



Hyde Park School of Dance  
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## **TYEGO NEXT GENERATION TRAINEE Company Member Contract 2010 - 2011**

**Tyego Next Generation (TNG)** is the youth company and trainee program for Tyego Dance Project, the professional company in residence at the Hyde Park School of Dance. TNG Company Members rehearse repertoire, perform, and have new works created on them by the artistic team of Tyego Dance Project. Occasionally these young dancers perform side by side with the professional company.

Dancers in Ballet V and up (age 14-18), from any dance school, may audition to train with TNG. Members of TNG have weekly Company classes and rehearsals 32-36 weeks a year. Several times a year, they have master classes with dancers and former dancers from major dance companies such as the Joffrey Ballet, Hubbard Street and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Biannually TNG Company Members have the opportunity to have their own choreography adjudicated, help produce the Student Choreography Showcase, and participate as dancers and, if selected, as choreographers.

**TNG Trainee (TNGT)** Younger and/or less experienced dancers begin in the TNG Trainee program, which meets less frequently than TNG and has separate classes and rehearsals. This program prepares younger students for TNG and gives them additional performance opportunities.

We recommend that a dancer who joins the TNG Trainee program have at least one year of Ballet IV before auditioning. This program is also a good alternative for dancers who cannot commit to the full schedule of TNG but enjoy extra performance opportunities and dancing side by side with other serious dance students. TNGT members have weekly classes, rehearsals 32-36 weeks a year, and share the same Goals and Expectations as TNG.

**Tyego Dance Project (TDP)** is the Professional Company in residence at HPSD. Founded by August and Aimee Tye in 1997, TDP has received praise from critics for its inventive choreography and stunning dancing. TDP's repertoire incorporates ballet, modern, jazz and performance art. During its first year of existence, TDP was commissioned to create works locally for *Duets for My Valentine*, and nationally for conferences such as the Multi-Racial Identities Conference and the National Leadership Development Discussion, a Kellogg Foundation sponsored event. TDP has also collaborated with Grammy Award jazz singer, Kurt Elling, at the famous Steppenwolf Theatre.

**TNG and TNG Trainee Faculty** The TDP and TNG Artistic Team include Founding Director, August Tye, and Associate Directors, Sarah Ford Thompson, Aimee Tye and Allyson Ratliff.



*The Hyde Park School of Dance is the official school of the TNG Company and TNG Trainee program. Dancers accepted into the program are required to take a minimum number of classes at the Hyde Park School of Dance and attend weekly rehearsals for TNG or TNGT.*



## Tyego Next Generation Trainee Goals and Expectations

The goal of the youth company program is to give serious dance students a professional dance experience at a young age so that they are educated and prepared should they decide to continue with dance as a profession. We do not expect all dancers who enter the program to graduate into professional dancers. Many of the students will enjoy the program through high school and go on to other interests in college.

Our goal is that all of our dancers gain a sense of strong self-esteem, self-discipline, and an appreciation for the arts that stays with them throughout their lives in whatever profession they choose. If a dancer decides that a career in dance is what they desire we are confident that our program will prepare them for this challenging career. Our program is strongly ballet-based in technique, and well rounded by modern dance, jazz, and opportunities for students to produce their own choreography.

Students are highly encouraged to join our Teacher Trainee Program which allows them to learn the HPSSD syllabus and gain experience in teaching young children. Alumni of TNG have gone on to train at the Alvin Ailey School, Dance Theater of Harlem, the Joffrey Ballet School and Trainee Program and many college dance programs.

**HPSSD Special Programs** The TNG, TNGT, Teacher Trainee Program and Scholarship Program comprise the HPSSD Special Programs. Through their decision to participate in these programs, students have demonstrated their commitment to dance. The HPSSD faculty devote a great deal of time and attention to the implementation and success of these programs, and to helping each dancer reach their personal goals. As a non-profit organization, the School is dependent on volunteer efforts to supplement the hard work of the faculty and staff. Volunteers create handmade costumes for the dancers, maintain the studios, assist with productions, and help with many other aspects of our organization. As members of HPSSD Special Programs, all youth company members and /or their families are required to volunteer 16 hours per semester.

**Special Programs Folders** All TNG Company members are required to keep an up-to-date Special Programs Folder, to be signed by the instructor at each class and/or rehearsal session. There is also space provided for instructors to make comments on a student's progress and for students to take notes on what they should work on.

Students record volunteer hours in their Special Programs Folder. All TNG Company members are expected to help with load-in and strike duties for performances. These hours will count towards the 16 hours of required volunteer time and must be approved with a signature by an HPSSD faculty member. Parents/Guardians are expected to sign the Special Programs Folder once a month.

The Special Programs Folder also serves as a way for faculty, students and parents to keep track of attendance. Faculty take note of whether an absence is excused, if a student observed class due to injury or illness, and if the class was a "make up" class. Missed classes, whether excused or not, are expected to be made up during the 16-week semester. If a student has more than three absences that are not made up one week before a performance they will be taken out of the performance. Absences made the week of a performance may also result in casting changes.

*Failure to bring folders to class will be taken seriously. More than two instances in a 16-week period will result in a dancer being required to watch class or rehearsal rather than participate.*

Since the introduction of the Special Programs folders two years ago the faculty and students have found them to be a valuable tool in assessing student commitment to the youth company and fostering informed discussion during Parent/Student/Faculty conferences.



## **Tyego Next Generation Trainee**

### **Goals and Expectations, cont'd**

**Conduct** As members of the youth company, dancers are expected to treat the HPSD Artistic Director, Associate Artistic Directors, Faculty, Staff, Volunteers, and their fellow dancers with respect. That respect is demonstrated in part by attending all scheduled classes, rehearsals, costume fittings and events on time. Short notice and unannounced absences are very disruptive to the rehearsal process and may lead to dismissal from the youth company.

We expect all dancers to come in to the studio with a positive attitude towards their work and a supportive attitude towards each other. "If you don't have something nice to say, don't say it at all." Foul and explicit language is forbidden in the studios and spaces we occupy.

All absences must be formally approved with an excused absence form. If a dancer is injured s/he must watch rehearsal. A written Injury Report will be issued to the dancer by a faculty member and must be signed by a parent.

Dancers must wear the proper uniform to class, including the appropriate colored leotard, tights, and shoes, and proper ballet buns for female students. If a dancer is not wearing the proper uniform, they will be required to watch class or rehearsal rather than participate.

We require all dancers and parents involved in the program to meet with one of the artistic directors once a season to discuss progress and goals. This can be scheduled via email.

*We strongly encourage students and families to review the Goals and Expectations and Season Schedule carefully before making a commitment to either TNG or TNGT. Both programs require dedication and a large time commitment and may not be for everyone. HPSD is committed to giving students other performance opportunities such as The Nutcracker and annual Spring Concert which do not require the complete dedication that it takes to participate in our youth company.*



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## **TYEGO NEXT GENERATION TRAINEE**

### **Member Contract 2010 - 2011**

**I have read and understand the Goals and Expectations of being a TNG Trainee member. As a member, I will abide by these requirements.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**As a parent or guardian of the above TNG Trainee member, I understand the Goals and Expectations and will support my child's decision to abide by these requirements.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent or Guardian Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**SIGNED CONTRACTS ARE DUE IN THE HPSD OFFICE  
NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 2010**



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**TYEGO NEXT GENERATION TRAINEE**

**Required TNG Trainee Classes and Rehearsals  
 2010 - 2011**

**STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

***Student and Parent must both initial the dates below.  
 Please check the conflict line if you know you have a conflict.***

	Student/ Parent	Conflict
Wednesday Company Class and Rehearsal	_____	_____
Saturday Company Class and Rehearsal	_____	_____
A third HPSD Ballet Technique Class scheduled at the student's convenience	_____	_____
Modern Dance Class once a week at the appropriate level	_____	_____
During the <i>Nutcracker</i> rehearsal period, rehearsal times will vary depending on casting.	_____	_____
Occasional Friday rehearsals may be required.	_____	_____

Please list all schedule conflicts you know of for the 2010-2011 season, including but not limited to: religious services, school outings, family vacations and college visits.

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**Required Attendance Dates for TNG Trainee 2010/2011**  
***Subject to change***

**STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student and Parent must both initial the dates below.**  
**Please check the conflict line if you know you have a conflict.**

		<b>Student/ Parent</b>		<b>Conflict</b>
		_____	_____	_____
<b>August 27 and 28</b>	57 <sup>th</sup> Street Children's Book Fair Workshop <i>*Because this workshop is scheduled outside of the regular season it is not required.</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>September 11</b>	Classes and Rehearsals Begin	_____	_____	_____
<b>September 19</b>	57 <sup>th</sup> Street Children's Book Fair <i>*Rehearsals will be held August 28 and 29. You must attend rehearsals to participate. This performance will not be required for all members of TNG or TNGT.</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>September 25</b>	Hyde Park Jazz Festival - Social Dance performances	_____	_____	_____
<b>October 1+2</b>	<i>The Nutcracker</i> Auditions	_____	_____	_____
<b>October 5</b>	<i>The Nutcracker</i> rehearsals begin	_____	_____	_____
<b>October 30</b>	University of Chicago Symphony Orchestra – Halloween Show	_____	_____	_____
<b>November TBD</b>	Dance Chicago	_____	_____	_____
<b>December TBA</b>	Outreach Show BBF <i>Nutcracker Excerpts</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>December 8</b>	Blackstone Library <i>Nutcracker Excerpts</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>December 9</b>	<i>The Nutcracker</i> Dress Rehearsal at Mandel Hall	_____	_____	_____
<b>December 10</b>	<u><i>The Nutcracker School Outreach Show Daytime</i></u>	_____	_____	_____
<b>December 11</b>	<i>The Nutcracker (matinee and evening)</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>December 12</b>	<i>The Nutcracker and Sugar Plum Tea Party</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>January 8</b>	<i>The Nightingale</i> Auditions	_____	_____	_____
<b>March 12+13</b>	<i>The Nightingale</i> Performances	_____	_____	_____
<b>March 19</b>	Student Choreography Adjudication	_____	_____	_____
<b>March TBA</b>	Outreach Performance <i>Nightingale Excerpts</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>April 15 +16</b>	<i>Student Choreography Showcase</i>	_____	_____	_____
<b>May TBA</b>	Outreach Performance	_____	_____	_____
<b>May 21</b>	Spring Concert	_____	_____	_____
<b>May 24 - 26</b>	Level Evaluation Classes	_____	_____	_____

I agree to attend all rehearsals and events pertaining to the TNG Program listed in this contract unless marked otherwise.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to my child's participation in all rehearsals and events listed in this contract unless marked otherwise.

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_