



Important Dates – Gotta Dance Season 2025-2026

GDI Community Event	September 4 th
1 st Day of Classes	September 8 th
Argos Halftime Performance	September 13 th
Thanksgiving Weekend – Studio Closed	October 11 th - 13 th
Competitive 'Offers' Emailed to Parents	October 17 th
Bring-a-Friend Week (Rec & Technique classes only)	October 20 th - 25 th
Competitive 'Offers' Acceptances Due	October 24 th
Halloween – Studio Closed	October 31 st
Competitive 'Offers' Choreography Begins	November 7 th
Open House Week	December 8 th - 13 th
Winter Holidays – Studio Closed	December 21 st - January 4 th
Family Day – Studio Closed	February 16 th
Competitive Costume Pickup	February 18 th - 25 th
Competitive Dance Showcase	March 1 st
March Break – Studio Closed	March 15 th - 22 nd
SHINE Dance Competition – Niagara	March 26 th - March 29 th
Easter Weekend – Studio Closed	April 3 rd - 6 th
PURPOSE Dance Competition – Guelph	April 10 th - April 12 th
THE DANCE RAGE – North York	May 1 st - May 3 rd
STAR CATCHERS – North York	May 8 th - May 10 th
Victoria Day Weekend – Studio Closed	May 16 th - 18 th
Photo Day (Rec & Comp Classes)	May 23 rd
Recital In-Studio Rehearsals	June 1 st - 6 th
Last Day of Classes	June 6 th
Year End Recital	June 13 th
Competitive Team Auditions	June 27 th *subject to change
Competitive Intensive Week (PT & FT)	August 24 th - 28 th

COMPETITIVE DANCE TEAM 2025-2026

REMINDER – SOME IMPORTANT DATES for All Dancers

Sunday March 1ST – **Competitive Showcase** (approx. 12-7pm, schedule and location TBD)

COMPETITION DATES

DATE	COMPETITION	LOCATION
MARCH 26 - 29	SHINE DANCE COMPETITION	Central Niagara – Community Venue 680 York Rd, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0
APRIL 10 - 12	PURPOSE DANCE COMPETITION	Delta Guelph Hotel & Conference Centre 50 Stone Rd West, Guelph, ON N1G 0A9
MAY 1 - 3*	THE DANCE RAGE	Armenian Youth Centre 50 Hallcrown Pl, North York, ON M2J 1P6
MAY 8 - 10*	STARCATCHERS	Armenian Youth Centre 50 Hallcrown Pl, North York, ON M2J 1P6

**Mini Star Light Team and Jr Boys Hip Hop Team will only compete at these dates*

Gotta Dance is excited for this upcoming 2025-2026 season!

Should you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please contact us at:
admin@gottadance.ca

Gotta Dance Competitive Rules and Expectations

Competitive Program

Joining the Gotta Dance Competitive Program is a great opportunity for dancers to increase their dance knowledge and experience, build self-confidence, be part of a team, and create friendships and memories that will last a lifetime. We want our 2025-2026 season to be a positive experience for both our dancers and parents.

Dance Classes - Attendance

Competitive dancers are expected to make best efforts to attend all their technique and choreography classes throughout the season and are expected to arrive five minutes before class to ensure that they are ready at class time. If a student is absent, a phone call or email to notify the front desk is required. It is the students' responsibility to learn the missed choreography before their next choreographic session, so it does not become overwhelming for the student to catch up and it allows the instructor to move forward with the routine. Dancers are not to exceed 7 absences.

Open House

Parents and siblings are invited to come to watch their dancer(s) or gymnast(s) during regular class times (technique classes only). There is no limit to the number of guests.

Holidays

We have designed our dance schedule around the academic calendar, so families are able to plan vacation and holiday time, without having it conflict with dance. We kindly ask that you steer away from planning any vacations before or during the competitive season. When dancers miss class, the balance of the team is affected and this harms the quality of the dance. We strongly suggest planning vacations on scheduled holidays; two weeks at Christmas, one week at March Break. If you are planning a vacation at other times during the competitive season, we ask that you stay away from booking during the competition months.

Competition Dance Showcase

All competitive dancers will participate in the **mandatory** Competition Dance Showcase on **Sunday March 1st, 2026**. This gives our dancers an opportunity to perform in front of their peers and on stage before the competition season begins. At this time, parents will see what their children have been working so hard on over the past few months! This also gives our instructors/choreographers an opportunity to see their choreography, all costumes, hair and makeup on stage and determine if any adjustments need to be made before competing.

Competitions

The competition dates have already been selected and can be found in your Competitive folder on your calendar. Competitions always fall on weekends and can be anywhere from 2-4 days in length beginning on Thursdays and ending on Sundays. We do not receive scheduled performance times until 2-3 weeks before, which is why we ask families to refrain from making any plans until you know when your child will be competing. The performance schedules are created by each competition and are extremely inflexible when it comes to schedule changes. **Our GDI staff has no control over scheduled performance times.** Once we receive the schedule, it will be posted in the BAND App.

Recital 2026

Our year-end recital will take place at the Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan Theatre on York University campus on Saturday June 13th, 2026. There will be both a matinee and evening show.

Due to the high number of solos, we cannot guarantee all will perform in the year end recital; only our top soloist from each division as well as graduating dancers will be performing solos at our year end show. Friends and other family members are encouraged to come to the Competition Showcase on March 1st and/or the competitions to view the soloists.

Summer Intensives 2026

As part of the competitive team, you are required to attend the GDI Intensive week. There will also be All Styles Camps and Hip Hop Camps throughout the summer if you are unable to attend the Intensive week. Registration will begin as early as May! Dancers are also encouraged to keep training and learning by taking Drop-In Classes during the summer with GDI faculty and industry educators.

Parental Support

Our parents play an important role in helping our students reach their goals and achieving success. Your support is required in order to meet expectations and to create a positive and successful experience. Now that your child is part of the Gotta Dance competitive team, you are now a **“team parent”**. Working together with a positive attitude is the key to a memorable and fulfilling dance season.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions or offer any suggestions you may have throughout the season. We are looking forward to a great year!

Dress Code for Recreational & Competitive Classes

Ballet/Kinderdance

Attire: bodysuit (black); ballet tights (no holes) / fitted clothing

Shoes: ballet shoes / bare feet for Kinderdance

Hair: a neat bun using bun pins, hair nets (bangs off face)

Jazz/Contemporary/Lyrical

Attire: Girls - bodysuit (any colour); tights and/or dance shorts; Boys – shorts, t shirt

Shoes: foot paws, jazz shoes or bare feet

Hair: neatly pulled up, bangs off face

Tap

Attire: Girls - bodysuit (any colour); tights and/or dance shorts; Boys – shorts, t shirt

Shoes: Black Tap shoes

Hair: neatly pulled up, bangs off face

Hip Hop/Breakdance

Attire: loose fitting track pants or track shorts; t-shirt, tank top or bodysuit

Shoes: clean indoor running shoes

Hair: pulled up, bangs off face

Acro/Kinder/Gymnastics

Attire: bodysuit (any colour); dance shorts , fitted clothing

Hair: neatly pulled up, bangs off face