



TJC's Differently Abled Dance Program is incredibly honored to be a TWA finalist. Tyler serves as the regional hub for special education and disability services across Northeast Texas, yet inclusive arts opportunities remain limited. For families already navigating the financial realities of specialized medical care, therapies, and educational support, the added cost of dance instruction, attire, shoes, and costumes can be out of reach. Adaptive dance programs also require additional staffing, specialized training, and supportive classroom environments for students with Down syndrome, autism spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy, developmental delays, and other challenges—making scholarship support essential to expanding access.

Over the past four years, the Differently Abled Dance Program has created a haven where students discover confidence, expression, and belonging through dance. EVERY child desires to move, create, and be seen—on this dance floor, movement becomes communication, and ability is measured not by perfection but by growth, courage, and joy. Families watch their children gain confidence and motor skills, while audiences witness the beauty of inclusion when these dancers take the stage in community showcases and performances. With expanded scholarship support, this program can open its doors to many more differently abled children eager to step onto the dance floor.

WATCH HERE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CT6ICUNytI8>

One parent's heartfelt message : "Thank you, Texas Women for the Arts! Your generous support and the impact of this class extend far beyond the walls of the studio. They encourage a shift in our community to look beyond different abilities and see the many possibilities."