

THE
SCHOOL
OF *Ballet* TUCSON

2023-2024
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 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.

Graduates of the School of Ballet Tucson have been accepted to, awarded scholarships to, or have danced professionally with the following institutions: Ballet Tucson, University of Arizona School of Dance, 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 Kirov 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.

*The School of Ballet Tucson, formerly known as Ballet Arts,
was established in 1986 by Founding Artistic Director, Mary Beth Cabana.*

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

DANIELLE FU was born in New Jersey and started dancing at the age of 3. Her family then moved to California where she continued her training at Lamorinda Ballet School and then San Francisco Ballet School. Mrs. Fu joined Cincinnati Ballet in 2006 and performed roles such as Myrtha in Giselle and 3rd Movement Principal in Balanchine's Symphony in C within her eight seasons with the company. After joining Kansas City Ballet in 2014, she was featured in many leading roles such as Sanguinic in Balanchine's The Four Temperaments and The Sugar Plum Fairy in The Nutcracker. As well as many contemporary works that include Petite Mort, In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated and In the Upper Room.

Mrs. Fu has served as an instructor at the Otto M. Budig Academy for 5 years while with Cincinnati Ballet. She also taught 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 such as Georgia Academy of Dance, Ballet North in North Kansas City, and Ballet Arts, now known as The School of Ballet Tucson. Additionally, she has taught masterclasses at the Center Stage Academy of the Performing Arts in Sedalia, MO.

LIANG FU was born in Qingdao, China. He trained at Beijing Dance Academy for 6 years. Upon graduating in 2001, he danced with Singapore Dance Theatre, Universal Ballet Company in Seoul, Korea, Cincinnati Ballet and Kansas City Ballet before joining Ballet Tucson in 2022 as principal dancer and co-school directors alongside his wife, Danielle Fu. In 2003, Mr. Fu was invited to perform at the Gala of Benois de La Danse Competition at The Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Russia. In 2005, he won the 1st prize at the 10th Asian Pacific International Ballet Competition in Tokyo, Japan. In over 20 years of his career, he has danced in many leading roles in full length classical ballets such as Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, Romeo and Juliet and The Nutcracker. He has also been featured in contemporary works by Jiří Kylián, Twyla Tharp, William Forsythe, Ohad Naharin, Val Caniparoli, Edwaard Liang and Helen Pickett.

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



CLASS OFFERINGS



YOUNG CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Ages 3 - 5

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

CREATIVE MOVEMENT: 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.

For ages 3 - 4

PRE-BALLET: Pre-Ballet class will offer the fundamental basics for ballet technique. This will be their ultimate introduction to basic but fundamental ballet steps and training.

For ages 4 - 5

BALLET CLASSES

Ages 6 - 20

LEVEL 1: 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 6 – 8 with previous training

Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week

LEVEL 2: Basic positions and terminology are reinforced while elaborating on fundamentals. Jazz classes are offered to provide a well-rounded dance education.

For ages 8 – 10 with previous training

Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week

LEVEL 3: 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 9 and up who have completed at least one year of serious study

Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week

LEVEL 4: Includes a more in-depth study of ballet technique and preparation for pointe work. Beginning Pointe (for selected Level 4 students), Jazz, and Modern classes are strongly advised to provide a well-rounded dance education.

For ages 10 and up

Recommended training: 3-6 classes per week

LEVEL 5: Pointe, Classical Variations, Jazz, Modern/Contemporary Dance, Lyrical, and Hip Hop classes are strongly advised to provide a well-rounded dance education.

For ages 12 and up who have or are ready to begin pointe work

Recommended training: 5-11 classes per week

LEVEL 6: 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: 6-15 classes per week

LEVEL 7: Professional Division: Limited to advanced students who commit to a full Professional Division class schedule. Participation in all available Ballet Tucson performance opportunities is required. We highly recommend participation in the Summer Workshop.

Training: 13 required classes per week

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

LEVELS 1 - 4

Must be enrolled in at least two ballet technique classes per week to participate.

LEVELS 5 & ABOVE

Must be enrolled in at least three ballet technique classes 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. We also offer Preparation for Pointe, which is a class that physically and mentally prepares our students for the reality of what it takes to be able to do pointe work before they actually begin pointe classes.



CLASSICAL VARIATIONS

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

PARTNERING CLASS

Introduction to partnering for students to understand how two people dance together. This focuses on technique, support, balance, coordination and lifting. Introduction to Pas de Deux.

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.



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.

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 former professional company dancers.

ADULT JAZZ

Adult 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.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

BALLET TUCSON'S THE NUTCRACKER

In Partnership with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, December 21-23, 2023



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. Ballet Tucson's partnership with the TSO is generously underwritten by The James H. and Frances R. Allen Family Foundation in loving memory of Kimberlee Allen.

Audition details to follow, but save the dates:
Saturdays, August 26th and September 2nd, 2023

THE SCHOOL OF BALLET TUCSON'S 2024 SPRING SHOWCASE

This annual performance will take place in May 2024 (exact date, time and location to be announced). Students enrolled in Classical Variations, Jazz, Modern, Lyrical, Hip Hop 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, *A Midsummer Night's Dream: Oberon and Titania's Kingdoms*, which will be presented in the same performance.

Audition details to follow, but save the dates:
Saturdays, January 20th and 27th, 2024



SUMMER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER WORKSHOP



Our Students are encouraged to participate in our Annual Summer Workshop. We hold this 4 week program prior to most Summer Intensives around the country so that our students can improve their technique before potentially heading off to a new adventure in their training. We also hold

auditions for students from other studios, who do not attend our year round School of Ballet Tucson program.

Audition details to follow, but save the dates:
Sundays, February 18th and March 10th, 2024

KIDS DANCE CAMP

Our Kids Dance Camp is a 2 week program, for Children ages 3-8, to introduce young dancers to music and movement in a fun environment. This camp will not only provide dance education, but each week will have a different theme in which they will create parts of their costume during craft time, that will coordinate with their end of the week performance but they will also be able to take home and keep!



Tutus for Kids Dance Camp generously donated by Tom and Loren Whittaker

Potential Kids Dance Camp Dates: June 3-7 and June 10-14, 2024

ADULT SUMMER WORKSHOP

The Adult Summer Workshop is a 2 week intensive that offers adult students to start or continue their ballet technique training. As well as, offering an adult variations class, where adult students can live out their prima ballerina or male dancer dreams! We also offer an Adult Dancer Fit class, which is an aerobic based class that incorporates dance.

Potential Adult Summer Workshop Dates: June 3-7 and June 10-14, 2024

(ALL dates subject to change)

FUNDRAISING

SUGAR PLUM TEA

Sunday, December 3rd, 2023
(Time and Location to be Announced)

Our Annual Sugar Plum Tea is a High Tea event that is fun for the whole family. Experience the magic of the season with sensational performances, an awe-inspiring selection of holiday gifts and silent auction items, truly delectable fare, and a one on one opportunity to meet the dancers behind the costumes of Ballet Tucson's The Nutcracker. This event is the perfect place to begin your holiday season celebration.

All donations and proceeds made to Ballet Tucson benefit the professional company and The School of Ballet Tucson.



CONNIE HILLMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION CHALLENGE GRANT

Your gift to Ballet Tucson goes further than ever before thanks to a generous challenge grant from the Connie Hillman Family Foundation! All new and increased gifts will be matched 1:2. The Connie Hillman Family Foundation will give \$1 for every \$2 you give to Ballet Tucson!

We are a Non-Profit 501(c)3 organization and your gift helps us to expand our impact and elevate the art of dance in our community.

Please consider making a donation to Ballet Tucson. To directly benefit The School of Ballet Tucson include a note with your donation.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION



JOIN US FOR FREE CLASS WEEK

August 7th-12th, 2023

The School of Ballet Tucson, 200 S Tucson Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85716

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

New students may take a placement class to be assessed and placed in the appropriate class levels with a recommended training schedule in our FREE CLASS WEEK. 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 the Summer Workshop and prior to the beginning of the 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 before August 5, 2023.

To register, please call 520-623-3373 or email school@ballettucson.org.

CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 14TH, 2023

For our school calendar and class prices,
please visit ballettucson.org/school

THE
SCHOOL
OF

Ballet TUCSON

200 S TUCSON BLVD TUCSON, AZ 85716

520.623.3373

ballettucson.org/school

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
PERMIT NO 1445



2023
2024