

# **Before** you watch the *Blue Sky Theater: The Elements of Dance...*

Who is the Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company?

Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company was founded in 1964 by two Utah women, Joan Woodbury and Shirley Ririe, who were both teachers of dance at the University of Utah. We are based in Salt Lake City, Utah, but we go all over the world to perform and teach dance!

**See if you can answer these questions. If you don't have any idea, see if you can find your answers in the movie!**

- What kind of dances have you seen, or done before?

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- What are the ingredients of dance?

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- Where, or in what kind of spaces can dance take place?

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- Who and/or what can dance in this world, and how?

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- Is there a cultural or community dance from the country where you are from or where you live today?

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# What is Contemporary Dance?

- Contemporary dance means it is a dance created/choreographed and performed today, unlike dances that were created by people from the past.
- Boys, girls, people of any gender, race, age, physical and mental capacities can dance.
- Dancers are diverse; they come from different backgrounds.
- Dancers often work together to create and perform dances.
- Contemporary choreographers and dancers make dances about anything - for example, they can dance about who they are, or their feelings and emotions. They can also dance about an idea, a story, or events in today's world. During the film, see if you can find a tell-tale sign that this dance film was created in the year 2020!
- Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company is a contemporary dance company. Watch the film and see other points are also really true!