

## Young Dancer Program **Equity & Accessibility Statement**

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**Commitment to non-discrimination and accountability:** eXit SPACE does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, background, sexual orientation, or gender identity in administrative or education policies, admissions/auditions, scholarship programs, classroom teaching, or any other programs/activities. We also acknowledge that racism, systemic prejudice, and discrimination are wielded against marginalized people in a deeply systemic way, and that we are not immune from making missteps. eXit SPACE is committed to taking responsibility, engaging in ongoing anti-racism work, and deconstructing from the racism, fatphobia, and ableism that have always had and continue to have particularly insidious impacts on the field of concert dance.

**Supporting LGBTQ+ students:** eXit SPACE welcomes dancers of all gender identities and sexual orientations and will always support and protect trans and non-binary community members. Our teachers and staff are committed to respecting dancer pronouns, names, and dress code choices without question, and to holding other community members to the same expectations of respect. Please update your dancer's pronouns in Dance Studio Pro so that all of our faculty and staff know how to address and refer to them.

**Accessible instruction and facilities:** We work with dancers as individuals, embracing their uniqueness, creativity, and learning style with the understanding that every dancer is different in their needs, interests, and capabilities. No dancer is the same, and we are committed to challenging and uplifting each dancer in ways that best support their personal growth. With that in mind, we encourage dancers of all levels, abilities, neurotypes, and physical modalities to give our classes a try, with the caveat that we do not currently have an offering for high-support needs students. We do our best to accommodate each dancer's unique needs within the limits of our resources, facilities, staff expertise, student/teacher ratio, and other factors. If you or your child has specific learning or accessibility needs, please talk with the Young Dancer Program Director before registering to determine whether our program is a good fit, address which class(es) would be most appropriate, and negotiate specific supports we can help put in place. Please note that all studios aside from theNEST are ADA accessible, and we maintain a scent-free environment.

**Financial support:** We are strongly committed to making dance opportunities accessible to as many students as possible, regardless of their socio-economic circumstances. Need-based and merit-based scholarships, work-study options, and used dance shoes are available to dancers each season, and eXit SPACE is committed to generous support of students, prioritizing families of color.

**All questions or concerns regarding equity and accessibility at eXit SPACE should be directed to:**

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