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## **Southridge Youth Dance Overview**

Southridge Youth Dance is a training and feeder program for high school dance and color guard. Southridge Youth Dance is open to 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students within the Southridge boundaries. Students in the Beaverton School District whose home high school does not have a youth program may also join. Students do not need experience, but must have a desire to learn in a fun atmosphere.

Color Guard is a sport of the arts which combines dance with the use of equipment including flags, sabers, and mock rifles. If you have not seen a performance, many fabulous ones can be viewed online. Youth Dance members learn the fundamental skills used in color guard. Youth Dance members study various dance disciplines such as ballet, modern, jazz, and African. Strength conditioning, pilates, and yoga are also employed throughout the program. Each year members learn a choreographed show. Show themes range from ancient myths to machinery to zombies. Youth Dance rehearses and competes during the winter guard season. In the spring, youth dance and high school color guard members have the opportunity to continue their dance training in preparation for a dance concert at the end of the school year. Members raise funds by selling tickets to the dance concert.

### **Director:**

Color Guard Director, Katy Burns ([dance\\_guard@simde.org](mailto:dance_guard@simde.org))

### **Time Commitment:**

Rehearsal days and times vary from year-to-year based on facility access, but there are usually 2 two-hour rehearsals each week. Excellent attendance at rehearsals and performances is expected. The winter season lasts from mid-November through late March or early April. Southridge competes in the cadet division of the Northwest Association of Performing Arts ([nwapa.net](http://nwapa.net)). Winter competitions will be on some Saturdays from early February through early April.

### **Costs:**

Fees for the winter season will be announced in November. If you would like to know last year's fees to help you estimate your family budget, please contact us.

### **Volunteer Needs:**

Parent volunteers are needed to chaperone, fundraise, build props, and help in many other ways. Parents are encouraged to participate in SIMDE's general fundraisers, such as restaurant nights. SIMDE ([www.simde.org](http://www.simde.org)) is the booster organization for Southridge's band and guard programs. Student fees only cover a portion of program expenses. General fundraisers are essential to make the program financially possible.

### **Join! – How and When:**

New members may join at the beginning of the winter season before choreography routines are designed. Please contact us, so we can invite you to the parent meeting and first practice in November. If you received this information late, contact us as soon as possible. New members are usually accepted up until winter break begins.

### **Contact Us:**

If you are interested in learning more or joining, please send questions and student and parent contact information (names, email addresses, student grade, student school) to [dance\\_guard@simde.org](mailto:dance_guard@simde.org) and/or [secretary@simde.org](mailto:secretary@simde.org).

Southridge Youth Dance is one of the extra-curricular activities of the Southridge band program. The band program is lead by band director, Mr. Jarod Sorum ([jarod\\_sorum@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:jarod_sorum@beaverton.k12.or.us)).