



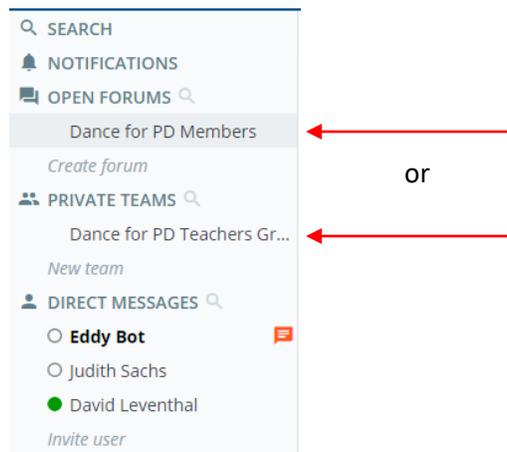
A brief guide to getting started

If you have 11 minutes and want an overview to using Ryver, please click [here](#) for an instructional video that tells you most of what you want to know.

If you don't have that time, here are some key features:

--You are a member of one group and one team: the general Dance for PD Members Group and the private Teachers Group, which is available only to our teaching members. Your messages in the Members Group go to every member in the network, including people with PD, care partners, medical professionals etc. Everyone. Your messages in the Teacher Private Team go only to network teaching members.

--To add a message to a specific group, open that group from the left column:



--There are three kinds of messages on Ryver:

You can **chat**, which is good for quick informal announcements or FYI messages that don't need to be organized into any kind of threads. This is very similar to texting or instant messaging.

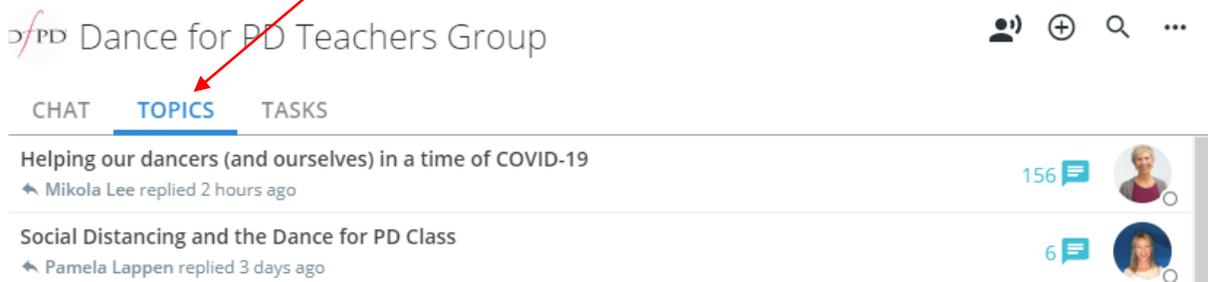
Here's how to add a chat message:



You can **create or post a Topic**, which is perfect for things that might generate more organized, threaded discussion and conversation—questions, challenges and ideas from which you'd like an organized conversation to develop. This is like a Facebook Wall or group email for this particular forum, and it's good for topic-based discussions.

Here's how to add a new Topic:

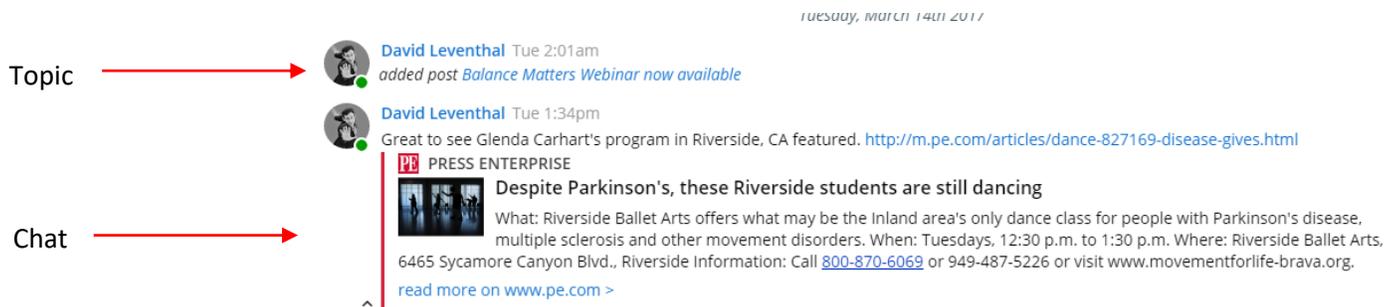
1. Make sure you're in the Topic option
2. Click on the +



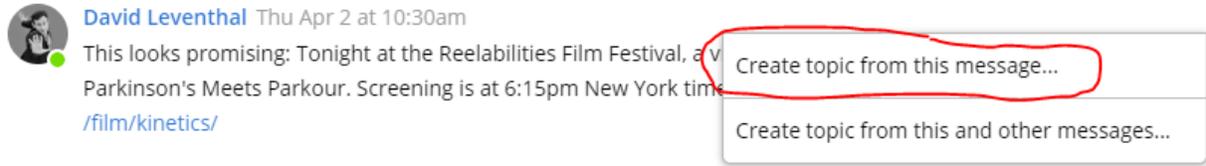
To read or contribute to a thread, just click on the title of that thread and add your comments.

Or you can **direct message** other members of the group simply by clicking on their name (left column) and sending them a message (which is private).

This is what your **chat feed** might look like. You'll see the instant messaging/texting chats (the press article about classes in Riverside) and the Topic, which invites you to click on Balance Matters Webinar now available link.



The nice thing about Ryver is that you can always start with a chat and, if things get serious, transform it into a post. To that, hover over a chat message and “promote” it. You’ll then be given the opportunity to check those messages you’d like to move over to a Post, and then click at the bottom:



--You can change your notification settings, and choose whether your presence is visible or not (just like Skype) on the administrative panel that opens from the lower left corner.

