

The School of Greensboro Ballet

2008/2009 Student Handbook

WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL OF GREENSBORO BALLET

The School of Greensboro Ballet is the Triad's only not-for-profit classical ballet school. As such, we are not motivated by commercial gain, but rather by offering the finest in dance education to our students. Regardless of whether a student wishes to pursue dance as a career, or participate for personal development and enjoyment, we are committed to offering each student an education in dance that is based on the traditions of classical ballet around the world.

Our students are enrolled in classes that are suitable for their individual stage of development. We offer a carefully researched curriculum of study that prepares our students for acceptance at any major ballet school anywhere. While gaining a strong foundation in classical ballet, the students have taught us that they also gain a strong foundation in life skills. Our students take pride in their ever expanding abilities to manage their time well, to follow instructions, to be focused, self-disciplined, to be prompt, to be creative problem solvers and to offer the gift of performance to audiences. While we are always pleased to see students go off to enjoy success in the dance world, we are equally delighted and committed to helping them succeed in other fields. Many of our students have become successful doctors, lawyers, teachers, producers, actors, singers, computer programmers, scientists, and mothers and fathers. They often tell us the discipline, the organizational skills and other thinking skills they learned at the SGB have helped them succeed in life.

We look forward to working with your child in our school. We know we have the best to offer in dance education here and we are honored that you have chosen the School of Greensboro Ballet.

Maryhelen Mayfield, Artistic/Executive Director
John Dennis, School Director

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Phone (336)333-7480 Fax (336)333-7482
www.greensboroballet.com

Greensboro Ballet is a funded member agency of the United Arts Council of Greensboro.

2008/2009 FEE SCHEDULE

NUMBER OF CLASSES PER WEEK	ANNUAL RATE	TRIMESTER RATE
1 45 Minute Class	\$465	\$155
1 60 Minute Class	\$591	\$197
2 60 Minute Classes/Week	\$984	\$328
2 75 Minute Classes/Week	\$1080	\$350
2 90 Minute Classes/Week	\$1164	\$388
2 90 Min. Classes + 1 60 Min.	\$1359	\$453
2 90 Min. Classes + 2 60 Min.	\$1539	\$513
Youth Ensemble Program	\$1602	\$534
Company Trainee Program	\$1875	\$625
Unlimited Family	\$2067	\$689

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is understood to be for the entire school year September 2 through May 21, with the goal of completing the syllabus for each level over the 9 month period.

TUITION REFUNDS & CREDIT

Tuition paid to the school is non-refundable. Tuition credits will be considered only in the cases of prolonged absence due to serious injury or illness substantiated by medical documentation.

Trimesters - **1st: September 2 – November 17**
 2nd: November 18 – February 28
 3rd: March 2 – May 21

☆**DISCOUNT**- for families with more than one child enrolled; combine the total number of classes per week for an overall tuition amount.

REGISTRATION FEE

Registration fee is \$20 for all students registering before June 13, \$25 for all students registering between June 16-Aug. 15, and \$30 for all students registering after Aug. 15.

TUITION PAYMENT PROCEDURE

Tuition is paid on a trimester basis, or it can be paid in its entirety by September 2, 2008. Payment for each trimester must be made by the **first** day of the trimester (SEE DATES ABOVE). The School of Greensboro Ballet will send you a bill before each trimester begins. We will also remind you of tuition due dates in our monthly newsletter, "To the Pointe," and on the bulletin board in our hallway. If tuition is over 10 working days late, the student will not be allowed to take or even observe class until the tuition issue is settled. If other payment arrangements need to be made, please communicate with the office.

2008/2009 DANCE ATTIRE & GROOMING REQUIREMENTS

Proper dance attire and grooming are necessary parts of any high quality dance training program. School of Greensboro Ballet students are required to wear leotards in the style and color assigned to their particular class level. Dancers not in uniform or properly groomed may be asked to observe class.

Dancers who take 2 or more classes per week will want to get more than one uniform. Please check the list below to see what to wear to your dance classes. All dancewear may be obtained from:

Carolina Dancewear, 1627 New Garden Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410 856-9983

LEOTARDS

Children's Dance 1 & 2	Capezio Style #132-C, White
Children's Dance 3 & 4	Capezio Style #132-C, Pink
Elementary Ballet 1	Capezio Style #132-C, Columbia Blue
Elementary Ballet 2	Capezio Style #132-C, Royal
Elementary Ballet 3	Capezio Style #132-C, Black
Older Beginner Ballet	Mirella Style #515-L, Black
Intermediate Ballet 1	Mirella Style #515-L, Lt. Blue
Intermediate Ballet 2	Mirella Style #515-L, Royal
Intermediate Ballet 3	Mirella Style #515-L, Black
Advanced-Intermediate/Advanced Ballet	Mirella Style #207-L, Periwinkle
Company Trainee	Mirella Style #207-L, Black
Jazz Classes	Any Solid Color Leotard, style comparable to any ballet leotard & Black Bal-togs Jazz Pants: child style #13428; adult style #3428; or comparable style in Capezio
Pre-Pointe Classes	Same as for your ballet class
Pointe Classes	Same as for your ballet class
Boys in Children's Dance	Black biker shorts, well fitting white t-shirt, White socks, black ballet shoes
Boys/Men in Elem. 1 & up	Black tights rolled with a belt at the waist, well-fitting white t-shirt, white socks, white ballet shoes

WAIST ELASTIC

All ballet students from Elementary 1 through Company Trainee need a $\frac{3}{4}$ or a 1-inch wide, **white** waist elastic. These could be purchased from Carolina Dancewear or homemade.

TIGHTS AND SHOES

Children's Dance students and All Elementary Ballet Students wear pink tights (non-shiny) and pink ballet flats with the elastic sewn across the instep. (See picture on next page)

Note: Ballet flats should not be purchased with "room to grow".

Intermediate Ballet I through Company Trainees wear Danskin Ballet Pink mesh tights with seams or Capezio Classical Pink mesh tights with seams. Tights must be clean and free of holes. Pink ballet flats with elastic SEWN and crossed at instep (not knotted and crossed under shoe!) (See picture on next page)

Note: Ballet flats should not be purchased with "room to grow".

Also: Starting with the beginning of the 2008-2009 season, only leather shoes will be allowed in class.

Jazz Students wear black jazz oxfords.

GROOMING REQUIREMENTS

Children's Dance 1,2,3,& 4, Elementary Ballet 1 and all Jazz classes: Female students must be well groomed, with their hair pulled back from their faces in a pony tail, pig tails, or braids. Short hair may be managed with a headband or barrettes. Male students should wear their hair in a style that is no longer than collar length.

Elementary Ballet 2 to Company Trainee and Pointe Classes: Female students should wear their hair in a traditional bun. NO BANGS OR WISPIES. Male students should have their hair cut to collar length or shorter and pulled back off their face and be clean shaven.

JEWELRY: Jewelry, (except for small, non-dangling earrings) face paint, body/face jewels & watches are NOT allowed in any class.

STUDIO RULES

1. Children's Dance students and Elementary Ballet students must be accompanied by an adult when not in class. Do not leave your child unattended in the Greensboro Cultural Center. Greensboro Ballet and the School of Greensboro Ballet cannot assume responsibility for your child outside the classroom.
2. Parents and siblings may wait for their dancer in the **WAITING AREA** on the third floor next to the snack machines. **Building policy and fire regulations do not permit parents to wait in the corridor outside our studios.** If you arrive early to class, please wait in the waiting area until the time of your child's class.
3. Students, parents, and siblings must be quiet in the hallways. No screaming or loud talking permitted, and NO RUNNING in the hallways. These actions can be disruptive to the classes currently taking place and to the administrative staff working in the offices.
4. Students are expected to be quiet and to behave in a manner conducive to learning when in the classroom. **All students in Elementary Ballet 3 and up, and all Jazz and Pointe, are required to bring a notebook and pencil to class for making notes about corrections, writing down vocabulary words and writing down dances learned. These notebooks are vital to the students' progress. Also EB-3 and up are required to have a ballet dictionary, which can be purchased at Carolina Dancewear.**
5. We expect our students to be on time for class. In the event that a student is late, they should enter the classroom prepared to dance (in dance attire ONLY), and stand in the doorway until the teacher invites them into the classroom. If the student has missed too much of the warm-up process, they will be invited to observe class that day and can make-up the class at another time. Otherwise, the teacher will invite the student to join class at the most appropriate moment.
6. **If a student, for reasons beyond their control, is unable to be dressed or groomed appropriately, he/she needs to speak to the instructor before class, or they may be asked to observe.**
7. If a student asks to sit out because of injury/illness, they will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the class.

8. We require that students wear a ‘cover-up’ when not in their classroom. Cover-ups consist of a shirt, pants, or skirt and street shoes. Remember that the Greensboro Cultural Center is a public facility, and we should all dress appropriately.
 9. Ballet shoe drawstrings should be tied in a knot and cut off. The instructor will show the student how to do this. An elastic strap must be securely sewn onto each ballet shoe to keep the shoe on the dancer’s foot (See diagram below). If you are unsure about how to sew your shoes, ask your teacher or the Registrar for help. Ballet shoes should never be worn outdoors.
 10. Climbing or hanging on the ballet barres is prohibited.
 11. Food (including candy, gum, snacks) and drinks may not be brought into the classrooms. They may instead be consumed in the waiting area or outside the building. Only water in water bottles is permitted in the classroom.
 12. In between classes is NOT an appropriate time to talk to your child’s teacher about questions, concerns, or problems. The teachers need that time to either prepare for their next class or take a small break. If a parent wishes to talk to their child’s teacher, they should call the School’s Registrar, who will set up an appointment (by phone or in person) with the teacher for you.
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| 13. If a parent or caregiver needs something delivered, or a message passed to a student, please send it through the registrar so as not to disrupt class. |
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AUDITION INFORMATION

THE NUTCRACKER AUDITIONS

Ballet students taking a minimum of two classes per week and enrolled in Elementary Ballet 3 or higher are eligible to audition for Greensboro Ballet’s annual production of *The Nutcracker*. This year’s production will take place at the War Memorial Auditorium, December 19-21, 2008. If interested in auditioning for *The Nutcracker*, students should pick up a copy of the Nutcracker Rules and Regulations during the first week of classes. Parents will be required to attend a Parent’s Meeting and to sign an agreement with Greensboro Ballet allowing your child to participate and agreeing to support the rules and regulations.

The Parents Meetings will be Wednesday, September 17 at 7:30pm and Thursday, September 18 at 7:30pm. **ALL PARENTS OF AUDITIONING STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ONE OF THESE MEETINGS.**

This year’s *NUTCRACKER AUDITION SCHEDULE* is as follows:

◆ Sunday, Sept. 21	Elementary Ballet 2 & Intermediate Ballet 1	1:30-3:00
	Intermediate Ballet 2 & Intermediate Ballet 3	3:15-4:15
	*Boys	3:15-3:45
	Advanced Intermediate/Advanced Ballet	4:30-5:30

*We are looking for boys ages 7-11 to participate in *The Nutcracker*. They do not need to be students of the Greensboro Ballet. Parents of the Boys are **also required** to attend one of the Parent’s Meetings.

PERFORMING COMPANY AUDITIONS

Ballet Students ages 13 and up are eligible to audition for the Greensboro Ballet. 12-15 year olds may audition to become members of Greensboro Ballet Youth Ensemble. Greensboro Ballet is appropriate for only very serious, dedicated and talented ballet students. Rehearsals are extensive throughout the year. If interested in auditioning for the Greensboro Ballet or Greensboro Ballet Youth Ensemble, please pick up a copy of the rules and regulations from the office. Students and Parents will sign an agreement stating that they understand and support these rules and regulations. The rules are tough and apply to ALL Company members and Youth Ensemble members.

TALENT SCHOLARSHIP/FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

A limited number of Talent Scholarships/Financial Assistance is available based on dedication, motivation, potential, and financial need. **Talent Scholarships/Financial Assistance students must study exclusively at the School of Greensboro Ballet.** If interested in applying for a Talent Scholarship/Financial Assistance, please contact the Greensboro Ballet office at 333-7480 and request that Talent Scholarship/Financial Assistance Application be sent to you. Talent Scholarships/Financial Assistance applications are to be turned in to the School of Greensboro Ballet's Registrar **no later than 4PM, Friday, September 5, 2007.**

All Talent Scholarships and Financially Assisted students must attend an audition class to be held at the Greensboro Ballet studios on Sat., Sept. 6, 2008 from 1:15-3:15pm.

If you would like to support the Greensboro Ballet Scholarship Fund, please call the office at 333-7480 and let us know. Our dancers would certainly appreciate your support.

GENERAL POLICIES

STUDENT CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

The School of Greensboro Ballet offers classes on a multi-level system, with students progressing from one level to the next at their own individual pace. The average stay in any given level is one school year. However, some students because of physical, intellectual, or emotional development may require a longer or shorter period in any given level. Students are placed in the course of study that best suits their training needs, **with age being a secondary consideration.**

The faculty, having consulted with one another, may determine at any time during the school year that a student may require some adjustment in her/his course work. In this event, the parent is advised of this and a change of schedule is implemented, if possible.

PARENT OBSERVATION WEEKS

We do not allow parents to observe classes on a regular basis because it distracts the students. Parents are invited to observe students in their classes during the following weeks:

November 17-November 22, 2008

March 2-March 7, 2009

MAKING UP MISSED CLASSES

The School of Greensboro Ballet highly encourages all missed classes to be made up. Students missing classes may make-up in another class of the same level or in a class one level above their own. Please check the School of Greensboro Ballet CLASS SCHEDULE for the days and times of classes that would be appropriate. Then call the School Registrar at 333-7480 and let her know which class you intend to make-up in and on which date so that she may verify with the teacher that it is alright to attend that class. All classes must be made up in the trimester in which they were missed.

SNOW CLOSINGS

Greensboro Ballet will make its own decision regarding the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather. In the event of snow/ice having occurred overnight, a determination will be made by 1:00pm. Call 333-7480 after 1:00pm to find out if classes are cancelled. If no one is in the office, a message will be left on the answering machine. If possible an announcement will be made on the radio and TV. Classes missed because of inclement weather may be made up by the student. (see above)

LOST & FOUND

At the end of each day, items left in the classrooms are collected and put into the Lost & Found located in the Registrar's office. If items are lost in the Greensboro Cultural Center, such as in the bathrooms or in the waiting area, check with the GCC office on the 1st floor or call 373-2381. In June, all items left in the Greensboro Ballet Lost & Found are donated to charity.

PARKING

You may park around the building at several timed parking meters or behind the building in the Church Street Parking Deck (you get 30 minutes of **free** parking in this deck). Do not park elsewhere, your car may be towed.

ILLNESSES

If you are sick and unable to attend class, please call the Registrar before your class begins to inform her you will be absent. Children who have contagious diseases such as pink eye, chicken pox, the flu, etc., should **not** be sent to class or rehearsals.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SCHOOL REGISTRAR

The Registrar serves as the students and parents main line of communication. All payments, if not mailed in, should be turned in to the Registrar. If your child will be absent from class, please call the Registrar and she will inform the proper teacher(s). The Registrar also sets up pointe shoe fittings and parent-teacher conferences. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, BUT the Registrar's hours are from 2pm until 6:00pm, Monday thru Thursday. Leave a message if no one is in the office and we will return your call.

STUDENT CONCERTS

Children's Dance 1, 2, 3 and 4 Concerts will be held Saturday, May 9, 2009.

The Student Concert (Elementary to Advanced Ballet and Jazz) is May 2, 2009.

The School of Greensboro Ballet presents its Ballet, Pointe, and Jazz students in a professionally produced concert at the end of the year. It is a simple and elegant concert designed to demonstrate your dancers' technique and artistic abilities. We do not present our students in expensive costumes covered with feathers and sequins.

The choreography for our younger students comes straight from their curriculum. Our older students usually present an excerpt from one of the classics or have a dance choreographed especially for them.

Our Children's Dance Program presents a short class with costumes and in an informal, no stress setting with a carnival and refreshments after.

There are no extra fees for either concert and admission to both is free.

GREENSBORO BALLET

Greensboro Ballet is a non-profit professional ballet company housed at the School of Greensboro Ballet. Membership is by audition only (see AUDITION INFORMATION). Each year, Greensboro Ballet offers the Triad a truly spectacular season of traditional ballets plus new, contemporary works in the classical form.

The Ballet has worked with many guest choreographers and guest artists including Robert Barnett (NYCB & Atlanta Ballet), Gyula Pandi (NCSA), Thom Clower (Dallas Ballet), Melissa Hayden (former New York City Ballet principal & NCSA faculty member), Leslie Jane Pessemier (NY free lance choreographer), Rick McCullough (NCSA & Netherlands Dance Theater), Pavel Romaniouk and Natalia Chapurskaya (Leningrad State Theatre), Mel Tomlinson (dancer, teacher, & choreographer), plus others too numerous to list.

Greensboro Ballet performs throughout the Triad in many community appearances including libraries, the Four Seasons Towne Center, in Retirement Communities, and in schools all over Guilford and surrounding counties. The Ballet has also worked with local organizations including the Central NC School for the Deaf, the Gateway Center, the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, Center City Park, and numerous in house performances.

Greensboro Ballet's 2008/2009 Season should be exciting as we present the following productions:

FALL ~ *Hansel & Gretel*

October 11-12, 2008

Greensboro Cultural Center

WINTER ~ *The Nutcracker*

December 18, 20, 21, 2008

War Memorial Auditorium

SPRING ~ *Firebird and other works*

March 20-22

Greensboro Day School

Sloan Theater

For more information about Greensboro Ballet's 2008/2009 season, please call 333-7480.

2008/2009 School of Greensboro Ballet Calendar

AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
	2 ♦ 1st day of class, tuition due 5 ♦ Talent Scholarship/Financial Assistance applications due 7 ♦ Talent/Scholarship auditions 1:30-3:30pm 16 ♦ \$15 late tuition fee applied 17 & 18 ♦ <i>Nutcracker</i> parents meeting 7:30pm 21 ♦ <i>Nutcracker</i> auditions	<i>Nutcracker</i> rehearsals throughout the month 11 & 12 ♦ Hansel & Gretel
NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY
17-22 ♦ Parent Observation Week 18 ♦ 2nd trimester Tuition due 26-29 ♦ CLOSED for Thanksgiving Break	1 ♦ Classes Resume 15-20 ♦ CLOSED for <i>The Nutcracker</i> 19-21 ♦ <i>The Nutcracker</i> 22-Jan. 3 ♦ CLOSED for Winter Break	5 ♦ Classes resume 19♦ CLOSED for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
	2 ♦ 3rd trimester begins Tuition Due 2-7 ♦ Parent Observation Week 16 ♦ \$15 late tuition fee applied 20-22 ♦ <i>Firebird</i> 30 ♦ Classes Resume	TBA ♦ Student Concert: Ballet and Jazz Programs 10-18 ♦ Closed – Spring Break 20 ♦ Classes Resume
MAY	JUNE	JULY
2 ♦ Student Concert for Ballet & Jazz Programs 9 ♦ Student Concert for Children's Dance Program 21 ♦ Last Day of Classes	Summer classes TBA	Summer classes TBA