

DANCE CONNECTION

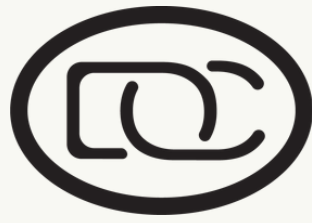
PALO ALTO

IT'S SHOWTIME

2026



SATURDAY, MAY 30 6PM



What an incredibly special season it has been. I have watched our dancers grow in ways that amaze and inspire me - refining technique, trying different artistic styles, and reaching new levels of confidence.

But beyond the growth we see here on stage, what fills my heart most is the community we have built together. As I look back on the year, I see us creating a place of belonging and family, full of warmth and encouragement, where every dancer is cherished for exactly who they are.

It is a place where friendships can be seen as dancers squeeze into the wings to cheer each other on, where happy chaos echoes through the hallways, and where showing up for one another is just as important as showing up to class.

This year, we were with each other through extraordinary achievements and challenging low moments, and also in the unseen, ordinary weekday evening that all somehow became the memories we treasure most.

So tonight is a celebration of so many stories at once.

To our newest families, welcome! We are so glad you found your way to us, and we cannot wait for the journey ahead.

And to our graduating seniors, there are simply no words big enough. You have poured your hearts into this studio, and you have left it forever changed. We carry you with us always.

Thank you all for trusting Dance Connection with something so precious. This weekend is our time to remember the joy of dance, friendship, and family. I hope you enjoy every single breath of it.

~Corie

IT'S SHOWTIME! SATURDAY, MAY 30 - 6PM

Freak Out -- Nikki Tavares -- DCC Junior Jazz

Zoe Blake, Allyson Her, Luka McKinney, Paz Rivas, Izabel Salud, Ariana Seru, Titania Stewart, Siya Thakur, Isla Tung

Party People -- Brittany Davidson -- DCC Senior Jazz

Dylan Berger, Tatiana Bishop, Samantha Jones, Ray Riley, Emma Rogers

Superstar -- Melitta Pieper

Choreographer: Britain Feeny | Instructor: Emily Lee

Smooth Criminal -- Joan Walton -- Teen/Adult Beg/Int Tap Tues L5

Regina Agopian, Laiane DaPaixao Silva Bueno, Janice Flint, Jim Gothers, Jessica Hart, Anne Rerolle, Philippe Rerolle, Elizabeth Savoy

Old Days -- Nikki Tavares -- DCC Teen Lyrical

Norah Ayeni-Watley, Diya Lakhina, Mya Lee, Chloe Muller Pichot, Rosalind Petirs, Lily Rogers, Alexa Sanchez, Ariana Seru, Olivia Stewart, Taylor Wang, Livi Willis

No Death No Danger -- Laila Young

Choreographer: Lauren Slack | Instructor: Emily Lee

Heat Stroke -- Alexa DeGraca Rodriguez -- DCPC Teen Jazz

Tina Chang, Toscanne Chaperot-Merino, Camille Chen, Inbal Cnaan-On, Sydney Fei, Alma Kabizon, Victoria Lecea, Cora Lee, Alice Silva Bueno, Kaitlin Sun, Melinda Zhang

The Last -- Emily Lee -- DCC Junior Contemporary

Zoe Blake, Luka McKinney, Izabel Salud, Titania Stewart, Isla Tung

Gypsy Rock -- Elijah Wax -- Teen Break Dance

Amit Cnaan-On, Sebastian Dudziak, Owen Hu, Jaiden Jia, Huxley Rivest, Ryan Segal, Illiya Vladymyrov

Cabinet Meeting -- Francis Tyrell & The Dancers -- Advanced Hip Hop IV

Dylan Berger, Tatiana Bishop, Carrie Chen, Mikaela David, Audrey Erickson, Isabelle Felch, Arabella Guinle, Samantha Jones, Diya Lakhina, Mya Lee, Ava Rapoport, Natalie Yau, Laila Young, Arden Zhen

Big Finish -- Brittany Davidson -- Junior Musical Theatre

Ariana Seru, Taylor Wang

No Waste Like Home -- Peter Hershey -- Ballet Company

Penelope Cheung, Mikaela Cia, Rosalind Petirs, Lily Rogers, Shira Schreiber, Eliana Slater, Olivia Stewart, Melinda Zhang

Dr. Jazz -- Julie Crawley -- DCC Junior Tap

Allyson Her, Luka McKinney, Izabel Salud, Titania Stewart, Siya Thakur

Intermission / Break

Stole the Show --Nicole Perez -- DCC Senior Open

Dylan Berger, Tatiana Bishop, Elyssa Chu, Audrey Erickson, Isabelle Felch, Arabella Guinle, Samantha Jones, Diya Lakhina, Melitta Pieper, Ava Rapoport, Ray Riley, Natalie Yau, Laila Young, Arden Zhen, Kianna Ye

Like That -- Erika Tyrell -- -- Hip Hop II/III

Brooke Aldous, Orly Bodner, Tina Chang, Toscane Chaperot-Merino, Davina Han, Terence Heng, Gabrielle Jung, Alma Kabizon, Victoria Lecea, Cora Lee, Yana Petrova, Genevieve Preston, Mabelle Preston, Gia Shah, Siya Thakur, Izzy Thein, Irislei Tipson, Aubrey Yuan

Do Your Thing -- Lily Rogers, Livi Willis

Choreographer: Julie Crawley

Diga Diga Do -- Joan Walton -- Teen/Adult Beg/Int Tap

Regina Agopian, Laiane Da Paixao Silva Bueno, Janice Flint, Jim Gothers, Jessica Hart, Anne Rerolle, Philippe Rerolle, Elizabeth Savoy

Just Fine - Tatiana Bishop

Choreographer: Alexa DeGraca Rodriguez | Instructor: Emily Lee

Say Something -- Emily Lee -- Lyrical 2A

Seraphina Baeriswyl, Mira Balakrishnan, Jodi Cheung, Inbal Cnaan-On, Avani Dahncke, Anabelle Dudziak, Allyson Her, Katelyn Jun, Yeonjae (Luna) Lee, Oscar Petirs, Yana Petrova, Rupali Rao, Izabel Salud, Ryan Segal, Ayra Simhadri, Titania Stewart, Ava Sujarit, Kaitlin Sun, Esmee Teh, Isla Tung, Emma Wang, Delilah Wasson

Grillz -- Nikke Tavares -- DCC Teen Jazz

Norah Ayeni-Watley, Chloe Muller Pichot, Rosalind Petirs, Alexa Sanchez, Ariana Seru, Taylor Wang

Liability -- Isa Felch

Choreographer: Emily Lee | Instructor: Emily Lee

Rock Your Body -- Francis Tyrell -- Int/Adv Adult Hip Hop

Shradha Balakrishnan, Alena Dudzinskaya, Silvana Gaia, Angela Grammatas, BeBe Khue Jacobs, Nerea Jimenez Tellez, Sunny Kim, Ayelet Klein, Tammy Kwan, Wen Ying Mau, Rowena Ona, Eva Scheller, Norine Sedayao, Monica Tan, Janet Wang, Kathy Wen, Leilani Yau

Game of Survival -- Emily Lee -- Contemporary I (level 2B)

Zoe Blake, Tina Chang, Toscane Chaperot-Merino, Inbal Cnaan-On, Sydney Fei, Allyson Her, Alma Kabizon, Lily Karp, Luka McKinney, Paz Rivas, Izabel Salud, Alice Silva Bueno

Fix My Crown -- Emily Lee -- DCPC Junior Jazz

Seraphina Baeriswyl, Mira Balakrishnan, Avani Dahncke, Anabelle Dudziak, Yeonjae(Luna) Lee, Ayra Simhadri, Delilah Wasson

Saturday Night -- Julie Crawley -- DCC Tap

Norah Ayeni-Watley, Rosalind Petirs, Siya Thakur, Isla Tung

Run from the Sun -- Lauren -- DCC Senior Open

Dylan Berger, Mikaela David, Audrey Erickson, Isabelle Felch, Samantha Jones, Arabella Guinle, Melitta Pieper, Ava Rapoport, Natalie Yau, Laila Young, Arden Zhen



CONGRATS SENIORS!

Arden, Arabella, Ava, and Dylan,

Congratulations! We are so proud of you, and we will miss your passion, artistry, energy, and smiles more than you know.

Each of you has given your heart and soul to this studio, and each of you has left it forever changed. We see it in the younger dancers who look up to you, the teammates who light up around you, and the many memories that will always be part of Dance Connection. We will carry you with us always. And we know you will carry the strength, discipline, courage, and creativity you built here into everything you choose to do.

Come back anytime. This will always be your home. And no matter where you are, know that we are always in the wings cheering for you with a big, loud "Let's Gooooo!!!!!"

💕 Corie and your family at Dance Connection



ARABELLA GUINLE - PALO ALTO HIGH SCHOOL

There's a version of me that only exists because of Dance Connection. I walked into the studio in 6th grade on recreational teams, just a kid who loved to dance, and somehow, over the years, this place became woven into almost every part of my life. I grew up here. Not just as a dancer, but as a person. Some of the people who know me best are at this studio, and some of the moments I'll carry forever happened in between classes, rehearsals, dressing rooms, and late nights at the studio.

Last year, especially when life felt really heavy, DC became the place that kept me grounded. The first people I turned to were my teachers and teammates, and I don't think they'll ever fully know how much their support meant to me. Being here reminded me that even during hard seasons, you're never carrying things alone.

As much as dance shaped me, I think the younger dancers shaped me, too. Growing up alongside them, mentoring them, and watching them slowly become the people they are now has been one of the most meaningful parts of all of this. It's strange trying to say goodbye to a place that feels so tied to who you are, because DC will always be home.



ARDEN ZHEN - PALO ALTO HIGH SCHOOL

Dancing at DC has truly helped shape me in so many different ways. Everyday that I walk into dance and see the community and all the friends that I've made, my day brightens. For the many years that I've been dancing at DC I feel as though I've not only grown as a dancer, but also as a person.

From my first combo class with Cindy to my last classes, every interaction has helped make me both a better dancer and

person. These moments are the moments that will stay with me forever: laughing in classes, making up silly dances, watching the younger kids grow up, and hanging out with all my friends outside of dance. I honestly don't know what my life would be if I hadn't met these amazing people and cannot imagine life without you guys. That's what makes this goodbye so much harder.

To everyone still dancing at DC cherish your time well and soak in all the moments, as my time at DC seemed to slip away so fast. I believe in every single one of you, so take risks and keep pushing yourselves.

Although I will be leaving DC, I know I'll never truly be too far away. I'll definitely come back to visit because DC will always be a part of me. I can never really thank you all for everything you have done for me, but thank you for making my years at DC so memorable and amazing.



AVA RAPOPORT - GUNN HIGH SCHOOL

Through my time at Dance Connection, I've made some of the most meaningful connections and learned so many important life lessons. Since I was 6 years old, dance has always been a place where I could escape from the stress of everyday life and just be myself. Over the years, I've learned how to depend on myself and developed a lot of maturity, while also leaning on the teammates I've grown up dancing beside and can now call family.

Dance has also taught me resilience and the importance of continuing to work hard even when things don't go as planned and trusting the process. Although I'm sad to leave this studio behind, I'm so grateful for everything it's given me and excited for my new chapter in life!



DYLAN BERGER - PALO ALTO HIGH SCHOOL

Dance Connection has been such a huge part of my life for the past eight years. Through every rehearsal and competition, dance has taught me confidence, discipline, and overall how to be a supportive team member. Dance has always been a place where I could express myself without speaking and be surrounded by people who truly care about each other. Even on my hardest days, I always know I can go to dance and be brought back to laughter and joy.

I'm so grateful for every teammate, teacher, and memory that has made Dance Connection so special to me. This experience has meant more to me than words can fully express, and I will carry it with me always.

**Thank you for an amazing
2025-2026 Season!**

