

The Dance Shoppe Ltd.
905-878-1488

The Purple Thunder January Competitive News 2026

Happy New Year & Welcome Back!

Happy New Year and Welcome back! Thank you again for all our gifts, cards and well wishes. Although not necessary they were very much appreciated. We are very excited to get this competitive season under way. Please make sure you read all information. It gets very busy over the next couple of months, and you don't want to miss anything. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Contact TDS Directly

Unless it is an emergency, please do not use personal contact information or social media to contact any of the staff about anything studio related. All communication should be done through TDS by emailing or calling the studio directly. dance@thedanceshoppe.com, 905-878-1488.

USB Sticks

Competitive Dancers wishing to have a copy of their competitive music are asked to please drop off a labelled USB stick at the front desk. Make sure it is clearly labeled with the dancers' name and company. We only need one USB per family.

Electronic Devices - Changerooms/Bathrooms.

Please remind your dancer(s) that they are NOT to use their electronic devices, (cameras, video, facetime etc) in the changerroom or bathroom areas. This is for privacy and safety of all our dancers.

Attendance/Vacations

Just a friendly reminder that you have committed to a Competitive Dance Team for 10 months. Your dancer(s) attendance is mandatory during this commitment. Taking an extended family vacation during the season is not fair to your teammates but also puts a lot of pressure on your dancer(s) to keep up with the team. TDS will not condone or permit any "vacations" that take dancers out of the studio for multiple weeks. Families who insist on being away may forfeit their dancers' spot on the team.

Highschool Exams-IMPORTANT

Just a reminder that all highschoolers will have exams. It is imperative that you let us know your dancers' exams schedule and if they need a night off to study. Nothing is worse than one dancer calling in last minute and someone else that had planned their time wisely or rushed to study so they can attend their evening classes, only to attend and half the class is there. If multiple dancers need the same night off, and if we know in advance, we can re-schedule the classes and then everyone can have the night to prepare. TDS can possibly schedule other classes that need extra time or technique classes in their spots and make the night productive for everyone.

Group Routines Come First

If your dancer is sick or will be missing the night of group classes for some reason, please remember that they will also need to miss any extra work for that same day. It is not proper etiquette to show up for your extra work but then not show up for mandatory classes and group choreography. **Groups come first.** It is better to forfeit extra work and try to get through your group and mandatory classes. It is a lot easier to make up a solo, duet, or trio then it is to get a group of 12 dancers together to make up the time missed.

RAD Spring Exams

1) The RAD offers both Class Award Presentations and Exams.

Award/Presentation Class is an opportunity for dancers to perform the RAD syllabus work for an examiner in a less stressful environment. Dancers are not marked on their work and cannot fail.

Exams are not suitable for every pupil. They are expected to practice at home and come to any extra coaching sessions leading up to the exam. Obviously, this is not always attainable due to absence, illness, or even shyness on the part of the pupil.

2) Students could be offered one or the other, or neither.

3) This is not a reflection of your dancers' potential, and is based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to:

- Their ability to retain all of the exercises and perform them without guidance.
- The development of their technique.
- Their focus within the classroom and ability to follow direction clearly.
- Their ability to handle more stressful situations.
- Dancers must be enrolled in 2 RAD Ballet classes per week to qualify for their Award or Exam.

4) Not being offered the opportunity to perform your Class Award Presentation or Exam does not mean that you will not move forward to the next RAD Level next season. If your dancer continues to work hard and we have not informed you of any concerns, they will continue to the next syllabus.

Offers coming soon...

RAD Recital

- Full Time Dancers NOT in the Competitive Ballet Choreography will automatically be registered for recital and the deposit will be charged on January 11th.
- Full Time Dancers that ARE IN Competitive Ballet Choreography must confirm their participation in the recital choreography by making the deposit payment themselves through your account by January 11th.
- Full Time Dancers that ARE In Competitive Ballet Choreography who DO NOT want to participate in recital choreography must email the studio to have the costume deposit removed from their account by January 11th.
- Part Time Dancers that attend the RAD Ballet technique can participate in the Recital Choreography. Please confirm your participation by paying the costume deposit on your account by January 11th.

Competitive Participation in Recital

- As per your Competitive Package, recital is mandatory for all competitive dancers.
- You do not need to confirm your participation for any of your groups.
- The schedule of Who's in What Show is posted at the studio and online.
- As competitive dancers have showcase and 4 competitions to perform all their routines, siblings may not always be scheduled in the same shows.
- Extra work solos/duets/trios/groups will not perform in recital.
- Grad Show will be the Sunday 4:00pm show.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, please call the studio or check the website to see if we are cancelling studio classes for that day. If we feel the need to cancel studio classes, we will leave a message on the studio phone, send an email, and try to post on our website, social media, and our App. If you are unsure about coming, please call us at 905-878-1488 before travelling to the studio. We will be thinking Safety First!

Competitive Shoe and Tight List 2026

TDS has already provided the competitive shoe and tight list for all 2025/2026 competitive groups. We will also provide a shoe and tight list for all duets/trios and solos that TDS is responsible for designing in the next few weeks.

TDS Competitive Stage Look- Reminders

For the safety of the dancers, we ask that all dancers remove any **extra jewellery**, example earrings, nose, lip, eyebrow rings and if 2-piece costume bellybutton rings. (Anything visible to the audience.) Fake nails may be worn if they are a French or clear finish and are not overly long or pointy.

TDS Competitive Make Up Kits

The benefits of “stage” make up as opposed to off the shelf makeup are that it gives us a unified team look, stays on longer and shows up brighter. It gives your dancer the professional stage looks without having to re-apply. Competitive stage makeup is a good investment that finishes our competitive look. Dancers are judged on their appearance, this includes make up, hair, and costumes. Good make up does not wash out the dancer’s expression and highlights their face, which is also important on the stage. It is imperative that we put our best foot forward and complete the look.

Reminder: Full Time Dancers, Small Fry and up will be wearing fake lashes again this season.

How to apply make-up videos are available on Stage by Daniella to help you achieve the stage look.

Hair & Makeup Seminar

We will be hosting a hair and makeup seminar mandatory for all dancers on Monday January 26th! All dancers must attend with one parent. If your dancer does their own hair and makeup, a parent does not need to attend.

Stretch & Strength classes will be cancelled on this evening.

Makeup Seminar Schedule:

4:30-5:30pm Part Time 5, Seniors and Cuties

5:30-6:30pm Part Time 3, Part Time 4

6:30-7:30pm Junior, Intermediate

7:30-8:30pm Small Fry, Mini, Part Time 1, Part Time 2

Competitive Mandatory Picture Feb 7th & 8th 2026

As per our competitive agreement, competitive Picture Day is scheduled for Sat Feb 7th & Sun Feb 8th, 2026. Competitive Picture Day is Mandatory for groups, duets/trios and solos this year. Regardless of if you plan to purchase the pictures, TDS uses them for promotional purposes. Schedule attached.

Competitive Mandatory Rehearsal /Showcase- Feb 28th and March 1st, 2026

We are very excited to announce that our rehearsal and showcase are once again scheduled at the First Ontario Center for the Arts in Milton. This is a mandatory event for all competitors. We will run full group rehearsals on the Saturday Feb 28th and a Showcase of competitive groups on the Sunday late afternoon/early evening. Schedule attached.

Hotels for Competitions

Please note that TDS is not responsible for booking rooms for our competitive events. Each family's schedule is different, and you may or may not want to book rooms. It is not mandatory that anyone stay overnight. You can visit each competitions website for hotel information. Remember – once schedules are released by the events, rooms can be cancelled or on the other side, may be come available.

Group Fundraisers

Please keep in mind that group fundraisers will benefit **ALL** the competitive families therefore we need **ALL** the competitive families' support! It is mandatory to help at these events in some way shape or form. If you cannot attend/participate in a mandatory event a set "buy out fee" will be pre-determined and billed per person per event. The amounts will vary as per the event. Example: If you are not attending the Sleepover, you will be responsible for a \$30.00 donation "buyout" to the event.

DJ Dance Party!! **CANCELLED**

Still to come...

Men's Poker night ~ To Be Rescheduled
Golf Tournament ~ May 2026

Individual Fundraisers

TDS has provided you with "Individual Fundraisers" to help offset the costs of competition and or tuition. All funds raised at these events will be applied directly to your account. These are not mandatory. So far this season many families have taken advantage of MacMillan's, Terra Poinsettia's, and Fielding's Wine fundraising opportunities. If you have done any other fundraisers in the past that were successful that you would like TDS to investigate, please let us know!

Woodward Meats:

Here's your **custom fundraising link**, where all sales will be tracked toward your campaign:
<https://www.woodwardmeats.com/fundraisers/The-Dance-Shoppe-Ltd/>
Be sure to include this link in all your communications to ensure purchases count toward your fundraiser.

January: Woodward Meats
Orders Due: Jan 30th, 2026
Delivery: TBC

Ongoing... Flip Give- April 2026. makes fundraising easy!

You earn cash back on every purchase you make all year long! All you must do is shop anytime with the brands you already love, like Home Depot, Walmart, Sport Chek, Indigo, Old Navy, Apple, Esso, and Loblaws. No more going door-to-door selling chocolate bars - it's completely virtual and contactless.

Join our team now and you'll get a \$5 bonus the first time you shop: <https://shop.flipgive.com/onboarding/join?joincode=T97DLN> Or enter this code: T97DLN

TDS Competitive Code of Conduct – 2025/26 Dates

Saturday Jan 10th ~ DJ Dance Party~ Mandatory Group Fundraiser

The Dance Shoppe **CANCELLED**

Feb 7th & 8th Competitive Picture Day – Mandatory All Companies

The Dance Shoppe.

Feb 20th to 22nd ~ Bedazzled Dance Champions (Solos/Duets/Trios)

Richmond hill Theatre, Richmond hill Ontario

Feb 28th & March 1st ~ Competitive Rehearsal and Showcase – Mandatory All Companies

First Ontario Arts Centre, Milton Ontario

March 26th to 29th ~ Kick it Up - Mandatory All Companies

Marriot Niagara Falls – Niagara Falls, Ontario

April 9th to 12th ~ Empower Dance - Mandatory All Companies

Centennial Hall - London, Ontario

April 23rd to 26th ~ Inspire Dance - Mandatory All Companies

Hamilton Convention Centre - Hamilton Ontario

May 14th to 17th ~ Bedazzled Dance Champions - Mandatory All Companies

River Run Theater - Guelph Ontario

May 31st Mandatory Recreational & RAD Ballet Studio Picture Day

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June 12th to 14th ~ Mandatory Year End Recital- Mandatory -All Companies

First Ontario Arts Centre, Milton Ontario

Subject to Change!