

Cordova Academy of Ballet
Fall Semester August 28th - December 15th 2007

REGISTRATION: AUGUST 25, 2007 from: 11:00 am- 1:00 pm
at Bert Ferguson Community Center
8505 Trinity Rd. Cordova, TN 38016
phone: 309-1761

Director: Debra J. Wexler
phone: 246-5459

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome back to dance classes! I hope you have enjoyed a wonderful summer! Summer classes were well attended, and I believe the students had a good time learning new material, such as Character Dance and Dance History. Rachel Goode, Rachel Meis, and Deborah Meis took the month long intensive workshop at *Ballet Magnificat!*, again this summer. They worked hard and enjoyed the whole experience.

The fall semester extends from Tuesday, August 28th - Saturday, December 15th. This is a 15 week semester. There will be no classes November 21 - 24th, for Thanksgiving weekend. The schedule is as close to last year's as I could make it. I am limiting class size to 12 once again. These classes fill up quickly and have a waiting list, so please register your child as soon as possible by mail [fill out reg. form and send deposit], or come to registration day at Bert Ferguson on Saturday, August 25th from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. There is a \$30.00 deposit required with each registration that will count towards the tuition and will hold your child's place in class.

All students who took last year will move up a level. PRE- BALLET will be BEGINNER I, BEGINNER I will be BEGINNER II, BEGINNER II will be INTERMEDIATE I, INTERMEDIATE will be INTERMEDIATE II, ADVANCED I will be ADVANCED II, ADVANCED III stays the same. You will notice there is no Advanced I level at this time. If your child is at an Intermediate II level, I suggest that he/she start taking 2 classes per week. One class per week is not enough to progress sufficiently. I have added another class on Thursday for this purpose.

The Fall 2007 Schedule is as follow:

Tuesday:

4:00- 5:30- Advanced III- Ballet/ Pointe

5:30- 7:00- Advanced II- Ballet/Pointe and Character Dance

7:00- 8:15- Liturgical Dance

Wednesday:

3:30- 5:00- Advanced II and III combined- Ballet/Pointe 6:00 -7:00- Intermediate I Ballet- 7-9 years old with at least 1-2 years of training

Thursday:

3:30- 5:00- Advanced III- Ballet

5:00- 6:30- Advanced II- Ballet/Pointe and Allegro

6:30- 7:45- Intermediate II- Ballet- 8-10 years old/or with at least 2-3 years of training

Friday:

4:30- 5:15- Pre- Ballet- 3-4 years old, no previous training necessary

5:30- 6:45- Intermediate II- Ballet and Character Dance- 8-10 years old/or with at least 2 years of training with me

6:45- 8:15- Advanced III- Ballet/Pointe

Saturday:

9:00-10:30- Advanced II and III- Ballet/Pointe

10:30-11:45- Intermediate I Ballet/Character Dance: 6-8 years old with at least 1-2 years of training

11:45- 12:45- Beginner II- Ballet- 5-7 years old with 1 year of training

1:00- 1:45- Beginner I Ballet- 4-5 years old with 1 year of Pre-Ballet

TUITION:

Tuition is based on scheduled classes. Any classes missed due to holidays have already been deducted. Any classes missed due to illness or other reasons can be made up and will not be refunded. The student can make up a class at their current level or 1 level higher. I strongly recommend students make up missed classes.

Tuition can be paid in full or in 2 installments. The first installment is due the first week of classes and the next installment is due on November 1st. If you have paid a \$30.00 deposit, deduct this from the tuition. Monthly payments will no longer be acceptable. There is a 10% discount on tuition for families enrolling 2 or more children.

LATE FEES: For every month the tuition is late, there will be a \$10.00 late fee. These will be mailed out.

Please make checks payable to: Debra Wexler My address: 6141 Quince Rd. Memphis 38119

Fees:

- Pre-ballet and Beginner I- \$140.00 for entire semester [14 classes]
- 1 (1 hour class) per week: \$180.00 for entire semester
- 1 (1 hr.& 15 min. class) per week: \$190.00
- 1 (1 ½ hour class) per week: \$210.00 for entire semester
- 2 (1 hr.& 15 min. classes) per week: \$330.00 for entire semester

- 2 (1 ½ hour classes) per week: \$390.00 for entire semester
- 2 (1 ½ hour classes) + 1(1 hour class) per week: \$492.00 for entire semester
- 3 (1 ½ hour classes) per week: \$608.00 for entire semester
- 4 or more combined classes per week: \$690.00 for entire semester. The class rate goes down the more classes the student takes.

Suggested guidelines for number of classes to ensure progress for your child:

- 3-7 years of age: 1 class per week
- 8-10 years of age: 2 classes per week
- 11-13 years of age: at least 3 classes per week [girls at this age should be starting pointe work. No student can be put on pointe unless a minimum of 2 classes per week are taken. This is to ensure the physical safety of your child.]
- 13 & up: a minimum of 4 classes a week- preferably 5-7 classes While every student's goals may be different, there is a specific class syllabus I follow to cover the vast amount of material needed to reach a common level of proficiency. The student will most definitely fall behind in their basic training if they don't put in the necessary hours required to keep up. This is no different than any other activity they pursue.

Parent Observation:

I heartily encourage parents to find the time to observe an entire class at regular intervals during the year. The recital does not reflect even half of what your child learns and accomplishes! Many parents have expressed surprise at how much more they appreciate their child's efforts in learning this difficult, but rewarding art form, after they observe even one class. So, I am instituting open observation days during the last week of each month. Room and chairs will be provided for any and all adults who wish to watch. For obvious reasons, I ask that you do not bring small children to observation days.

Dress Code:

Part of ballet training is understanding the importance of dressing properly for class. It is part of the tradition of following rules designed to offer safety and comfort during class and also the stage.

The most important rule is: Hair must be in a bun. Your child can not learn how to spot her head for pirouettes [turns], or jump correctly with her hair flying or bouncing around. If the hair is short, it must be fastened securely with hairpins, barrettes, or headbands away from her face. Students with loose braids, ponytails, and hanging hair are in danger of hitting themselves and others in across the floor work. Please respect this rule.

Pre-ballet: pink tights or white ankle socks, pink ballet slippers with attached elastic, and a yellow, pink, or light blue leotard. A short, see through ballet skirt may be worn, but is not necessary. Absolutely no tutus, costumes, costume jewelry, or street wear will be allowed. The student will be asked to remove these items.

Beginners: pink tights, or white ankle socks, pink ballet slippers with attached elastic, and a pink, or lavender, or white leotard. A short see through skirt may be worn.

Intermediate: pink tights, pink ballet slippers with attached elastic, and a black, pink, or light blue leotard, a short chiffon skirt, character shoes, and a character skirt.

Advanced II & III: pink tights, pink ballet slippers, any color leotard, chiffon skirt if desired, character skirt, character shoes. Pointe shoes with attached elastic at heel and ribbons.

All dance wear can be purchased at: Barbara's Dance Wear, Memphis, or Cordova Dance Wear, Cordova. These stores have trained employees who know how to properly fit the shoes. **THE SLIPPER LIKE SHOES AT TARGET ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**

CHARACTER SHOES: I will be putting in a bulk order for character shoes after the first week of classes. These shoes are greatly discounted from a retail price of \$18.00 to \$15.25 if I order 12 or more pairs. I will need your child's shoe size {street shoes}. The fitting guide says to order 1 shoe size up from their street shoes. These shoes can be purchased locally at dance wear shops starting at \$28.00.

I'm looking forward to working with your children this year!

Sincerely,
Debra Wexler