

# DANCE CONNECTION

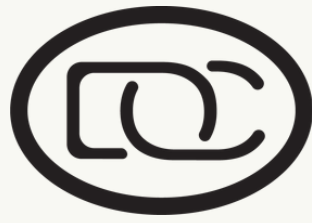
PALO ALTO

IT'S SHOWTIME

2026



SUNDAY, MAY 31 5PM



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

**I'm Just Ken -- Arabella Guinle -- Jazz II A/B**

Jodi Cheung, Lily Karp, Oscar Petirs, Alice Silva Bueno, Rueya Steinhoff, Esmee Teh, Delilah Wasson, Nova Zavialova

**Real in Rio -- Arabella Guinle -- Jazz IA/B**

Mara Bland, Athena Collins, Sebastian Dudziak, Joules Hsu, Mayani Moore, Freya Northen, Ronny Weinstock, Mira Zavialova

**Haus of Holbein -- Isabella Marines -- Musical Theater Dance**

Brooke Aldous, Eloise Covarrubias LeGuen, Katya Kuykendall, Emilee Terry

**DNA -- Frankie Mendoza -- Teen KREW**

Orly Bodner, Kyra Commissariat, Anna Field, Emma Krovblit, Eden Ross, Anna Sobajima, Ella Tudor

**Sing Sing Sing -- Julie Crawley -- DCPC Teen Tap**

Carrie Chen, Mikaela David, Mya Lee, Marita Ye, Tamira Ye

**Bad -- Emily Lee -- DCPC Teen Contemporary**

Tina Chang, Toscanne Chaperot-Merino, Inbal Cnaan-On, Alma Kabizon, Victoria Lecea, Ariana Seru, Alice Silva Bueno, Melinda Zhang

**Get Up -- Erika Tyrell -- Hip Hop I**

Jodi Cheung, Mila Iyer, Elanna Laws, Freya Northen, Teagan Trahan, Noemi Tsiagbe, Ria Yang, Tianran Zhu

💖 **Senior Solo - Ava Rapoport** 💖

**Battle Royale -- Erika Tyrell -- DCPC Junior Hip Hop**

Avani Dahncke, Allyson Her, Luka McKinney, Izabel Salud, Siya Thakur

**Dandelions -- Arden Zhen -- Basic Contemporary/Lyrical Jazz**

Orin Almog, Abigail Chin, Eloïse Covarrubias LeGuen, Rita Liang, Chloe Vigier

**Let 'Em Know -- Frankie Mendoza -- -- Teen Hip Hop III**

Brooke Aldous, Orly Bodner, Kyra Commissariat, AnnaField, Emma Krovblit, Marie Malobrodsky, Eden Ross, Anna Sobajima, Ella Tudor, Taylor Wang, Aubrey Yuan

**Please Stay -- Emily Lee -- DCC Teen Contemporary**

Carrie Chen, Mikaela David, Mya Lee, Olivia Stewart, Marita Ye, Tamira Ye

**Faust Waltz -- Jennifer Kulz-Smith -- Ballet Company**

Rosalind Petirs, Lily Rogers, Eliana Slater, Melinda Zhang

💖 **Senior Solo - Arabella Guinle** 💖

**Hey Mama! -- Erika Tyrell -- Adult Funk Jazz Hip Hop**

Alena Dudzinskaya, Silvana Gaia, Angela Grammatas, Nerea Jimenez Tellez, Soyoung Kim, Sunny Kim, Ayelet Klein, Tammy Kwan, Lawnie Lau, Akansha Muir, Eva Scheller, Norine Sedayao, Kathy Wen, Leilani Yau, Mystical Zenith

***Intermission / Break***

**Get It -- Phil Wright -- DCC Senior Hip Hop**

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

**Debut -- Kahana Wong -- Jazz 1B**

Addison Bancroft, Noa Hoffman, Danielle Itskovich, Elanna Laws, Chloe Ni, Lucy Pelly, Eva Sablok, Ava Sujarit, Addison Sun, Bee Vu, Emma Wang

**Masterblaster 2000 -- Frankie Mendoza -- Boys Hip Hop**

Amit Cnaan-On, Ilia Gorbushkin, Jayce Haynie, Huxley Rivest, Rafael Zaccak-Yoshimoto

**Last Day of School -- Emily Lee -- Jazz 2 A/B + Style**

Seraphina Aeriswy, Mira Balakrishnan, Zoe Blake, Tina Chang, Avani Dahncke, Anabelle Dudziak, Sydney Fei, Allyson Her, Calina Huang, Katelyn Jun, Yeonjae (Luna) Lee, Luka McKinney, Oscar Petirs, Rupali Rao, Paz Rivas, Izabel Salud, Alexa Sanchez, Ryan Segal, Ayra Simhadri, Kaitlin Sun, Noemi Tsiagbe, Chloe Vigier, Taylor Wang, Delilah Wasson

💖 **Senior Solo - Dylan Berger** 💖

**Dangerous -- Julie Crawley -- DCC Senior Tap**

Mikaela David, Samantha Jones, Ray Riley, Emma Rogers, Liv Willis

**Princesses - Swan Lake -- Peter Hershey -- Ballet Company**

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

**Dancing in the Streets -- Inbal Cnaan-On, Siya Thakur**

Choreographer: Julie Crawley | Instructor: Nikki Tavares

**We On Top -- Francis Tyrell -- DCPC Junior Hip Hop**

Mira Balakrishnan, Sebastian Dudziak, Owen Hu, Katelyn Jun, Oscar Petirs, Paz Rivas, Ryan Segal, Matisse Thomander, Noemi Tsiagbe

💖 **Senior Solo - Arden Zhen** 💖

**Free Things in Life -- Frankie Mendoza -- Hip Hop I/II**

Taylor Chen, Alia Grover, Izzy Thein

**Bang Bang -- Britain Feeny-- DCC Teen Jazz**

Carrie Chen, Mikaela David, Mya Lee, Emma Rogers, Olivia Stewart, Marita Ye, Tamira Ye

**Problem -- Erika Tyrell -- Jazz Funk/Hip Hop**

Amelia Feng, Danielle Itskovich, Noemi Tsiagbe

**Still DCPA -- Francis Tyrell -- Teen Hip Hop III**

Norah Ayeni-Watley, Aryan Bhargava, Orly Bodner, Toscane Chaperot-Merino, Camille Chen, Kyra Commissariat, Anabelle Dudziak, Ida Grammatas, Davina Han, Terence Heng, Alma Kabizon, Victoria Lecea, Cora Lee, Chloe Muller Pichot, Rosalind Petirs, Genevieve Preston, Mabelle Preston, Alexa Sanchez, Ariana Seru, Gia Shah, Alice Silva Bueno, Irislei Tipson, Aubrey Yuan, Melinda Zhang

**Too Much -- Taylor Tsvyetkov -- DCC Senior Jazz**

Audrey Erickson, Isabelle Felch, Samantha Jones, Arabella Guinle, Melitta Pieper, Natalie Yau, Kianna Ye, 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!**

