



Parent/Student Handbook 2014-2015

-825 Hope Street Providence, Rhode Island 02906-

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Welcome to Festival Ballet Providence School

Our Philosophy

At FBP School we have created a variety of learning opportunities through our diverse programs. Our philosophy is to nurture, develop, and support each student's individual goals as they progress through our program.

FBP School provides inspiration and growth in a professional and nurturing atmosphere. Students are motivated to strive for excellence in technique, grace and poise. A faculty of professional teachers attributes to the quality of a dance school. FBP meets the highest standards of dance instruction. Each teacher has completed many years of educational training and performance experience.

Our Curriculum

As a classical ballet school our students receive a traditional and comprehensive education that has been influenced by the Russian, Italian and French schools. We have designed a syllabus that meets the needs of those students striving for a professional career in ballet while maintaining class options appropriate for students studying ballet to support other dance forms and for those taking class for pure enjoyment. Whatever a student desires from their dance education, our curriculum fosters a strong technical foundation and a high level of discipline and commitment. Students who graduate from our school receive a full understanding of the art of ballet, a strong technical base, fluidity, grace and discipline.

Our students begin their early training in our Young Children's Program of the Open Enrollment Division. This program has been created to plant the seed of imagination. As students move through the school they will be afforded the opportunity to move into the Pre-Professional Division in the Core Ballet Program or to continue their studies in our Open Enrollment Division. Our curriculum includes classes in several dance disciplines to support the training of a well rounded dancer.

As the course of study concludes, talented selected students from the Advanced level will have the opportunity to audition for acceptance into our Trainee Program. This program offers a bridge between the school and FBP's professional company by providing talented dancers additional training needed to prepare for a career in ballet. Our students are inspired by the opportunities to work side by side with the professional company here in the studio as well as on the stage during many company productions; including The Nutcracker and other ballet classics.

General Policies

Payment

All school registration and quarterly tuition payments are due one week prior to the start of each quarter or a payment plan must be established. All late tuition payments will incur a late fee of 10% of the quarterly tuition. See our registration information for payment methods and payment plans.

Sign-In

Students must enter through the lobby, not through the 4th Street entrance and sign-in and sign-out of the building at the front desk.

Class Change/Refund/Withdraw Policy

All class changes must be made within the first week of each quarter and must be submitted to the front desk on an Add/Drop form. If a student withdraws within the 1st week of the quarter 75% of the quarterly tuition will be refunded, and 50% will be refunded in second week. No refunds or credits will be issued after the second week of the quarter. Registration fees are non-refundable. Withdrawals must be dated and submitted in writing in order to receive a refund/credit.

Missed Classes and Make Up Classes

All students are required to call the front desk to report an absence. We ask students not to attend class, if they are sick. If a student must miss a class we recommend the student attend the same level or lower level class within the same quarter.

Volunteering

We love our parent and community volunteers – if you would like to help out with our many ongoing projects and join our FBP Volunteer Organization(Friends of Festival Ballet), please give your information to the front desk.

Drugs and Alcohol

The use of drugs and alcohol is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate termination from the program. Tuition will not be refunded.

Paperwork/Emails

Most correspondence is now through email. ***Please make sure we have your correct email and home address.*** School information can also be found on our website at www.festivalballetprovidence.org.

Behavior/Etiquette

Class: All students are expected to listen to their instructor and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. A meeting will be called between the School Director and parent if a child is disruptive in the classroom.

Lobby: All students and parents of young children are asked to be respectful of the administrative staff and studio classes by keeping noise to a minimum.

Bathroom/Spill Policy

Parents of children age 4 and under are asked to remain in the lobby during your child's class. Children age 4 and under must be accompanied by a parent when going to the bathroom. Front desk staff members are not allowed to take children to the bathroom or cleaning up after them.

Observation

Parents are only allowed in studios during scheduled observation days which will be held during the last week of classes in quarters 1 and 3.

Class Cancellations

If classes are cancelled due to inclement weather, we will post announcements on local television stations 6, 10 and 12 as well as local radio stations. An announcement will be on our phone and website. We send emails when possible.

Gifts to Faculty and Staff

Staff and faculty at FBP School are asked not to accept gifts from individual students or their parents. While the School appreciates the spirit behind individual gifts, parents are asked to comply with this policy.

Parents who wish to show their appreciation to staff are encouraged to make a donation in their teacher's name to the FBP Annual Fund Appeal which supports our entire organization. The teacher's name will appear in our annual playbill.

FBP Dress Code and Hair Requirements

Open Division

Ballet

Follow Core Division dress code

Intro to Modern

Footless black tights and any solid color leotard.

Modern

Burgundy leotard and black footless tights

Jazz

Burgundy or black leotard, black jazz pants or tights, and black jazz shoes.

Teen/Adult Classes

No dress code. Comfortable fitted clothing such as yoga wear is suggested for all classes.

Young Children's Division

All Students are required to follow the dress code for their class and level. The mandatory uniform requirements are listed in your registration packet.

Rhythm and Movement, Music & Movement & Creative Movement

Girls: Pink leotard or leotard dress, white socks and pink shoes.

Tutus are welcome.

Hair: Pulled back in a pony tail, braid or pigtails.

Boys: Black dance shorts and fitted white t-shirt, white socks and white shoes.

Pre-Ballet I

Girls: Pink Leotard or dance dress with attached skirt, white socks and pink shoes. Tutus are not allowed.

Hair: Pulled back in a bun.

Boys: Black dance shorts and fitted white t-shirt, white socks and white shoes.

Pre-Ballet II & Pre-Ballet III

Girls: Pink leotard, white socks and pink shoes. Skirts and tutus are not allowed.

Hair: Pulled back in a bun.

Boys: Black dance shorts and fitted white t-shirt, white socks and white shoes.

**Styles are listed on our order form and are available at
LaBrie**

All Students are required to follow the dress code for their class and level. The mandatory uniform requirements are listed in your registration packet.

Core Division

All leotards must be from the approved list. See the uniform order form for styles. Other styles will not be allowed in class.

Girls: All girls must wear pink footed or convertible tights and pink shoes.

Beginner Ballet I, II and III

Light Blue leotard – uniform required

Intermediate I, II and III

Navy Blue leotard – uniform required

Advanced

Black leotard – uniform required

Character- BBIII to Advanced

Black character skirt and black character shoes.

Modern

Burgundy leotard, black footless boys or men's tights worn over leotard

Jazz

Burgundy or black leotard, black jazz pants and black jazz shoes

Boys: All boys at all levels are required to wear black footed tights, white fitted shirts, white ankle socks and white shoes.

Character- BBIII to Advanced

Black character shoes.

Modern

Solid colored shirt, black footless boys or men's tights/

Jazz

Solid colored shirt, black jazz pants and black jazz shoes.

**Styles are listed on our order form and are available
at LaBrie**

Our History

Originally conceived by the late Lydia Pettine, Festival Ballet was founded in 1978 by Christine Hennessey and Winthrop Corey, formerly principal dancers with The Royal Winnipeg Ballet and The National Ballet of Canada, respectively. Both worked tirelessly to develop and grow the young company, bringing in talented international choreographers to set their works while also working with the local community to advance dance education and appreciation for dance. Ms. Hennessey led the company artistically until her death in 1997.

Over the past several years the school has continued to grow under the guidance of Mary Ann Mayer and the artistic vision of Misha Djuric. Together they have taken the school to a place that boasts a distinguished international faculty, an outstanding young children's program, a trainee program for the serious advanced level student, an extensive financial aid program, engaging summer programs, and an open enrollment that provides the community access to this art form through a variety of classes, workshops, and camps. These comprehensive educational programs are offered year round.

At FBP, students grow as individuals, learn the joy of movement through dance and train pre-professionally in a serious and nurturing environment. The close association with the Professional Company provides opportunities for talented dance students to emulate experienced professionals and to appear on stage with company dancers in major productions.

"Our school is the foundation of Festival Ballet Providence... the great reward is our professional company and the inspiration it provides! Our students perfect the grace and skill of classical ballet through hard work and dedication in the classroom; however, their enrichment is only made complete through their direct observation of our trained resident professionals!" Mary Ann Mayer, School Director.

Thank you for reading the School Student/Parent handbook.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

We look forward to a wonderful year!