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*Special thanks to Canton Country Day  
Pamela Shaw Head of School*

## II. MISSION STATEMENT

Canton Ballet is a non-profit organization committed to fostering an appreciation of the art of dance within the local community and dedicated to providing the highest artistic quality of instruction by operating a school for all age and skill levels, and a pre-professional company with performance opportunities for the serious or career oriented student at the advanced level.

### Goals of the School of Canton Ballet

For more than forty years, School of Canton Ballet has been teaching children to understand and enjoy movement. The outstanding reputation of our instructors coupled with our teaching philosophy has contributed to the School's significant growth in recent years. The journey toward achieving one's dream is a combination of desire, enthusiasm, discipline, tenacity, teamwork and inspiration. Dance instills confidence and self-awareness that will help anyone achieves his/her goals. The comprehensive curriculum provides students with a strong classical technique that is adaptable to any style, and instills a life-long love of dance and movement. Enjoy the study of ballet as it exists in a carefully codified system incorporating barre, centre and special exercises. Methodology that stresses a healthful approach to all the work provides the basis for the training process.

The School of Canton Ballet works to bring the arts into the lives of anyone who wishes. An opportunity is provided for everyone in the community, no matter what his/her age or experience, to discover the joys of dance.

To implement its goals, the School of Canton Ballet:

- offers a rigorous curriculum that combines sound movement technique with musicality and artistic appreciation,
- carefully selects gifted and professional instructors who teach proper ballet technique while remaining highly aware of the special emotional needs and physical limitations of young children,
- provides each student with the individual attention required for maximum artistic growth,
- limits its class size to ensures that every student receives individual attention and encouragement,
- fosters an environment of positive guidance and mutual respect,
- familiarizes its students with world class repertoire in the studio and offers performance opportunities for those who qualify,
- offers high quality instruction to students ages toddler through young adult,
- has a world class faculty incorporating internationally known guest teachers,
- features live piano accompaniment in all classes,
- conducts year end evaluations to provide helpful feedback and to assess student placement in the program,
- provides performance opportunities,
- encourages participation in dance enrichment activities,
- provides state-of-the-art studios with sprung floors and mirrors.

Help is given students in setting and reaching realistic goals so that they may excel to the best of their abilities. Above all, the faculty believes that the confidence, pride of accomplishment and joy that students learn in the dance studio will shine a positive, influential light into their daily lives. At Canton Ballet, instruction is based on healthy physical principles, the stimulation of imagination and a comfortable environment that allows the creative process to unfold.

Students also receive the special benefit of being able to rehearse with and observe the pre-professional company and learn the ins-and-outs of being a pre professional dancer.

Education is the top priority at Canton Ballet and the school has numerous community outreach programs to promote dance education. Canton Ballet's outreach throughout Stark County has proven to make a difference in the lives of the students, both academically and socially. That program allows children who normally cannot attend arts events to enjoy the beauty and majesty of ballet.

## Canton Ballet's Ballet Technique

The ballet technique taught at the School is based on the outstanding elements of the Russian, Italian and French schools. All stem from the five absolute positions of the feet which oblige the dancer to turn the legs outward from the hip, greatly increasing the mobility and extension, and from definite positions of the arms, torso and head. Like the alphabet, every movement is learned separately, then woven into combinations of movements and finally into the choreographic poems we call ballets. This system forms the basis for all the courses given at the school.

## Pointe Shoe policy

Pointe work is an exciting and essential part of a ballet student's training. Receiving one's pointe shoes is a badge indicating that the training is proceeding appropriately. As always, our primary concern is for the long-term welfare of the child. It is important that the child's progress be properly monitored during her development. Our students begin preparing for pointe work during Elementary 3, when they add 15 minutes to their normal class time to take Pre-Pointe. During this time they work in flat shoes to learn pointe technique and combinations, and to develop the strength they will need to dance *en pointe*. (see section on Pointe in Divisions of the School)

### **III. GOVERNANCE AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Board of Trustees**

*See cantonballet.com*

A Board of Trustees, consisting of twenty-four members elected to three-year terms, governs Canton Ballet. All Trustees must be voting members of Canton Ballet. New Trustees and Trustees being re-elected for another three-year term are voted upon by the general membership of Canton Ballet at the Annual Meeting. Vacancies that occur throughout a fiscal year may be filled upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and a vote by the Board of Trustees.

The officers of the Board of Trustees, including President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer comprise the Executive Committee of the Board. The Executive Committee coordinates the work of the Board and its committees, and typically meets monthly. These officers are elected annually by the Board of Trustees and serve one-year terms.

The day-to-day management of Canton Ballet and the School of Canton Ballet is the responsibility of the Artistic and Executive Director. The Board concerns itself primarily with governance and policy issues. However, the Board bears ultimate responsibility for all fiduciary matters. The Artistic and Executive Director is the sole employee of the Board; all other personnel report to her.

### **IV. FACULTY, ARTISTIC STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION**

*See cantonballet.com*

## **V. ? WHO IS IN CHARGE? A Guide for Parents**

### **Artistic and Executive Director Cassandra Crowley**

Educational Program	Schedules Promotions
Classroom Issues/Concerns	Costumes
Classroom Policies & Procedures	Attendance
Canton Ballet Company	Marketing and Publicity
Regional Dance America	School Policies
Web Site Development School	Promotions
Fundraising	Artistic Issues
School Productions	Class Placement
Casting	Scenery
Behavior/Discipline	Personnel

### **Manager Deby Barath**

Finance	Box Office
Rental Board Fundraiser	Publications
Press and Media Relations Publications	Special Events
Charitable Contributions	Facility Rental
Office Personnel	Board Fundraiser
Billing	
Graphic Design & Layout	
Building and Grounds	

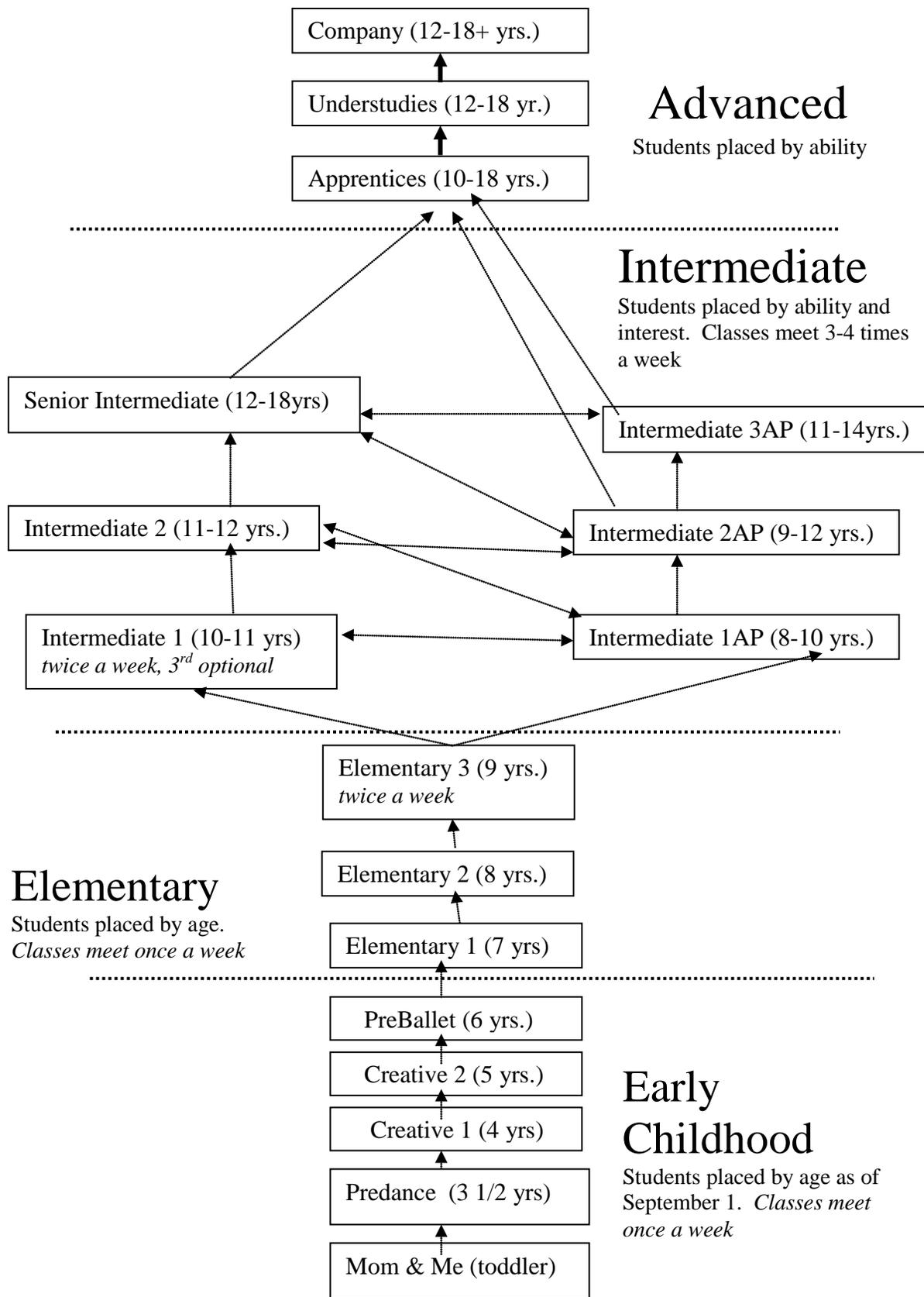
### **Office Manager Cyndi Halter**

Financial Aid	Payments
Class Placement	Alumni Relations
Parent Association Liaison	Admissions
School Performance Information	Electronic Mail
Outside Performances	Box Office
Scheduling	Nutcracker Information
Teacher conferences	Questions, Concerns
Database Systems	

## VI. Whom do you Call? A quick reference guide for parents

<b>Absences</b>	Notify office of your child's absence BEFORE class	School Office
<b>Billing</b>	Questions regarding tuition and all other charges	Deby Barath
<b>Classroom Issues</b>	Academic, social, or emotional concerns	Teacher/Artistic Director **SEE NOTE
<b>Conferences</b>	Academic, social or emotional issues, questions, concerns or suggestions	School Office will schedule
<b>School Closings</b>	Check website, answering machine message after 6:00 AM. or WHBC radio station for school closings.	School Office
<b>Lost or Misplaced Items</b>	Check Lost and Found in lounge or notify office if something has been lost or misplaced	School Office
<b>Outside Performances</b>	Booking, information, scheduling	Jennifer Hayward
<b>Contributions</b>	In kind or financial donations or assistance in obtaining funding.	Deby Barath
<b>Fund Raising</b>	Volunteers for annual Nutcracker Ball or other projects.	Deby Barath
<b>Rehearsal Schedule</b>	Questions	School Office or Artistic Staff

\*\*The teacher is the first person to call with any questions related to your child's education. For unresolved issues contact the Artistic Director.



## **VII. DIVISIONS OF THE SCHOOL**

### **Early Childhood division, Ages 1-6**

Exposure to dance at a young age helps children develop good posture, strength, balance and coordination. The Early Childhood Division features a progression of five levels of achievement based on age. Students enrolling in the Early Childhood and Elementary Divisions must meet the appropriate age requirement by the beginning of the current school year.

#### **Mom and Me, Ages Toddler to 3**

Designed to begin movement and body awareness starting with the toddler's first steps, this class uses the mother's assistance in bringing listening skills and initiating movement coordination of body parts through dance, games and songs. Taught once a week for 8 weeks for 30 minutes.

#### **Predance, Age 3**

Designed for the youngest students, this class stresses coordination, large motor skill development, musical awareness, spatial awareness, and listening skills. Musical instruments such as bells, rhythm sticks, shakers, tambourines, along with age appropriate activity resources and special music help engage the students' attention and imagination. Taught once a week for 30 minutes.

#### **Creative Dance, Ages 4 and 5**

Creative Dance focuses on coordination, motor skill development, listening skills, and the development of a child's natural creativity. Musical awareness is enhanced with the help of a pianist. This program is a prelude to formal ballet instruction and stresses creativity and group interaction. Taught once a week for 45 minutes

#### **Preballet, Age 6**

Students begin a more formal study of classical ballet through age-appropriate skill development, creative expression, music appreciation, and the relationship between music and dance. This year they wear ballet shoes for the first time. Taught once a week for one hour.

### **Elementary Division, Ages 7-10**

Students are taught fundamental ballet technique and develop the self-discipline necessary to begin the study of classical ballet. These classes solidly prepare students to advance to the next level of study. They accommodate each dancer's developing technique by increasing the ballet schedule and encouraging students in the summers to extend their knowledge of other dance forms.

Classes in this division are carefully graded by age, physical strength and development. Students are promoted according to individual progress in acquiring technique and strength. New students over the age of seven are evaluated to determine placement level. The Elementary Division is made up of three levels and is taught once a week for one hour. (Elementary 3 meets twice a week for 1 hour and 15 minutes.)

### **Intermediate Division**

Students in the Intermediate division range from those experiencing a fun way to exercise to those considering dance as a career. As in most pre professional programs, advancement through the program is based on a student's level of skill and accomplishment, not on his or her age. Many students continue to progress in the study and enjoyment of ballet and other dance forms

for several years without the pressure and time commitment that are required for the advanced division. *The School of Canton Ballet nurtures both career-track and advocational students.*

## Advanced placement

Advanced Placement students demonstrate an aptitude for ballet and the ability to progress more rapidly in strength, line, artistry and technique. The students are judged solely by their drive, ability and work in class and rehearsal. Understanding and development of “line” is key to advanced placement work as is a willingness to accept, implement and retain corrections. Advanced Placement students are selected by their teachers and the Assistant to the Director at the end of the school year.

## Advanced (Pre-professional) Division Canton Ballet Company

Students are admitted to the pre professional program by audition, the recommendation of their teacher, the results of final exams and upon the recommendation of the Artistic Director. These students make up the Canton Ballet Company. They are taught in a nurturing environment in which developing self-awareness, confidence and individuality are as important as developing artistry and technique. It is in this division that the young student has the greatest potential for securing technical strengths, musical sensitivity and artistic awareness. The varied curriculum and progression of levels allows for the development of a strong, versatile dancer.

The Advanced Division blends rigorous pre-professional ballet classes with additional enrichment activities that enhance the student experience. Only students who are physically able, technically qualified and uniquely dedicated to pursuing a rigorous course of study are recommended. The teacher works meticulously on each student’s individual dance needs, while closely coaching each student in technique and performance skills. The level of training taught here can prepare serious students for professional careers in dance. Classes and performances promote the success of dancers both technically and artistically through high-quality ballet instruction. In return, company dancers are asked to bring a love of classical ballet, a dedication to their training, a desire to perform, and a commitment to a healthy lifestyle. Good, healthy practices and injury prevention are promoted.

Advanced level students receive the following benefits in addition to their training:

- master classes with international guest teachers,
- intensive dance training,
- frequent performance opportunities throughout the year,
- attendance at the annual Regional Dance America/Northeast Ballet Festival,
- opportunities for selected students to take part in national and international ballet competitions.

## Teen/Adult Classes

Many students begin while others continue their study and enjoyment of ballet and other dance forms for many years through participation in our Teen/Adult classes in Ballet, Pilates, Yoga and other movement forms. The classes meet once weekly throughout the year and emphasis is on enjoyment of movement and appreciation of dance.

## Pointe Work

Each student responds to the demands of pointe preparation differently, and some will need longer than others to be ready for pointe work. Children are given their pointe shoes at 10-14 years old and proceed to grow up with them as a natural part of their ballet training. When children are selected for our AP levels, one of the major decision making factors is their suitability for pointe work.

Many children in the school wait until they are 13 or 14 years old to go on pointe for a variety of reasons, mostly due either to posture, strength or the proportions of body weight and height.

## Criteria for Pointe Work

Criteria for Pointe Work

- The student must be 10 years or older.
- The student must have at least 2 years of training.
- The student must be taking a minimum of 3 classes a week consistently (for a total of 4.5 hours or more weekly).
- The student must have sufficient strength to do the following:
  - Be able to hold their turnout while dancing.
  - Have a good posture, a strong, straight back while dancing and hold their bodies, especially the lower back, in strict alignment.
  - Use plie while dancing.
  - Point their feet while dancing.
  - Pique passe with straight leg.
  - Be able to hold a passe balance on half-pointe.
  - The student must be in good health and able to take a whole class. If the student frequently needs to rest because of illness or injury, she is not strong enough for the extra demands that pointe work requires.
  - The student must pay attention in class and must work well.
  - The student must be of normal weight for their size.
  - The student must have enough of an arched instep to stand on pointe.

Children must reach the Intermediate 1AP or Intermediate 2 levels in our school (or come to us from another school with the equivalent preparation and qualifications).

### **The First Year**

During the first year, the children spend a lot of time IN their shoes. Pointe shoes are very uncomfortable and must become like a second skin.

In the end, they spend about ten minutes 2-3 times a week actually standing on their toes. They learn the correct pointe position and how to stand in their shoes properly. The skin on their toes and balls of the feet begins to develop calluses and the first blisters happen. Lots of individual attention is given as each child's pointe position is perfected individually.

*At School of Canton Ballet, classical ballet is our specialty.*

## Guidelines for Advancement in Canton Ballet Company

*Taking daily class and working hard each day to improve technique is assumed and is not considered in and of itself as a means for advancement within the company structure.*

### Apprentice-2 year course

*Apprentices are the youngest, newest dancers. They may dance with the corps de ballet but usually in the most inconspicuous place. They spend most of their time understudying corps de ballet and demi-soloist roles.*

The position of apprentice offers a special learning opportunity to Canton Ballet students. A dancer is invited to be an apprentice when his or her technique reaches an advanced level, when seriousness develops and when there is a certain standard of emotional maturity. An ability to accept and concentrate on corrections is important as well as self-discipline and an ability to work for oneself.

During the first year, apprentices learn what it means to attend rehearsals and how to understudy a part. By the second year of apprenticeship, dancers know rehearsal behavior and are developing an understanding of the necessary performance quality and knowledge of how to learn choreography - an art in itself.

### Understudies

*Understudies dance the main group parts. They learn demi-soloist and soloist roles. They are used in group dances and in certain roles for which they may be suitable.*

Dancer must:

- show improvement in technique and performance quality.
- retain choreography and be able to perform it right away
- take corrections quickly, remember and implement them.
- show a willingness and eagerness to learn all kinds of choreography
- be flexible-mentally as well as physically "Go with the flow."
- attend rehearsals in addition to those assigned

### Company Members

Generally takes one or two years of work at the understudy level and extensive technical and performance progress.

*Company membership comprises three categories of dancers:*

*Principal Dancers dance the main roles*

*Soloists dance the next most important roles*

*Demi-soloists dance solo roles with the corps de ballet. These parts are usually danced with two to four other dancers*

From the roster of company members, dancers are selected to dance specific roles based upon their technical and artistic abilities

**Regional Dance America** was founded in 1988 to promote the artistic development of dance companies and to continue the important work that was started in 1956 by the National Association for Regional Ballet, founded by Dorothy Alexander of the Atlanta Ballet. NARB was instrumental in the decentralization of dance in the United States.

Every year across the country member companies attend a regional festival to share four days of classes, lectures, seminars and social events. Performances showcasing the member companies demonstrate the growth they have achieved throughout the year. The interchange among dancers, directors, choreographers and world-class teachers over the intensive festival period is one of the greatest benefits of Regional Dance America.

Canton Ballet has been a member company since 1965 (first of NARB and now of RDA). It has been an honor company within the organization since 1984.

Artistic Director Cassandra Crowley was a founder of Regional Dance America, served on its national board of directors for fifteen years and is now a Director Emeritus and Vice-President of the Northeast region.

## **VIII. ROUTINES AND PROCEDURES**

### **Attendance**

Regular, punctual attendance is important to a child's progress. Parents and children should do their best to always arrive on time for class. If a child is unable to dance that day, you are urged to bring him/her to observe the class as a great deal can be learned by observation. Please call if you plan to be absent from class. We strongly recommend that students attend additional classes one level lower than their assigned level to strengthen their technique.

### **Arrival**

Students should always wear some sort of street clothes (shorts, skirt, pants, etc.) over their dance attire when arriving and leaving from class. They should also be wearing some form of street shoes. Students should NEVER wear their dancing shoes outside of the building as they will pick up debris which ruins their shoes and the studio floors. Dancers should arrive no less than ten minutes before their class to have enough time to dress, prepare their hair and stretch.

### **Tardiness**

Please schedule sufficient travel time to avoid arriving late for class. Children need time to socialize, dress and stretch before class. Children who arrive late are frequently "out of step" for half of the class. Habitual tardiness is discouraged, as it is disruptive to the class and the teacher. If a student is more than 10 minutes late, he/she will be asked to observe the remainder of the class. Students who are late, nevertheless, are encouraged to come and observe class, since much can be learned by observation.

### **Weather Policy**

In cases of inclement weather:

- The website will give information regarding any changes in classes schedules.
- The school telephone message (330-455-7220) will be changed to reflect any changes in class schedules due to weather.
- If Canton City Schools declare a snow day all classes will be cancelled.

Those parents driving in from suburban and rural areas will be asked to use their judgment regarding the safety of driving through their area to reach Canton Ballet. Make up classes can be scheduled for any classes missed due to a weather emergency.

### **Make up Classes**

If it is necessary for a student to miss a class, the teacher or Administrative Assistant must be notified before the class is missed, in order to have the absence excused. Only excused absences may be made up in alternate classes. Missed classes may be made up by appointment. Students should ask their teachers to suggest the best class for them to use as their make up class. Make ups are done in a class below the regular level and must be completed within the same semester and cannot be carried over into summer or fall classes. No refund or credit is given for missed classes.

## Security

A security guard is provided during evening classes

- Parents dropping off their child at the front door should watch their children until they have safely entered the building.
- Parents picking up their children should instruct their child to stay within the facility until they see you and your vehicle. They should not hang outside the door nor stand outside the door unless the security guard is on duty.
- Please ask your children to stay in the Ballet wing of the building and not to wander through the Great Court and outside areas.

## Parking

**Please enter the parking lot on the Market Avenue entrance across from Nationwide Insurance.** During Cultural Center events display your Canton Ballet PARKING PASS to notify the parking attendant that you are going to Canton Ballet and you will not be charged. **DO NOT PARK IN THE CIRCLE.**

## Picking up your dancer

It is very important that you pick your child up in a timely manner. Students must be picked-up within 15 minutes after their last class or at class end if it is the last class of the Canton Ballet day. We care deeply about our students but our very limited staff cannot be responsible for childcare duties that take them beyond their job descriptions and normal working hours. If you are running late, please call the office immediately and leave a message with extension 203.

**Should there be repeated tardiness (more than 1 occurrence) from the same family, the School will charge the family \$20 for every 15 minutes or portion thereof,** in order to retain security and personnel past their regularly scheduled hours.

## IX. HEALTH

### Injury Procedure

There are times when a student may have an injury or illness that may make them unable to participate fully in their scheduled class. They are to arrive for their class at the regular time and observe the class unless they are contagious (see below) or in bed.

Should a student injure themselves in class-they are to notify their teacher immediately so the proper procedures may be followed.

### Infectious Diseases

To protect both the individual and his classmates, parents must keep a child at home during the highly infectious first stages of a cold or other communicable ailment.

### Medical Absences

Children who must miss classes due to illness or injury should present a doctor's excuse to the office. Depending upon the length of time the student will be absent from class and the nature of the illness or injury, missed classes may be made up or a tuition credit may be issued. However, no credit will be provided without a written doctor's excuse.

## **X. CLASSROOM AND BEHAVIORAL MATTERS**

### **Progress Reports**

Written progress reports are distributed at the end of the year for all levels above Creative Movement.

### **Home/School Communication**

While teachers are always happy to discuss and answer questions about a student's progress, they are not always available in the hallways for discussion. Requests for appointments can be made through the office so that adequate time can be given for discussion.

If you suspect that a problem is developing, please call your child's teacher first. It is far more satisfactory to deal with a small problem immediately before it has the opportunity to develop into a major concern. Circumstances of a special nature may include consultation with the Artistic Director.

### **Problems**

The faculty is always happy to speak with parents regarding any concern they may have. It is always better for the teachers to hear about a problem directly and before it becomes overwhelming. As time between classes is very close, please leave your name and phone number with the office or hand it to the teacher and he/she will call you at the earliest possible opportunity. If your child has any physical or emotional problems, please advise the teacher so that special attention may be given to the student. If you notice a drastic change in the student's reaction to class, either positive or negative, please advise the teacher. The more information that we have to work with, the better it is for all.

### **Conferences**

School of Canton Ballet holds Parent Teacher Conferences each spring. Please see the school calendar for specific dates. Conferences may be scheduled at any time during the year if there are specific concerns. Contact the office manager to schedule a conference.

### **Discipline**

It is our ultimate aim to have each student respond to an inner-directed sense of right and wrong rather than be motivated by the fear of externally imposed consequences. The School expects that all teachers, students and parents will model acceptance and kindness toward all people and will insist that the highest standard of behavior will be upheld in their presence.

\*No gum chewing, food or drinks are allowed in the studios AT ANY TIME. Water bottles may only be used between barre and center.

\*The studio is a place to work quietly and with concentration. When students enter the studio, they must feel they are entering a special place where they can achieve anything they work for.

\*Students are encouraged to enter the studio prior to class for a time of quiet practice or stretching.

\*Students should be waiting outside the classroom prior to their scheduled time if another class is inside.

\*All street clothing must be removed before entering the studio.

- \*Behavior in the halls and the dressing room should be polite and quiet
- \*Respect for the teacher and for one another is essential to a successful classroom environment.
- \*No food or drink except water is permitted on our carpet. Please eat in the lounge or the Great Court.

## Teaching Method

Ballet teaching requires that the teacher physically touch the students. The student who wants to improve appreciates verbal or physical corrections. Actual touching and physical moving of body parts is essential to the proper teaching of ballet. Proper ballet training happens only when the student feels the correct body position and in most cases that requires the teacher place the body into position. This can cause muscular discomfort. It is not unusual for a dancer to come home with sore muscles just as participants in any sport or physical activity might do. Communication and education for both dancers and parents is very much a part of our program. Parents are welcome to observe class and speak to the teacher regarding any special concerns.

## Corrections

As a part of their training, Dancers will receive frequent constructive criticism (called corrections) throughout the year. Corrections are given to assist and teach. The student should understand that a correction is a gift and should be received as such.

## Ballet Etiquette

In today's world of instant informality and less than perfect manners, ballet class provides an oasis of true courtesy and dignity, a remnant of the royal decorum of the Baroque age. In ballet we create an environment conducive to learning and physically demonstrate the esteem in which we hold your art, our teacher and our fellow students. Considerate, respectful behavior is expected. Courtesy is especially important for performing artists. A performance is a complicated machine with a lot of moving parts and politeness is the essential lubricant.

## Class Observation

Takes place during the last class of each semester unless there is a school performance.

## Waiting Area

Parents are invited to wait for their child in Canton Ballet's lobby. There are vending machines available for your convenience. Bring your cell-phone, your laptop or a really good book and make our home your home. Our wireless network is available for your use. The password will be posted on the bulletin board. If you have brought other children with you while waiting, please be sure that you are supervising them. We strive to make this a safe and comfortable environment for you and your children. With this in mind, we ask:

- Please be considerate of those around you. At no time should someone be throwing objects, running through the lobby or rough housing within the lobby and dressing room areas.
- Crayons and paper to color on are available for waiting children. Please return them to their proper place when finished with them.
- Please be sure that all children clean up any snacks and behave appropriately at all times.

## Visitors

Arrangements may be made for special visitors to observe a class from time to time. Please contact the classroom teacher or call the Office Manager before class to arrange a visit.

### Sitting or standing in the Studio Doorways

*The teachers have asked me to request that parents and siblings be kind enough not to stand or sit (either in a chair or on the floor) in or near the doorways of the studios during classes and rehearsals where the children can see you.*

We invite you to glance in briefly, but please be good enough not to stand and watch for more than a moment or two.

The problem is that the children do not give their full attention to their instructor when there is another audience to draw their attention. Some children behave differently when their parents are watching, others simply want to wave or keep their eye on their parent for approval or input. Small children sitting inside the studio, running in and out of the doorways and laughing or doing gymnastics where the students can see them is also extremely distracting. For you to receive full value for your dancer's class time, they need absolute concentration. The fewer distractions available to them, the more progress the teachers can make in each class. Please enable us to give your children the best possible training in classical ballet

### Exams (held on alternate years from the school performance)

The exams consist of a series of classroom exercises memorized by the students. This is a test for their memory. The chosen exercises show the level of technical accomplishment that each child has achieved in relationship to their peers as well as in comparison with the levels below and above them. This is a test of their progress and their desire for advancement.

Exams are just a tiny taste of what an audition will be like for them in the future. All dancers, all performers, all job hunters in fact, need to know how to present themselves at their best under pressure.

## Citizenship

Responsible citizenship, combined with consistent effort, is the basis for success in life. It is essential that students understand the School's expectations concerning citizenship and student recognize that each individual is accountable for his or her actions. We believe that the citizenship of our students is as important as success in dance.

All members of the Canton Ballet community must demonstrate the ability and the willingness to conduct themselves with courtesy and self-control, to respect the rights and property of the individual and the School and to demonstrate a seriousness of purpose and a spirit of cooperation and trust.

## Code of Ethics

- Dancers of Canton Ballet represent the highest standards of morals, ethics, honesty and responsible behavior. They set a good example for their peers and for the younger children in the school.

- Dancers will be truthful, straightforward and honest having integrity in their dealings with each other, other dancers, their teachers and other adults
- All dancers will treat each other with respect, consideration and courtesy.

Competition, though encouraged within the classroom situation, should not be felt in the halls and dressing rooms. Each Dancer should help and encourage all of the others to do their best and set a good example for others.

## Statement Against Discrimination

The School of Canton Ballet admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, scholarship and other school administered activities.

## Statement Against Sexual Harassment

The ongoing policy of the Ballet is to provide an environment free of harassment or discrimination. Consistent with that policy, the Ballet will not tolerate any unlawful harassment of Ballet students or employees. Such prohibited harassment includes verbal or physical conduct which is based upon an individual's race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, or disability and which:

- 1). has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment;
- 2). has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance; or
- 3). otherwise adversely affects an individual's opportunity.

Such prohibited conduct may include, but is not limited to, verbal slurs, negative stereotyping, hostile or demeaning acts (including purported "jokes"), and written or graphic material, which shows animosity, aversion or denigration toward an individual or group based upon race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age or disability.

Sexual harassment (as distinguished from gender harassment) deserves special mention.

Unlawful sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature:

- 1). When submission to such conduct is made, explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of instruction, participation in School activities or employment;
- 2). When submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for casting, promotion, evaluations, or employment benefits; or
- 3). When such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's performance in the classroom or in roles in which they have been case, in work performance, or in creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive School environment or working environment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to, explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, sexually suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as grabbing, patting, pinching, or brushing against another's body.

Any student or employee who feels that he/she has been subjected to harassment by anyone, based on race, color, religion, gender, sex, national origin, age, or disability, either in the classroom, on the job or in connection with Ballet employment, and who is unable to resolve such matter promptly and satisfactorily, should submit a detailed written report of the offensive behavior to the Managing Director or to the Chairperson of the Personnel Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Ballet forbids retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, has reported such unlawful harassment, or has assisted in the investigation of such matters.

It is the policy of the Ballet to investigate all harassment complaints thoroughly and promptly. To the extent reasonably practicable, the Ballet will keep such complaints, and the terms of their resolution, confidential. If an investigation confirms that prohibited harassment against any employee, a Ballet customer, contractor, student, volunteer or visitor, the Ballet will take appropriate disciplinary action, up to dismissal from employment, dismissal from the School and/or appropriate intervention by legal authorities. Appropriate disciplinary actions also will be taken against any employee found to have willfully falsified any such claim of harassment.

## XI. INFORMATION

### Calendar

*See cantonballet.com or current school brochure*

### Registration

#### Registration

We assume that everyone will continue in the spring semester, same class and time. If you will not be returning please notify the office in early January to free up that space in class.

#### Early Registration

Summer class schedules will be ready in late April/early May. Fall class schedules will be ready in May for anyone wishing to register early. A deposit is required to hold a place in class.

### Classroom Attire

Dancers are participating in a disciplined art form that requires disciplined preparation. The dress code encourages improved concentration. Clothes (washed after every class) and shoes should be marked **INSIDE** with the student's name and kept in a dance bag to insure that all items are ready for class.

Pink tights for girls and black for boys, enable muscles to be seen. Pink and white shoes continue the line of the leg, and leotards outline the body so the physique can be clearly seen.

- Nothing should be worn except the uniform as the uniform is several layers.
- Boys aged 11 and up must wear a specialized athletic supporter for male dancers. They must have tights that meet the top of their thin white socks or slip into their shoes at all times.
- Ballet slippers must have elastic SEWN across the instep and tights must cover the feet.
- New Shoes - New shoes should be checked by the teacher before they are worn, as they cannot be returned once dirty. Parents should not cut strings or ribbons but ask the teacher to do it. Shoes will be checked, ties adjusted and cut by the teacher on the first day of class for the younger children.
- Pointe Shoes - **Only the teacher** should cut the ribbons and ties on toe shoes.
- Jewelry and watches should not be worn. Tiny earrings are acceptable.
- Legwarmers and shorts may not be worn in class.
- No pins should be used anywhere in the uniform.

### Hair

One of the cardinal rules of being a dancer is having the hair groomed so that it is immobile and not distracting. Hair must be fixed in place, close to the head without exception. There are to be no hanging braids of any kind or beads. If there is no possible way for a dancer's hair to be fixed this way, please see the teacher for instructions. Girls must wear their hair in a bun with **NO BANGS** and their class flower headpiece. Buns must have rubber band, hairnet and hairpins. **No scrunches**. Please use long hairpins with long hair. Hair that is too short for ponytail and other options listed above can be held in place with a headband.

Students should learn how to fix their own hair. It will take practice, but before long they will be able to do it easily in the car on the way to the studio if necessary. All students will be expected to meet hair requirements.

## Valuables

Please guard your valuables. If necessary, bring them into the studio with you. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles.

## Class Assignments

Students may not change class day or time within the semester. In emergency situations, the office may be consulted for alternate class openings.

## Nutcracker

Each year Canton Ballet includes all students over the age of 4 in the production of *Nutcracker*. Schedules and further information will be posted on the website and passed out in late October. Website username: cantonballet Password: snowflake

## School Performance

Takes place in alternate years during the month of May. All students above 4 years of age take part. Schedules and further information will be posted on the website and passed out in January of the performance year. Website username: cantonballet Password: snowflake

## Casting

Casting decisions are made by the Artistic Director in conjunction with the classroom teacher. As a rule, casting decisions are not considered a topic for conversation with the artistic staff. If you feel strongly that you must discuss it with someone, please make an appointment with the Artistic Director by contacting the office.

## Videotaping and Photography of Performances

As a service to parents, the Barre Association videotapes all performances and makes them available for a small fee. Theatre dress rehearsals may be videotaped by parents. Photography is permitted at rehearsals however flash photography may not be used at any time that there are dancers onstage. It is extremely hazardous for the dancers and prevents the lighting designer from doing his work. **As a courtesy to all attending the performances, please enjoy the event and let us tape it for you.**

## Electronic Devices

It is understood that parents may give a student a cell phone for his/her safety. Cell phones must be kept out of sight and **TURNED OFF** during class. No electronic devices may be used inside the studio. **IF A CELL PHONE RINGS DURING CLASS IT WILL NOT BE ANSWERED.** Please call the office at 330-455-7220 to leave a message for your dancer.

## Email and text notices

To join our emailing list for information and updates and texting list for last minute notices, sign up by emailing us at: [cantonballet@cantonballet.com](mailto:cantonballet@cantonballet.com).

## Lockers

Lockers belong to members of Canton Ballet Company and are not available for use by the students of the school.

## Costume Dress Up Week

During the year certain times are designated dress up weeks, dancers are invited to arrive for their class in costume. Wear your most beautiful costume! (Please choose something that you can dance in.)

## Parent Participation Week

One week during the year, parents are invited to join their dancers in class to get a true taste of what the dancers go through. Please wear something that you can move in comfortably and leave your other children at home so that you can devote yourself solely to bonding with your dancer.

## Bring a Friend to Class

One week during the year, dancers are invited to bring a friend to class with them to experience what the dancer experiences every class day. The friend should wear something that allows them to move comfortably and to sit on the floor.

## Parties

### Class Parties

Dancers may bring a treat for their entire class if they wish to celebrate their birthday. Parents should coordinate with the teacher in advance of the date.

### Private Parties for all ages

School of Canton Ballet can provide parties for birthdays or other occasions taught by Early Childhood Specialist Julie Mizer Grasse and other faculty members upon request. A typical party would include a dance class for all attendees followed by cake and beverages and present opening. Please look on our website for details or check with the office.

## Summer School

Anyone who wishes to be considered a serious dancer; anyone in the Advanced Placement levels; and anyone who is accepted as an apprentice or company member of Canton Ballet Company; is required to attend summer school. The summer school requirement is a minimum of 5 weeks of classes at School of Canton Ballet or another **approved** school during the summer. (The University of Akron's Dance Institute is the only local school which meets that approval.

Intermediate and advanced students with professional aspirations are encouraged to take part in the national summer school auditions held during the early months of the year. Auditioning is a valuable part of a dancer's training and the more auditions that one does, the easier they become. Even if the student is not planning to go away for the summer, the audition process is a valuable

one and one that should be experienced by any serious dancer. Please ask your teacher for more information or check in *Pointe Magazine* in December and early January.

### DanceCamp

A week long summer adventure for 3-6 year olds. Led by our Early Childhood Specialist Julie Mizer Grasse, children will experience a dance class utilizing various props to enhance their movements. Healthy snacks are discussed and enjoyed each day. Weeklong activities include live performances, games, music, and activities centered on a classical ballet such as *The Nutcracker*.

### Intensive Workshops

Open to serious students of dance, an exciting program of activities is planned to enhance the daily training necessary for aspiring dancers. A placement class may be held on the first day of workshops. Students attending all five weeks will take part in a special performance at the end of the workshop.

### Work Study Program

Canton Ballet has a work/study program for advanced students. Under this program, students who qualify will have the opportunity to act as classroom assistants for younger children's classes.

## **XII. SCHOOL PERFORMANCES**

### ***Nutcracker* Participant Information**

Website username: cantonballet Password: snowflake

Please read and check each item carefully.

Please pay particular attention to your dancer's rest and nutrition during the busy holiday time.

It is VITAL that every dancer attend each rehearsal. Theater rehearsals are essential for a smooth performance. Nerves can lead to confusion and unhappiness and one person's absence will make a problem for all the others in their dance. The theater rehearsals will enable all the children to relax into the stage environment and make a happier experience for all. Please be certain that your child is present and ready at the scheduled time. Prior to evening rehearsals and all performances, children should be encouraged to eat a light but nutritious meal and to rest. Junk food should be avoided. Before the Sunday performances, all children should be fed a light meal and given some quiet time.

- See *cantonballet.com* for date classes resume.

#### **Studio Rehearsals**

No parents, please. Children will be fully supervised during all rehearsals. Please be nearby as rehearsal often lets out early.

#### **Theatre Rehearsals**

Our security guard will be present at the stage door. Dancers should enter the theater at the 6th Street Stage Door on the side of the Palace Theater.

During the week preceding our *Nutcracker* performances, most rehearsals will take place in the theater. See your rehearsal schedule. We ask that on Monday and Tuesday you bring your child into the theater audience and sit in the designated areas. Beginning on Wednesday and through the performances, please take your children to the downstairs dressing areas and leave them with our chaperones. The backstage area will be extremely congested. Please do not come backstage during rehearsals, unless you are a chaperone. Let the office know if you would like to chaperone at least two rehearsals and/or performances.

#### **Final Dress Rehearsal**

- Take your child to the downstairs dressing room
- Dress rehearsals - parents welcome in Balcony ONLY
- Photos are permitted - NO flashes please, as it can frighten or disorient the children
- Videos are permitted - please use a battery pack

#### **Ticket Sales**

It would be wonderful if it were possible to offer free tickets for parents to all performances. Unfortunately, there is a large amount of expense involved in mounting a production on the scale of *The Nutcracker*; theater rental, lights, crew, costumes, scenery, programs, music, etc. This year we have discounted all student tickets to half price!

Tickets

- On sale now at [www.cantonballet.com](http://www.cantonballet.com)

## Stage Makeup

(see details on website *Performance Participant page*)

username: cantonballet password: snowflake

Makeup should be applied to children at home. It should consist of rouge and **a little pink** lipstick should be applied shortly before appearing for the girls. Volunteers are needed to help with makeup in the theater each night. Please let the office know if you would like to help with makeup and/or hair.

### Hair

Hair should be as neat as possible. Reindeer should wear a bun. Hairnets are required for all buns and hair should be slicked back with Dippity Do and/or hair spray. Dancers should bring extra rubber-bands, bobby pins, and hairnets to the theatre in their dance bag.

**EYEGASSES MAY NOT BE WORN AT THE FINAL STUDIO  
REHEARSAL, THE STAGE REHEARSAL OR IN THE PERFORMANCE**

### Chaperones

A few parents will be asked to volunteer as chaperones. Their duties will be the following:

- Check-in children as they arrive for rehearsal or performance
- Assist them with dressing, hair and makeup
- Keep them calm and quiet until their time to dance
- Take them to their place onstage, take them back to dressing room and stay until all children in your group are picked up. There will be an extremely limited opportunity to observe the performance while chaperoning, but the hustle and bustle backstage can be equally exciting.

### Shoes and Tights

Leather or split sole shoes only

Reindeer no shoes, pink tights, pink leotard, no panties

Street Urchins black ballet slippers, black tights

Package Children: Girls: pink ballet slippers, pink tights

Boys: black ballet slippers, black tights

Party girls, Angels, Polinchinelle Girls, Cherubs, All Mice

pink tights, pink ballet shoes

Party Boys, Polinchinelle Boys

white ballet shoes

PLEASE PUT NAMES ON **INSIDE** OF ALL EQUIPMENT. White and pink shoes and tights must be spotlessly clean and without holes or runs of any kind. NO pins. No writing on soles of shoes.

### General Information

Theater rehearsals are most important. The time scheduling is as close as possible, and every effort will be made to get the children out early, but unforeseen circumstances may cause delays. Please do not plan appointments close to rehearsal time. It is important for each dancer to rehearse onstage in order to be relaxed and enjoy the performance experience.

- Please, absolutely no jewelry may be worn onstage. No pierced earrings. If they absolutely

- cannot be removed, please cover with thin piece of band-aid.
- Do not bring money or valuables to the theater.
  - Children will need to remove their eyeglasses for stage rehearsals and performances.
  - No gum chewing in the theater at all.
  - Please make a list of all items the dancer will need. For the school age child, it can be a responsibility that is most beneficial if he\she is encouraged to make his or her own list and then be double checked by the parents.
  - The dancer will perform better and be more relaxed if encouraged to rest before the program. Also a light, early meal is desirable.
  - Only clear nail polish is permitted on dancers.
  - No flash pictures or videos are to be taken during the performance.
  - Pictures (without flash) and videotaping (with battery) is permitted during theater week, from the balcony only.
  - Please put names on INSIDE of all equipment, shoes, etc.
  - Absolutely NO eating or drinking in costume, except water.
  - No part of costume is to be taken home at any time.

Dancers will need to be picked up between performances on Saturday, taken home, given a light meal and some time to rest before returning for the evening performance. Only Canton Ballet Company dancers may remain in the theatre between performances.

The rules are numerous, but they are essential to a smooth running performance. We ask your cooperation and patience, should schedules not go quite as planned. Every effort will be made to make rehearsals and performances as smooth running as possible.

# School Performance (held in alternate years)

Please check and read this entire document.

## Final Rehearsals

Rehearsals are essential for a smooth performance.

• **The theatre rehearsal is VITAL.** We will have only one for each class. The time scheduling is as close as possible, but unforeseen circumstances may cause delays. Please do not plan appointments close to rehearsal time. It is important for each dancer to rehearse onstage in order to be relaxed and enjoy the performance experience. Parents should plan to wait for their young children in the theatre during rehearsals. Sometimes they will finish early, other times a little bit late.

**EYEGASSES MAY NOT BE WORN AT THE FINAL STUDIO REHEARSAL, THE STAGE REHEARSAL OR IN THE PERFORMANCE.**

## What your dancer needs for the performance

### Nutrition and rest

The dancer will perform better, and be more relaxed if encouraged to rest before the program. Also a light early meal is desirable.

### Grooming

- ABSOLUTELY no jewelry or nail polish may be worn on stage.
- Do not bring money or any valuables to the theatre, as their safety cannot be guaranteed.
- No gum chewing in the theatre at all.

### Clothing

Dancers are required to wear the school uniform leotard and tights to be included in the performance

- Shoes and tights **MUST BE SPOTLESSLY CLEAN WITHOUT HOLES OR RUNS** of any kind. Leotard and tights must be the correct uniform color and fabric. No embellishments, ruffles, sequins or sparkles are permitted.
- Ballet skirts are ALWAYS tied on the natural waist above the belly button not on the hips as it makes the line of the legs long and attractive.
- Children should not wear underwear beneath their ballet clothes. It is similar to a bathing suit. A leotard and tights are already two layers of clothing and other layers simply make a bunched appearance onstage.

### Makeup

Makeup may be applied to the children at home, in the case of rouge (small amount) and eyebrow pencil if they are very blond. For girls - a little pink lipstick should be applied shortly before appearing. There will be a makeup crew at the theatre if help is needed. Intermediate dancers should bring their own makeup kit with their own supplies.

### Hair

Hair should be as neat as possible.

- ALL GIRLS MUST HAVE THEIR HAIR IN A BUN WITH A HAIRNET and with their class flower headpiece. **Bangs are not permitted.** Hair must be thoroughly sprayed or hair gel used, without frizzies. Boys' hair should be neat and not too long.

- Intermediate female dancers should bring their own hairbrushes, pins and hairnets as well as hair spray and gels

## Arrival on the day of the performance

See printed schedule

*Backstage space is EXTREMELY limited in our lovely vintage theatre so please come completely ready.*

*Please remember that no flash photography is permitted during rehearsals or performances as it is extremely hazardous to our little dancers. We don't want anyone to be startled or injured.*

- Arrive at the scheduled time at the stage door of the Palace Theatre on 6<sup>th</sup> street with hair and makeup ready.
- Children below Intermediate levels should arrive dressed with their hair and makeup done wearing a skirt or pants over their leotards and tights. Intermediate and above should dress at the theatre (but do hair and makeup at home) so that their tights are not baggy.  
Hairpiece and costumes will be held at the Palace Theatre.
- Leave child with backstage chaperone and exit through the stage door and enter the lobby of the Palace Theatre through the MAIN entrance to see the performance.

### Pick up

See printed information sheet

### **XIII. COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

The vision of the Outreach division is an expression of Canton Ballet's spirit of artistry and passion. It creates dynamic, multi-sensory learning experiences through dance activities, fostering an appreciation of ballet as a vital cultural art form to all ages and backgrounds. The mission is to educate and uplift individuals of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds.

#### **Theatre performances**

For over 30 years Canton Ballet has offered *Peter and the Wolf* annually to area schools as one of its community outreach programs. Over 5000 children a year have witnessed the magic of ballet through this program.

School children have also been mesmerized by such Canton Ballet programs as *Nutcracker*, *Paquita*, *Don Quixote* and *Cinderella*. All performances are complete with costumes, sound, lighting, make-up and stage sets. These matinee performances are open only to student groups. There is a modest admission charge.

Three options offered each year are:

- *Peter and the Wolf* which is performed the first week in October for preschool through third grade students
- *Nutcracker* during mid December for students from elementary school and up.
- Spring Gala features either a classical ballet or a variety of contemporary works ranging from classical ballet to jazz to modern. The mixed program is suitable for junior high or high school students.

#### **In school lecture-demonstrations**

50 minute performance and interactive workshops for students and community groups. It is fun, educational and just might make you think twice about ballet. 55 minute, lecture demonstration. A modest fee is charged.

#### **In school and after school dance classes**

Our teacher will come to your school to offer a series of movement classes or children may be bussed to our studios for classes. Please call 330-455-7220 for more information.

#### **Joy of movement**

Canton Ballet will send its Early Childhood Specialist to your preschool or daycare to offer a series of movement classes. Sessions run for 8 weeks and have a nominal fee attached.

#### **Backstage tours**

Tours of the backstage area of the Palace Theatre may be arranged upon request. Please call 330-455-7220 to set up a tour for your group.

#### **Educators' night at the ballet**

This is Canton Ballet's way of saying thanks to teachers across the county for all of their incredible work in the classroom! Teachers are invited to watch the first half of the final dress rehearsal of any performance during the season at the historic Canton Palace Theatre in downtown Canton. Call (330) 455-7220 if you are an interested educator.

## **XIV. BUSINESS MATTERS**

### **Paying Tuition**

*See current school brochure or [canton.ballet.com](http://canton.ballet.com)*

To reserve a place in any class, a deposit of an amount equal to the first monthly installment (plus registration fee if new student) is required. A semester deposit is due at registration. The annual tuition savings discount applies to tuition paid in full by September 13. Installment payments are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month and are payable through Auto-pay only. If annual or semester tuition is not paid within 15 days from the beginning of each semester, a late fee will be applied.

### **Financial Assistance**

Financial Assistance, based upon need and merit, is designed to permit as many qualified students as possible to attend the School. It is available through the School financial assistance program, which includes the Kerri L. Hunter Memorial Minority Scholarship. Financial Assistance is available for students age 7 and up by September 1 of the current academic year. Requests must be made by August 15 each year. Any family with limited resources who feel they may qualify for aid should contact the school office for applications and requirements. Students who receive financial aid in the fall will be reassessed during the month of January. At that time Canton Ballet staff will consider students' attendance, commitment level and parental timeliness of payments. Canton Ballet reserves the right to discontinue financial aid if the student and parent are not reassessed favorably.

**Boys' Scholarships** – It's no secret...we need boys! And ballet provides remarkable benefits to boys playing sports. A special scholarship program is offered for boys from age 7 through 12.

### **Refunds / Tuition Credits:**

**Registration fees and tuition are non-refundable**, except for medical reasons with a doctor's written explanation, or due to relocation. Tuition credits may be allowed under certain circumstances, if a withdrawal form, available in the Ballet office, is received prior to withdrawal.

### **Withdrawal**

If a student withdraws from class for any reason, the parent must notify the office as soon as possible. **Tuition credits or refunds will not be issued unless a withdrawal form is completed and returned to the office within one week of the withdrawal.**

No credit or refunds are given for missed classes. In the event of a prolonged illness or injury that prohibits dancing, a doctor's statement must be presented to the manager in order to secure a partial refund. Registration fees are not refundable. Classes missed cannot be made up after withdrawal. To withdraw from a class, written notice must be received in the office two weeks prior to the withdrawal. Parents are responsible for all fees prior to written notification. There is no credit for classes missed prior to two weeks after written notification.

## **XV. TUITION & FEES**

*See the current school brochure or [cantonballet.com](http://cantonballet.com) for details*

To reserve a place in any class, a deposit of an amount equal to the first monthly installment plus the registration fee (if applicable) is required. As always, space in some levels is at a premium. Classes will be closed when a predetermined number for each level is reached. Waiting lists are always available.

### **Nutcracker Participation**

Students from Creative Movement 2 and up may be selected to appear in *The Nutcracker*. Selection is based upon student's attendance and classroom behavior both during the current and previous semesters. Students who wish to appear will be required to attend the mandatory rehearsals and follow all performance rules. The participation fee is due by October 30.

## **XII. DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

Ticket revenues and other earned income provide only about 65% of the funds necessary to bring Canton Ballet's high quality of dance performances and extensive education and outreach programs to the community. It requires an average investment of \$15,000 to bring a live ballet performance to the stage. Your support of Canton Ballet assures that we can continue to provide our audiences with outstanding entertainment. There are several ways individuals and corporations can provide financial support to Canton Ballet.

### **Membership**

Canton Ballet is a non-profit, member organization. Our members are the backbone of our structure. They meet once each year to elect the Trustees who will guide the Ballet throughout the year and assure the establishment and continuation of policies and procedures for future growth and success. Your membership dollars provide operating income for the both the School of Canton Ballet and the Canton Ballet Company.

See Membership brochure or [cantonballet.com](http://cantonballet.com) for details.

### **Performance Patrons**

As a Performance Patron your investment in Canton Ballet not only helps to assure affordable, quality family entertainment for Stark and surrounding counties, it is also an investment in the talented students who comprise our performing company. The opportunity for them to perform is a vital part of their preprofessional training. We've reserved a very special place in our Season Program to recognize our Performance Patrons, and a special invitation to our *Nutcracker* Opening Night Reception as well!

See Performance brochure or [cantonballet.com](http://cantonballet.com) for details.

### **Corporate Sponsorship**

Corporate and Business Sponsors make it possible for Canton Ballet to create wonderful new full-length ballets like *Wizard of Oz*, *Dracula...the Ballet* and *Cinderella*, and to maintain and update classic favorites like *The Nutcracker*. New productions may cost from \$30,000 to \$60,000 to bring to the stage the first time. These productions will continue to delight audiences

for as long as twenty years or more! Corporate sponsors receive a variety of benefits including recognition in the Season Program book, recognition on the web site and tickets to the production being sponsored. Benefits vary based upon the level of sponsorship and are time-specific.

For more information about becoming a Corporate Sponsor, contact Manager Deby Barath at 330.455.7220 or email: [debybarath@cantonballet.com](mailto:debybarath@cantonballet.com)

## **The Nutcracker Ball**

Kick off the holiday season with an elegant event, do some glorious holiday shopping for everyone on your list, and support Canton Ballet at *The Nutcracker Ball*.

*Cantonballet.com for current information*

Types of Support:

- Sponsorship
- Corporate Tables
- Auction Item Donation
- Cash contributions
- Attendance

To receive an invitation, or make a cash or item donation to this fun event, please call 330.455.7220 or email: [cantonballet@cantonballet.com](mailto:cantonballet@cantonballet.com)

However you choose to support Canton Ballet, your donation will make a great difference!

## **XVI. ENDOWMENTS**

Endowment Contributions help to assure the continuation of Canton Ballet's training and programming for many years.

### **Endowment Contributions**

Canton Ballet's endowment provides a source of additional income and a reserve for unexpected needs. An investment in the endowment is an investment in the future of Canton Ballet, the future of the arts and the future of our community's children.

For additional information about securing the future of Canton Ballet through an investment in the Endowment, please contact Managing Director Deby Barath at 330.455.7220 or email [debybarath@cantonballet.com](mailto:debybarath@cantonballet.com).

## Financial Assistance Endowment

Financial Assistance Contributions are restricted gifts that help us to provide special financial assistance to students. Each year Canton Ballet provides about \$10,000 in financial aid to boys and girls beginning at age 7. We provide a percentage of total tuition based upon the student's level, their commitment to ballet and the family's demonstrated financial need. Contributions may be made to the General Financial Assistance Fund or to the Kerri L. Hunter Memorial Minority Scholarship Fund.

### Kerri Hunter Minority Scholarship Program

Named after Kerri Hunter, a former Canton Ballet Company apprentice, this scholarship specifically provides financial assistance to minority children.

## **XVII. CANTON BALLET BARRE ASSOCIATION**

A membership organization committed to support of the dancers and families of Canton Ballet, The Barre Association provides volunteer services, fundraising activities, educational programs for parents and dancers and special activities and scholarships for students.

The Barre Association is a committee of Canton Ballet Board of Trustees. The bylaws state that the purpose of the association shall be:

1. To render volunteer service and financial assistance, through fundraising, etc. to the Canton Ballet through projects, purposes and means approved in advance by the Trustees of the Canton Ballet and in keeping with the policies of the Canton Cultural Center for the Arts.
2. To provide educational opportunities for Barre Members, students, parents, and guardians, and interested community members relating to the Canton Ballet, its school and company.
3. To advance the art of dance, and support, as appropriate, the artistic, instructional and administrative staff of the Canton Ballet.

### How funds are spent

The funds of the Canton Ballet Barre Association are held by the Canton Ballet and used as the Barre directs, with the approval of the Board of Trustees. Over and above the costs of operating our programs and activities, the Barre provides scholarships for summer intensive dance study based upon auditions. The Barre also provides funds for the Ballet; how the funds are to be allocated is determined by a vote of the members at the annual meeting every spring.

*See [cantonballet.com](http://cantonballet.com) for current activities and information.*