

Ashkenazy CLASSICAL BALLET

ACB PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

Ashkenazy Classical Ballet is thrilled to welcome all of our students for the 2021-22 training year! The following pages outline our studio policies. Thank you for reading, and for doing your part to make our school a great place. Let's have a wonderful year together!

Studio Etiquette

- Arrive at the studio in time to prepare for class. For example, slippers and alignment belts should be on before class begins.
- Arrive neat and tidy, as this sets the expectation for the lesson of the day. Are slipper elastics properly placed? Is the hair in a proper bun?
- Use the restroom before class.
- Use gentle voices in the waiting area and keep all belongings neat and tidy.
- Enter the studio space only when the instructor extends an invitation.
- If a student is late, it is customary to wait quietly—in view—outside of the studio door, until the instructor greets the student and waves them inside.
- Refrain from eating during class, or from chewing gum in class.

- The instructor will allow a water break at an appropriate time. A water bottle may be brought into the classroom.
- Refrain from excessive talking during class. If a question arises, raise a hand and wait.
- Do not sit on the floor in between exercises. Practice holding strong posture.
- Pay attention while other classmates are being either featured or corrected. This is one of the best ways to learn.
- Strive to keep a positive attitude, even when the lesson is challenging.
- At the end of class, it is customary to thank the instructor with a small curtsey or bow.
- Students exhibiting highly disrespectful and/or disruptive behavior will be dismissed from class and a meeting will be set with the parent.

Class Attire

Proper dress is imperative to classical ballet training. Leotards, tights, and slippers allow for the instructor and the dancer to see how the muscles are working, as well as to see proper placement and technique. By arriving to class appropriately dressed, a dancer shows pride and respect for themselves and their studio, as well as pride and respect for their instructor and the art of ballet.

- Wear the leotard color associated with your corresponding level.
- Hair must be in a bun. For those with short hair, the hair must be neatly clipped and/or secured back from the face.
- Unless the instructor makes an exception, refrain from wearing warm-up shirts, leg warmers, sweatpants, skirts, etc.
- Please keep nails clean, short, and free of polish. Clear nail polish and nude tones are acceptable.
- Please take care of all ballet attire by keeping it laundered and in good condition. Replace items that become worn. Garment bags and line-drying will extend the life of leotards and tights.
- Refrain from wearing ballet slippers and/or pointe shoes outside of the studio. Exceptions are made for restroom visits.

- Small earrings, necklaces, and medical jewelry are acceptable, however, remove all other jewelry before class begins. This ensures the safety of all students, especially during combinations in center.
- Beginning in the Swan level, ballet skirts are allowed.

Code of Conduct

ACB is committed to providing an emotionally and physically safe environment. We do our best to ensure that all students experience classical ballet in a respectful, inclusive, and supportive environment.

There is zero tolerance for bullying, whether it is from parent-to-parent, from parent-to-dancer, or from dancer-to dancer. Bullying refers to verbal acts, physical acts, or other acts of harassment regardless of whether it occurs in classes, rehearsals, performances or anywhere in and around the studio or potential performance sites.

Name-calling, joking, cyberbullying, or making offensive remarks about a person's religion, gender, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status will not be tolerated. If any behaviors associated with disrespect toward others is either reported or witnessed, the behavior will immediately be addressed and steps toward remediation will be implemented.

Facilities

Students and families are expected to treat the studio facilities with respect.

- Barres are not to be hung on or sat on, as this could result in either an accident or breakage.
- Please refrain from wearing street shoes into the studio space.
- Do not lean on or smudge the mirrors.
- Students are responsible for the disposal of their snack wrappers and baggies, etc. Please throw all trash into the bins provided.

Injuries

Classical ballet trainees may experience minor aches and pains. Most aches and pains subside within a reasonable amount of time. Please see a physician as soon as possible should a medical concern arise.

Students with an injury of any type, must report the injury to the instructor before taking class. This will help ensure safety, proper development, and healing of the student. With more extensive injuries, a note from a physician detailing the injury and whether or not a student is cleared to participate in class is required. The instructor will also meet with parents to ensure an appropriate recovery plan is in place.

Registration & Tuition

A \$25 registration fee is due upon registration. This fee is implemented yearly, per student, and is non-refundable.

ACB tuition is due each month by the end of the first week. Please contact Elesia for specific tuition information pertaining to the enrolled dancer's level. Tuition is non-refundable.

Preferred forms of payment are cash or checks. Venmo is also accepted. (A \$30 fee is assessed for returned checks.)

Attendance Policy

Strong attendance is imperative. Dance involves progressive learning, and regular attendance is essential to a student's progress. Please note that absences and tardiness hold back the entire class. The instructor cannot jeopardize responsibilities to the rest of class for one student.

Please make every effort to have your child attend each lesson. If your dancer needs to miss a class, please call Elesia at (503) 841-6985. This becomes especially important when we are preparing for Parent Observation Day and/or potential performances. Missed group classes cannot be made up. There will be no refunds for missed classes.

If a student is absent from two group classes in a given month, the instructor will notify the parent if a private lesson is necessary for the student to catch up.

If a student is unable to dance due to an injury, etc., yet is feeling well enough to attend class, they are encouraged to participate via observation so that they will retain key elements of class. That noted, students who are ill, who have a fever, or who are exhibiting contagious symptoms should stay home and rest.