

# CREO CONSERVATORY PROGRAM INFORMATION

CREO's Conservatory Program is for dancers considering a future in dance beyond CREO. Including four audition-based tracks, these dancers commit to a class regimen reflective of the highest degree of excellence in their respective areas of focus. Conservatory dancers are considered ambassadors for the CREO studio, both as leaders within the CREO community and representatives of CREO outside the studio.

Attendance is required for all conservatory program dancers at,

- Cathedral Dance Festival – Late April/Early May
- CREO Spring Recital – Typically the second weekend in June (expect multiple performances)
- Summer Dance Blitz Intensives: Ballet Intensive, Hip-Hop Audition Intensive, and Dance Blitz Intensive

Some ensembles may be invited to perform in additional CREO productions.

## **Conservatory Program Extracurricular Policy**

As ambassadors of the school and leaders among the CREO community, Conservatory dancers are expected to hold impeccable attendance in all CREO classes in order to build teamwork among their classmates and progress with class material. Therefore, dancers involved in on-going extra curriculars such as a long-term sports should consider their schedule before auditioning for a conservatory program. Pending a conversation with the CREO director and conservatory program instructor, dancers may be allowed to participate in short term engagements outside of their conservatory commitments.

## **Conservatory Program Expectations**

- Demonstrate outstanding attendance in ALL classes.
- Adhere to the regimen for your conservatory program.
- Demonstrate respect for your teammates, your instructor, and the CREO director by using class and rehearsal time wisely and focusing your attention on class goals.
- Be willing to try new things, fall, fail, stretch, and grow.

## **CREO CLASSICAL BALLET**

**CREO Classical Ballet** is CREO's conservatory program for the dancer seeking to focus their training towards technical and artistic excellence in Ballet and the pursuit of Pointe. At CREO the CCB regimen is the pathway to pointe.

**The CCB Pathway (dancers wanting to pursuit pointe)** Pathway is an invitational class for pre-pointe dancers who have prioritized ballet in their early training. Dancers are recommended for the CCB Pathway and Pre-Pointe classes based on their ballet class performance the previous school year. Dancers may express their interest to be considered by emailing the Ballet Principal, Alejandra Iannone at [creodance.alejandra@gmail.com](mailto:creodance.alejandra@gmail.com).

- Dancers may decline invitation to the CCB Pathway class and yet still pursue pointe study through the pre-pointe class. In this case CREO still recommends pre-pointe dancers take 3 days of ballet class/week in addition to the pre-pointe class.
- Dancers may be asked to dance in The Nutcracker or Tales and Tails.

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**The CCB Program (dancers en pointe)** These dancers have passed their pre-pointe evaluation to begin studying en pointe and have decided to dedicate themselves to pointe study by following the regimen outlined below. CCB Program dancers prepare choreography for performance through their pointe class.

*\*There are many styles of ballet. In order to streamline dancer's technique and training at CREO, this curriculum is specialized to ensure consistent progress and precision in our program's respective ballet style. During the school year, CCB dancers are required to focus their training solely at CREO.*

**The CCB Ensemble** is the performance branch of the CCB Program. Each year, the CCB Ensemble will perform in either The Nutcracker or Tales and Tails. Dancers will also learn classical ballet pieces for the Spring Recital. Some dancers may be asked to perform in small groups or solos.

## **CCB Pathway/ Pre-Pointe Regimen**

- 3 days of ballet class/week **year-round** (one of which may be the CCB Pathway class (by invitation))
- 1 day of pre-pointe class/week **year-round**
- **Summer:** Must take the CCB Ballet Intensive and continue with CCB regimen

## **CCB Program Regimen**

- 3 days of ballet class/week **year-round** including the CCB-only class
- 2 days of pointe class/week **year-round**
- **Summer:** Must take the CCB Ballet Intensive and continue with CCB regimen

## **FLIGHT**

Flight is an audition-based conservatory program dedicated to building artists strong in multiple styles of dance. Dancers accepted into this program display exemplary athleticism, technique, and artistry. Class time is dedicated to building avant-garde choreography and expanding the dancer's capacity for expression on stage. Flight dancers may be asked to perform in special performances such as The Nutcracker and Tales and Tails.

A regimen including a variety of technique classes and outside opportunities such as summer intensives, conventions, master classes, enriches the Flight dancer's "toolbox."

**2025 Summer Regimen & Audition:** Dancers wishing to be considered for Flight should take the following 5 weeks of punchcard classes as an audition series.

- **Mondays June 23, July 7, 14, 21, & August 4**
  - **Jazz & Contemporary 4:00-6:30pm**
  - **Flight 6:45-7:45pm**

## **School Year Regimen**

- 4 days of dance/week (including 2 days of Ballet, Wed. Flight, and Monday jazz and contemporary)
- At least acro class/week **year-round**
- Exemplary attendance in ***all*** their CREO classes year-round

# CREO CONSERVATORY PROGRAM INFORMATION

## HIP-HOP Conservatory Programs

CREO's Conservatory programs for experienced hip-hop dancers includes three tiered ensembles: Hip-Hop Invitational, Pre-TEAM, and TEAM Hip-Hop. This program emphasizes high physicality, athleticism, and individual expression through the hallmarks of contemporary hip-hop movement including popping, locking, tutting, breaking, rhythm, groove, isolation, groundedness, and acrobatic skills.

**Summer Regimen & Audition:** Dancers wishing to be considered for Hip-Hop Invitational/Pre-TEAM/ TEAM Hip-Hop should take the following 5 weeks of punchcard classes as an audition series.

- **Hip-Hop Invitational: Tuesdays June 24, July 8, 15, 22, & August 5**
  - Hip-Hop Gr. 5-7 from 6:30-7:30pm
  - Acro Gr. 5-7 from 7:30-8:15pm
- **Pre-TEAM and TEAM Hip-Hop: Wednesdays June 25, July 9, 16, 23, & August 6**
  - Hip-Hop Gr. 8-12 from 6:30-7:30pm
  - Acro Gr. 8-12 from 7:30-8:15pm
- **Dancers are expected to treat these classes as an audition series and attend all class dates to train consistently over the summer.**

### **School Year Regimen**

- Weekly ensemble class and an additional Jazz or Hip-Hop class
- At least acro class/week **year-round**
- Exemplary attendance in ***all*** their CREO classes year-round

### **Hip-Hop Invitational**

Hip-Hop Invitational is the environment for intermediate hip-hop dancers to progress their hip-hop training beyond the scope of a recreational class. Hip-Hop Invitational can be considered a stepping stone towards continued concentrated hip-hop study through CREO's Hip-Hop conservatory program to TEAM Hip-Hop.

### **Pre-TEAM Hip-Hop**

Pre-TEAM is the step between Hip-Hop Invitational and TEAM dedicated to preparing dancers for the physical rigor expected in TEAM Hip-Hop. Dancers will build strength, endurance, acrobatic skill and work toward mastery of industry-style jazz turns & leaps. While Pre-TEAM is designed to prepare dancers for participation in TEAM, it does not necessarily guarantee acceptance to TEAM Hip-Hop.

### **TEAM Hip-Hop**

TEAM Hip-Hop is the conservatory class where advanced hip-hop dancers begin to integrate even greater physicality and athleticism, such as complex acrobatic skills. Dancers accepted to TEAM Hip-Hop are typically in 8-12th grade. TEAM Hip-Hop dancers may be asked to dance in special performances such as The Nutcracker and Tales & Tails.

## FAITH-BASED CONSERVATORY TRACK

CREO's conservatory program for faith-based dance includes three tiered ensembles: Footprints, Roots, and The CREO DanceVERVE: Twin Cities. Dancers explore their faith through devotional study and perform dance works which vary in genre. Our full-length productions explore themes of Christian faith and worship such as The Nativity and Esther: for Such a Time as This.

# CREO CONSERVATORY PROGRAM INFORMATION

The mission of the faith-based conservatory program is to give young people an opportunity to grow in faith and to express what they have learned through art & dance. Because we were created by God in excellence we encourage our artists to create their work in excellence. "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men." Colossians 3:23

## **Footprints – Typically grade 4-6**

Footprints is an opportunity for young dancers to "step in" to Christ-centered expression through dance. Footprints is the junior ensemble in CREO's Faith-Based Conservatory program.

### **Summer Regimen Audition (Footprints)**

- **Take the Faith-Builder Workshop June 23-27**
  - **Footprints: 9:00-11:00am (Grade 3-5)**
  - **Roots/Verve: 12:00-2:00pm (Grade 6+)**
- **OR take the CREO Dance Blitz for your level**

### **School Year Regimen (Footprints)**

- **Weekly ensemble class**
- **Ballet class for your level**

### **Performance Opportunities (Footprints)**

- **The Nativity (early December)**
- **Cathedral Dance Festival (late April/early May)**
- **CREO's Spring Recital (early June, multiple performances possible.)**
- **Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.**

## **Roots – Typically grade 6+**

Roots is an opportunity for dancers to deepen their understanding of Christ-Centered expression through dance. Just as roots of a tree spread and anchor the body, the work of this company spreads and anchors the body of Christ. Roots is the intermediate ensemble in CREO's Faith-Based Conservatory track.

### **Roots 2025-2026 Season:**

The 2025-2026 Roots season will focus on remounting CREO's repertoire The Nativity. Auditions for Nativity took place in the Spring of 2025 and are now closed. Accepted dancers commit to the following,

- **Summer 2025:**
  - Attend all role rehearsals for your Nativity role
  - The Faith-Builder Grade 6+ workshop (June 23-27 12:00-2:00pm)
  - The Nativity Intensive: August 18-21, 5:15-8:15pm
- **Fall-Winter 2025:**
  - Attend Fall Nativity Rehearsals September on Saturdays 1:00-4:00pm
  - Attend Fall Nativity Rehearsals October-December on Saturdays 1:00-4:00pm & occasional Wednesdays & Fridays
  - Nativity Performance (exact dates TBA)
- **Spring 2026 performance opportunities**
  - Cathedral Dance Festival (late April/early May)
  - CREO Recital

## **The CREO DanceVERVE: Twin Cities –Typically grade 9+**

Verve refers to a lively spirit animating artistic composition or performance. The CREO DanceVERVE: Twin Cities is the most advanced ensemble in CREO's Faith-Based Conservatory program and performs works choreographed by the CREO director and staff.

# CREO CONSERVATORY PROGRAM INFORMATION

## **CREO DanceVERVE 2025-2026 Season:**

The 2024-2025 CREO DanceVERVE season will focus on remounting CREO's repertoire The Nativity. Auditions for Nativity took place in the Spring of 2025 and are now closed. Accepted dancers commit to the following,

- Summer 2025:
  - Attend all role rehearsals for your Esther role
  - The Faith-Builder Grade 6+ workshop (June 23-27 12:00-2:00pm)
- Fall-Winter 2025:
  - Attend Fall Nativity Rehearsals September on Saturdays 1:00-4:00pm
  - Attend Fall Nativity Rehearsals October-December on Saturdays 1:00-4:00pm & occasional Wednesdays & Fridays
  - Nativity Performance (exact dates TBA)
- Spring 2026 performance opportunities
  - Cathedral Dance Festival (late April/early May)
  - CREO Recital

## **APPRENTICESHIP FOR ALL CONSERVATORY PROGRAMS**

Dancers selected to the CREO Conservatory Programs for the first time will participate as apprentices. Apprentices have the opportunity to shadow ensemble members as they rehearse and step in when members cannot perform. Apprentices who demonstrate exemplary attendance, skill, commitment, and attitude may advance to full ensemble members in subsequent seasons.