

FYDC MISSIONS HANDBOOK



“Not to us, Lord, not to us, but to your name be the glory,
because of your love and faithfulness.”

Psalm 115:1

www.FideleYouthDanceCompany.com/Missions

TABLE OF CONTENTS

-  1 Welcome
-  2 Statement of Purpose
-  3 Time Commitment
-  4 Financial Commitment
-  5 Fundraising
-  7 Expectations & Procedures
-  8 Dress Code/Luggage Requirements
-  9 Packing Information

WELCOME TO FYDC MISSIONS



Launched in 2023 with the company's 10th season, FYDC Missions strives to make a global impact for Christ, using the arts as a demonstration of His Kingdom through local, state-wide and global missions every other year.

FYDC Missions encourages its members to live with the conscious intention of using their God-given gifts in the arts as a means of ministry. Team members work as the Lord's hands and feet in their communities and beyond, building authentic relationships with the people they serve and the teammates they serve alongside.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE



“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.” — Mark 16:15

FYDC Missions will raise a generation of dancers to lead both their culture and the cultures of the world into the life of the cross through training and transforming lives. Our purpose is to demonstrate how the gospel and the arts so beautifully intertwine, and allow others to encounter God through dance. Each leader and team member is charged with shining the love, life, and story of Christ to everyone they come in contact with through acts of service, prayer, signs/wonders, and unconditional love. All this for the ultimate goal of bringing each heart to the incomparable life of the cross through faith in Jesus.

God has placed a mandate on this generation to rise up and to engage this world with His authority, love, and the power of His story. Through FYDC Missions, students have an opportunity to not only engage in a culture unlike their own, but to escort the most powerful culture-changing agent ever known to mankind: The full story of our incredible God and King, the gospel in all its fullness.



TIME COMMITMENT

Joining the FYDC Missions Team is not a commitment made for Spring Break, but a commitment for the entirety of the applicable season. Many aspects of team building and preparation happen long before setting foot in another church, studio or country, and regular monthly attendance ensures that the mission team is prepared for the ministry ahead.

2025-26 Meetings/Rehearsals:

- Saturday, October 25, from 2-3:30 p.m.
- Sunday, January 25, from 2-5 p.m.
- Sunday, February 15, from 2-5 p.m.
- Sunday, March 15, from 2-5 p.m.
Send-off dinner from 5-6:30 p.m.

Each scheduled meeting/rehearsal will be devoted to learning exercises and choreography that will be demonstrated/taught at each mission, leadership training, and team building. All absences must be communicated in advance and approved by the Director, FYDC. If a team member has missed more than two meetings, their placement on the team will be evaluated, as we strive to maintain the standard of excellence set over many years by FYDC and Turning Pointe Dance.

2026 Missions:

- Colorado Springs, Colorado: TBA February 2026
- San Salvador, El Salvador: March 22-28, 2026
- Vail, Colorado: April 18, 2026

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Students selected to the FYDC Missions Team will pay an additional \$200 in tuition. This one-time fee will cover the overhead costs of meetings and rehearsals, apparel, and local, in-state missions. Students will be responsible for any personal expenses incurred on local and in-state missions such as gas and snacks. Missions tuition will be added to each team member's DanceWorks account following the regular FYDC production season.

Students traveling to El Salvador are charged with raising an additional \$2,150, which covers room and board, three meals per day, airfare/transportation, and visas. Students are individually responsible for the cost of their passports, dance clothes, dance shoes, souvenirs and food during airport stops. **Please note the currency in El Salvador is the U.S. Dollar.**

El Salvador Payment Deadlines:

- November 15: \$430 deposit (non-refundable)
- December 15: \$430
- January 15: \$430
- February 15: \$430
- March 15: Remaining balance





FUNDRAISING

When done intentionally, fundraising for a mission trip puts together a team of support for our ministry. By enlisting the support of others, students are asking people to put their prayers and finances toward the efforts of FYDC Missions, extending the reach and the impact in His name.

Here are a few ideas to get started:

- 1 Write support letters (examples available upon request)
- 2 Crowdfunding/Social media appeals
- 3 Jobs/Chores (shoveling snow, walking dogs, babysitting, etc.)
- 4 Make/sell goods (Etsy, bake sales, farmers markets, etc.)

All those who pray, encourage, give, help, or take part in any other support toward God's mission for people will also share in the reward in those that are brought into salvation.

TIPS FOR SUPPORT LETTERS

- 1. Keep it short.** One page is plenty. Two pages should be your maximum. Quality beats quantity.
- 2. Make it look good.** First impressions matter. If designing documents isn't your cup of tea, find a friend who can help. Including a picture of you or your team is an easy win.
- 3. Proofread it.** Errors are fairly noticeable... and often avoidable. Have someone help you by reading your letter for any errors before you hit PRINT.
- 4. Be interesting.** Share about what you are doing, the place you are going and the people you will be with on your mission trip. Don't drag out your mission trip support letter with tons of minute details.
- 5. Make it personal.** People want to support you! Don't send a generic support letter from the team when you can send a personal letter from you. While you might share some details about your team, also include what your hopes, fears and needs are.
- 6. Don't forget the details.** Where is the mission trip? What are the dates? What will you be doing on your mission trip? How much money are you trying to raise? If they want to donate money, where do they send it and who are checks made out to? A great way to ask for money is to suggest a couple options for dollar amounts (e.g. "I recommend a gift of \$50, \$100 or \$150, but of course, any amount is more than welcome.")
- 7. Don't just write a "fundraising letter."** Support is so much more than people's money. At the same time, there is nothing to be ashamed about when offering people the opportunity to be generous in supporting your mission trip. If asking for money is part of the support you need, make it secondary to asking for prayer. Even if people can't contribute financially, they can certainly still support you.
- 8. Ask for prayer.** And be specific when you do. Give them four or five things they can pray for, for example: the community and ministries you are visiting, your team, your travels, etc.
- 9. Be humble and respectful.** Don't make the place you're headed seem destitute in an effort to make your mission trip sound more significant. Remember that Jesus is the hero, not your team. Use language that honors what God is already up to in the place you are headed. Use phrases like, "serve alongside," "partner with" and "learn from."
- 10. Say thank you.** A great way to end your mission trip support letter is with gratefulness for the people you are asking to partner with you in this mission trip. Thank them in advance for whatever way they choose to support you.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

● **FYDC Standard of Behavior**

In addition to adhering to the FYDC values and codes of conduct set forth in the regular season handbook, members of FYDC Missions must conduct themselves in a way that supports the company's mission to provide a healthy and Christ-centered environment. Behavior that is detrimental to each mission, including but not limited to gossiping, bullying, purposeful exclusion of company members, hateful speech/inappropriate language, or any other devices of strife will not be tolerated.

● **Appropriate Actions**

Relationships between students, leaders, natives, hosts and translators are to remain as friendships in the interest of maintaining an appropriate environment for all ages, and a focused and inclusive experience for each heart we encounter. Flirtatious behaviour or any actions that contribute to interactions beyond appropriate friendships will not be tolerated.

● **Courtesy & Respect**

Members of the FYDC Missions Team are expected to demonstrate the love of God in all things, from their personal choices to the way they approach others in each unique situation. Cultures will be respected, stories will be heard without judgement, and cameras and social media will only be used at team-only meals and activities.

DRESS CODE/ LUGGAGE REQUIREMENTS



Dress Code (Strictly enforced, all missions)

All shirts must be long enough that the stomach will not be exposed when hands are lifted above the head. Low-cut necklines or overly fitted shirts are not acceptable. Shorts must be mid-thigh or longer and may only be worn at the hotel while in El Salvador. Undergarments may never be visible.



Luggage Requirements (El Salvador)

Students traveling to El Salvador may check one bag without cost and have one carry-on per person. Each student will be responsible for carrying his/her own luggage. As such, luggage that cannot be carried on your back must have wheels. FAA regulations state that carry-on bags must be 9x14x22 (small enough to fit in an overhead bin or under the seat in front of you), and all checked baggage must weigh less than 50 lbs. Carry-on items bigger than the allowed size will be gate-checked, and students with overweight luggage will be responsible for paying their own baggage fees.



Travel Tips (El Salvador)

Be organized. Know your flight times and leadership contacts. Don't overpack—leave room to bring things back. Be flexible and attentive, punctual and prepared. Be kind and culturally sensitive. Speak up and serve others. Pray daily. Take personal responsibility. Be unoffendable, teachable, and willing to try new things (and foods).

PACKING INFORMATION

Packing Requirements

Bible, journal/notebook, pen/pencil, ballet and jazz shoes, black capri leggings, black leotard(s) or solid black t-shirts, FYDC Missions t-shirt, any FYDC or Turning Pointe logowear, clothing (pants, modest shorts, t-shirts/tops, undergarments, light jacket/sweater, modest sleepwear, socks), athletic shoes, sandals, sunscreen, bug spray, water bottle, personal toiletries (soap, hair supplies, glasses/contacts, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste), towel, hand sanitizer or baby wipes, passport and money holder, familiar snacks, device chargers.

Packing Suggestions

Modest swimwear, aloe/lotion, language dictionary, hats, appropriate books, sunglasses, travel games, headphones, personal hygiene items such as makeup or hair products.

Do NOT bring: Expensive items, fine jewelry, questionable music, questionable clothing, questionable reading material, anything that will distract you from your purpose.

The average temperature in San Salvador at the end of March is 77°/108° (Low/High).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIVING HANDBOOK

By signing below, I acknowledge the following:

- **I understand that this Handbook does not replace my previously-signed agreement to abide by the rules set forth in the FYDC 2025 Production Handbook, but rather adds additional charges to my commitment that are specifically applicable to members of the FYDC Missions Team. In addition to these charges, I am still expected to uphold my commitment to the student expectations communicated during the regular FYDC season, including absence communication, tuition payments, behavior/codes of conduct, etc.**
- **I understand that the Events Release, Waiver and Indemnity Agreement, as well as the Photo & Publicity Consent Form previously signed for the FYDC production season remain in effect through the duration of my time on the applicable season's Missions Team.**
- I have received a copy of the 2026 FYDC Missions Handbook.
- I am familiar with its contents and will abide by the rules set forth therein.
- The Handbook is not all-inclusive, but is intended to provide a summary of FYDC's guidelines and expectations. This edition replaces all previously issued Handbooks and communication. The need may arise to change the guidelines described in the Handbook. FYDC therefore reserves the right to interpret them or to change them without prior notice.
- I acknowledge and understand that it is my responsibility to read all contents and abide by such handbook guidelines and that I will act in accordance with these guidelines as a condition of my being part of FYDC Missions.
- I understand that if I have any questions or concerns at any time about the Handbook, I will consult the Director, FYDC for clarification.

Signed

Date

FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

- I understand all money raised by myself for a position on this team is to solely go to the non-profit organization of Amazing Love Missions.
- I understand that all checks must be made out to Turning Pointe Outreach and Missions. Note that your donors will not receive a tax deductible receipt as there are goods and services being exchanged for their donation (airline ticket, food, transportation, etc)...this is not the same as a donation directly to a ministry. Please have your sponsors mail their checks directly to you so you can keep a list and send thank you notes and an update once you are home. Then you can turn them into the tuition box and we will be keeping a spreadsheet for each team member for your fundraising totals.
- I understand that all money received by Turning Pointe Outreach and Missions will go toward the set expenses of the trip that have been included in the advertised cost. None of the funds will be used by me personally. I will clearly communicate this to all my potential sponsors.
- I understand that any funds that I raise over the amount that I personally need will be used to help fellow team members reach their financial goals.
- I understand that if for any reason at all, I decide not to go on or am released from my designated missions outreach; all funds raised on my behalf will go toward the team as a whole or can be set aside for me for a future trip for 1 year. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis. These funds cannot be refunded to the sponsor or me.
- I understand there are financial deadlines, and I agree to be responsible for overseeing my fundraising and my account to make sure that those deadlines are met. I understand that failure to meet these deadlines will place me in jeopardy of being dropped from the missions program.
- I understand that I am required to provide my own spending money, passport, and immunizations (if required). I am also expected to provide my own supplies to send out support letters including: sending envelopes, return envelopes, paper/copies, and postage.

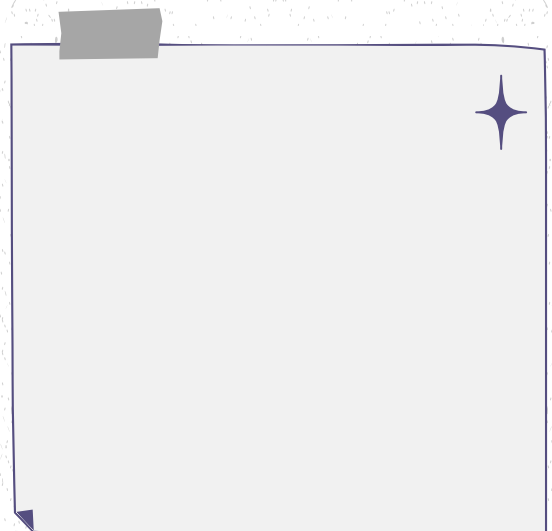
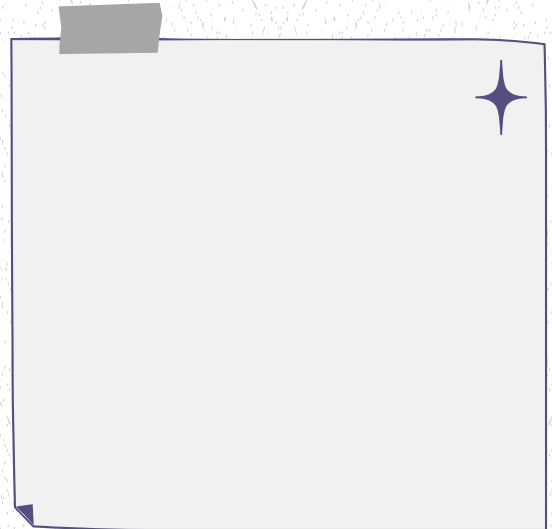
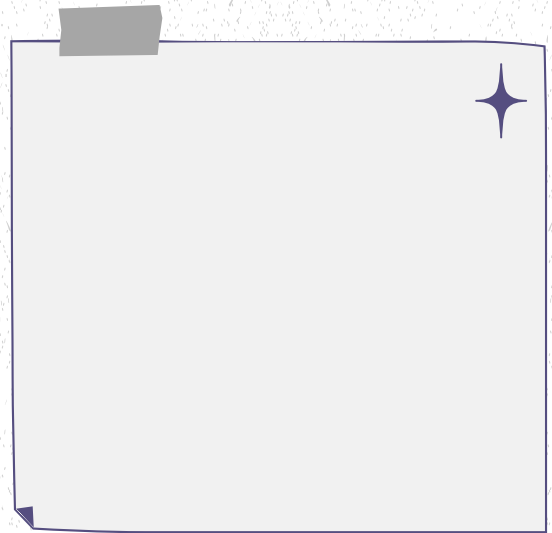
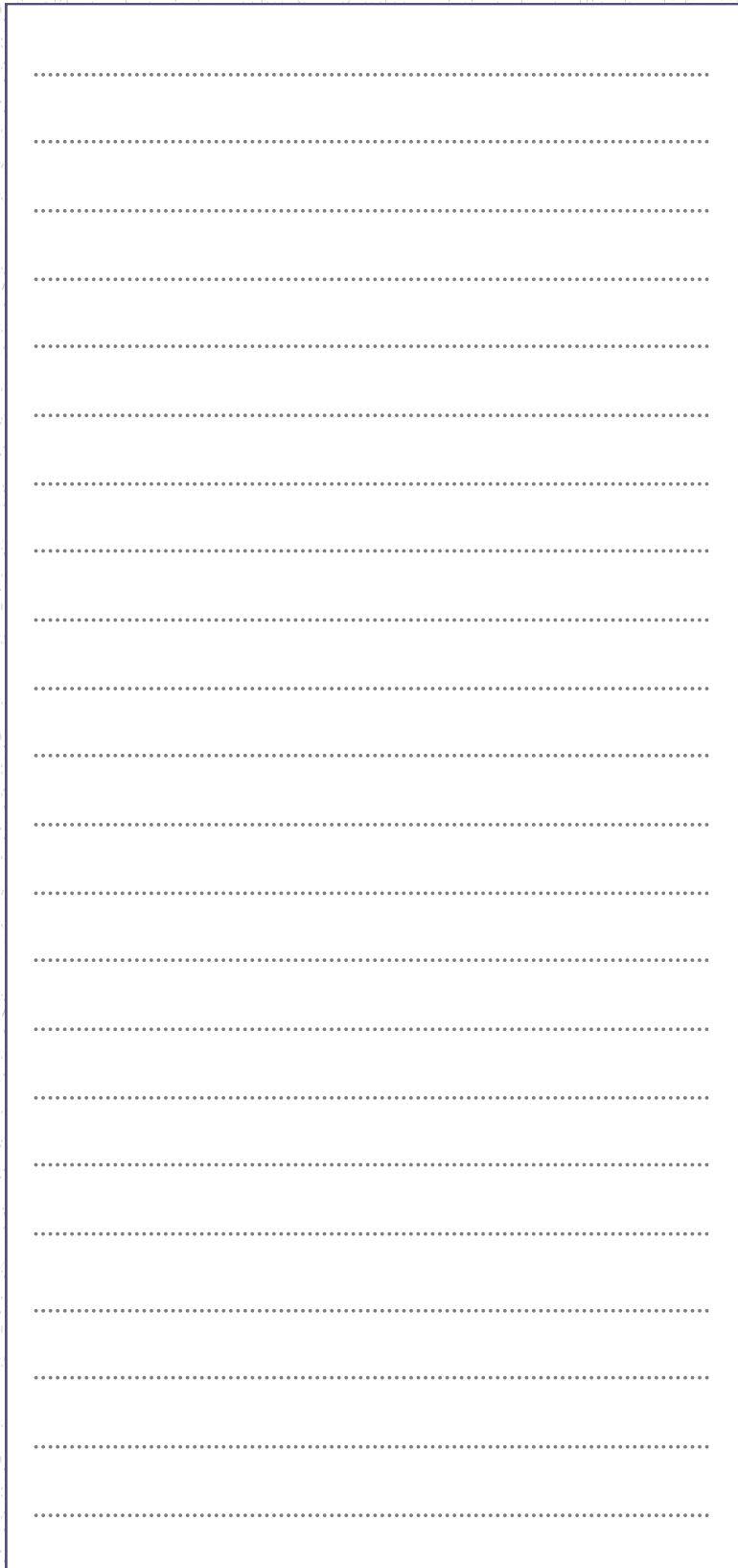
Signed

Date

OCTOBER NOTES :

[illegible]This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue lines. The paper has a decorative purple border. At the top left corner, there is a grey rectangular tab. In the top right corner, there is a purple four-pointed starburst or spark-like icon. The bottom-left corner of the paper is folded over.This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue lines. The paper has rounded corners and is framed by a thin purple border. A grey rectangular tab is attached to the top-left corner. In the top-right corner, there is a blue four-pointed starburst or spark-like icon. The bottom-left corner of the paper is folded over, revealing a dark blue layer underneath.[illegible]

JANUARY NOTES :



FEBRUARY NOTES :

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.[illegible][illegible]

MARCH NOTES :

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled notebook paper. It features a vertical solid blue line on the left side, creating a margin. The rest of the page is filled with horizontal dashed blue lines, providing a guide for letter height and placement. There are no pre-written words or numbers on the page.This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue lines. The paper has a decorative purple border. At the top left corner, there is a grey rectangular tab. In the top right corner, there is a purple four-pointed starburst or spark-like icon. The bottom-left corner of the paper is folded over.[illegible][illegible]

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

CONTACT/ LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mimi McKinnis | Director, FYDC
FideleYouthDanceCompany@gmail.com

Tina Cook, Owner | Turning Pointe Dance
tina@turningpointeschoolofdance.com

Abbie Van Horn | Leadership Assistant
abigail.vanhorn825@gmail.com

**No part of the FYDC Missions Handbook may be copied or shared
without written permission from the Director, FYDC.**