

Ballet Prestige Student and Parent Handbook 2011

Artistic Directors

Vera Kurmasheva, Master of Fine Arts (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

Zhanat Baidaralin, Master of Fine Arts (Moscow, Russia)

Mission

Our mission is to teach world-quality ballet based on a Russian syllabus universally known as the Vaganova method. We adopted this system to effectively educate American students. As a result we have created a very flexible and successful method that has allowed some of our students to join the ranks of professional companies and successfully enter college with dance departments.

What We Do

We offer a comprehensive classical ballet program: including pointe, partnering, variations, turn techniques, ballet heritage; along with elements of historical dance and character, and contemporary/modern. We also offer beginner adult classes and workout. We devote a lot of attention to technical skills, stamina, musicality; teaching the understanding of the classical ballet movements, its vocabulary, and artistic presentation. Students will receive personal attention from experienced and dedicated teachers.

We have two annual performances which are The Nutcracker and our Spring Performance. Everyone will have the opportunity to perform. Our future plans include the creation of a Junior Company and Ballet Prestige Theatre. We are glad to share more than 40 years' stage and teaching experience with all our students.

Ballet Prestige Level Classes:

Pre-Ballet	5-6 years old (without or little experience)
Beginner 1 & 2 Ballet	7-8 years old (one year or more experience)
Beginner 3/Intermediate I	8-10 years old (with 1-2 years experience)
Intermediate I/II	11-13 years old (with 2-3 years experience)
Intermediate II/III	13-14 years old (with 2-3 years Pointe experience)
Advanced	14+ Pre-Professional

Academic Year:

Classical Ballet Syllabus, including:

Pointe

Partnering

Variations

Contemporary/Modern

Open Classes:

Teen Beginner Ballet

Adult Beginner Ballet

Adult Advanced Ballet

Workout

Private Lessons

Registration Fee

An annual non-refundable registration fee of \$25 is required from all students. A \$45 non-refundable fee is required for a family with 2-3 students.

Refunds

No refunds are given for missed classes. Students are responsible for notifying us in advance if you plan to be away. We are happy to arrange make-up classes taken within the 4 weeks of a month's tuition. Please see the teacher in person or call 401-467-6698 to notify the school before the missed classes.

Withdrawals

A two-week written notice must be given before withdrawal from the program. A refund is applicable two weeks from the date of received notice. You will be charge for all scheduled classes until written notice is received.

Class Placement

All new students 8 year and older, and students with previous dance training, are asked to see the artistic directors to schedule a placement class to determine the appropriate class level. The faculty reserves all rights to determine the final decision on placement and level. This is in reference to the rigorous physical ballet training offered at Ballet Prestige.

Advancement and Observation

The faculty will monitor progress of every student each semester (twice a year). Due to limited studio space we are unable to offer scheduled observation classes but please feel free to call for an appointment. We encourage parents to become involved with their dancer's training.

Ballet Prestige Dress Code

Girls: Black leotard, pink tights and pink slippers

Boys: White t-Shirt and socks; black tight and slippers

Company Class: Any type or color leotard

Adults: Any type or color leotard

Attire

Students must wear the proper attire and dress code for classes. This traditional dress code was developed for safety and aesthetic reasons. The choice of black leotard with pink tights for girls (and black with white for boys) assists the teacher to see the development of the dancer's line and dance movements. It also represents the grace and discipline of the traditional classical ballet class. Long hair must be worn up and off the face. No jewelry or watches as these can injure dancers doing turns, etc.

Attendance

In order to achieve a high standard of dance training with proper technique and development, all students are expected to attend 85% minimum of classes within their level. Classes start on time. Faculty will take attendance each class. Please notify us by phone 401-467-6698 if you happen to be late.

Class Readiness

Students should arrive early with enough time to fully dress with hair. Class Readiness means the dancer is in complete attire and ready-waiting 10 minutes in advance to enter their class.

Cancellations

During bad weather students can call (401) 467-6698 to inquire if classes have been cancelled. We will also try to post this news on the website at www.balletprestige.com.

Injury

Classes are taken at your own risk. The owners, teachers, assistants and staff are not responsible and are held harmless of student injuries suffered before, during, or after class on or off Ballet Prestige property. The same holds true for persons waiting in non-classroom areas. Students participating in competitions or shows or other studio-related activities do so at their own risk. Every effort is taken to prevent injuries. Please have dancers arrive with enough time to get settled, stretch and be prepared to take class.

Safety Rule & Health Regulations

Please do not touch the mirrors. Do not hang from the ballet barres. No food or drink is allowed in the classrooms. Bottled water is allowed. Please do not put foreign matter into the toilet. Please dispose of all garbage and empty bottles in the trash cans.

Student Liability

If a student damages studio property, the parents will be held responsible and liable for cost of any repairs. Students will be held responsible for misrepresenting Ballet Prestige.

Studio Etiquette

We expect all our students to be polite, respectful and with a professional attitude toward their teacher, friends and families in or away from class and the studio. Ballet Prestige is dedicated to providing progressive instruction. Please give respectful attention to the teacher in class. No conversation is allowed between students during the class.

Photography Permit

Any student gives their permission for any photography or video that is taken of them to be used for promotion of the school. This includes the right to newspapers, brochures, Cable TV advertising or the website www.balletprestige.com (or prior title of www.balletprestige.org)

Ballet Prestige Performance Fee

What are “Costume Fees” and “Performance Fees” and Why?

All costumes provided by Ballet Prestige are exclusively hand-made and are the property of Ballet Prestige. Students will use these costumes during performances and will return them to the costume room. A “*costume fee*” is requested to offset the cost to clean, repair and create new costumes for future performances. A “*performance fee*” is separate from a costume fee in that its role is to offset the cost to renting a theatre performance space. Theatre rentals typically include the stage space, facilities, tech crews (lighting/sound) along with building maintenance and parking lots.

To reduce the confusion on describing two different fees, we’re now naming it the *Ballet Prestige Performance Fee*. It’s inclusive of both the costume and performance fee with the student benefit of an increased average 3 hours/per week Saturday Repertoire/Rehearsal dance instruction.

In an annual year we have two performances: The Nutcracker and the Spring Performance. Since we will have two distinct theatre rentals, the *Ballet Prestige Performance Fee* is requested twice: one for each performance. It is a flat fee of \$100 per performance and this may be spread out over four months with balance due prior to performance date.

Nutcracker:

\$100 or 4 easy-payments; balance due prior to performance date.
(*Academic Year Registration, 2010*)

Spring Performance:

\$100 or 4 easy-payments; balance due prior to performance date.
(*February, 2011*)

Performance Casts and Variations to Competitions

Subject to final decision by Ballet Prestige’ Artistic Directors.

Unauthorized Use of Studio Materials

Unauthorized use of class materials, routines and/or choreography is strictly prohibited.

Gift Certificates

Ballet Prestige is pleased to provide Gift Certificates. They’re a wonderful gift for Private Lessons.

Summer Dance Program

Ballet Prestige now offers a Summer Dance Program and we invite all our students to continue to study in the warmer months.

Tuition Policies and Information

Tuition:

Ballet Prestige Academic Year offers classes from September to June (39 weeks).

The monthly tuition plan and fees are divided into 10 equal payments.

All rehearsals and performances are counted as classes.

First payment is due at Registration. Tuition must be paid by the 4th week of each month.

All accounts must be cleared before June 15.

Ballet Prestige accepts Check, Money Order, or Cash.

Discounts:

Ballet Prestige offers family discounts. A “Second child” will receive a 10% discount. “Third child” will receive a 15% discount.

Ballet Prestige will award a 15% discount towards your next months’ tuition when you introduce a NEW student who enrolls in the dance program.

A 10% discount is given if a full years’ tuition is paid in full in September.

Penalties & Additional Fees:

A \$20 fee will be charged for returned checks. Thereafter only cash will be accepted.

Students who have attended classes but have not paid for 4 consecutive weeks will be removed from all classes and performances until the balance has been paid.

If a bill has to be mailed, a fee of \$5 will be charged to offset processing and postage.

A \$15 late fee will be charged for late payments after the 1st of each month.

NO EXCEPTIONS.

Confidentiality:

Every student form, personal, or payment information is considered strictly confidential. All confidential information will remain confidential to the teacher or staff members handling the materials.