

CANTON BALLET COMPANY

APPRENTICE

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 a certain 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. They are offered a number of opportunities to learn roles they might one day be called upon to perform. This is a vital part of their education. They observe more advanced dancers at work and are able to learn and practice roles far beyond their level of experience. In addition, one or more performing opportunities are offered to begin the development of stage presence and style.

By the second year of apprenticeship, dancers know rehearsal behavior and are developing an understanding of the necessary performance quality and know how to learn choreography - an art in itself. During the year, performance opportunities may be expanded providing that the technical development is keeping pace with the rest.

UNDERSTUDY

Dancers are invited to be understudies, generally after two years of apprenticeship when their technical and mental abilities reach a fairly high level of development. At this level they learn roles they might be called upon to perform. They are used in group dances and in certain roles for which they may be suitable.

COMPANY

Dancers are made members of the Canton Ballet Company when their technical development reaches a high standard. At this stage they are cast in group dances and progress to demi solo work as their technique and artistry grows.