

PITT DANCE ENSEMBLE CLUB SYLLABUS 2023-2024

What is PDE?

The University of Pittsburgh Dance Ensemble Club (PDE) is an organization dedicated to the appreciation and understanding of dance. We are an organization that is dedicated to providing a safe space for members of the Pitt community with or without prior dance experience to explore movement, creativity, and learn from their peers. We strive to create an open and inclusive environment and we love to have you dance with us!

Structure of the Organization

We are very fortunate here at PDE to have a wealth of resources available to us to put on high quality productions and give our dancers a fantastic experience. Our classes and rehearsals take place in Trees Hall Dance Studio with our shows normally being held in Stephen Foster Memorial. This year has provided the unique opportunity for us to revamp our organization by giving the students more say in executive decisions and overall running of the group which would not be possible without our board of directors. Elections are held at the end of fall semester and board members are able to serve for the duration of their time in PDE once elected. The current board of directors is as followed:

- President: Maddie Wolfe
- Vice President: Caroline Fawcett
- Secretary: Emma Ryan
- Business Manager: Mercedes Pierce
- Social Chair: Sydney Dawson
- Merchandise: Jay Gilardi
- Event Chair: Izzy Ruggiero

Classes

Each Tuesday, class is held from 8:45-9:45pm in Trees Hall Dance Studio. Classes are taught by members of the organization, an email asking for interest in teaching will be sent at the beginning of each semester and is organized by the Vice President. Occasionally we will have classes taught by outside guests which cost \$5 for active members who are not in the show. Classes taught by members are free.

Shows

We host two large productions each year: one in the fall and one in the spring. This year, the show dates are as follows:

FALL SHOW : Nov 27 - Dec 3
SPRING SHOW : April 1 - April 6

The shows are composed of student-choreographed pieces. Both shows are open to any student who wishes to choreograph. Choreographers will hold an audition and have a weekly rehearsal. Active PDE members are welcome to audition for as many pieces as they wish, but

only be selected for 4 pieces in total for only one show. Dancers are responsible to stop auditioning for pieces once they reach this threshold.

Dues/Attendance Policy

In order to be an “active PDE member” and be eligible to participate in our shows, members must pay dues and abide by the attendance policy. We request that each dancer in the showd pay \$20 in dues each semester to cover show costs.

Members are only eligible to perform in the show if they are attending one of the PDE classes each week. The only excuse for not attending PDE is having a Tuesday night class that runs until 9:00 or later. If you cannot fulfill the attendance requirement due to a class conflict, you must inform Emma Becker as soon as you know you are planning to be in a show. Jobs and other clubs are not valid excuses to miss PDE. Show dancers are allowed 2 unexcused absences per semester. These absences are in place for emergencies and should be used as such. If you fail to meet the attendance requirement, you will be taken out of the show that semester. If more than 2 emergencies arise in a semester and you believe you have a valid reason for missing more than 2 classes, you must present your case to the board as early in the semester as possible.