

Dance Instructor & Community Leader

Full-Time Apprenticeship Opportunity

Our Team

Over the Top Academy of Dance (OTT) is dedicated to the art and beauty of dance for dancers of all ages. We have served Grand Rapids with quality dance instruction since 1977. We focus on enriching all students with the love of movement, musical theatre and dance. From the beginning recreational dancer to the committed competitive student, all of our students are part of our family.

OTT provides inclusive, culturally grounded, and high-quality movement programming—led by diverse, professional role models in a community-centered space. Our focus is to build a team able to teach people of all ages how to build movement skills, confidence, discipline, cultural awareness, and personal leadership.

Our desire is to host a team of professionals committed to their objectives, who also embody the principles and core values they wish to bring out of their students.

About the Role:

OTT is seeking a dynamic, passionate, and community-minded Dance Instructor to join our teaching team. We're looking for an instructor who can inspire students, build confidence through movement, and contribute to our mission of growing Arts and Wellness in the community.

The OTT Dance Instructor will:

- Teach engaging classes across multiple styles
- Develop curriculum and choreograph recital and competition dances
- Build strong relationships with students and families
- Collaborate with our team to promote programs and community events
- Embrace and model our teaching philosophy: *"It's so much more than dance."*
- Embody our working philosophy *"It's a lifestyle, not a Job"*

Preferred Experience

- Experience teaching children and youth
- Early childhood education/development knowledge
- Proven ability to choreograph recital and competition routines
- Willingness to shadow current instructors to learn our culture and teaching style

Proficiency in these Dance Styles

- Ballet
- Contemporary
- Jazz
- Competition Dance Choreography

Essential Responsibilities

- Embody OTT core values and principles
- Teach and prepare classes following our curriculum
- Modifying curriculum skill to be appropriate for our students
- Create and submit lesson plans
- Prepare the and mentor students for performances and competitions
- Participate in team meetings, outreach, and promotional events
- Willing to substitute or lead workshops as needed
- Desire to lead competition dance students
- Up to 30 hours per week

Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree (or professional experience equivalency)
- 3+ years teaching experience (5 years preferred)
- Google workspace or equivalent experience
- Demonstrated performance and choreography background
- Strong leadership, communication, and classroom-management skills
- Passion for mentoring students and promoting arts-based wellness

Certifications

- CPR/AED/First Aid (or willing to obtain within 45 days)

About Us

OTT is a thriving, equitable community where people of all backgrounds develop a lifelong engagement in the arts and experience the benefits of performing arts through transformative programming that fosters creativity, wellness, leadership, and belonging.

OTT Core Values

- Self Expression and Confidence
- Leadership and Accountability
- Respect the Dance
- Inclusion: Building a Family

- Disney Communication: It's a Small World

Next Steps

If you are ready to make an impact through dance education, wellness, and community engagement, we'd love to meet you.

Your next steps are to fill out an application on our website and consider visiting our studio to get the vibe of the culture.

Click here to link to our online application <https://www.overtopdance.com/contact>