ballet faculty is certified in the ABT® National Training Curriculum, which is taught throughout the program.

First Steps	Ages 18 – 26 months accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Twins must be accompanied by two adults, one for each child. Class is broken into two 9-week sessions.
Dance with Me	Ages 2 ¼ - 3 accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Twins must be accompanied by two adults, one for each child. Class is broken into two 9-week sessions.
Pre-Ballet 1	Nursery School / Pre-K3 (must be at least 3 years old)
Pre-Ballet 2	Pre-K4
Pre-Ballet 3	Kindergarten
Ballet 1A*	1 st and 2 nd grades
Ballet 1B*	2 nd and 3 rd grades
Ballet 2*	3 rd and 4 th grades
Open Ballet 3*	Open to students in grades 4 and up wishing to take ballet recreationally or as an additional class to complement their training in another dance style. This class is a 2-3 year program.
Open Ballet 4*	Open to students in grades 6 and up who have completed 2-3 years of Open Level Ballet 3 or equivalent. Older beginners are welcome but may need to take a few private lessons to catch up.
Open Ballet 5**	Open to students in grades 8-12 who have completed 2-3 years of Open Level Ballet 4 or equivalent. Older beginners are welcome but may need to take a few private lessons to catch up.
Open Intermediate Ballet**	Open to students in grades 8-12 who have completed 2-3 years of Open Level Ballet 5 or equivalent. This level requires a second weekly class in either Open Level Ballet 5 or Technique 1 (teacher recommends second class).
Graded Ballet 3**	Grades 4-7. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. Class meets twice a week.
Graded Ballet 4**	Grades 5-8. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. Class meets twice a week.
Graded Ballet 5**	Grades 6 and up. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. Class meets 3 times a week. Third class is Ballet 4, Open Level Ballet 4-5 or Technique 1 by teacher recommendation.
Intermediate Ballet A & B**	Two levels of Intermediate Ballet for upper level students in grades 7-12. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. Class meets 3 times a week. Third class is Technique 1, 2, 3.
Advanced Ballet**	Upper level students in grades 10-12; placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This level requires 3 ballet classes, and one non-ballet class (Broadway or Contemporary only).
Technique 1, 2, 3*	Three levels of mandatory technique classes for students in Ballet 5, Int. and Advanced Ballet. There is no recital dance; concentration is purely on improving technique, strength and stamina.
Pre- Pointe* Beg. *, Beg/Int*, Int/Adv Pointe*	Pointe is offered to students in Ballet 5, Open Level Intermediate, Intermediate and Advanced Ballet who are technically strong enough for Pointe instruction. Level-based classes meet, directly following Ballet 5, Open Level Intermediate, Intermediate Ballet & Advanced Ballet.
Pre-Pro + Variations	Only the highest achieving students from Advanced Ballet are selected to participate. Class work includes pre-professional skill level work and learning variations to be performed as solos in the Nutcracker & Spring recitals.

CONTEMPORARY: This is a Modern Dance based program, inspired by the techniques of Martha Graham, Lester Horton and Jose Limon. Students also get to experience current Contemporary Dance themes and movement through their recital dance choreography.

Contemporary 1* Contemporary 2*	Two levels of Contemporary Dance available to students in Ballet 5 or Open Level Ballet 5 and up, only as an additional weekly class to complement and add versatility to their training.
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TAP: Ages 4-Teens AYDT's tap program focuses on learning classical tap steps, rhythm and technique. Class consists of warm-up, stretching and building a vocabulary of steps and combinations. Tap students are strongly encouraged to also take a weekly Ballet or Broadway class to complement their training.

Tap Intro	Pre-K 4 & Kindergarten (must be at least 4 years old)
Tap 1A	Beginning level tap instruction for students in grades 1 – 3
Tap 1B	Advanced beginner level for grades 3 – 6
Open Level Tap	Open to older beginner/intermediate students in grades 5 and up
Tap 2*	Grades 4-7. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only.
Tap 3*	Grades 4-8. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only.

Intermediate Tap*	Upper level students, grades 6 & up, placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only.
Advanced/Intermediate Tap**	Upper level students, grades 7-12, placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This level requires a second weekly class in either Ballet, Broadway or Hip Hop.
Advanced Tap**	Upper level students, grades 9-12, placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This level requires a second weekly class in either Ballet, Broadway or Hip Hop.

BROADWAY: Ages 8-Teens This exciting program introduces students to Broadway-style theater jazz. Class work consists of a jazz warm-up, stretching, and building a vocabulary of steps and combinations. Broadway dancers are strongly encouraged to take ballet and tap to complement their training.

Broadway 1	Open to students in grades 3 – 5. This is a 2-3 year program.
Open Broadway 1	Open to beginner students in grades 5 and up. This is a 2-3 year program.
Open Broadway 2	Open to intermediate students in grades 6 and up as a once a week class; no ballet or tap required. This is a 2-3 year program.
Open Broadway 3	Open to students in grades 8-12 who have completed 2 years of Open Level Broadway 2 or equivalent. Older beginners are welcome but may need to take a few private lessons to catch up.
Broadway 2*	Grades 4-7. Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This class is a 2-3 year program.
Broadway 3*	Upper level students, grades 5-12, placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This level requires two classes a week. Second class is ballet or tap.
Broadway 4*	Upper level students, grades 7-12, placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This level requires 2 classes a week. Second class must be ballet.
Broadway 5*	Upper level students, grades 8-12, placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only. This level requires 3 classes a week. Additional classes must be 2 ballet or 1 ballet & 1 tap.

HIP HOP: Ages 4-Teens High energy dance to popular music. This class is a great strength-building and cardio workout that includes warm-up, stretching and building a vocabulary of steps and combinations. All music and movement is age appropriate.

Hip Hop Intro	Pre-K 4 & Kindergarten (must be at least 4 years old)
Hip Hop 1	Open to students in grades 1 & 2
Hip Hop 2	Open to students in grades 3 & 4
Hip Hop 3	Open to students in grades 5 – 7
Hip Hop 4*	Open to students in grades 7-9 (7 th graders must have teacher recommendation)
Open Hip Hop 5	Open to students in grades 10-12, no prior training required
Hip Hop 5*	Open to students in grades 10 – 12; Placement is by faculty recommendation or audition only.
Intermediate Hip Hop*	For serious and committed upper-level students who have achieved high levels of technique, style and musicality. Placement is by faculty recommendation only. This level requires two classes a week. Second class may be in any discipline.
Boys' Hip Hop Breakdance 1/2 & 3/4	Two levels of high energy dance, taught by a male teacher, for boys ages 6-10 (Level 1/2) and 11 through teens (Level 3/4)

PILATES:

Pilates cross-training	Ages 14 and up, a class for active teens aimed to increase strength, muscle tone and alignment
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COMPETITION TEAM: students participate in 3 competitions/conventions in the spring semester and perform in the holiday and spring recitals. Additional performance opportunities are possible. Students must be strong in technique, performance and flexibility. **AUDITION REQUIRED.**

IMPORTANT NOTE: there will be additional fees once competition schedule is set IN SPRING SEMESTER.

Junior Comp	Open to students in grades 3 and up. Hip hop and Jazz focused; required to be enrolled in at least one weekly AYDT class – ballet or jazz highly recommended as additional class.
Senior Comp	Open to students in grades 8 and up. Hip Hop, Jazz and Contemporary focused; required to be enrolled in two weekly AYDT classes. One class must be ballet.

AYDT UPPER EAST SIDE SCHEDULE

JUNIOR CLASSES	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
First Steps		11-11:45		11:45-12:30		
Dance with Me		11:45-12:30		11-11:45		9:15-10
Pre-Ballet 1		3:15-4	3:30-4:15	3:30-4:15		10-10:45
Pre-Ballet 2	3:30-4:15	4-4:45		4:15-5		10:45-11:30
Pre-Ballet 3	3:45-4:30		3:30-4:15	3:45-4:30		11:30-12:15
Hip Hop Intro		4-4:45		3:30-4:15		
Tap Intro			3:30-4:15			
SENIOR CLASSES	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
Ballet 1A		3:45-4:45	4:15-5:15		3:30-4:30	9:30-10:30
Ballet 1B	3:45-4:45	4:45-5:45		3:45-4:45		9:30-10:30
Ballet 2	4:45-5:45	3:45-4:45	5:15-6:15			10:30-11:30
Open Ballet 3		4:45-6:00	4-5:15		4:30-5:45	10:30-11:45
Open Ballet 4			5:15-6:30	4:30-5:45	5:45-7	9:15-10:30
Open Ballet 5			6:30-8		5:15-6:45	10:30-12
Open Intermediate Ballet	5:30-7					
Graded Ballet 3	4:15-5:30		4:15-5:30			
Graded Ballet 4		4:15-5:45		4:15-5:45		
Graded Ballet 5	5:30-7		5:30-7			
Intermediate Ballet A		5:45-7:15		5:45-7:15		
Intermediate Ballet B		6:45-8:15		6:45-8:15		
Advanced Ballet	7-8:30		7-8:30			
Pre-Pointe	7-7:30		7-7:30			
Beginner Pointe		7:15-8		7:15-8		
Beg/Int Pointe		8:15-9		8:15-9		
Int/Adv Pointe	8:30-9:15		8:30-9:15			
Ballet Technique 1					6:45-8:45	12-2
Ballet Technique 2						11:30-1:30
Ballet Technique 3						11:45-1:45
Pre-Pro/Variations					7-8:45	
Contemporary 1	5:15-6:15	4:45-5:45		5:45-6:45		
Contemporary 2		5:45-6:45		4:45-5:45		
Hip Hop 1	4:45-5:45	4:45-5:45	3:45-4:45	4:15-5:15		
Hip Hop 2	3:45-4:45	5:45-6:45	4:45-5:45		3:45-4:45	
Hip Hop 3	5:45-6:45		5:45-6:45	5:15-6:15	4:45-5:45	
Hip Hop 4	6-7			6:15-7:15	5:45-6:45	
Hip Hop 5				7:15-8:15		
Open Level Hip Hop 5		6:45-7:45	6:45-7:45			
Intermediate Hip Hop	7-8					
Boys' Hip Hop 1/2					3:45-4:45	
Boys' Hip Hop 3/4					4:45-5:45	
Broadway 1	4:15-5:15	5-6	4:15-5:15		3:45-4:45	12:15-1:15
Broadway 2	4:30-5:30	6-7		4:45-5:45		10:30-11:30
Broadway 3		7-8		6:45-7:45		
Broadway 4					5:45-6:45	
Broadway 5				5:45-6:45		
Open Broadway 1			5:15-6:15		5:45-6:45	
Open Broadway 2	6:15-7:15		6:15-7:15		4:45-5:45	
Open Broadway 3				6:45-7:45		
Tap 1A			4:15-5:15	3:45-4:45		
Tap 1B	4:30-5:30	3:45-4:45		4:45-5:45	3:45-4:45	
Tap 2	5:30-6:30	4:45-5:45		5:45-6:45		
Tap 3	6:30-7:30	5:45-6:45				
Open Level Tap			5:15-6:15			
Intermediate Tap		6:45-7:45				
Advanced/Intermediate Tap					5:45-6:45	
Advanced Tap					4:45-5:45	
Comp Team Jr					6:45-8	
Comp Team Sr					6:45-8	
Pilates			5:15-6:15			

AYDT WASHINGTON HEIGHTS SCHEDULE

JUNIOR CLASSES	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
Pre-Ballet 1/ Pre-Ballet 2						10-10:45
Pre-Ballet 3						10:45-11:30
Tap Intro		3:30-4:15				
SENIOR CLASSES	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
Ballet 1A						9:45-10:45
Ballet 1B / Ballet 2						10:45-11:45
Open level Ballet 3						11:45-1
Broadway 1						1-2
Hip Hop 1 / Hip Hop 2		5:15-6:15				
Tap 1A / Tap 1B		4:15-5:15				

AYDT CLASS UNIFORMS/COSTS

- Students are **REQUIRED** to wear AYDT uniforms – available for purchase at the studio
- **If your child already has level-specific AYDT dancewear you are not required to purchase a new uniform.**
- Additional warm-ups, merch and accessories are available for purchase at our studio.

CLASS	UNIFORM
First Steps, Dance with Me Pre-Ballet	AYDT pink skirted leotard, pink tights, ballet slippers; NO TUTUS
Ballet 1A, 1B, 2	AYDT blue skirted leotard, pink tights; ballet slippers must be Capezio or Bloch brand or purchased at the studio
Open Ballet 3, 4, 5, Intermediate	AYDT black leotard, pink tights; full sole ballet slippers must be Capezio or Bloch brand or purchased at the studio
Graded Ballet 3, 4	AYDT lavender leotard, black leo, 2 pink tights; full sole ballet slippers must be Capezio or Bloch brand or purchased at the studio
Graded Ballet 5, Int. Ballet A/B, Adv/Int Ballet	AYDT blue leo, black leo, 2 pink tights, split sole ballet slippers
Contemporary	AYDT black leotard, black tights
Tap Intro, Tap 1A	AYDT black leotard, tan tights, patent leather tap shoes
Tap 1B and up	AYDT black leotard, black leggings, oxford tap shoes
All Broadway classes	AYDT black leotard, black tights, tan jazz shoes
Hip Hop classes	AYDT t-shirt, black leggings or sweatpants, hip hop sneakers
Comp Team	AYDT black leotard, black leggings, AYDT black shorts, AYDT warm ups (required for conventions/competitions)

- **FIRST STEPS, DANCE WITH ME, PRE-BALLET:** hair in a ponytail, short hair pulled away from face.
- **BALLET 1A AND UP:** must wear hair in a proper ballet bun, secured with a hair net and bobby pins.
- **TAP, BROADWAY, HIP HOP, CONTEMPORARY:** hair in ponytail, short hair pulled away from face.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- AYDT's calendar is loosely based on the [NYC public school calendar](#). Our spring break usually coincides with Easter and Passover. If your child attends a private school whose vacations differ from AYDT's and they are absent on a day that AYDT classes are in session, they will be marked absent.
- Make-up classes are allowed when AYDT is closed for school holidays or inclement weather. Up to 3 illness related make-ups are allowed per 18-week session, 2 for 9-week sessions. Make-up classes must be scheduled with our administrative staff and be done within the session of the child's absence in the same level class, or in a class one level below. Students may take an age appropriate class in a different discipline in lieu of a make up for a class which is only offered once during the week.

- Students planning to be in the recital may miss no more than 3 classes in the fall or 4 classes in the spring.
- Make-up classes are offered as a courtesy but do not negate absences. To participate in the recital, students who miss more than the allowed number of absences must schedule a private with their teacher, at student's expense. The maximum number of absences a child may have and still participate in the recital by taking additional private classes is 5 in the fall and 6 in the spring. The recital is a group effort and students whose attendance is not consistent affects the recital preparation process for the whole class. After the maximum number of absences in a semester, the student will not be allowed to participate in the recital regardless of how many private classes they might take.
- **Tuition will not be prorated due to absences.**
- Students registering late or mid-year may require 1-2 privates to catch up on missed material, decided at instructor's discretion.
- If fewer than 3 students show up for a class on a given day, the class length may be shortened at the teacher's discretion.
- In the event of a teacher's absence, AYDT will do everything possible to provide a substitute teacher. In the event of an emergency in which a substitute cannot be found, AYDT will combine classes or arrange a make-up class.
- Make-up classes are not offered during the last 2 weeks before the holiday and spring recitals.

2026-2027 AYDT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- **Monday, September 14: ALL classes begin for Fall semester**
- **Monday, September 21: Yom Kippur – WE ARE OPEN FOR CLASSES**, but students will not be penalized for an absence due to religious observance

OCTOBER

- **Monday, October 12: Italian Heritage/Indigenous Peoples' Day (no classes)**

NOVEMBER

- **Saturday, November 7: MANDATORY senior recital rehearsal for ALL NUTCRACKER DANCERS & ADV&INT TAP (2-6 pm at AYDT studio, exact times for each class TBA)**
- **Saturday, November 14: First Steps and Dance with Me classes, Session 1 ends**
- **Monday, November 16: First Steps and Dance with Me classes, Session 2 begins**
- **Saturday, November 21: MANDATORY senior recital rehearsal for ALL NUTCRACKER DANCERS & ADV&INT TAP (2-6 pm at AYDT studio, exact times for each class TBA)**
- **Thursday – Sunday, November 26 – November 29: Thanksgiving break (no classes)**

DECEMBER

- **Monday – Thursday, November 30 – December 3: MANDATORY Senior Holiday Dress Rehearsals/Recitals (no Senior classes)**
- **Friday and Saturday, December 4 – 5: Senior Holiday Recital (no Senior classes)**
- **Saturday, December 12: Junior Holiday recital (No Junior classes on Saturday)**
- **Saturday, December 19: Last day of classes before Holiday break**
- **December 20 – January 3: Holiday Break (no classes)**

JANUARY 2027

- **Monday, January 4: Classes resume for Fall semester**
- **Monday, January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no classes)**
- **January 25 – January 30: Parents Visiting Week**
- **Saturday, January 30: Fall semester ends**

FEBRUARY

- Monday, February 1: Spring semester begins
- February 14 – February 20: Mid-Winter Break (no classes)

MARCH

- Saturday, March 6 TENTATIVE: ABT exams for Graded Ballet 3 and up
- Tuesday, March 9: Eid al-Fitr – WE ARE OPEN FOR CLASSES, but students will not be penalized for an absence due to religious observance
- March 26 – March 28: Spring Break part 1 (no classes)

APRIL

- Saturday, April 10: First Steps and Dance with Me classes, Session 1 ends
- Monday, April 12: First Steps and Dance with Me classes, Session 2 begins
- April 22 – April 28: Spring Break part 2 (no classes)

MAY

- Monday, May 17: Eid al-Adha – WE ARE OPEN FOR CLASSES, but students will not be penalized for an absence due to religious observance
- Saturday, May 29 – Monday, May 31: Memorial Day weekend (no classes)

JUNE

- Saturday, June 5: Junior Spring recital (No Junior classes on Saturday; Senior classes will be held earlier in the day than usual.)
- Monday – Thursday, June 7 - 10: MANDATORY Senior Spring Dress Rehearsals (no Senior classes)
- Friday – Sunday, June 11 – 12: Senior Spring Recitals (no Senior classes).
- Saturday, June 19: Juneteenth (no classes); Spring semester ends
- Monday – Wednesday, June 21 – 24: Competition Bootcamp

2026-2027 TUITION AND PAYMENT OPTIONS

- **NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED TO BEGIN CLASSES WITHOUT HAVING MADE THE FULL TUITION PAYMENT OR THE FIRST MONTH'S AUTO PAYMENT.**
- Base tuition includes a \$40 registration fee per child AND Recital Fee: Junior Classes \$60 per class; Senior Classes \$15 video fee per registrant and \$70 costume fee per class.
- Comp Teams do not have recital fees built into base tuition. Costumes and Competition fees are billed separately.
- Parents have two payment options:
 - Pay in Full ([online registration portal](#))
 - Monthly Payment Plan: automatic monthly deductions ("Auto Pay") from a checking account. Autopay includes a banking and administration fee of \$5 per month. A completed auto pay form must be included with the registration form (two forms required, registration form AND autopay form)
- All classes except for First Steps and Dance with Me—which run in two 9-week sessions—run for the full 18-week semester.
- **Family discount:** \$50 deducted from total tuition.
- An incremental 5% discount is applied off the base tuition per each additional class. This is reflected in the prices below.
- Tuition Assistance Available through The Lucy Walsh Fund. Additional application along with previous year's tax returns required. Funds are given based on need and the number of applicants. Email admin@aydt.nyc for more information.

Junior Level Classes	One Semester (recital fee included)	One Semester Auto Pay
1 class/week	\$ 895.33	5 payments of \$ 184.07
2 classes/week	\$ 1,710.89	5 payments of \$ 347.18
3 classes/week	\$ 2,486.69	5 payments of \$ 502.34
Senior Level Classes	One Semester (recital fee included)	One Semester Auto pay
1 class/week	\$ 941.34	5 payments of \$ 193.27
2 classes/week	\$ 1,786.86	5 payments of \$ 362.37
3 classes/week	\$ 2,591.57	5 payments of \$ 523.31
4 classes/week	\$ 3,355.46	5 payments of \$ 676.09
5 classes/week	\$ 4,078.53	5 payments of \$ 820.71
6 classes/week	\$ 4,760.78	5 payments of \$ 957.16

Early Childhood & Class Add Ons	One Semester	One Semester Auto pay
First Steps and Dance with Me (9 classes)	\$ 443.96	N/A
Technique 1, 2, 3	\$ 734.71	5 payments of \$ 146.94
Pre-pointe 2X/WK.	\$ 469.07	5 payments of \$ 93.81
Pointe 2X/WK.	\$ 530.43	5 payments of \$ 106.09
Comp Team Junior**	\$ 863.68	5 payments of \$ 172.74
Comp Team Senior**	\$ 823.01	5 payments of \$ 164.60
Pre-Pro + Variations	\$ 845.29	5 payments of \$ 169.06

** Additional fees are assessed in the spring for conventions, competitions, and costumes. These expenses typically exceed \$1,200 annually.