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# BARRISKILL

dance theatre school

## PARENT & STUDENT HANDBOOK

[barriskilldance.com](http://barriskilldance.com)

3642 Shannon Road Durham, NC 27707



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# WELCOME

This handbook serves as your guide to Barriskill Dance Theatre School (BDTS) and our philosophy of dance education. We take our roles as mentors and teachers in your child's life very seriously, and appreciate that you have entrusted them to us. It is our objective to inspire a passion for the art of dance in every child who passes through our doors.

Please read the information in this handbook carefully. We hold all of our parents and students responsible for the information within.

# CONTACT

Policies, schedules, and much more are posted on our website. If you have a question, it is likely you will find the answer on our website.

Email is our primary way of communicating with families. We do our best to limit email communications to important information such as: fees, deadlines, and upcoming events. Please make sure that the studio has your most up-to-date email address and read the communications we send out. If you are not receiving regular emails from us, please email School Director.

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# PHILOSOPHY

BDTS is committed to providing high-quality, developmentally appropriate dance and musical theater education. We provide a safe and child-centered environment in which our students can explore dance with qualified, nurturing teachers.

Dance education encompasses so much more than the dance technique we teach your children. We believe the discipline of dance training gives young people a better understanding of commitment, the spirit of teamwork, and discovering what they can accomplish through hard work. Our goal is to give dancers the tools, knowledge, and education to become dancers in the professional world if that is desired. Even more importantly, we strive to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of our students; teaching them the skills needed for a successful life, and a valuable appreciation for the performing arts.

Our approach to dance education is aimed at helping our students find the intrinsic rewards of learning to dance rather than just the external rewards so commonly strived for. Even as we prepare for performances, our emphasis is on the process; the satisfaction of working hard together to create a finished production we share with family and friends.

We truly believe that by participating in challenging, developmentally appropriate dance classes in a nurturing environment, all children and adults can experience the sense of accomplishment and joy that comes with learning to dance.

The joy is in the journey! We look forward to taking this journey with you and your family.

# FALL 2024 CALENDAR

Barriskill Classes Begin	08/24/24
Company Audition (Invitation Only)	08/24/24
<b>Annie the Musical Audition</b> Musical Theatre levels 5, 6, & Pre-Professional Ballet & Jazz levels 5+	08/27/24
Labor Day Weekend No Classes	08/31/24-09/02/24
<b>Annie the Musical Intensive Rehearsal</b>	09/06/24
<b>Nutcracker Auditions</b> Ages 7+	09/07/24
<b>Frozen the Musical Ensemble Auditions</b> Jazz, Tap, & Hip Hop levels 1+	09/14/24
<b>Annie the Musical Mandatory Rehearsal</b>	10/19/24
<b>Nutcracker Mandatory Rehearsals</b>	10/26/24 AND 11/09/24
Observation Week	11/16/24-11/22/24
<b>Annie the Musical Mandatory Rehearsal</b>	11/16/24 AND 11/19/24 AND 11/22/24 (ALL) 11/20/24 (leads only)
<b>Frozen the Musical Mandatory Rehearsals</b>	11/22/24 HOLD: 12/02/24
<b>Nutcracker Mandatory Rehearsals with Costume Parade</b>	11/23/24 AND 11/24/24
Thanksgiving Break No Classes	11/25/24-11/30/24
<b>Annie Mandatory Tech Week</b>	12/03/24-12/08/24
<b>Frozen the Musical Mandatory Tech Week</b>	12/03/24-12/08/24
<b>Annie the Musical Performances</b>	12/07/24 AND 12/08/24
<b>Frozen the Musical Performances</b>	12/07/24 AND 12/08/24
<b>Nutcracker Mandatory Tech Week</b>	12/09/24-12/12/24
<b>Nutcracker Performances</b>	12/13/24 AND 12/14/24 AND 12/15/24
Studio & Conservatory Classes: Abbreviated Schedule & Guest Teachers	12/16/24-12/20/24
Winter Break No Classes	12/21/24-01/05/25

# SPRING 2025 CALENDAR

Classes Resume	01/06/25
<b>The Prom Audition</b> Musical Theatre levels 4, 5, 6, & Pre-Professional Ballet & Jazz Levels 5+	01/07/25
<b>Coppelia Audition</b> Ballet levels 7, 8, & Pre-Professional	01/13/25
Martin Luther King Jr Day No Classes	01/20/25
<b>The Greatest Showman Ensemble Auditions</b> Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop Levels 1+	01/24/25
<b>Mandatory The Prom Rehearsals</b>	03/22/25
Spring Break No Classes	03/31/25-04/06/25
Classes Resume	04/07/25
<b>Mandatory Coppelia Rehearsal</b> Ballet levels 1-Pre-Professional	04/26/25
<b>Mandatory The Prom Rehearsal</b>	05/03/25
<b>Mandatory Coppelia Rehearsal</b> Ballet levels 1-Pre-Professional	05/10/25
<b>Mandatory The Prom Tech Rehearsals</b>	05/12/25-05/16/25
<b>Mandatory The Greatest Showman Tech Rehearsals</b>	05/12/25-05/16/25
<b>Preschool &amp; Primary Level Recitals</b>	05/17/25
<b>The Prom Performances</b>	05/17/25 AND 05/18/25
<b>The Greatest Showman Performances</b>	05/17/25 AND 05/18/25
Last Day of Classes	05/23/25
Barriskill Studio Company Performance	05/23/25
<b>Mandatory Coppelia Tech &amp; Dress Rehearsals</b> Ballet Levels 1+	05/27/25-05/30/25
<b>Studio Level Spring Recital</b> Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary Levels 1-3	05/30/25
<b>Conservatory Level Spring Recital</b> Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Contemporary Levels 4+	05/31/25
<b>Coppelia Performances</b> Ballet Levels 1+	05/31/25 AND 06/01/25

# CHOOSING A CLASS

We strive to provide classes that serve dancers with a wide range of abilities, experience, and reasons for taking a dance class. First and foremost, we encourage you to talk with your child about their interests and goals. Consult our class schedule for age and experience guidelines.

If you are new to the studio, please email School Director for placement in classes. Please remember that each dance studio is different, and our class levels and curriculum may be different from your previous studio. We will work with you to find the best classes for your age and experience.

## Placement for Returning Students

Class placement at BDTS is based on a combination of age and ability. Our faculty meets regularly to discuss student progress and placement. We are committed to offering appropriate opportunities for each child. Most of our classes above the beginner level require instructor permission for enrollment. One of our most important jobs is helping each child find a class that will provide them with an appropriate level of challenge so that they can learn and grow as much as possible. Your child's teachers can provide the best guidance for appropriate class placement.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress or placement, please discuss them with your child's teacher or the director. We ask that you set up an appointment for such conversations rather than trying to squeeze it in between classes.

# PRESCHOOL DIVISION

Our purpose is to provide the highest quality preschool education in a secure, nurturing, and stimulating environment. BDTs serves the physical, emotional, and intellectual needs of preschool students. We meet these goals with our developmentally appropriate curriculum and ongoing communication with parents.

Preschool dance is not just about learning dance steps. It is about helping children learn to tap into their imagination and express themselves creatively, learning to wait their turn and admire the accomplishments of their peers. It is a great environment to begin to experience self-discipline.

## **Dress Code:**

See page 21 for 2024-2025 Season Dress Code

## **Recital 2025:**

All preschool dancers (excluding Dance with Me!) have the opportunity to perform in an end of season recital. More recital info page 29

## **Kiss and Go Policy:**

We know that this could be your first year with us. We will host a "Meet the Teacher" moment during the first class. Parents will be allowed to enter with their dancer for the first 15 minutes of the first day, see the studio, and meet the teacher. Our "kiss and go" policy successfully increases student focus and independence. It is important that parents keep a positive attitude about dance class to make the transition as seamless as possible for your young dancer.



While we are excited to welcome caregivers into the building we ask that they wait in the main lobby rather than the hallways or studios to help students focus while in class and minimize hallway traffic. **The bathrooms down the main hallway are reserved for students ONLY to allow privacy in the dressing areas. If your child needs assistance in the restroom, please use one of the single stall bathrooms upstairs or in Studio 6 or Studio 7.**

### **Potty Training Policy:**

As a general rule, Barriskill requires that students be potty-trained before signing up for dance class. However, a parent can choose to enroll a student who is not potty-trained in a class if they can be available for diaper changes during class or camp. Our instructors are not responsible for changing diapers.

### **Is it the right time for your preschooler?**

One of the challenges for some preschool children may be separating from their parents and attending class on their own. If your child cries or does not want to take class, don't panic. Please do not force your child into class. Ask your teacher for help with the transition if needed. If your child is not ready to take class independently, we offer "Dance with Me!" classes to ease the transition.

All children are different, and are ready to attend dance class independently at different ages. Some young 3-year-olds will readily run into class and participate fully, while some 5-year-olds may not be ready. Dance classes and our studio will always be here, and you may find that it makes sense to take a break and try class again at a later date.

Preschool Division Classes 2024-2025							
Class Name	Age	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dance with Me!	1-3			10:30-11:15			9:30-10:15
Music & Movement	1.5-3					10-10:45	
Creative Movement	2.5-3.5						11:15-12:00
Pre-Ballet 3	3	4:15-5:00		3:30-4:15			9:30-10:15
Pre-Ballet 3 & 4	3-4			9:30-10:15			
Dance & Tumble	3-5					11-11:45	
Pre-Ballet 4	4		3:45-4:30				10:15-11:00
Pre-Ballet 5	5		5:15-6:00	4:15-5:00			11:00-11:45
Adaptive Dance	4-6					4-4:45	
Broadway Babies	4-5	5:00-5:45	4:15-5:00				
Modern Movers	4-5						10:30-11:15
Pre-Ballet/ Pre-Jazz	4-6				3:45-4:30		9:30-10:15
Pre-Ballet/ Pre-Tap	4-6		4:30-5:15	3:45-4:30	4:45-5:30		10:15-11:00
Pre-Tap/Pre-Jazz	4-6		3:30-4:15				
Hippity Hop	4-6	4:00-4:45	4:45-5:30				

# STUDIO DIVISION

The Studio Division at BDTs is designed for beginner and intermediate dancers ages 6+. Students new to BDTs can enroll in the appropriate class for their age group OR schedule a trial class to be placed in the correct level.

Our Studio Division includes **Adaptive Dance** designed for dancers with varying levels of physical and/or cognitive abilities. A set structure provides predictability in classes, which will cultivate gross and fine motor skills, simple dance movements, and creativity. Dancers build confidence while developing friendships, social skills, and academic skills.

## **Dress Code:**

See page 21 for 2024-2025 Season Dress Code

**Performance Opportunities:** page 30 for more info

- **Frozen 2024:** Studio Division Musical Theatre. Ensemble auditions September 14, 2025 for Hip Hop, Tap, Jazz levels 1+
- **Nutcracker 2024:** Auditions September 7, 2024 for ages 7+
- **The Greatest Showman 2025:** Studio Division Musical Theatre. Ensemble auditions January 24, 2025 for Hip Hop, Tap, Jazz levels 1+
- **Coppelia 2025:** Studio Division Ballet
- **Recital 2025:** All Studio Division dancers have the opportunity to perform in end of year recitals.



Studio Division Classes 2024-2025							
Class Name	Age	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Acting for TV & Film	N/A			5:30-6:30 Ages 13+	5:30-6:30 Ages 10+		
Adaptive Dance	7-10					5:00-5:45	
Primary Ballet	6		4:00-5:00	4:00-5:00			11:30-12:30
Ballet 1	7+		4:00-5:00	6:30-7:30	4:30-5:30		9:30-10:30
Ballet 2	N/A	5:00-6:00	6:00-7:00		4:00-5:00		10:30-11:30
Ballet 3	N/A	4:30-5:45 Section 1	5:00-6:15 Section 2	4:30-5:45 Section 1	5:00-6:15 Section 2		
Ballet 4	N/A	5:45-7:15 Section 1	6:15-7:45 Section 2	5:45-7:15 Section 1	6:15-7:45 Section 2		
Contemporary 1	7+				6:30-7:30		
Contemporary 2	N/A				6:30-7:30		
Contemporary 3	N/A		5:00-6:00				
Hip Hop 1	7+	5:00-6:00	6:30-7:30				
Hip Hop 2	N/A	5:00-6:00		5:00-6:00			
Hip Hop 3	N/A	6:00-7:00	6:00-7:00				
Jazz 1	7+				4:30-5:30		
Jazz 2	N/A	4:00-5:00					
Jazz 3	N/A			6:00-7:00			
Primary MTR	5-7	4:00-5:00	5:00-6:00	4:00-5:00			
MTR 1	N/A		6:00-7:00	5:30-6:30	4:00-5:00		
MTR 2A	N/A				4:30-6:00		
MTR 2B	N/A				5:30-7:00		
MTR 3A	N/A				4:00-5:30		
MTR 3B	N/A			6:00-7:30			
Tap 1	7+				5:30-6:30		
Tap 2	N/A		5:30-6:30				
Tap 3	N/A		4:00-5:00				

# CONSERVATORY DIVISION

The Conservatory Division requires a significant commitment from dancers and their families, and in return provides opportunities to:

- develop skills to the highest degree
- work with mentors who are focused on student success inside and outside of the classroom
- build long-lasting friendships
- enjoy a sense of belonging to an extended family of fellow dancers, teachers, and parents
- discover the long lasting results of hard work and determination
- develop a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts

## **Admission:**

Admission to the conservatory program is by invitation. In some cases (as in a student new to the studio), an audition may be used to facilitate placement. Generally, observation of students in class and performances provides the faculty with the information they need. Our faculty is happy to discuss admission to the conservatory with any interested students.

Is the conservatory division for me?

## **The conservatory program may be a good fit for you if:**

- You're excited to learn more about dance and its many intersections with your interests.
- You love dancing and would like to perform more!
- You enjoy working collectively with peers who share your joy for dance.
- You love how dancing makes you feel.
- You're fully committed to attending all classes and rehearsals.

## **The conservatory program may not be a good fit for you if:**

- You're involved in other extracurricular activities that could interfere with your class, rehearsal, or performance commitments.
- You're doing it because you want to be with your friends, but are not passionate about dance or the commitment.
- You're doing it because your parents or teachers want you to.
- You're not fully committed to attending all classes and rehearsals.

Most of our students are balancing multiple commitments and interests, and only some will find that they are willing and able to make the commitment that the conservatory program requires. The conservatory program is not for everyone.

## Conservatory Division Requirements

First and foremost, we require that conservatory students make a solid commitment to classes, rehearsals and performances. Come to each class prepared to learn and without personal distractions. Each class, rehearsal, or performance is an opportunity to become better at what you love to do. Dance full-out, stretch a little further, become more aware of your technique, and make the most of every class.

**Attendance:** Conservatory students are expected to make their dance classes a priority in their schedules. They are expected to communicate their absences with their teacher and/or Mari in advance of missing class.

We realize that our students have full lives, and at times may have difficulty fulfilling the commitments for the conservatory. If you find yourself in this situation, the first step is to communicate with your teacher about your situation. We can work with families to determine whether continued participation in the conservatory is appropriate, or if other options should be explored.

### Dress Code:

See page 21 for 2024–2025 Season Dress Code

**Performance Opportunities:** page 30 for more info

- **Annie 2024:** Conservatory Division Musical Theatre
- **Nutcracker 2024:** Auditions September 7, 2024 for ages 7+
- **The Prom 2025:** Conservatory Division Musical Theatre
- **Coppelia 2025:** Conservatory Division Ballet
- **Recital 2025:** All Conservatory Division dancers have the opportunity to perform in end of year recitals.



Conservatory Division Classes 2024-2025							
Class Name	Age	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Conservatory Acting for TV & Film	N/A			4:30-5:30			
Masters Acting for TV & Film	N/A		8:00-9:00				
Conservatory Ballet 5 (Must take 3 classes)	N/A	6:15-7:45		7:15-8:45		5:00-6:30	10:00-11:30
Conservatory Ballet 6 (Must take 3 classes)	N/A	7:15-8:45		5:00-6:30		5:00-6:30	10:00-11:30
Conservatory Ballet 7 (Must take 3 classes)	N/A			5:00-6:30	7:30-8:45	5:00-6:30	10:00-11:30
Conservatory Ballet 8 (Must take 4 classes)	N/A	4:45-6:15		5:00-6:30 Pointe	5:00-6:30	5:00-6:30	10:00-11:30
Pre-Professional Ballet (Must take 4 classes)	N/A	4:45-6:15		6:30-8:00 Pointe	5:00-6:30	5:00-6:30	10:00-11:30
Pointe	N/A	6:15-7:15 Pointe 2		6:30-7:45 Pointe 1	7:45-8:45 Pointe 3		
Contemporary 4	N/A				7:30-8:30		
Contemporary 5	N/A		7:00-8:00				
Contemporary 6	N/A				6:30-7:30		
Improv/Comp	N/A	6:50-8:00					
Hip Hop 4	N/A	6:00-7:00					
Hip Hop 5	N/A	8:00-9:00					
Hip Hop 6	N/A	8:00-9:00					
Jazz 4	N/A				6:30-7:30		
Jazz 5	N/A				7:30-8:30		
Jazz 6	N/A			7:45-8:45			
Jazz 7	N/A			8:00-9:30			
Conservatory MTR 4	N/A		5:00-7:00				
Conservatory MTR 5	N/A		5:00-8:00				
Conservatory MTR 6	N/A		5:00-8:00				
Pre-Professional MTR 1	N/A		5:00-8:00				
Pre-Professional MTR 2	N/A		5:00-8:00				
MTR Lead Rehearsal	N/A			6:30-7:45			
Tap 4	N/A		7:00-8:00				
Tap 5	N/A				7:45-8:45		
Tap 6	N/A			8:00-9:00			
Tap 7	N/A			8:00-9:00			

# TEEN/TWEEN DIVISION

BDS is pleased to offer classes for beginning teens who are newly interested in dance or have taken a few year's off from dance classes. Classes meet for on hour each week and include an emphasis on efficient technique AND fun! Beginning teens are also welcome to take adult classes at the appropriate level (page 16)

**Dress Code:**

See page 21 for 2024-2025 Season Dress Code

**Performance Opportunities:** page 30 for more info

- **Nutcracker 2024:** Auditions September 7, 2024 for ages 7+
- **Recital 2025:** Select teen/tween classes have the opportunity to perform in end of year recital.

Teen/Tween Division Classes 2024-2025					
Class Name	Age	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Teen/Tween Ballet (Recital)	N/A	5:45-6:45 (Ages 13+)			6:30-7:30 (Ages 10+)
Teen/Tween Contemporary (Recital)	10+			7:00-8:00	
Teen/Tween Hip Hop (Recital)	10+	7:00-8:00			
Teen/Tween Jazz (Recital)	10+	7:00-8:00 No Recital			5:30-6:30 Recital
MTR Dance Technique (No Recital)	8+	6:45-7:45			
Teen/Tween. Tap (Recital)	10+		7:00-8:00		



# ADULT DIVISION

BDS offers open level classes for adults ages 18+. We understand that schedules can be busy and are pleased to offer TWO options for participation:

1. Adult Dancers can enroll in a class for the duration of the 2024-2025 season and pay (slightly discounted) tuition on the 1st of each month. See page 17 for info on tuition and makeup classes.
2. Adult Dancers can sign up as a "Drop In" for specific class dates and pay a single class rate.

**Dress Code:**

There is no dress code for adult classes. Dancers should wear clothes they are comfortable moving in and the appropriate footwear.

Adult Division Classes 2024-2025					
Class Name	Age	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Saturday
Ballet 1	18+	7:15-8:15			
Ballet 2	18+		7:00-8:00 Barre Only		10:15-11:45
Ballet 3	18+			7:45-8:45 Barre Only	11:45-1:15
Dance Cardio	18+	6:00-6:50			
Tap	18+		7:30-8:30 (All Levels)		
Yoga	10+			9:30-10:30	

# TUITION & FEES

## Registration:

- **Annual Registration: \$35** (due at time of sign up)
- **Registration fee is non-refundable**
- Mid-year withdrawal will incur a new registration fee upon re enrollment

## Tuition:

- **The first tuition payment is drafted on August 21, 2024, the next tuition payment is drafted on October 1, 2024 and all subsequent tuition is charged on the 1st of each month.**
- Enrollment in a dance class should be considered a commitment for the entire (or remainder of the) dance school year
- Tuition is paid in advance of class participation
- Tuition is based on a dance school year, which consists of 36 weeks divided into 9 monthly payment periods. Some months have more weeks than others, but will average out over the course of the year.
- **Tuition is calculated based on the number of class hours per week.**
- Youth Tuition Rates page 19
- Adult Tuition Rates page 20

## Production Fees:

(More recital info page 20)

- Annie the Musical - \$150
  - Conservatory, Pre-Professional Musical Theatre & Ensemble
- The Prom - \$150
  - Conservatory, Pre-Professional Musical Theatre & Ensemble
- Frozen the Musical - \$100
  - Studio Musical Theatre & Ensemble
- The Greatest Showman - \$100
  - Studio Musical Theatre & Ensemble
- Coppelia - \$150
  - Ballet Levels 1 - Pre-Professional
- Preschool Recital - \$100/Class
- Studio & Conservatory Level Recitals - \$100/Class

## Missed Classes

- **No credit is offered toward tuition for classes missed**
- Dancers are encouraged to “make up” missed classes by attending any other class at the appropriate age and skill level

## Refund Policy

- **Once tuition is paid it is non-refundable.** The only exception is in the case of serious injury - in this instance please contact School Director

## Withdrawal:

- To withdraw from a class and avoid being charged future tuition payments **you must notify the School Director via email at least one week prior to the next billing draft date (the 1st of the month)**
- Temporary withdrawal must be discussed with the instructor and School Director
  - Re-enrollment is dependent on class capacity
  - Re-enrollment incurs an additional registration fee
  - Dancers can choose to “hold” their place in class and continue paying tuition during the absence

Youth Tuition Rates 2024-2025	
Total Class Hours per week	Tuition Payment per month
45 minutes	\$75
1 hour	\$80
1.5 hours	\$115
2 hours	\$135
2.5 hours	\$150
3 hours	\$165
3.5 hours	\$180
4 hours	\$190
4.5 hours	\$215
5 hours	\$225
5.5 hours	\$240
6 hours	\$245
6.5 hours	\$250
7 hours	\$255
7.5 hours	\$260
8 hours	\$265
8.5 hours	\$270
9 hours	\$275
9.5 hours	\$280
10+ hours	\$290

## Adult Tuition Rates 2024-2025

Class Length	Tuition Payment per month	Single Class Drop In Rate
50 mins	\$45	\$15
1 hour	\$65	\$20
1.5 hours	\$85	\$25

## ATTENDANCE

At every level regular participation in class is essential for learning. Younger students have a hard time developing the necessary body awareness and muscle memory for dance when they miss class. In advanced classes dancers will have a hard time progressing without being in class every week.

In the case of repeated and/or extended absences, for any reason, participation in the end of year recital may be denied. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis with the instructor and director.

Please email School Director when your dancer will miss class. \*Conservatory Level Dancers are encouraged to take responsibility and email their instructor directly\*

# DRESS CODE

Barriskill welcomes students of ALL races, ethnicities, genders, and sexualities and maintains zero-tolerance for any form of discrimination. Our dress code offers options for students to pick the attire they are most comfortable dancing in.

## **General Guidelines for ALL Classes:**

- To respect ALL genders we have labeled our dress code by “Option 1” (traditionally female) & “Option 2” (traditionally male). Your dancer can choose whichever clothing they are most comfortable with
- Hair should be securely tied away from the face. This applies to all levels - including preschool classes.
- NO jewelry or watches other than small stud earrings. This is to protect you AND your valuables.
- NO jeans should be worn as “warm-ups” over dance attire while in class or rehearsal.
- Dance Shoes:
  - SHOULD NOT be worn outside, including sneakers for hip hop. This keeps our studio floors clean and shoes in good condition.
  - There is a “Take a Pair, Leave a Pair” bin at the studio for gently worn shoes. Feel free to look through before purchasing items.

## **Shop Barriskill Dress Code**



# BALLET DRESS CODE

## For ALL ballet classes:

- **Long hair** (all genders) should be neatly secured in a ballet bun
- **Hair too short to be pulled into a bun** should be neatly secured away from the face
- **Ballet Tights & Ballet Shoes** should match in color. Dancers have the option to wear ballet pink OR flesh tone (option 1) or black (option 2).
- **Ballet shoes** should be made of canvas or leather
  - shoe strings should be knotted, trimmed, & tucked into the shoe prior to the first class

Class Name	Leotard Color (option 1)	T-Shirt Color (Option 2)	Tights & Shoes (Option 1)	Tights & Shoes (Option 2)
<b>Primary Ballet</b>	Lilac	White	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black
<b>Ballet 1</b>	White	White	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black
<b>Ballet 2</b>	Light Blue	White	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black
<b>Ballet 3</b>	Burgundy	White	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black
<b>Ballet 4</b>	Navy Blue	White	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black
<b>Conservatory Ballet 5, 6, 7, 8</b>	Black	White	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black
<b>Pre-Professional Ballet</b>	Any Color	Any Color	Any Color	Any Color
<b>Teen/Tween Ballet</b>	Any Solid Color	Solid Color	Flesh Tone OR Pink	Black

# CONTEMPORARY, HIP HOP, JAZZ, MUSICAL THEATRE, & TAP DRESS CODE

Class Name	Leotard Color (option 1)	T-Shirt Color (Option 2)	Bottoms (Option 1)	Bottoms (Option2)	Shoes
<b>Contemporary</b> (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Teen/Tween)	Any Solid Color	Any Solid Color	Leggings or workout pants	Leggings or workout pants	None
<b>Hip Hop</b> (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Teen/Tween)	Comfortable Dance Shirt or Leotard	Comfortable Dance Shirt	Comfortable Dance Pants	Comfortable Dance Pants	Clean Closed Toe shoes/sneakers
<b>Jazz</b> (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Teen/Tween)	Any Solid Color	Any Solid Color	Flesh Tone Tights & Shoes	Black Jazz Pants & Shoes	Jazz Shoes should be pull-on (no laces)
<b>Musical Theatre</b> (Primary, 1, 2, 3, Teen/Tween)	Any Solid Color	Any Solid Color	Flesh Tone Tights & Shoes	Black Jazz Pants	Jazz Shoes should be pull-on (no laces)
<b>Musical Theatre</b> (Conservatory 4, 5, 6 & Pre-Pro 1, 2)	Any Solid Color	Any Solid Color	Flesh Tone Tights	Solid color jazz pants	Option 1 Flesh Tone Character Heels Option 2 Jazz shoes or dance sneakers (color dependent on show)
<b>Tap</b> (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Teen/Tween)	Comfortable Dance Shirt or Leotard	Comfortable Dance Shirt	Comfortable Dance Pants (No jeans)	Comfortable Dance Pants (No jeans)	Black Tap Shoes



# PRESCHOOL DRESS CODE

Class Name	Leotard Color (option 1)	T-Shirt Color (Option 2)	Bottoms (Option 1)	Bottoms (Option2)	Shoes
<b>Broadway Babies</b>	Any Solid Color	Any Solid Color	Flesh Tone Tights OR Black Leggings AND Flesh Tone Jazz Shoes	Black Jazz Pants AND Black Jazz Shoes	Jazz Shoes should be pull-on (no laces)
<b>Creative Movement</b>	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Barefeet recommended. Ballet or jazz shoes optional.
<b>Dance &amp; Tumble</b>	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Clean closed-toes shoes recommended. Ballet or jazz shoes optional.
<b>Dance with Me! (Children &amp; Adults)</b>	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement	Barefeet recommended. Clean closed toe shoes optional.
<b>Hippity Hop</b>	Comfortable dance shirt OR leotard	Comfortable dance shirt OR leotard	Comfortable dance pants	Comfortable dance pants	Clean closed-toe shoes/sneakers
<b>Modern Movers</b>	Leotards, dance dresses, or stretchy tops in an color	Leotards, dance dresses, or stretchy tops in an color	Dance pants, stretch pants or shorts, footless leggings in any color	Dance pants, stretch pants or shorts, footless leggings in any color	Barefeet recommended. Ballet shoes optional.
<b>Music &amp; Movement</b>	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Comfortable clothing that doesn't inhibit movement. no dresses	Clean closed-toes shoes recommended. Ballet or jazz shoes optional.
<b>Pre-Ballet 3, 4, 5</b>	Pink	White	Pink OR Flesh Tone Tights AND Shoes	Black Tights AND Shoes	Ballet shoes should be made of leather or canvas and match tight color
<b>Pre-Ballet/ Pre-Jazz</b>	Pink	White	Pink OR Flesh Tone Tights AND Ballet Shoes (pink or flesh tone) AND Jazz Shoes (flesh tone)	Black Pants OR Shorts AND Black Ballet Shoes AND Black Jazz Shoes	Ballet shoes should be made of leather or canvas and match tight color
<b>Pre-Ballet/ Pre-Tap</b>	Pink	White	Pink OR Flesh Tone Tights AND Ballet Shoes (pink or flesh tone) AND Tap Shoes (black)	Black Pants OR Shorts AND Black Ballet Shoes AND Black Tap Shoes	Ballet shoes should be made of leather or canvas and match tight color
<b>Pre-Tap/ Pre-Jazz</b>	Pink	Any solid color	Flesh Tone Tights AND Black Tap Shoes AND Flesh Tone Jazz Shoes	Black Jazz Pants AND Black Tap Shoes AND Black Jazz Shoes	Jazz shoes should be pull-on (no laces)

# HEALTH & SAFETY

**As always, please keep your child home if they exhibit any flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, headaches, runny or stuffy nose, body aches or increased fatigue.**

We will continue to follow the guidance of the CDC and the NC Health Department regarding public health concerns.

We reserve the right to return to stricter protocols (including masking) if we are required to do so by mandate, or if we see reasons based on trends at Barriskill or locally. We will continue to be guided by health officials and will review all metrics and relevant guidance from health agencies.

## CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

In order to maintain a happy, healthy, and professional environment our teachers and staff model respectful behavior towards all people and property at the studio. We expect our students to show the same respect to each other, our staff, and the studio.

Students should arrive on time to class ready to work hard and learn. There will be times when students are busy, tired, and have other things on their mind. We expect students to do their best to channel their energies into their dancing at the studio. Sometimes the best relief from a busy and stressful schedule can be a vigorous dance class!

We foster a friendly and relaxed environment, but not at the expense of the work. While students are often excited to see one another, there is not time for socializing during our limited class time each week. All students deserve to have a learning environment free from distractions, with a shared focus on the work at hand.

One of the keys to success as a dancer is strong technique, and class is where students develop that technique. Each class is an opportunity for students to become better at what they are studying. Encourage your children to listen to all feedback given, whether it's directed at them or another dancer. A correction is an honor; it shows how much the teacher cares about your progress as a dancer.

We believe that the most successful students are those who apply themselves in every class and are open to their teachers' knowledge and experience.

## **Arrive on time**

Lateness is distracting to both teacher and students, and disruptive to the class, so please arrive with plenty of time to enter class (with hair ready and shoes on) when class starts. We encourage Conservatory students to arrive 10 minutes before class. Dance is a physical activity that requires the body to be warmed up in order to execute movement safely. Late students miss the proper warm-up and/or barre exercises. At the instructor's discretion, students who arrive late may be instructed to warm up themselves before joining the class, or may be asked to observe class for safety reasons.

## Restroom use

All students should use the restroom before class, especially our pre-school students. Dancers should not leave class to use the restroom unless absolutely necessary. It is disruptive, and the student misses valuable class time. Please feel free to use the restroom you are most comfortable with, there are single stall restrooms for all upstairs, in studio 6, and Studio 7.

## Termination of Enrollment

In very rare cases, a student may be asked to leave the school. Bullying, abusive, or repeatedly disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Every effort will be made to correct a problematic situation before terminating enrollment. Termination for cause is not grounds for a tuition refund. In addition, if students repeatedly miss class and/or tuition remains unpaid, and there is no communication from the family, enrollment in the class may be canceled at the discretion of the studio administration.

# CLASS OBSERVATION

We know that this could be your first year with us. We will host a "Meet the Teacher" moment during the first class. Parents will be allowed to enter with their dancer for the first 15 minutes of the first day, see the studio, and meet the teacher. Our "kiss and go" policy successfully increases student focus and independence. It is important that parents keep a positive attitude about dance class to make the transition as seamless as possible for your young dancer.

Once a year, there is a scheduled parent observation week. At this time, family members are invited to observe the full class. Check our website for this year's dates. Additionally, rehearsals for studio productions remain closed to parents. This allows dancers to focus on their material, observe the rehearsal process and thrive in a peer-supported environment.

# WINTER 2024 PRODUCTIONS

- **Annie the Musical December 7-8, 2024**

- Auditions August 27, 2024 for Musical Theatre levels 5, 6, & Pre-Pro AND Ballet & Jazz levels 4+
- Rehearsals are scheduled on Tuesdays 5:00-8:00pm AND Wednesdays 6:30-7:45pm (Leads Only)
- Production Fee: \$150

- **Frozen the Musical December 7-8, 2024**

- ALL students enrolled in Musical Theatre levels 1, 2, 3, & 4 rehearse during regular class time
- Ensemble Auditions September 14, 2024 for Hip Hop, Jazz, & Tap levels 1+
- Participation in Frozen is encouraged but not required. Families may opt out if desired by emailing the school director.
- Production Fee: \$100

- **Nutcracker December 13-15, 2024**

- Auditions September 7, 2024 for ages 7+
- Rehearsals are generally scheduled on Saturdays anytime between 10am and 5pm. Soloists rehearse on Friday evenings.
- **The attendance policy for Nutcracker is very strict and absences may result in dismissal from the cast.**
- Production Fee (1 Role): \$350/Dancer
- Production Fee (2+ Roles): \$425/Dancer

# SPRING 2025 PRODUCTIONS

- **Preschool & Primary Division Recital May 17, 2025**
  - All preschool & primary level dancers rehearse during regular class time
  - Participation in the recital is encouraged but not required. Families may opt out of the recital if desired by emailing the school director.
  - Production Fee: \$100/class
- **The Prom May 17-18, 2025**
  - Audition January 7, 2025 for Musical Theatre levels 4, 5, 6, Pre-Pro AND Ballet & Jazz levels 4+
  - Rehearsals are scheduled on Tuesdays 5:00-8:00pm AND Wednesdays 6:30-7:45pm (Leads Only)
  - Production Fee: \$150
- **The Greatest Showman May 17-18, 2025**
  - ALL students enrolled in Musical Theatre levels 1, 2, & 3 rehearse during regular class time
  - Ensemble Auditions January 24, 2025 for Hip Hop, Jazz, & Tap levels 1+
  - Participation in the musical is encouraged but not required. Families may opt out of the recital if desired by emailing the school director.
  - Production Fee: \$100

# SPRING 2025 PRODUCTIONS

- **Studio Division Recital May 30, 2025**
  - ALL Studio Division dancers rehearse during regular class time
  - Participation in the recital is encouraged but not required. Families may opt out of the recital if desired by emailing the school director.
- **Conservatory Division Recital May 31, 2025**
  - ALL Conservatory Division & Teen/Tween Division dancers rehearse during regular class time
  - Conservatory Division participation in recital is expected.
  - Production Fee: \$100
- **Coppelia May 31–June 1, 2025**
  - Audition January 13, 2025 for Ballet Levels 7, 8, & Pre-Pro
  - ALL ballet levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 rehearsal during regular class time
  - Studio Division participation in the story ballet is encouraged but not required. Families may opt out of the recital if desired by emailing the school director.
  - Conservatory Division participation in the story ballet is expected.
  - Production Fee: \$150

# BDTS STUDIO COMPANY

The Barriskill Studio Company consists of invited Conservatory-level students who are interested in a more dedicated study of dance. The Company is not a competitive team, rather a pre-professional program in which students are given the opportunity to work with guest choreographers from around the country to gain experience auditioning and performing. Company members commit to an intensive rehearsal and performance schedule in addition to their dance classes throughout the year.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO DANCING WITH YOU!

-THE BDTS TEAM

