

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 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 pursue 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 info@creodance.com

CCB Pathway/ Pre-Pointe Regimen

- **School Year Regimen**
 - 3 days of ballet class per week **year-round** including the Monday CCB Pathway class
 - 1 day of pre-pointe class per week **year-round**
- **Summer Regimen:**
 - CREO Classical Ballet Intensive
 - At least 2 days of Ballet & 1 day of pre-pointe per week

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- **Performance Opportunities**

- The Nutcracker or Tales & Tails of Folks & Fairies
- Cathedral Dance Festival late April/early May
- CREO's Spring Recital
- Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
- **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Nutcracker/TNT, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

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 Program Regimen

- **School Year Regimen:**
 - 3 days of ballet class per week **year-round** including the CCB-only class
 - 2 days of pointe class per week **year-round**
- **Summer Regimen:**
 - CREO Classical Ballet Intensive
 - At least 2 days of Ballet per week
 - 2 days of pointe per week
 - *Dancers must take Ballet Technique prior to all pointe classes*
- **Performance Opportunities**
 - The Nutcracker or Tales & Tails of Folks & Fairies
 - Cathedral Dance Festival late April/early May
 - CREO's Spring Recital
 - Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
 - **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Nutcracker/TNT, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

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."

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Flight Regimen

- **Summer Audition:** Dancers level 5+ wishing to be considered for Flight should take the following 4 weeks of punchcard classes as an audition series.
 - Flight - Monday punchcard class June 22, 29, July 20, & August 3
 - At least 2 elective classes per week (Jazz, Contemporary, or Acro)
 - 2 days of Ballet per week
 - CREO Dance Blitz
- **School Year Regimen**
 - 4 days of dance per week (including 2 days of Ballet, Wed. Flight, and Monday jazz and contemporary)
 - At least acro class per week **year-round**
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **Performance Opportunities**
 - The Nutcracker
 - Cathedral Dance Festival late April/early May
 - CREO's Spring Recital
 - Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
 - **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Nutcracker/TNT, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

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.

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. Dancers build their skill for isolation, groove, personal expression and unified ensemble-work. Hip-Hop Invitational can be considered a stepping stone towards continued concentrated hip-hop of the hip-hop fundamentals. While Hip-Hop Invitational is designed to prepare dancers for participation in Pre-TEAM, Hip-Hop Invitational does not necessarily guarantee acceptance to Pre-TEAM Hip-Hop.

Hip-Hop Invitational Regimen

- **Summer Audition:** Register for a 10-hour punchcard and take the following classes as an audition series,
 - Hip-Hop Invitational (Grade 4-7): Mondays June 22, 29, July 20, & August 3
 - Hip-Hop 6:30-7:30 pm
 - Acro 7:30-8:15 pm
 - Open to intermediate level hip-hop dancers grades 4-7
- **School Year Regimen:**
 - Weekly ensemble class
 - An additional Jazz or Hip-Hop class/week
 - 1 Acro class/week year-round
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **Performance Opportunities:**
 - Cathedral Dance Festival late April/early May (dates TBA)
 - CREO's Spring Recital

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- Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
- **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

Pre-TEAM Hip-Hop

Pre-TEAM is the step between Hip-Hop Invitational and TEAM dedicated to prepare dancers for the physical rigor expected in TEAM Hip-Hop. Dancers will build strength, endurance, acrobatic skill and work toward mastery of hip-hop fundamentals such as groove, bounce, and rock. While Pre-TEAM is designed to prepare dancers for participation in TEAM, Pre-TEAM does not necessarily guarantee acceptance to TEAM Hip-Hop.

Pre-TEAM Hip-Hop Regimen

- **Summer Audition:** Register for a 10-hour punchcard and take the following classes as an audition series.
 - Pre-TEAM and TEAM Hip-Hop (Grade 8-12): Wednesdays, June 24, July 1, 22, & August 5
 - Hip-Hop 5:15-6:30 pm
 - Acro 6:30-7:15 pm
 - Open to intermediate & advanced level hip-hop dancers grades 8-12
- **School Year Regimen:**
 - Weekly ensemble class
 - An additional Jazz or Hip-Hop class/week
 - 1 Acro class/week year-round
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **Performance Opportunities:**
 - Cathedral Dance Festival late April/early May (dates TBA)
 - CREO's Spring Recital June 11-12, 2027
 - Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
 - **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

TEAM Hip-Hop

TEAM Hip-Hop is the conservatory class where advanced hip-hop dancers begin to integrate even greater stylization, physicality and athleticism, such as acrobatic skills and complex group lifts, into ensemble choreography grounded in hip-hop movement vocabulary and aesthetic. Dancers accepted to TEAM Hip-Hop are typically in 8-12th grade.

TEAM Hip-Hop Regimen

- **Summer Audition:** Register for a 10-hour punchcard and take the following classes as an audition series.
 - Pre-TEAM and TEAM Hip-Hop (Grade 8-12): Wednesdays, June 24, July 1, 22, & August 5
 - Hip-Hop 5:15-6:30 pm
 - Acro 6:30-7:15 pm
 - Open to intermediate & advanced level hip-hop dancers grades 8-12
- **School Year Regimen:**
 - Weekly ensemble class
 - An additional Jazz or Hip-Hop class/week
 - 1 Acro class/week year-round
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **Performance Opportunities:**

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- The Nutcracker or Tales & Tails of Folks & Fairies
- Cathedral Dance Festival (late April/early May)
- CREO's Spring Recital
- Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
- **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Nutcracker, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

FAITH-BASED CONSERVATORY TRACK

CREO's conservatory track for faith-based dance includes three tiered faith-based ensembles, Footprints, Roots & The CREO DanceVERVE: Twin Cities. Dancers explore their faith through devotional study and perform a variety of dance works which vary in genre (ballet/contemporary/jazz/hip-hop) and in scale from stand-alone pieces to full-length productions and explore themes of Christian faith and worship. Recent production repertory includes productions such as The Nativity, Esther: for Such a Time as This, and The Companion: The Story of Ruth & Naomi.

The mission of the faith-based conservatory track 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 & Level 2-3

Footprints is an opportunity for young dancers to "step in" to Christ-centered expression through dance. Zephaniah 3:17 says the Lord rejoices over us so we in turn rejoice in walking in the ways of the Lord. Footprints is the junior ensemble in CREO's Faith-Based Conservatory track.

FOOTPRINTS REGIMEN

- **Summer Requirements/Footprints Audition**
 - Dance & Faith Intensive
 - Complete the summer requirements for your level
- **School Year Regimen:**
 - Weekly ensemble class
 - 2 Days of class/week including 1 days of ballet or ballet/contemporary and 1 elective day in addition to your weekly ensemble class
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **Performance Opportunities:**
 - The Nutcracker & The Nativity or Esther: For Such a Time as This
 - Cathedral Dance Festival late April/early May
 - CREO's Spring Recital
 - Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
 - **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Nutcracker, Esther, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

Roots – Typically Level 4-5 & 4P-5P

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 Regimen:

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The 2026-2027 Roots season will focus on remounting CREO's production: Esther For Such a Time as This. Auditions for Esther take place in the summer of 2026 (see below). Accepted dancers commit to the following:

- **Summer Audition**
 - Faith-Builder/Esther Intensive August 17-19
 - Complete the summer requirements for your level
 - Open to dancers Grade 6+ (4P-5P) or Level 4-5
- **School Year Regimen:**
 - Weekly ensemble class
 - 2 Days of class/week including 1 days of ballet or ballet/contemporary and 1 elective day in addition to your weekly ensemble class
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **2026-2027 Performance Season:**
 - Attend all of your role rehearsals for your Esther role
 - Attend spring Esther rehearsals January-February on Fridays 4:30-6:30 pm & Saturdays 1:00-4:30 pm with occasional Wednesdays as needed.
 - CREO's Production of Esther: For Such a Time as This (date TBA)
 - Cathedral Dance Festival (dates TBA)
 - CREO's Spring Recital (dates TBA)
 - Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
 - **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Esther, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

The CREO DanceVERVE: Twin Cities –Typically Level 6-7 & 6P

Verve refers to a lively spirit animating artistic composition or performance. It is a word that represents great energy and vitality. The CREO DanceVERVE: Twin Cities is the most advanced ensemble in CREO's Faith-Based Conservatory track and performs works choreographed by the CREO director and staff. These works vary in scale from stand-alone pieces to full-length productions and explore themes of Christian faith and worship.

Acceptance to the The CREO DanceVERVE (VERVE) takes into consideration:

1. **Dedication:** The CREO DanceVERVE requires considerable commitment in terms of time and focus. VERVE ensemble members are deeply invested in their personal growth as a dancer and in the growth of the VERVE community. Dancers are expected to demonstrate respect, maturity, and a dedicated spirit of participation in all rehearsals, performances, and company events.
2. **Ability:** The CREO DanceVERVE creates dance work that requires a degree of proficiency in technical genres including ballet, contemporary, jazz, and hip hop. Additionally, VERVE relies on improvisation in the choreographic process.
3. **Showmanship:** Dancers in VERVE are expected to share in the camaraderie of each other's presence and support. The atmosphere in and around rehearsals should be one of inclusion, respect, and kindness. Consideration will be given to dancers who have demonstrated positive contribution to their dance class communities in these ways.
4. **Seniority:** Dancers who have displayed a dedication to dance through many years of study may be prioritized for ensemble placement.

Apprenticeship: Dancers selected to the CREO DanceVERVE 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.

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CREO DanceVERVE Regimen:

The 2026-2027 CREO DanceVERVE season will focus on remounting CREO's production: Esther: For Such a Time as This. Auditions for Esther will take place in the summer 2026.

- **Summer Audition**
 - Faith-Builder/Esther Intensive August 17-19
 - Complete the summer requirements for your level
 - Open to dancers Grade 6+ (4P-5P) or Level 4-5
- **School Year Regimen:**
 - Weekly ensemble class
 - 2 Days of class/week including 1 days of ballet or ballet/contemporary and 1 elective day in addition to your weekly ensemble class
 - Exemplary attendance in **all** their CREO classes year-round
- **2026-2027 Performance Season:**
 - Attend all of your role rehearsals for your Esther role
 - Attend spring Esther rehearsals January-February on Fridays 4:30-6:30 pm & Saturdays 1:00-4:30 pm with occasional Wednesdays as needed.
 - CREO's Production of Esther: For Such a Time as This (date TBA)
 - Cathedral Dance Festival (dates TBA)
 - CREO's Spring Recital (dates TBA)
 - Conservatory ensembles are also occasionally invited to perform separate repertoire in CREO productions.
 - **No absences allowed in the 2 weeks before Esther, Cathedral, Recital, or any other performance**

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.