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January 1, 2025

Dear Educator,

Regional Dance America (RDA) is a 501(c)3 national nonprofit organization that provides education, scholarship, connection, and performance opportunities for pre-professional dancers throughout the United States. RDA is a national association of dance companies committed to empowering pre-professional dancers.

This spring, five Regional Dance Festivals will take place throughout the US attended by over 1,500 dancers, 300 parents, 100 artistic directors and staff members, and 100 faculty members and musicians. Travel to Fort Smith, Arkansas for the **2025 RDA/Southwest Festival** will take place **March 12th** and the Festival will occur **March 13th - 15th**. Over the course of this incredible event, dancers will participate in master classes, seminars, and college/university recruitment as well as perform in a professional theater setting. RDA Festivals inspire artistic and personal growth, creativity, and excellence through networking with professionals in the areas of dance education, choreography, sports medicine, and more. RDA connects dancers with over \$10.5 million of scholarships for further dance study and college and university admission offers. Upon graduation from RDA member companies, students are poised for success in professional dance careers, college dance programs, and every job and scholastic endeavor they pursue.

For aspiring artists, RDA opens doors to the professional dance world and beyond. Students in your district will travel to attend the RDA/Southwest Festival as ambassadors for their local pre-professional company and your community in the national dance landscape. I ask for your understanding and support of their participation as they immerse themselves in their dance education. Dancers' educational experiences in adolescence are critically important. There is no other dance event that compares in educational value for these young dancers.

Sincerely,

Erika Davis, CEO