

THE SCHOOL OF *Ballet* TUCSON

THE OFFICIAL SCHOOL OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA'S PROFESSIONAL BALLET COMPANY



2025/2026

SCHOOL INFORMATION



ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The School of Ballet Tucson (SBT) is the official school of Southern Arizona'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 artistic leaders who have performed in prestigious national and international companies. Our students receive the highest quality 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 personal growth, artistry, and creativity. We strive to deliver educational experiences that foster a deep love and appreciation for dance, in addition to nurturing 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. We also provide performance opportunities specifically highlighting our students: The School of Ballet Tucson Spring Showcase and Summer Workshop Performance.



Intermediate and advanced students enrolled at The School of Ballet Tucson may participate in **masterclasses** with renowned guest teachers free of charge throughout the school year.

Photo: Masterclass Teacher Noelani Pantastico



We believe in the importance of exposing our students to inspiring, world-class dance and choreography. All SBT students and their families receive an exclusive discount code for **40% off tickets** for all Ballet Tucson performances throughout the season, including **The Nutcracker**. Graduates of our school also have the opportunity to be considered for an apprenticeship with our professional company and to receive career guidance from Ballet Tucson's artistic leaders. For more information about the Ballet Tucson company, please 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, Boston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, The Radio City Music Hall Rockettes, Ballet Met, Atlanta Ballet, Alabama Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Houston Ballet, Gus Giordano, Canada's National Ballet School, School of American Ballet, Ballet West, Aspen/Santa Fe Ballet, The Kirov Academy, Milwaukee Ballet, Hartford Ballet, Harid Conservatory, Ohio Ballet, Cleveland Ballet, Alvin Ailey, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Ballet Florida, Dayton Ballet, Disney Tokyo, North Carolina School of the Arts, Oakland Ballet, Sarasota Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Océánica Ballet, Ballet Memphis, Czech National Ballet and Bêjart Ballet Lausanne

Ballet Tucson photos by Carlos Chavez

CLASS OFFERINGS

YOUNG CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Ages 18 months - 5 years

Ages are approximate and class placement is based on ability and strength as assessed by SBT faculty and leadership.



DANCE WITH ME: Spark a love of dance with your tiny dancer! Dance With Me classes introduce simple dance moves while building coordination, focus and confidence. Parents or Guardians accompany their young dancer through the entire half hour class, sharing in the joy of movement and bonding in the ballet studio.

For ages 18 mos - 3yrs. Parents and Guardians do not need prior dance experience to participate.

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 offers training in the fundamentals of ballet technique and serves as an introduction to basic ballet steps and training.
For ages 4 - 5

JUNIOR AND SENIOR PROGRAM

Ages 6 - 19

Ages are approximate and class placement is based on ability and strength as assessed by SBT faculty and leadership.

LEVEL 1: Primary ballet positions and terminology will be covered in a creative atmosphere. Jazz and Tap classes are offered to provide a well-rounded dance education.

For ages 6 - 8

Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week

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

For ages 9 and up with previous training

Recommended training: 2-3 classes per week

LEVEL 4: Includes a more in-depth study of ballet technique and preparation for pointe work. Preparation For Pointe or Beginning Pointe class, Classical Variations, Jazz, Modern, and Tap classes are strongly recommended to provide a well-rounded dance education.

For ages 10 and up with previous training

Recommended training: 3-6 classes per week

LEVEL 5: In depth study of ballet technique in addition to Pointe, Classical Variations, Jazz, Tap, Modern Dance, Lyrical, and Hip Hop classes are strongly recommended 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: In depth study of ballet technique in addition to Pointe, Classical Variations, Jazz, Tap, Modern Dance, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Improvisation, Conditioning, and Student Choreography classes are strongly recommended to provide a well-rounded dance education.

For high-intermediate and advanced level students

Recommended training: 6-15 classes per week

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

Training: All classes are required to participate in Level 7



Schedule and Classes are subject to change

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

LEVELS 1-2: Must be enrolled in at least one ballet class per week

LEVELS 3-6: Must be enrolled in at least two ballet classes per week

LEVEL 7: Must be enrolled in all available Level 7 classes 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 explore important ballet repertoire. Intermediate and advanced students will train en pointe throughout the week in a variety of classes depending on level of strength and experience.

Pointe training starts with **PREPARATION FOR POINTE**, a special class where students learn about pointe shoes and the tools they need for class. This class also prepares our students for the physical and mental demands of pointework before they formally begin their 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 to enhance their artistry.

REPertoire

Advanced students participating in our Level 7 program will learn ensemble repertoire from classical ballets including The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, and more to build essential Corps de Ballet skills.

MODERN 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.

JAZZ

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

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.

TAP

Students will study classical tap technique in addition to expanding their sense of rhythm, coordination and strength.

HIP HOP

Students learn about the cultural importance of Hip Hop and its influences 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 Ballet Tucson's Resident Choreographer Chieko Imada.

IMPROVISATION

Students will learn a variety of improvisation techniques to expand their creativity, physicality, and versatility.

TEEN/ADULT PROGRAM

Suitable for ages 14 and up



BEGINNING BALLET

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

INTERMEDIATE BALLET

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

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

Enhance your dance practice through our expanded program which includes Tap, Hip Hop, Pilates Mat Class, Yoga, and Intermediate Classical Variations, where students can learn some of the famous ballet solos they have seen performed on stage!

Schedule and Classes are subject to change

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

BALLET TUCSON'S THE NUTCRACKER

In Partnership with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, December 19-21, 2025



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 on stage in our award-winning production to bring this magical tale to life for our Southern Arizona community. They will also

experience the grandeur of performing at The Linda Ronstadt Music Hall while dancing to Tchaikovsky's iconic score performed live by the world-class musicians of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra.

Audition details to be announced, but save the dates:
Saturdays, August 16th and August 23rd, 2025

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Part of Ballet Tucson's Magic in the Moonlight, October 31- November 2, 2025



SBT students levels 4 and up have the opportunity to audition to perform alongside our professional company dancers at the beautiful Temple of Music and Art in Associate Artistic Director and Resident Choreographer Chieko Imada's Phantom of the Opera, inspired by both the 1910 Leroux novel and the 1925 silent film. This well-known tale not only includes the signature

falling chandelier and haunting boatride, but also features our SBT students in a classroom scene straight out of one of Edgar Degas' famous ballerina paintings.

Audition details to be announced, but save the date: Sunday, August 17, 2025

SCHOOL OF BALLET TUCSON ANNUAL SPRING SHOWCASE

These annual performances will take place on Sunday, May 24, 2026 at the Stevie Eller Dance Theatre. Students enrolled in Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet, Classical Variations, Jazz, Tap, Modern, Lyrical, Hip Hop, and Student Choreography will have the opportunity to perform and showcase what they have learned in their classes throughout the school year.



Additionally, students between the ages of 6-19 may audition to participate in a one-act classical ballet, Sleeping Beauty's Wedding, which will be presented in the same performances.

Audition details for Sleeping Beauty's Wedding to be announced, but save the dates: Saturday, January 24th and Sunday, February 8th, 2026

SUMMER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER WORKSHOP

In cooperation with the University of Arizona School of Dance
June 1-27, 2026



Students are encouraged to participate in our annual Summer Workshop, a four-week intensive program that provides intermediate and advanced students the opportunity to train and perform in a professional environment. Housed in the UofA School of Dance facilities, classes include Ballet Technique, Pointe, Contemporary Dance, Jazz, Classical Variations, Repertoire, Hip Hop, Stage Makeup, Conditioning, and more. Faculty consists of Ballet Tucson's exceptional school and company staff, in addition to special guest teachers.

Audition and program details to be announced, but save the dates:
Saturday, January 17th, Sunday, March 8th and Sunday, April 26th, 2026.

Students not enrolled at SBT are also welcome. All students interested in being considered for a scholarship or financial aid must audition by March 8, 2026.

KIDS DANCE CAMP

A perfect introduction to the world of dance for children ages 3-8! Each week, campers will enjoy a fun-filled schedule that combines creativity, movement, and education. Our caring instructors foster a nurturing environment where children can express themselves, make friends, and experience the joy of dance. Whether your child is new to ballet or already loves it, this camp offers something for everyone!



Week 1: June 8-12, 2026

Week 2: June 15-19, 2026

No audition necessary. Weekly themes and details to be announced.

ADULT SUMMER WORKSHOP



Whether you're a beginner, have been training for years, or are seeking to rediscover a skill from long ago, we offer a variety of classes that uplift and inspire while building strength and fitness. This 1-2 week evening intensive includes Ballet Technique, Tap, Hip Hop, Yoga, and Classical Variations, where adult students can live out their prima ballerina or danseur dreams! Details to be announced.

All dates and programming are subject to change

SPECIAL EVENTS

MASTERCLASSES

Throughout the school year, intermediate and advanced students have the opportunity to participate in masterclasses with renowned guest teachers. This offers students the chance to broaden the scope of their dance education and to make new connections in the dance world. School of Ballet Tucson students have access to masterclasses free of charge.

Dates and guest teachers to be announced.

Photo: Masterclass Teacher Ingrid Silva



THE SUGAR PLUM TEA

Sunday, November 23, 2025 at 2:00pm
El Conquistador Tucson, A Hilton Resort

Kick-off the holiday season at the most magical celebration in Tucson!



The regal elegance and glamour of the Sugar Plum Fairy herself are captured in this High Tea event that is fun for the whole family. Experience the magic of the season with sensational live dance performances of excerpts from The Nutcracker and special photo opportunities with our cast of characters. Enjoy delectable savory and sweet treats and find the perfect gift for everyone on your shopping list at our enchanting Ballet Tucson Boutique and Silent Auction. This exquisite event is the perfect place to begin your holiday celebrations!

For tickets, call **520.903.1445** or visit ballettucson.org/events

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The School of Ballet Tucson is seeking passionate individuals to support our programming and mission! We offer a variety of volunteer opportunities, from administrative aid, to special events and performances, to our Esprit de Corps group. Invest in the art form you love, meet new people, learn more about our school and experience ballet behind-the-scenes.

We invite you to join our team!

For more information, please contact June Mullin
520.623.3373 or school@ballettucson.org

OUR SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS AUGUST 4, 2025!



OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

Students and their families are invited to explore all that our school has to offer at our Open House events! Meet school faculty, view our facility (including an exclusive tour of our Ballet Tucson Costume Shop) and take placement classes to discover the right class schedule for your student.

Saturday, August 2, 2025 from 12:00pm - 4:00pm
and Saturday August 9, 2025 from 2:00pm-5:00pm

To view our school calendar, weekly schedule, class prices, and audition details, please visit ballettucson.org/school

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We look forward to welcoming you for another great school year at SBT! To guarantee a place in desired classes, early registration is recommended for both new and returning students (July 14 - August 9, 2025).

We assess each student's progress on an ongoing basis and evaluations are made in consultation with all teachers. Placement levels are shared with returning students and parents prior to the beginning of the school year. Recommendations for placement and advancement are based on a student's age in addition to ability, strength, and technical development. All new students must take a placement class to be assessed by faculty before enrolling in classes.

REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 14TH!

For more information and to register, please call **520-623-3373** or email school@ballettucson.org.

NEW! Register and pay online through our new enrollment system! Visit ballettucson.org/school

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