Local dancers in Macy's Parade in NYC

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Dancers from The Dancer By Gina are preparing for their Thanksgiving holiday with rehearsals for their performance in the 86th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. The girls will be part of Spirit of America Dance, consisting of dancers from select studios and high schools across the country. It is The Dancer By Gina's fourth appearance in the parade but the first experience for this group of dancers. The studio was selected from a Columbus dance competition in their initial appearance and are invited back regularly to perform in the "longest running show on Broadway." The Dancer By Gina is the only dance studio representing Ohio this year. The girls will arrive in NYC on the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving and have rehearsals every day leading up to the parade. The annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is a 2 1/2-mile-long parade delighting more than 60 million people. Hundreds of clowns, giant balloons, legendary performers and musical groups lead the way to the arrival of Santa Claus at the parade's finale. While in New York, the dancers and their chaperones will also enjoy the historic landmarks of NYC, a Broadway show and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular featuring the Rockettes. Director, Gina Wiley will also be taking the girls to dance classes at Broadway Dance Center. The parade will start at 9 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day and NBC will cover their actual performance. Those going to New York City to participate in the parade are, front from left, Alexandra Schroeder (Ottawa), Jessica Koverman (Delphos), Haylee Koester (Ottoville), Kaitlyn Slate (Delphos), Alexis Thorbahn (Ottoville) and Kylie Fritz (Delphos); row two, Abbey Acerro (Lima), Rachel Mahlie (Delphos), Morgan Jostpille (Delphos), Lyndsay Mohler (Delphos), Lyndsey Warnecke (Delphos), Anna Bendele (Ottoville), Kaitlyn O'Connor (Lima); and back, Taylor Bresson (Lima), Katie Acerro (Lima), Sarah Hellman (Fort Jennings), Morgan Beining (Ottoville), Alyssa Odenweller (Kalida) and Stephanie Lamoreau (Lima).