

THE  
SCHOOL  
OF

*Ballet* TUCSON

2022-2023  
SCHOOL  
INFORMATION



# ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The School of Ballet Tucson is the official school of Tucson's only professional ballet company and has provided exceptional dance training to students of all ages since 1986. Our faculty is comprised of Ballet Tucson company dancers and professionals who have performed in prestigious national and international companies. Our students receive advanced training in a variety of styles, helping them to become versatile and well-rounded dancers. We are dedicated to providing an encouraging environment for each student that focuses on creativity, artistry, and personal growth. We strive to deliver educational experiences that foster a deep love and appreciation for dance, in addition to skills that will serve our students in all aspects of their lives.

Students of our school have the opportunity to perform alongside our professional Ballet Tucson company dancers in select productions, including our award-winning production of *The Nutcracker* in partnership with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra at The Linda Ronstadt Music Hall (formerly known as the Tucson Music Hall). We also provide performance opportunities specifically highlighting our students: The School of Ballet Tucson Spring Showcase and the Annual Summer Dance Workshop Performance. Additionally, students may participate in Masterclasses with renowned guest teachers at a discounted rate throughout the school year.

Our students and their families also experience the benefit of discounted tickets to all Ballet Tucson company performances throughout the season. We believe in the importance of exposing our students to inspiring, world-class dance and choreography. All students receive an exclusive code for 40% off General Admission tickets for Ballet Tucson's entire performance season. Graduates of our school also have the opportunity to be considered for an apprenticeship with our professional company. For more information about the Ballet Tucson company, visit [BalletTucson.org](http://BalletTucson.org).

Graduates of the School of Ballet Tucson have been awarded scholarships to or have danced professionally with the following institutions: Ballet Tucson, American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, The Radio City Music Hall Rockettes, Atlanta Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Ballet Met, Alabama Ballet, Houston Ballet, Gus Giordano, National Ballet School, Toronto, Boston Ballet, School of American Ballet, Ballet West, Aspen/Santa Fe Ballet, The Kirvo Academy, Milwaukee Ballet, Hartford Ballet, Harid Conservatory, Sarasota Ballet, Cleveland Ballet, Alvin Ailey, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Ballet Florida, Pennsylvania Ballet, Dayton Ballet, Disney Tokyo, Ohio Ballet, North Carolina School of the Arts, Oakland Ballet

Graduates of the School of Ballet Tucson who have had professional dance careers have been featured by: Dance Magazine, Pointe Magazine, Dance Spirit Magazine, Dance Informa, Discount Dance Supply, POND'S Beauty, and more.

*Founded in 1986. Founding Artistic Director Mary Beth Cabana.*

# OUR NEW DIRECTORS DANIELLE AND LIANG FU

Ballet Tucson is proud to welcome husband and wife team Danielle and Liang Fu as our new School Directors and as Principal Dancers for the Ballet Tucson company. They bring a wealth of experience and talent gained from over a decade spent performing with notable national and international ballet companies, and their nurturing approach to teaching has made them sought-after coaches for dancers of all ages and levels.

"I look forward to our community experiencing Danielle and Liang Fu's exceptional talent and exhilarating performance quality for years to come." says Margaret Mullin, Ballet Tucson's Artistic Director, "Their commitment to excellence aligns perfectly with our organization and has made them respected artists and teachers. Their passion for developing the next generation is sure to excite and inspire our students, helping them to reach new heights in their training while deepening their love and appreciation for the art form."

"We are thrilled to be the new directors of The School of Ballet Tucson and to be leading dancers with the professional company." Danielle and Liang Fu share. "We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to teach and inspire the next generation of dancers in Tucson and to contribute our artistic abilities and expertise to the company. Our combined 36 years of experience dancing with both international and U.S. professional ballet companies, in addition to our time teaching in the schools of those companies has prepared us well for the new responsibilities we will undertake here in Tucson." They add, "We are excited to be joining a school and company that has had a reputation for excellence over the last 36 years and look forward to helping to maintain that standard well into the future. We have found that the community of Tucson is home to many wonderful performing arts organizations and we are proud to be a part of that. We look forward to welcoming even more students to the school as well as helping to grow a larger audience and support base for Ballet Tucson."



# ABOUT DANIELLE FU

Danielle Fu was born in Ridgewood, New Jersey, and started dancing at the age of three. Her family relocated to Northern California where she continued her training at Lamorinda Ballet Center. She then went on to train for six years at the San Francisco Ballet School, where she had the privilege of performing many works by George Balanchine, Helgi Tomasson, Lew Christensen, and August Bournonville. She also performed with the San Francisco Ballet Company in Helgi Tomasson's *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, and *Romeo & Juliet*.

Mrs. Fu joined Cincinnati Ballet in 2006 and danced with the company for eight seasons, performing featured roles in works by Septime Webre, George Balanchine, Victoria Morgan, Val Caniparoli, James Kudleka, and more. In 2014, she toured with the company to perform at the iconic The Joyce Theater in New York City. Mrs. Fu also taught at the Otto M. Budig Academy, the official school of the Cincinnati Ballet, for five years.

In 2014 she joined Kansas City Ballet and during her eight years there she performed numerous leading roles by famed choreographers including George Balanchine, Michael Pink, William Forsythe, Jiří Kylián, Septime Webre, Twyla Tharp, Val Caniparoli, Helen Pickett, Bruce Wells, Devon Carney, and Andrea Giselle Schermoly. In 2017 she performed *Opening Night Snow Queen*, representing Kansas City Ballet at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Mrs. Fu has served as an instructor for the Kansas City Ballet School's Summer Intensive and has coached several young dancers for their Youth American Grand Prix (YAGP) competitions. She both staged and rehearsed a group piece that won YAGP regionals and was to be a finalist in New York City in March 2020 before the pandemic shutdowns. Her teaching experience also includes several summer intensives including Georgia Academy of Dance, Ballet North in North Kansas City, and The School of Ballet Tucson. Additionally, she has taught masterclasses at the Center Stage Academy of the Performing Arts in Sedalia, MO.

She is thrilled to be joining Ballet Tucson, not only to continue her dance career but also to help shape and inspire the next generation of dancers as one of The School of Ballet Tucson's directors, alongside her husband Liang Fu.



# ABOUT LIANG FU

Liang Fu was born in Qingdao, China. He trained at Beijing Dance Academy for 6 years before graduating in 2001. He then went on to dance with Singapore Dance Theatre, Universal Ballet Company in Seoul, South Korea, and was a Senior Soloist with Cincinnati Ballet before joining Kansas City Ballet in 2014.

Mr. Fu was invited to perform at the Gala of Benois de La Danse Competition at The Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Russia in 2003. In 2005, he was awarded 1st Prize at the 10th Asian Pacific International Ballet Competition in Tokyo, Japan.

His performance repertoire includes many leading roles such as Siegfried in *Swan Lake*, Prince Desire in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Albrecht in *Giselle*, Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, James in *La Sylphide*, Dracula in *Dracula*, Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, D'Artagnan in *The Three Musketeers*, Escamillo in *Carmen*, Lucien in *Paquita*, Jean de Brienne in *Raymonda*, Snow King and Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*, as well as in George Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments*, *Theme and Variations*, *Diamonds and Serenade*. He has also been featured in contemporary works including *Stamping Ground*, *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen*, *Forgotten Land* and *Petite Mort* by Jiří Kylián, *In the Upper Room* by Twyla Tharp, *In the Middle*, *Somewhat Elevated* by William Forsythe, *Tabula Rasa* by Ohad Naharin, *Maninyas* by Stanton Welch, *The Man in Black* by James Kudleka, *Lambarena* and *Vivace* by Val Caniparoli, *Wunderland* by Edwaard Liang and *Petal* by Helen Pickett.

Throughout his career, Mr. Fu has taught at numerous ballet schools and summer intensives, in addition to masterclasses, including Cincinnati Ballet Academy, Ballet Tech of Ohio, Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre, Georgia Academy of Dance & the Performing arts, and The School of Ballet Tucson.

Mr. Fu is looking forward to co-directing The School of Ballet Tucson with his wife Danielle Fu, as well as continuing his dance career with Ballet Tucson.



Meet Danielle and Liang Fu at our Open House Registration!

Saturdays, August 6th and August 13th, 2022 from 12:00-3:00PM  
at Ballet Tucson, 200 S Tucson Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85716

# CLASS OFFERINGS

## BALLET CLASSES

*Ages 6-20*



**BALLET A:** Primary ballet positions and terminology will be covered in a creative atmosphere. Jazz classes are offered to provide a well-rounded dance education.

*For ages 5 – 8 with previous training*

*Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week*

**BALLET B:** Basic positions and terminology are reinforced while elaborating on fundamentals. Jazz classes are offered to provide a well-rounded dance education.

*For ages 7 – 10 with previous training*

*Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week*

**BALLET C:** Theory of body movement, correct alignment, and terminology will be emphasized in a structured and nurturing environment. Jazz classes are strongly advised to provide a well-rounded dance education.

*For ages 8 and up who have completed at least one year of serious study*

*Recommended training: 3-4 classes per week*

**BALLET D:** Includes a more in-depth study of ballet technique and preparation for pointe work. Pointe, Jazz, and Modern classes are strongly advised to provide a well-rounded dance education.

*For ages 9 and up*

*Recommended training: 4-6 classes per week*

**BALLET E:** Pointe, Classical Variations, Jazz, Modern/Contemporary Dance, Lyrical, Hip Hop, and Student Choreography classes are strongly advised to provide a well-rounded dance education.

*For ages 11 and up who have or are ready to begin pointe work*

*Recommended training: 5-9 classes per week*

**BALLET F:** Pointe, Classical Variations, Jazz, Modern/Contemporary Dance, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Conditioning, and Student Choreography classes are strongly advised to provide a well-rounded dance education.

*For high-intermediate and advanced level students*

*Recommended training: 5-11 classes per week*

## SCHOOL CLASSES

Ages are approximate and class placement is based on ability and as determined by the Instructor & School Directors.

### YOUNG CHILDREN'S CLASSES

**CREATIVE MOVEMENT 1:** For ages 3 - 4

**CREATIVE MOVEMENT 2:** For ages 4 - 5

Creative movement is a class designed to introduce young dancers to music and movement in a fun environment. Students will develop coordination, explore rhythm, gain self-confidence, and learn the basics of ballet all while engaging their imagination and creativity.



## BALLET CLASSES (CONTINUED)

**\*PROFESSIONAL DIVISION:** Limited to advanced students who commit to a full Professional Division class schedule. Participation in all available Ballet Tucson performance opportunities and the complete Summer Dance Workshop is required.

**\*TRAINEE DIVISION:** Limited to advanced students ages 15-22 considering a professional career in dance who commit to a full Trainee Division class schedule. Trainees will experience additional rehearsals featuring traditional ballet repertoire and new choreography and may be called upon to participate in community outreach presentations. Trainees may also be invited to perform in Ballet Tucson professional company productions. Participation in all available Ballet Tucson performance opportunities and the complete Summer Dance Workshop is required.

**\*PROFESSIONAL DIVISION AND TRAINEE DIVISION REQUIRED WEEKLY SCHEDULE:** 5 Ballet Technique classes, 2 Pointe classes, Jazz, Modern/Contemporary Dance, Hip Hop, Lyrical, Conditioning, Classical Variations, Student Choreography, and scheduled rehearsals.

## ADDITIONAL CLASSES

Students must be enrolled in at least one ballet technique class per week to participate.



### POINTE

An exciting step for students who have mastered several years of classical ballet training, pointe offers dancers the opportunity to build increased strength and the ability to work towards exploring important ballet repertoire. Training starts with beginning pointe where students learn about pointe shoes and the tools they need for classes.

### CLASSICAL VARIATIONS

Students will learn featured dances and solos from some of ballet's most notable classical ballets and explore the differences in style, character, and performance quality.



### JAZZ

Students will study a variety of jazz influences and styles, both historical and current, to develop technical skills while maintaining a focus on fun and exuberance.

### MODERN/CONTEMPORARY DANCE

Students will explore techniques influenced by American modern dance as well as movement ideas from contemporary dance practices to create a greater understanding of body connectivity and flow of movement.

### LYRICAL

Students will combine their knowledge of Ballet, Jazz, and Modern to create a soft movement style that focuses on fluidity and expressiveness to emphasize the storytelling quality of music.

### HIP HOP

Students will learn about the cultural importance of Hip Hop and its influences primarily through party dances and choreography.

### STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHY CLASS

Students learn the principles of constructing a well-rounded choreographic work and are given the opportunity to create works of their own with guidance from an experienced instructor.

## OPEN CLASSES

*Suitable for ages 14 and up*

### BEGINNING TEEN/ADULT BALLET

For teens and adults with little or no previous experience. Fundamentals are covered in an enjoyable classroom atmosphere.

### INTERMEDIATE TEEN/ADULT BALLET

For teens and adults with previous training who have progressed to a more involved level of study.

### DANCER FIT CLASS

Train like a ballet dancer. For teens and adults looking to build strength and athleticism. Led by one of Ballet Tucson's professional company dancers.

# PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

## BALLET TUCSON'S THE NUTCRACKER In Partnership with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra

There is nothing more memorable for ballet dancers of all ages than performing in the treasured classical ballet The Nutcracker each holiday season. Student dancers have the special opportunity to join Ballet Tucson's professional dancers onstage in our award-winning production to bring this magical tale to life for our Tucson community. They will also experience the grandeur of performing at The Linda Ronstadt Music Hall while dancing to Tchaikovsky's iconic score as performed by the world-class musicians of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra.



Audition details to follow, but save the dates:  
Saturdays, August 27th, September 3rd, and September 10th, 2022

## THE SCHOOL OF BALLET TUCSON'S 2023 SPRING SHOWCASE

This annual performance will take place in May 2023 (exact date, time and location to be announced). Students enrolled in Hip Hop, Jazz, Modern, Lyrical, and Student Choreography will have the opportunity to perform. Additionally, students of all ages and levels may audition to participate in a one-act adaptation of a classic ballet, Cinderella's Gifts, which will be presented in the same performance.

Audition details to follow, but save the dates:  
Saturdays, January 21st and 28th, 2023

## TRAINEE LEVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Students at the Trainee level of The School of Ballet Tucson may experience additional performance opportunities including pop-up performances around the city and special outreach events curated by Ballet Tucson's Artistic Staff and Trainee Coordinator Filipe Aragão.

# REGISTRATION INFORMATION



**CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 15TH, 2022**

For our school calendar and class prices,  
please visit [ballettucson.org/school](http://ballettucson.org/school)

To guarantee a space in desired classes,  
early registration is recommended.

New students may take a free placement class to be assessed and placed in the appropriate class levels with a recommended training schedule. We assess students' progress on an ongoing basis, and evaluations are made in consultation with all teachers. Recommendations regarding advancement are given to students and parents at the end of each school year. Recommendations are based on a student's age in addition to technical and physical development.

Returning students must reserve a place for their classes by filling out an enrollment form.

To register, please call 520-623-3373 or email [school@ballettucson.org](mailto:school@ballettucson.org).

**JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE REGISTRATION**

Saturdays, August 6th and August 13th, 2022 from 12:00-3:00PM  
Ballet Tucson, 200 S Tucson Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85716