



Junior Summer Intensive 2026 Information Packet

WELCOME LETTER.....	2
KANSAS CITY BALLET	3
KANSAS CITY BALLET SCHOOL TEAM	3
ARTISTIC	3
ADMINISTRATIVE	3
CONTACT INFORMATION.....	4
PREPARING FOR JUNIOR SUMMER INTENSIVE.....	4
a. Items for Classes	4
b. Dress Code ALL STUDENTS.....	5
c. Studio Etiquette.....	5
SAFETY.....	6
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	6
a. Injury/Wellness	6
b. Before the Start of the Program	6
LIFE AT KANSAS CITY BALLET	7
a. Policies	7
b. Parking/Drop-Off and Pick-Up	7
c. Attendance	8
d. Curriculum.....	8
e. Teaching faculty	8
f. First Day of Classes – Monday, June 1, 2026.....	9
g. Examples of Schedule.....	9
LAST DAY OF CLASSES	
a. Arrival/Departure.....	9

WELCOME LETTER

Dear 2026 Junior Summer Intensive Families,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you and your dancer to our Junior Summer Intensive 2026. Our program offers excellent ballet training along with a variety of dance subjects for the students to explore and experience, culminating in a performance showcasing some of what they will have learned over the three weeks.

The course is based at our beautiful South Campus location with our performance and final day hosted at our Bolender Center, in the Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater, on June 19th.

We look forward to an intensive filled with opportunities for growth, expanding technical and artistic skills, having fun, and learning from peers.

Thank you for choosing Kansas City Ballet School as your Summer Intensive for 2026. We cannot wait to see you in our studios!

Sincerely,

Oliver Till

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oliver D Till". The signature is written in a cursive style with a loop at the end of the last name.

Kansas City Ballet School Director

KANSAS CITY BALLET

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 30-member professional ballet company under the direction of Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director David Gray. In the 2017-2018 season Kansas City Ballet celebrated its 60th Anniversary. Kansas City Ballet offers an eclectic repertory ranging from the traditional classics to exciting contemporary ballets. Through its professional company, its Second Company and its many community service programs, KCB seeks to nurture and develop its artists, audiences and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance. The company reaches over 20,000 Kansas City students and adults each year through its community education programs and provides dance training through the Kansas City Ballet School.

KANSAS CITY BALLET SCHOOL TEAM

ARTISTIC

Devon Carney, Artistic Director

Oliver Till, School Director

Kimberly Cowen, Principal & KCYB Director

Taryn Ouellette, Principal, South Campus at Meadowbrook

Jennifer Welch Cudnik, Principal, Daytime Program

Dmitry Trubchanov, Men's Program Coordinator & KCYB Associate Director

Jordan Voth, Company Pianist/Principal Academy Pianist

Jacob Thomas, Academy/R.O.A.D Pianist

ADMINISTRATIVE

Sherry Urton, School Operations Manager

Miyesha McGriff, R.O.A.D. Program Administrator

Rachel Grisi Dugan, Summer Intensive Coordinator

Nora Burkitt-Davis, Children's Program & Adaptive Dance Coordinator

Kira Dimarco, Bolender Center Campus Administrator

Adrienne Anderson, Data & Process Analyst

Allay Freeman, Alisson Gonzalez, Annie Roe, Carolyn Franano, Administrative Assistants

CONTACT INFORMATION

Kansas City Ballet School South Campus is located near 95th and Nall.

KCBS South Campus Mailing Address

Kansas City Ballet School
9415 Nall Ave
Suite 101
Prairie Village, KS 66207

KCBS South Campus Office Number

816-931-2299 x3

*Please note that School office hours vary during the day – if a staff member is not available to take your call, please leave a message and it will be returned as soon as possible.

KCBS Office Email

school@kcballet.org

Junior Summer Intensive Student Webpage

<https://kcballet.org/junior-summer-intensive/student-page/>

PREPARING FOR JUNIOR SUMMER INTENSIVE

a. Items for Classes

- Dancewear (see dress code for more details)
- Water bottle
- Packed lunch
- Pilates/yoga mat
- Mini fitness ball (9in)
- Thera-Band
- Hair items - hairbrush, bobby pins, hair ties, hair net, hair spray, etc.
- Foot care items – tape, Band-Aids, toe pads, blister pads, nail clippers
- Sewing kit

b. Dress Code

ALL STUDENTS

- Students must be in dress code for every class
- No warm-ups are allowed for class
- Only small stud earrings are permitted – no other jewelry or watches
- Hair must be neat and secured away from the face, in a ballet appropriate style, such as a high ballet bun, is recommended.

Female Track

Required:

- Single color leotards (no lace, large cut-outs, no patterns)
- Pink or flesh tone convertible tights
- Pink or flesh tone ballet shoes
- Black tights (for jazz and modern)
- Black or tan jazz shoes
- Pointe students: pointe shoes
- Black or single-color ballet skirt to be worn for pre-pointe/pointe or variation classes only

Male Track

Required:

- White Body Wrappers short sleeve pullover (B400 or M400) or a comparable style fitted style
- Black or grey footless, high waisted tights
- Dance belt
- White ballet shoes/white ankle socks or black ballet shoes/black ankle socks
- Black or tan jazz shoes

c. Studio Etiquette

Proper attire

- Dancers should have their hair up in a ballet appropriate style such as a high ballet bun, securely in place.
- Name tag must be worn for all JSI classes.
- Dress code is required for all classes.
- Warmups should not be worn during classes.

Proper Etiquette

- Be on time and prepared for every class.
- Be respectful to your teachers, accompanists, and fellow students.
- Respect the space, and clean up after yourself (Band-Aids, wrappers, etc.).

SAFETY

Student safety is of utmost importance. Rules and procedures are put in place to protect our students and must be adhered to by all.

During the first week of classes we may hold both a fire and tornado drill to ensure students are familiar with what to do in the event of an emergency. Students must follow all directions given by any KCBS staff member.

In the event of an emergency situation, our first priority is the safety of the students, and our second priority will be communicating with parents/guardians. This means that you may hear from your student before you hear from us.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

a. Injury/Illness

Students should tell our staff right away about any illness or injury. A first aid kit is available at the front desk.

In the event of non-emergency injury or illness, our staff will contact the parents/guardians to let them know about the issue and decide how to best handle the situation.

For an emergency situation, we would still contact the parents but may need to make decisions beforehand in the best interest of the student. Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas is a short drive from the South Campus.

b. Before Start of the Program

Please make sure students are healthy and fully cleared by their physician to participate in the Intensive. The amount of physical activity is rigorous, and we do not want any student to spend their summer primarily sitting out of class.

LIFE AT KANSAS CITY BALLET

a. Policies

- Chewing gum, food and drinks (except water) are not allowed in the studio or dressing areas.
- Cell phones are not permitted in the studios and must be turned to silent when entering the building.
- Students are not allowed to sit at or play the pianos.
- During lunch students will eat in their assigned space. On nice days students may be escorted to eat lunch outside (if students are eating outside students must wear clothes or warm-ups and outside shoes over their dance uniform).
- We will have a refrigerator for dancers to keep their lunches in while they are dancing.
- There will be no eating utensils available; students must bring their own.
- Warm-up booties are not to be worn outside – otherwise they track dirt and dust into the studios.
- Dressing areas must be kept neat and tidy.
- All belongings should be kept inside of dance bags and no valuables should be brought to KCBS.
- KCBS is not responsible for any student property.
- Items, especially clothing or personal care items such as hairbrushes, may not be shared.
- Trash/recycling must be properly disposed of into designated receptacles.
- Students are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Do not leave behind toe tape, Band-Aids, crumbs, spills, etc.
- Students are expected to behave respectfully and courteously at all times toward KCBS faculty and staff, the facility, and each other.

b. Parking/Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Parking is free and available in the lots north and south of our building.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up: Drivers must pull into a parking spot. Please do not double-park or block any cross traffic. Students are reminded to be cautious when moving through the parking lot, and drivers are reminded to be aware of pedestrians.

c. Attendance

Students are required to attend all scheduled classes for their assigned group. Regular attendance is essential for improving technique and building strength. Instructors take attendance daily and absences are reported to KCBS staff.

In the event a student will miss any class, including a late arrival or early dismissal, the parent/guardian must notify KCBS. Please contact us *prior to the absence* at school@kcballet.org or 816-931-2299 x2.

Tardiness is not permitted – students must be in class and ready to dance at the designated class time. Dancers arriving more than 10 minutes late may be asked to observe class.

d. Curriculum

Students will be divided into three groups of students to provide limited class sizes and focused training. All students will attend class Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Classes offered in this program may include the following:

- Ballet Technique
- Repertory
- Variations
- Pre-pointe
- Pointe
- Men's Class
- Modern
- Contemporary
- Jazz
- Musical Theater
- Dance History
- Progressing Ballet Technique
- Pilates Mat
- Yoga

e. Teaching faculty

Instructors for the Junior Summer Intensive are Kansas City Ballet School faculty and include Oliver Till (School Director), Taryn Ouellette (Principal, South Campus at Meadowbrook), Jennifer Welch Cudnik (Principal, Daytime Program), Kimberly Cowen (Principal & KCYB Director). Ballet classes are accompanied by Kansas City Ballet School pianists. Please visit our website to view faculty biographies.

f. First Day of Classes – Monday, June 1, 2026

On the first day of classes, students will have a welcome orientation at 8:30am, prior to their first class. It will include an overview of the program and its policies.

g. Examples of Schedule

Example 1		Example 2	
9:00-9:45am	Conditioning/Stretch	9:00-10:45am	Ballet Technique
10:00-11:30am	Ballet Technique	11:00-12:00pm	Pre-Pointe/Pointe/Men's
11:45-12:30pm	Variations	12:00-12:45pm	Lunch
12:30-1:15pm	Lunch	12:45-2:15pm	Modern
1:15-2:45pm	Classical Rep	2:30-4:00pm	Jazz
3:00-4:00pm	Seminar		

9. LAST DAY OF CLASSES – FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026

The final day of the Junior Summer Intensive will take place at the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity, Kansas City Ballet’s downtown location (500 W Pershing Rd, Kansas City, MO 64108). Students will have a modified class schedule to allow for a studio demonstration. We invite JSI families to join us for the 2:30 PM demonstration performance at the Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater at the Bolender Center. Space is limited.

Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

The Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity is an award-winning facility located near downtown Kansas City and the vibrant Crossroads Arts District. The former power house building is fully renovated with seven light-filled studios and the 180-seat Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater. The Bolender Center houses the Kansas City Ballet professional company, the Kansas City Ballet School and the Kansas City Ballet’s artistic and administrative staff.

a. Arrival/Departure

The Bolender Center will open at 8:30 AM. Upon arrival, students will proceed to their assigned dressing area to prepare for class. At the end of the day, all students should retrieve their belongings and head towards the main lobby.

Parking is free and available in our adjacent lot. Please note that the lanes closest to the entrance of the building are one-way going north.

Drop-Off: Please pull to the curb in front of the doors. Students should exit the vehicle curbside and not cross in front of traffic.

Pick-Up: Please find a parking spot or pull as far forward as possible along the curb. Do not double-park or block any cross traffic.