



2024-2025
INFORMATION

WHO WE ARE

UNITE. GROOVE. KONNECT

OUR MISSION

UGK is a competitive youth hip hop and street-style crew at Balance Dance Studios! Directed by Haley Sikes, UGK trains dancers to be entertaining performers, while growing teamwork skills. The team performs at various events, competitions, and dance conventions across Texas, and holds many prestigious titles. For dancers ages 6-18, UGK focuses on building the youth community in Austin, and exposing more kids to hip hop and street culture.



OPPORTUNITIES

Training from Local, National,
and International Choreographers
Competitive Growth
Local Performances
Convention and Industry Training
Team Bonding Experiences
& More!





MEET THE DIRECTORS

DIRECTOR HALEY SIKES

Haley Sikes is a dancer, performer, choreographer, and teacher, based out of the Austin area. She started dancing at the age of three, training in many different styles, with a focus on hip hop. Haley has been directing UGK for the past five years, and has grown a community of talented hip hop dancers at Balance. Haley grows as a teacher by pushing her students to be the best people they can be. She has a fresh approach that sparks creativity among young artists.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ALEXIS O'LEARY

Alexis is a dancer and performer from the Midwest. She began her dance career at the age of 7 as a backup dancer, traveling across the United States to perform until she was 15. She has had the opportunity to train in many different styles, participating in several theatre productions, commercials, and competitions. Alexis looks forward to contributing to the Texas dance community by offering her knowledge and experience to encourage young artists to be creative and confident.



LIL' GROOVES AGES 6-8 AUDITION INFORMATION

MAY 31 | \$25 AUDITION FEE

Lil' GROOVES AGES 6-8 | MAY 31 | 11:00am-12:00pm

After having pre-registered, dancers should plan to arrive at the studio, no less than 15 minutes before their audition time, to check in, complete any remaining paperwork (an application should be fully completed ahead of time – please fill out thoughtfully so we can get to know your dancer), and to warm up. Dancers should wear their best hip hop attire to auditions.

Light makeup and hair accessories are acceptable. Dancers will learn a short combo, and will be asked to freestyle, as part of their audition.

Lil' GROOVES do not need to attend Emerge Audition Intensive

11:00am – Check in/warm up

11:15-12:00pm – Learn combo and dance in groups

12:10pm – Parent Pick-up



EMERGE

AUDITION INTENSIVE

MAY 28-30 | DANCERS AGE 9-18



This intensive's purpose is for our dancers to grow their artistry and emerge as the best dancer and human they can be. Emerge is a 2 track intensive, all styles and hip hop, with combined classes in each room for all tracks. Balance Dance Company Directors will be attending the intensive to observe dancers in preparation for their auditions/casting. Dancers will also learn a short combination at the intensive that they will perform at their audition on 5/31.

Dancers only auditioning for UGK must attend the Hip Hop track.

For UGK/Ignite crossover dancers who have been accepted on the Ignite Pre-Pro company must attend the all styles track.

Dancers ages 9+ auditioning for UGK are required to attend the Emerge Intensive as well as their audition time on 5/31.



AUDITION DAY

MAY 31

After having pre-registered, dancers should plan to arrive at the studio, no less than 15 minutes before their audition time, to check in, complete any remaining paperwork (an application should be fully completed ahead of time, along with headshot - please fill out thoughtfully so we can get to know your dancer), and to warm up. Dancers should wear their best hip hop attire to auditions.

Light makeup and hair accessories are acceptable. Dancers will learn a short combo, and will be asked to freestyle, as part of their audition. Dancers ages 9+ will perform the audition combo learned at the Emerge intensive.

LIL' GROOVES Ages 6-8 | MAY 31 | 11:00am-12:00pm

UNITE Ages 9-11 | MAY 31 | 12:30-2:00pm

UNITEpro Elite Dancers Ages 9-11 | MAY 31 | 2:00-3:00pm

KONNECT AGES 12-18 | MAY 31 | 3:30-5:00pm

KONNECTpro Elite Dancers Ages 12-14 | MAY 31 | 3:30-5:00pm

VELOCITYpro Elite Dancers Ages 14+ | MAY 31 | 5:00-6:00pm

During the Emerge Intensive, dancers may be asked to audition for a team that is outside of their age grouping. Please contact Haley if you have any questions or concerns regarding the team of your dancer prior to auditions.

Evaluation:

Evaluation:

Results:

Results:

Results:

Meeting and Photoshoot times are as follows:

JUNE 1ST!

4:00pm: UGK Team Meeting
(Lil' Grooves, UNITE, KONNECT)

5:00pm: ALL UGK + FUSE Crew Photoshoot

7:30pm UGKpro Team Meeting
(UNITEpro, KONNECTpro, VELOCITYpro)

Meetings will be held close to photoshoot location. This will be communicated in your acceptance email.

Email UGK@balanceddancestudios.com with any questions.



IMPORTANT DATES

SUMMER 2024-SPRING 2025

5.28-30 AUDITION INTENSIVE

5.31 AUDITIONS

6.1 MANDATORY CREW MEETINGS

6.1 PHOTOSHOOT

7.29-8.2 AXIS INTENSIVE HIP HOP TRACK

7.26-28 + 8.1-8.4 CHOREOGRAPHY WEEK

8.9 RETREAT (*Please keep the whole day available as time is TBD*)

OCTOBER WORLD OF DANCE HOUSTON (Mandatory for Pro)

NOVEMBER MONSTERS HOUSTON CONVENTION (Mandatory for Pro)

WINTER TBD COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE

JANUARY MONSTERS AUSTIN CONVENTION AND COMPETITION

FEBRUARY 8 NATIONAL DANCE COMPETITION

MARCH SHOWMAKERS DANCE COMPETITION

TBD 1-2 LOCAL COMPETITIONS OR ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

APRIL KAOS DALLAS CONVENTION AND COMPETITION
(optional event)

APRIL "MURGE" COMPANY SHOW

MAY SPRING RECITAL

TIME COMMITMENTS

SUMMER AND FALL EXPECTATIONS

SUMMER COMMITMENTS

Lil' GROOVES, UNITE, KONNECT.

8 hours of hip hop during the 8-week session (1 class/week)

UNITEpro, KONNECTpro, VELOCITYpro.

16 hours of hip hop during the 8-week session (2 classes/week)
PLUS one weekly rehearsal for PROline routine

Summer choreography weekend (7.26-28, 8.1-4), team retreat
(8.9 6-8pm), Axis Hip Hop Intensive (7.29-8.2)

FALL COMMITMENTS

Schedule *subject to change*

Lil' GROOVES - Thursdays, Rehearsals 4-5pm

UNITE - Thursdays, Rehearsals 5-6pm

KONNECT - Thursdays, Rehearsals 8-9pm

UNITEpro - Thursdays, Rehearsals 6-8:30pm

KONNECTpro - Tuesdays, Rehearsals 5-6:30pm

Thursdays, Rehearsals 6-8pm

VELOCITYpro - Tuesdays, Rehearsals 6:30-8pm

Thursdays, Rehearsals 6-8pm

**All dancers are required to take one additional Hip Hop
class each week.**

Attendance Policy: Students are not allowed to have more than 3 absences per class per semester. All absences must be approved by the director prior to classes missed. All conventions and competitions are mandatory. No exceptions. Reblocking fees of \$150/piece will apply.