



2021 STUDENT  
2022 POLICY  
HANDBOOK

FOR MORE INFOR-  
MATION  
816.931.2299  
school@kcballet.org  
www.kcballet.org

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS  
Bolender Center  
500 W Pershing Rd  
Kansas City, MO 64108

JOHNSON COUNTY CAMPUS  
(NE corner of 95<sup>th</sup> and Nall)  
5359 W 94<sup>th</sup> Ter  
Prairie Village, KS 66207

## ABOUT KCBS

Kansas City Ballet School is recognized as one of the top ballet training institutions in the United States. Under the direction of School Director Grace Holmes, the School offers a complete, professional curriculum for our Academy students. With locations in downtown Kansas City and Johnson County, the School maintains a faculty of over 30 instructors. In addition to our Academy, KCBS offers open classes through The Studio which attracts teens and adults who wish to pursue recreational dance instruction in a supportive and encouraging setting.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Kansas City Ballet School is dedicated to providing excellence in dance training to a diverse body of students. Our comprehensive approach is based on the traditions of classical ballet and prepares students for the widest spectrum of opportunities within the artistic community and professional dance world.

## ADMINISTRATION

### ARTISTIC

Devon Carney, Artistic Director  
Grace M. Holmes, School Director  
Kimberly Cowen, Principal & KCYB Director  
Dmitry Trubchanov, Men's Program Coordinator  
Lynley Von Engeln, Children's Division Coordinator  
Nora Burkitt, Adaptive Dance Coordinator  
Irina Brouhard, Music Coordinator

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Lynley Von Engeln, School Coordinator  
Jessica Bacus, School Operations Manager  
Erin Steeley, Johnson County Administrator  
Nora Burkitt, Administrative Assistant

**\*In addition to this document please read our Health & Safety Protocols which will be updated in August for Fall programming.**

<https://kcballet.org/kcbs-health-and-safety-protocols/>

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# KCB PROGRAMS

## THE ACADEMY

Kansas City Ballet School (KCBS) is the official school of Kansas City Ballet. It is committed to providing the highest quality dance instruction to our students. Currently, the Academy has more than 600 students, making it one of the largest ballet schools in the region.

All classes are taught by KCBS' acclaimed faculty in our state-of-the-art studios. We are pleased to offer live piano accompaniment in many of our classes.

The Academy is split into 5 divisions with students ranging from ages 2-18. The Children's Division, for ages 2-7, introduces children to ballet and movement while focusing on creativity and group interaction. The Primary Division, for ages 7-11, lays the foundation of classical ballet training. The Preparatory Division is designed for the intermediate student introducing pre-pointe and pointe work as well as more dance disciplines. The Secondary Division is designed for the intermediate/advanced student where they will continue to build on their technique, increase their artistry and add more dance disciplines. The Pre-Professional Division is split into two programs; Evening and Daytime. Both programs provide the young student 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.

Each level has a codified syllabus designed to facilitate the maximum physical, mental and emotional development appropriate to the age and physical ability of each student. Once a student enters Level 1, the official training of ballet technique starts. While the benefits of this training are all inclusive, the Academy's focus is to provide what is necessary for a professional career in dance.

## ADAPTIVE DANCE

This special creative movement class for 3-10 year-olds with developmental delays maintains an open environment in which all children can participate. Rhythmic activities guided by our team stimulate fine/gross motor and speech/language development, as well as sensory, visual and auditory processing skills, and much more.

The Adaptive Dance Class is designed to benefit students in the following ways:

- Provide activities that lead to, support, and reinforce an understanding of dance by encouraging movement, creative activity, and sensory awareness.
- Encourage appreciation and awareness of their own bodies and the bodies of others.
- Stimulate fine and gross motor development.
- Stimulate speech and language development.
- Stimulate sensory, visual, and auditory processing skills.
- Establish routines.
- Encourage attention, cooperation, and impulse control.
- Encourage exploration and self-expression through dance in a safe and structured environment.

## THE STUDIO AT KANSAS CITY BALLET

The Studio at Kansas City Ballet is open to teens and adults with all levels of experience. The schedule offers a variety of class times and dance disciplines. Students can drop into as many or as few classes as their schedule allows.

The KCBS Academy rate for enrolled students is \$8 for a single ballet class.

## ENROLLMENT

### ENROLLMENT POLICIES

**Students are registering for the entire year, September 7, 2021 through May 13, 2022. Enrollment is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Class registration is open until a class meets maximum capacity.**

Classes are subject to cancellation at any time due to under-enrollment. Additional classes may be added to the schedule as enrollment demands. KCBS reserves the right to revise the curriculum and schedule.

All registration forms, including a signed liability waiver and a copy of insurance card, must be completed online or returned to the location where the student is enrolling. There is a \$50 registration fee for all Academy students in the Children's Division, Primary Division, and Level 3. There is a \$100 registration fee for students in Level 4, the Secondary Division and the Pre-Professional Division which includes a KCBS Elevé leotard or men's shirt. Students may not be allowed to participate in class until all forms and fees have been received.

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<https://kcballet.org/kcbs-health-and-safety-protocols/>

### CLASS PLACEMENT

For the Children's Division, class level is typically determined by age and grade:

- Dance with Me: ages 2-3
- Creative Movement: ages 3-5 (Pre-school)
- Fundamentals of Dance: ages 5-6 (Kindergarten)
- Pre Ballet: ages 6-7 (1st grade)

New students from 2nd grade and up please contact the school at [school@kcballet.org](mailto:school@kcballet.org) to discuss enrollment options.

Class placement is based on several factors including age, maturity, technique, and physical strength. Placement is at the sole discretion of the School Director and KCBS faculty and KCBS reserves the right to adjust a student's level if deemed necessary.

Summer Programs are considered a continuation of the academic year. Students remain in the level completed during the academic year regardless of possible advancement for fall enrollment.

## CLASS WITHDRAWAL

We ask that parents who wish to withdraw their children from our Children's Division first consult with their student's teacher. Parents who wish to withdraw their students from all other divisions should consult with the School Director prior to submitting a formal withdrawal.

Please contact the school at [school@kcballet.org](mailto:school@kcballet.org) for instructions on how to withdraw. Withdrawal from a class must be completed by the 1st of the month. If this criteria is not met, the account holder will be held financially liable for the entire month's payment as well as succeeding months until the withdrawal is completed.

## ATTENDANCE POLICIES

### ATTENDANCE

Students in Level 1 and above are required to attend all classes listed for their level. If a student will not be in class, the School Staff should be notified by 2:00pm so that the teacher can be informed of the absence. The reason for the absence as well as the student's class level should be included. Daytime students should notify staff by 8:30am.

Bolender Center contact: [school@kcballet.org](mailto:school@kcballet.org) or 816-931-2299 x2  
Johnson County contact: [school@kcballet.org](mailto:school@kcballet.org) or 816-931-2299 x3

Regular attendance is essential to improving the skills and strength required for advancement. Students who have poor attendance may be asked to leave the school. Attendance will be taken into consideration when determining eligibility for level advancement and for any KCB Company production casting.

Students should be dropped off no more than 15 minutes prior to class and should be picked up within 15 minutes of their final class. KCBS personnel cannot be held responsible for students left beyond 15 minutes after their class has ended. Please see Health and Safety Protocols for more details <https://kcballet.org/kcbs-health-and-safety-protocols/>.

**our Health & Safety Protocols will be updated in August for Fall programming.**

### TARDINESS

Tardiness in classes is not permitted. Students must be in class, ready to dance at the designated class time. Warming up before the beginning of class is crucial to injury prevention. Please notify KCBS Faculty by 2:00pm for evening students if tardiness is expected and by 8:30am for Daytime students. For unexpected tardiness please notify KCBS Faculty asap. Dancers arriving more than 10 minutes late may be asked by the teacher to observe. Classes are designed for the development of technique. Students should arrive a few minutes before class to stretch and warm up.

## CLASS MAKE-UP POLICY

Students are permitted a total of five make-up classes for unexcused absences by February 12, 2022. Two unexcused absences may be made up at no charge. Students may make-up the remaining three absences at a charge of \$8 per class.

Classes missed for excused absences such as rehearsals with KCB may be made up before February 12, 2022.

Make-up classes are not permitted in Studio classes or during Family Watch Week. The last date make-up classes can be taken is February 12, 2022.

All make-up classes **must** be arranged by emailing [school@kcballet.org](mailto:school@kcballet.org) for permission. Due to class availability, a make-up class may not always be available.

It is important for students to maintain good attendance in their own classes as too many absences may affect a student's progress and future class placement.

# EVALUATION & ADVANCEMENT

## STUDENT EVALUATIONS

Academy students in the Children's Division will be evaluated by their class level instructors at the end of each year.

Students in the Primary, Preparatory, Secondary and Pre-Professional Divisions will be evaluated through:

### Written Mid-Year Evaluations (Level 1 through Pre-Professional)

Written Mid-Year Evaluations are composed by the students' primary teacher, in collaboration with the other teachers of that level. These Evaluations are prepared at the conclusion of the fall semester and delivered at the start of the spring semester. Students should use their Mid-Year Evaluations to determine their focus for corrections to address in the second semester. The Mid-Year Evaluations are a tool for students to understand the expectations of their teachers in moving through the syllabus and strengthening their technique.

### Evaluation Classes

Evaluation classes are held each year in April. Students in Level 2 and above will be evaluated by the KCBS Staff as well as the instructor. All evaluation classes will be held during their regularly scheduled class times. It is very important for students to be in attendance during their evaluation class.

### Written Year-End Evaluations

Students in Levels 1 and above will be mailed a written copy of their evaluation following the conclusion of the academic year. These written evaluations will be utilized to determine whether or not a child will advance to the next level. They are not, however, the only criteria for determining advancement. Level placement cannot be given over the phone.

Parents are encouraged to request a meeting with the School Director or Principals to discuss any questions they may have about the evaluations.

## CLASS ADVANCEMENT

Class advancement is at the sole discretion of KCBS School Director and KCBS faculty and may occur at any time. Students are placed in a level that is appropriate to his or her skill level and physical strength. KCBS faculty members evaluate students on artistry, physicality, maturity, strength, attendance, commitment and technical ability.

## CRITERIA FOR POINTE WORK

Pointe work is an exciting and essential part of a ballet student's training. Our students begin preparing for pointe work in Level 3 and during this time they work in pre-pointe shoes to develop the strength they will need to dance on pointe. Students should expect to remain in Level 3 for a minimum of two years to develop the skills and strength necessary for pointe work. Students are evaluated and are invited to begin pointe work in Level 4 on an individual basis. Each student responds to the demands of pointe preparation differently. Some will need longer preparation time than others to be ready for pointe work. For their own safety, students will not be allowed to begin pointe work if physical limitations prevent them from meeting minimum criteria.

1. The student must have at least two years of training.
2. The student must be taking a minimum of four ballet classes per week consistently for a total of six hours weekly.
3. The student must be responsible enough to bring all the ballet equipment she will need to class. Pointe shoes require extra care and accessories.
4. The student must pay attention in class and must work hard. Going on pointe is a big step and requires commitment on the part of the student.
5. The student must be in good health and able to take the entire class. If the student frequently needs to rest because of illness or injury, they may not be strong enough for the extra demands that pointe work requires.
6. The student must have sufficient strength to:

Hold their turnout while dancing

The most basic concept of ballet is turnout. It makes it possible to do certain steps that could not otherwise be done. Holding turnout while dancing is a good sign of strength. If the student does not have the strength to maintain their turnout, they are not strong enough for pointe work; it is much more difficult to hold turnout on pointe.

Have a strong, straight back and core while dancing

Pointe work requires that the student use the muscles in her legs and feet to stand on pointe and not use the pointe shoes as a crutch. A weak back, especially the lower back, and core will throw the student off balance while on pointe and will make it difficult to correctly execute ballet steps.

Keep the heels forward toward the big toe (no sickling)



The most stable position for pointe work is to have the weight slightly forward over the big toe. If the weight is over the little toe, it is more difficult to stay up on pointe, and will increase the chances of strain and injury.

#### Stand on pointe properly

The most stable position for pointe work is where the weight of the body is slightly forward over the big toe enabling the entire box of the pointe shoe to make contact with the floor. If a student's instep is not sufficiently arched, they will not be able to make the proper position of the foot required for pointe work resulting in excess strain on the foot and possible injuries.

#### Use plié while dancing

Students must use their pliés while dancing because this is how they get onto pointe. If they do not use their pliés, they will have to bend their leg incorrectly in order to get on pointe. Pliés should be done with the knees pointing straight over their toes and with the heels down.

#### Point their feet while dancing

Students must point their feet while dancing in order to strengthen the muscles that pointe work requires. These muscles need to be strong enough to support their body weight on the ends of their toes. If the student is not in the habit of using these foot muscles then they will not be able to support themselves on pointe and will probably knuckle over on their toes, thereby increasing their chances for injury.

#### Piqué passé with straight leg

Students should have enough strength to push themselves onto half-pointe. This step is harder to do on pointe and a bent leg is usually a sign of weakness or improper step preparation.

#### Do 16 relevés and sautés in the center without stopping

Strength for pointe work is achieved by repeating exercises. Relevés and sautés are excellent for building up calf muscle strength, which is vital for pointe work. Relevés are more difficult to do on pointe because of the extra height, so strong relevés on half-pointe are a good sign of strength. The student must also go up as high on half-pointe as she can, since pointe work demands this ability. A student who keeps her heels very low to the ground is not preparing her calf muscles adequately, and will not have the strength for pointe work.

#### Jump with strength and land well-placed and turned out

Having a strong jump demonstrates that the student has the strength necessary in the feet and legs to be able to relevé onto pointe. The ability to maintain proper placement when landing jumps will translate into correctly coming down off pointe and limiting her chance of injury.

#### Hold a passé balance on half-pointe

The student should be well-placed (hips square, back straight, legs turned-out), and have the strength to balance on half-pointe. This pose is more difficult to correct on pointe, as the surface area for balancing is smaller and the strength requirements are greater.

For the safety of our students, this year students advancing to level 4 will not begin pointe work at the start of the semester. Students will be notified individually in writing when they are ready to go on pointe.

Once a student has been given permission to begin pointe work she may purchase pointe shoes, ribbon, elastic and toe padding (optional). KCBS staff will arrange a pointe shoe fitting day for students so they can be fit under KCBS supervision. If this option is not available, after purchasing your shoes bring them in for approval from your teacher. Do not wear or sew rib-

bons or elastics onto the shoes before they have been approved. Your child will be shown how to sew on the ribbons and elastics. We encourage the dancers to take responsibility in learning how to maintain their own shoes. Once pointe work has begun students may not wear their pointe shoes for virtual pointe classes until permission has been given individually in writing.

## FINANCIAL POLICIES

The fall semester runs from September 7, 2021 to December 19, 2020. The spring semester runs from January 3, 2022 to May 13, 2022.

### TUITION

Tuition may be paid annually, bi-annually or monthly

LEVEL	8 INSTALLMENTS OF	2 INSTALLMENTS OF	1 INSTALLMENT OF	REGISTRATION FEE
Children's Division	\$85	\$340	\$680	\$50
Level 1	\$115	\$460	\$920	\$50
Level 2	\$165	\$660	\$1320	\$50
Level 3	\$215	\$860	\$1720	\$50
Level 4	\$287.50	\$1150	\$2300	\$100*
Int	\$300	\$1200	\$2400	\$100*
Adv	\$300	\$1200	\$2400	\$100*
Pre-Pro Evening	\$350	\$1400	\$2800	\$100*
Pre-Pro Daytime	\$675	\$2700	\$5400	\$100*

\*Includes a KCBS uniform (One Elev  leotard or Men's Shirt)

## PAYMENT POLICIES

- KCBS highly encourages enrolling in our automatic payment plan. Semester and monthly options are offered with autopay for no additional fee; non autopay accounts will incur a one-time additional fee of \$30 per student. The first months tuition along with the registration fee is due at the time of registration. Tuition is withdrawn from the credit card on the 5th of October, November & December for the fall semester and the 5th of January, February, March & April for the spring semester.
- Unsuccessful autopays will attempt to run the card on file once a day for five days. If still unsuccessful, a \$15 decline fee will be charged.
- For non-autopay accounts, payments must be made by mail, or over the phone at the location where the student takes class. Acceptable forms of payment are check, credit card, or money order.
- Personal checks or Direct Pay checks sent from the bank should include the student's full name and class level. Checks may be mailed to the location where the student takes class.
- A \$20 late fee may be assessed to each individual student's account if payments are not received within five days of the scheduled due date.
- A \$25 charge may be assessed for each returned check.
- Students whose accounts are deficient by two months will not be admitted to class until their account balance is paid in full.
- Tuition must be paid in full by April 5 in order for students to participate in end of year performances.
- There are no refunds after the student's first day of class. All fees are non-refundable.
- Transactions are non-refundable.
- KCBS does not send invoices.
- A 10% discount may be applied to younger siblings.

## MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

- Academy Students in Level 2 or above may be considered for a Merit Scholarship. Merit Scholarships are awarded at the sole discretion of Kansas City Ballet School and require no application.
- Scholarships are awarded for the school year (September - May). Students must accept their scholarship award at the time of registration.
- Scholarship funds are modest and are highly competitive. Upon acceptance of a KCBS scholarship, KCBS students are required to be enrolled in their assigned class level for the fall semester, and may be asked to assist with various KCBS projects. All recipients must maintain a 95% or higher class attendance rate.
- Scholarships are not automatically renewed each school year and the awarded amount may vary from year to year. Students will be reevaluated by Kansas City Ballet School for consideration of continued or additional scholarships.

## FINANCIAL AID

- Academy Students in Level 2 or above are eligible to apply for Financial Aid. Financial Aid is awarded for the school year (September – May).
- Applications for Financial Aid must be submitted prior to the start of the school year. Applications are reviewed by the Financial Aid Committee and aid is based on varied criteria.
- Students must pay the registration fee and first month's tuition in full upon enrollment. Financial Aid will be applied to the remaining months in each semester.
- Financial Aid recipients must be enrolled in their assigned class level for the fall semester and may be asked to assist with various KCBS projects. All recipients must maintain a 95% or higher class attendance rate.
- Financial Aid is not automatically renewed each school year and the awarded amount may vary from year to year. Students must reapply in order to be considered for continued or additional assistance.
- Financial Aid recipients should not exceed their monthly payments on other KCBS services such as private lessons or reformer classes.

## KCBS POLICIES

### ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

**Our Health & Safety Protocols which include Arrival & Departure information will be updated in August for Fall programming.**

<https://kcballet.org/kcbs-health-and-safety-protocols/>

### ARRIVAL

Students should arrive for class no more than 15 minutes before class start time.

### DISMISSAL

Students must be picked up within the 15 minutes following their class. Students will not be allowed to leave class early unless arranged with KBCS staff ahead of time.

### BEHAVIOR

Chewing gum, food and drinks (except water) are not allowed in the studio. Food and drinks are allowed in the lobby areas only.

All trash and recycling must be disposed of properly.

Students are not allowed to sit or play at the pianos.

Students are expected to behave respectfully and courteously at all times toward KCBS faculty and staff as well as each other.

KCBS rules and policies apply at all locations where students represent the school, such as public appearances, performance venues and fundraising events.

## BALLET CLASS ETIQUETTE

Students should arrive pre-dressed with cover ups and street shoes. No dressing rooms will be available for students. Please do not wear ballet shoes outside. Please check our Health and Safety Protocol in August for further updates.

Students are expected to arrive on time. Ballet class starts at the barre and if you're late, you will miss vital exercises for your ballet technique.

Be present in ballet class. That means no talking, yawning, slouching. Ballet class is time to concentrate on your teacher and on your own body.

Take corrections with a positive mindset. Corrections should be seen as a compliment, not a criticism.

Retain your corrections. If you do not understand a correction, do not hesitate to ask your teacher to explain it again.

Do not ask to go to the bathroom in the middle of barre. You should go before arriving at the studio and if you need to go after barre, you can ask your teacher. Students must use hand sanitizer before using the bathrooms at our facilities.

Be aware of your space when in the classroom and all common spaces. Make sure not to over crowd other students.

Come to class in your correct dancewear/uniform. For girls, your hair should be pulled back and adequately secured so as not to become a distraction. No jewelry is allowed during class. Masks must be worn at all times within the building, even when dancing. Please check our Health and Safety Protocol in August for further updates.

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## PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Students should not bring expensive items, such as electronics or jewelry, to the studio. All belongings should be kept INSIDE of dance bags.

KCBS is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. Labeling all personal items with the student's name is recommended. Please check the lost and found for missing items. All items that have not been retrieved from the lost and found will be discarded or donated to charity.

Students should bring their own hand sanitizer, a pre-filled water bottle and a snack to class. Water fountains, vending machines and kitchen areas will not be accessible to students. Water bottle filling station will be installed.

## WEATHER CANCELLATION

During inclement weather, an official decision on the status of classes for that evening will be made by 2:00 PM. For Saturdays, decisions will be made either Friday night if possible or early Saturday morning. After that time please visit our website, check our Facebook page, or call KCBS at (816) 931-2299 to find out whether classes will be held or not.

KCBS uses the Kansas City, Missouri and Shawnee Mission, Kansas school districts as a guideline for weather cancellations. Please note that though districts may be closed during the day, circumstances may change that allow us to have regularly scheduled classes in the evenings.

In the event of inclement weather that results in closure of Kansas City Missouri Public Schools, classes for the Daytime Program will also be canceled. Updates regarding the Daytime schedule will be posted on our website, Facebook page and via the phone messages. Please note that there are circumstances that may result in Daytime Program classes being canceled but evening classes being held as scheduled and vice versa.

The exception to this policy is when schools close due to cold weather not snow or ice. If schools are closed due to temperature but road conditions are not hazardous, classes will be held as scheduled.

Please use caution, care and judgment for travel from your particular area.

## HOLIDAY OBSERVATIONS

KCBS will be closed to observe the following holidays:

Labor Day	September 6, 2021
Thanksgiving	November 24-27, 2021
Winter Break	December 20, 2021 - January 3, 2022
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	January 17, 2022
Presidents Day	February 21, 2022
Spring Break	March 14-19, 2022
Easter Break	April 15-17, 2022

## GENERAL POLICIES

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## PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY/SOCIAL MEDIA

[For the safety, security and privacy of all students attending KCBS, photography and videotaping of any classes, rehearsals, demonstrations or performances is prohibited.](#)

KCBS retains the right to photograph and video KCBS students and to use photos and videos in advertising materials, at events and in social media. Parents will sign a photography/ videog-

raphy release as part of their registration.

## USE OF PHYSICAL TOUCH BY TEACHERS DURING CLASS

Instructors use physical touch in order to help students find proper alignment and placement and to develop the proper technical and qualitative aspects necessary for classical ballet. If a student feels uncomfortable with this form of instruction, the school must be informed in writing at registration.

## RESOLVING ISSUES

KCBS recommends that parents, students and teachers have open communication. If an issue arises, parents are encouraged to contact the School Administrator or School Operations Manager. When appropriate, an appointment with the School Director will be scheduled to discuss concerns.

After an initial meeting with the School Director, further meetings may be scheduled to include your child's teachers. If the issue still cannot be resolved, the General Manager and/or the Executive Director of Kansas City Ballet may be brought into the conflict resolution.

The Kansas City Ballet Academy nurtures an environment and atmosphere of respect and professionalism. The Academy's expectation is that all faculty, staff, students and parents/guardians behave in a considerate and polite manner towards each other. Any issues between individuals will be discussed in a calm and respectful manner. Parents/guardians who wish to discuss any issue or policy should direct their concern to the front desk staff to schedule an appointment either in person or over the phone with the school director. If an incident occurs when parents/guardians or students behave in an aggressive or disrespectful manner, the School Director will investigate the complaint and the family may be asked to leave the Kansas City Ballet School and un-enroll from classes as a result.

## NON-DISCRIMINATION AND NON-HARRASMENT POLICY

KCBS prohibits and will not tolerate harassment of any kind to or by any persons, including teachers, staff, students, parents and any other person affiliated with or doing business with the school. This prohibition includes harassment (verbal or physical) for any unlawful discriminatory reason, such as race, gender, national origin, disability, age or religion.

Slurs, jokes, or remarks that are derogatory of a person or group's race, ethnic background, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation, economic status or age are considered inappropriate for the school's environment. This also includes behavior which could be classified as bullying, whether in person or via social media, and any behavior that is commonly understood to be abusive or disrespectful toward others.

# INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

## PROGRESS MEETINGS

Parents are welcome to schedule meetings via phone or zoom with the School Director regarding their student's progress. The School Director also may request that the student's teacher(s) be present at such meeting.

## FAMILY WATCH WEEK

Watch Week is scheduled for October 25–30 and March 7–12. More detailed information will be sent via email in October and March.

# ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

All KCBS students have an end-of-the-year performance opportunity in May. Creative Movement students will have an in-studio demonstration during their regular scheduled class time. Students in Fundamentals of Dance and Pre-Ballet participate in the Children's Showcase at the Bolender Center. Students in Levels 1 and 2 participate in the Primary Division Showcase at the Bolender Center. Students beginning at Level 3 participate in an annual Spring Performance at the Kauffman Center. This performance is ticketed and open to the public, and all students are encouraged to participate.

Academy students are eligible to audition for Kansas City Ballet productions where roles and ages vary. Casting of students into KCB Company productions is at the sole discretion of the KCB Artistic Staff and not a guarantee.

When auditioning for a part in a ballet, it is important to realize that there are not always enough roles available for every auditioning student. Casting may be dictated by factors such as size, technical ability, stage presence and behavior. The audition process is an essential part of any dancer's training and is a learning experience, no matter the result. Students must wear their class uniform for all KCBS auditions. Additional performance opportunities exist within Kansas City Youth Ballet, the Post Graduate Trainee Program and KCB II.

## KANSAS CITY YOUTH BALLET (KCYB)

KCYB is the performing ensemble of the Academy. KCYB is designed to give aspiring young dancers the opportunity to develop their skills and love of dance through pre-professional training and performances. The company presents two major performances each season with the potential for additional performances in the community. KCYB performances feature works from the classical ballet repertory as well as showcasing many original works by local choreographers of varying disciplines.

Students will be invited to participate at the KYCB Director's discretion.



There is an additional fee to join the Youth Ballet of \$375.00 per semester.

## POST SECONDARY PROGRAMS

The Trainee Program, which is tuition based, aims to nurture and develop young aspiring post graduate dancers' technical skills and artistry, ultimately preparing them for a professional dance career by bridging the gap between the Academy and KCB II. Trainees participate in some company classes and have the opportunity to be considered for performances with the Kansas City Ballet Company during the season. They also perform in tandem with KCB II (together, the Kansas City Ballet Second Company) in their own educational and community outreach performances throughout the year, and in the Academy Spring Performance. Admittance into the Trainee Program is by audition and invitation only.

KCB II is for extraordinarily talented young dancers that are emerging as professionals. This program is the final step Kansas City Ballet School offers in preparing a dancer for a professional career. KCB II dancers participate in some company classes as well as some performances with Kansas City Ballet. They also represent Kansas City Ballet throughout the region through public performances, lecture demonstrations, residencies, and workshops, enabling the community to experience live dance in a public setting.

## SUMMER PROGRAMS

KCBS offers various summer programs for all students. Attending summer programs at KCBS is highly encouraged as students can make tremendous progress during the summer months without the added pressure of academic studies. The programs offered to students Level 2 and up provide intensive training in ballet technique, exposure to various dance disciplines and the exciting experience of working with various guest teachers.

Summer Programs are considered a continuation of the academic year. Students remain in the level completed during the academic year regardless of possible advancement for fall enrollment. The Junior Intensive is a 4-week audition-based program for ages 9-13 in which students will study ballet and various dance disciplines, The Summer Intensive, a 5-week audition based program for ages 11-22, offers students across the globe a chance to train in a highly focused environment with KCBS Staff and Guest Artists.

## PRIVATE LESSONS

During the school year/company season, studio availability for private lessons is extremely limited and not all requests may be fulfilled. KCBS will prioritize those who have been recommended by the School Director to take private lessons.

All private lessons at either campus will require a parent or guardian to attend via zoom.

To book a private lesson at either campus please email Erin Steeley at [esteeley@kcballet.org](mailto:esteeley@kcballet.org). There is a \$15 per hour Studio reservation fee made payable to KCBS by student. Bookings need to be made 2 business days in advance. Maximum length of Private Lessons is 1.5 hours.