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MOBILE BALLET SCHOOL

HANDBOOK 2023-2024



Mobile Ballet, Inc.

Mobile Ballet, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year at Mobile Ballet! Whether your child wants to try their very first dance class, loves to dance for fun and recreation, or aspires to dance professionally – Mobile Ballet is the right place for you.

As the Gulf Coast's premier classical ballet school and company, Mobile Ballet provides the highest quality training from beginner to pre-professional. Classes are offered in ballet, pointe, jazz, contemporary, conditioning, and more. We provide exceptional dance training with highly qualified instructors focused on the individual development of each student.

ABOUT MOBILE BALLET

Founded in 1987, Mobile Ballet's mission is to provide superior dance education, to present quality performances, and to promote the ballet to the community as an expression of the human spirit. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization serving the community, Mobile Ballet has made a tremendous impact on the cultural, artistic, and economic landscape of the greater Mobile area. Mobile Ballet offers exceptional ballet instruction and exposure to the performing arts to tens of thousands of people in the communities of south Alabama. We also recognize and celebrate the great tradition of classical ballet in Mobile, which dates back to the Mobile Civic Ballet founded in the 1950s.

MOBILE BALLET COMPANY

We believe that the performing arts are essential to the vibrant quality of life of our community, and Mobile Ballet is proud to present three major productions each year for the community to enjoy. These productions are performed by Mobile Ballet students and the auditioned Mobile Ballet Company in conjunction with extraordinary guest artists from around the world. The Mobile Ballet Company includes up to 40 auditioned student positions with the opportunity to join exceptional guest artists on stage in the season's three signature productions.

GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

Through Mobile Ballet's Discover Dance program, we present full performances of our stage productions for students in grades K-12. These programs are held on weekday mornings for school field trips, and a Teacher's Guide is provided. We recognize the positive impact both arts education and exposure to performing arts have on students, and we are honored to introduce several thousand students each year to ballet and the beauty of live, fully staged performances. We are committed to providing this opportunity through greatly discounted tickets in an effort to contribute to a more arts-literate community. Through our Share the Dance program, which provides complimentary performance tickets distributed in collaboration with area charities, each year hundreds of children and adults who would otherwise be unable to attend performances are able to enjoy dance at its finest. We have been able to provide complimentary tickets to over 10,000 community members through Share the Dance.

MOBILE BALLET SCHOOL

The Mobile Ballet School, with two studios located in Mobile and Daphne, provides classical ballet, Broadway-style jazz and tap, and contemporary dance instruction to over 250 students annually, ranging from age 3 to adult. Mobile Ballet School & Academy offers exceptional dance training in a professional, encouraging, and inclusive atmosphere, with a seasoned faculty of professional instructors as well as renowned guest instructors from around the country. Master classes, intensives, and other specialized study engage our most determined dancers. Many of our school alumni have gone on to dance professionally or pursue careers in dance education, as well as to enjoy the lifelong benefits of fitness, poise, discipline, and grace gained from classical ballet study.

The mission of Mobile Ballet is to provide superior dance education, to present quality performances, and to promote the ballet to the community as an expression of the human spirit.

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MEET OUR DIRECTORS

KATIA GARZA, ARTISTIC AND SCHOOL DIRECTOR



Katia Garza is a native of Piedras Negras Coahuila, Mexico and trained in Monterrey, Mexico in the Escuela Superior de Musica y Danza de Monterrey, graduating in 1995. She joined Ballet de Monterrey and after six months was promoted to Soloist and a year later Principal Dancer, under the direction of Fernando Bujones. In 1997, she was invited by the Compania Nacional de Danza in Mexico City to dance the Black Swan in *Swan Lake* and also performed as a guest artist with Panama Ballet. In 1999, Katia won the silver medal in International Ballet Competition in Peru, the only medal awarded that year.

In 2000, Katia joined the Orlando Ballet as Principal Dancer, a position she held for 14 years. Her repertoire as a principal character includes *Don Quixote, Giselle, Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake, La Fille Mal Gardee, Coppelia, Cinderella, Corsario, Flames of Paris, La Bayadere, Firebird, La Vivandiere, Esmeralda, Arlequinade, The Nutcracker, Sinatra Songs, Serenade, Who Cares, Upper Room, Festival Fantasy, and Tarantela.* Katia represented Mexico in the Jazz World Congress in 2001 and was a finalist at the 2002 International Ballet Competition in Jackson, MS. As Artistic Director at Mobile Ballet, Katia has choreographed original full length ballets *A Midsummer Night's*

Dream, The Little Mermaid, Giselle, Beauty and the Beast, and The Princess and the Frog. Mobile Ballet premiered her new production of The Nutcracker in 2017, and Northwest Florida Ballet premiered her Peter Pan in 2018, which was then performed at Mobile Ballet in 2022. She has also choreographed numerous works for ballet companies throughout the United States and solos for Youth American Grand Prix students, including La Bayadere, Luca Bottleblue (Original Story), Paquita, Corsaire 2nd Act, Don Quixote, Raymonda, La Esmeralda and Giselle.

Katia is a world-renowned choreographer and master teacher and has worked with several ballet companies and private students throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico, Mexico and Japan. She has received numerous awards including Outstanding Teacher of the Year from Youth America Grand Prix in 2015, 2018, 2019, and in 2020 shared the title along with our Ballet Master, Israel Rodriguez. She has also been recognized for her leadership in the arts community with numerous awards, including recognition from Casa de Mexico and the Mexican Consulate in Orlando and the award of Outstanding Female in the Arts in the "Hispanic Women That Make the Difference" program in Central Florida. IRG Productions made an inspirational documentary *Katia Garza: My Life in Dance* which premiered in Mexico and in the United States and is now available on iTunes, Amazon and at katiagarzamovie.com.

ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ, BALLET MASTER



Born in Camaguey, Cuba, Israel Rodriguez began his classical ballet training at the age of eight at the famed Vocational Art School, where he won the school's Best Performer Award in recognition of his critical command of requisite ballet skills. Israel began his professional dance career with the Ballet de Camaguey under the direction of Fernando Alonso, where he performed as a Soloist. His abilities earned him the opportunity to tour with the Ballet, and he performed in many different countries including Greece, Brazil, Japan, and Mexico. In 1994, Israel became a Principal dancer with Ballet de Monterrey in Mexico under the direction of Fernando Bujones.

Israel came to the United States in 1998, performing with Ballet Theatre of Lexington for one season, followed by a year with Louisville Ballet in Kentucky. In 2000, he accepted a position with Orlando Ballet, where he performed as a Principal dancer until 2006. As a Principal dancer and guest artist with more than 28 years of experience, Israel has received rave reviews from several arts critics and has been featured in several publications. Over his extensive professional dance career, Israel has performed Solo roles and as a Principal dancer in virtually all of the ballet classics including *Coppelia, Don Quixote, Giselle, La Bayadere, La Fille Mal Gardee, Les Sylphides, Le Corsaire, Serenade,*

including Coppelia, Don Quixote, Giselle, La Bayadere, La Fille Mal Gardee, Les Sylphides, Le Corsaire, Serenade, Napoli, Tarantella (Balanchine), Paquita, Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, Polovitzians Dances and The Nutcracker. Israel was the first male dancer in the U.S. to perform the full-length ballet Spartacus.

Israel has had the opportunity to be a guest teacher and choreographer with several companies throughout the U.S., Mexico, and Kosovo. Israel was recognized along with Katia Garza with the Outstanding Teacher of the Year award for Youth America Grand Prix in 2020. Before joining Mobile Ballet as Ballet Master, Israel served as the Dance Program Director of Skyra Studios in Orlando, Florida. He continues traveling to dance and choreograph in Japan, Puerto Rico, Kosovo, Mexico, and throughout the United States.

KIMBERLEY SEARS, EASTERN SHORE SCHOOL DIRECTOR



Kimberley Sears was born and raised in England. Before auditioning for the Royal Ballet School, she won several awards including the Northwest England Ballet Championship. She was one of only two female dancers accepted globally to the Royal Ballet School, White Lodge the year of her audition. While there Kimberley was privileged to train under many notable instructors, including Dame Ninette de Valois. She also trained and danced with Northern Ballet and the Manchester City Ballet. She has performed the Lilac Fairy in *The Sleeping Beauty*, the Mazurka and Pas de Deux in *Les Sylphides*, coached by Julia Faron, Myrtha in *Giselle*, as well as productions of *The Nutcracker*, coached by Peter Clegg; and original works choreographed by Michael Ho and David Needham. Her Musical Theatre credits include *The King and I* at Leicester Haymarket Theater, *Hot Stuff* at Oldham Coliseum Theater and Leicester Haymarket Theater, and *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Crazy For You* at the Muny in St. Louis and Starlight Theater, Kansas City. Her television work includes Granada TV in Manchester, UK. She has also worked for the Royal Caribbean, Costa and Princess Cruises. Kimberley has been a faculty member of Mobile Ballet since 2005 and serves as Mobile Ballet's Eastern Shore School Director. While at Mobile Ballet, she has appeared on the stage as the queen in *Snow White*, Carabosse in *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Mrs. Stahlbaum and Mother Ginger in *The Nutcracker*.

SYDNEY ADAMS



Sydney Adams grew up in Monte Rio, CA and began her ballet training at the Santa Rosa Ballet School. She continued at San Francisco Ballet School and San Francisco Dance Theater. At SFDT she became a company member and teacher at age 17. In 1980 she relocated to New York City and continued her training with David Howard on full scholarship. During that time she performed in ballets by Diane Coburn Bruning and Darrell Barnett, as well as dancing in *The Nutcracker* with Garden State Ballet. In 1984 she joined The Richmond Ballet and performed in works including *The Nutcracker*, *Don Quixote, Swan Lake*, Sundance's and Balanchine's *Donizetti Variations*.

Upon her return to NYC, Sydney accepted an NEA/Ford Foundation funded position as a Conservation Assistant for the Photograph and Lithograph Archives of the Dance Collection of The New York Library of the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center. She was also employed as a personal assistant to Jerome Robbins and his liaison to New York City Ballet and

Broadway professionals. She managed his personal and professional business and administration of The Jerome Robbins Foundation.

Sydney relocated New Orleans, where her three children were born, and then to Mobile. She has been a faculty member at Mobile Ballet since 1996, teaching children, pre-professional and adult students. In addition, she was Dance Director, instructor and choreographer at Spring Hill College for 13 years. She choreographs solos for dancers for the DYW program, coaches for YAGP, and has served as a choreographer for the MCPSS High School Honors Dance Festival. Sydney has a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities from New College of California, San Francisco.

NATALIE BLEVINS



Natalie Tindell Blevins is originally from Navarre Beach, Florida. She graduated Cum Laude at Troy University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. Throughout Natalie's education in dance, she has had the opportunity to train with current and former members of Martha Graham Dance Company, Joffrey Ballet, Abraham.In.Motion, Ad Deum Dance Company, and Keigwin + Company. One of Natalie's most significant accomplishments while at Troy was performing an excerpt of Kyle Abraham's work titled *The Watershed* alongside A.I.M. dancers. After college, Natalie danced as a member of Sanspointe Dance Company, performing in concerts and teaching master classes around the state of Alabama. She relocated to Mobile in 2016 and taught dance as an elective for the Mobile County Public School System for two years. In 2018, Natalie joined Mobile Ballet teaching modern classes for the Mobile Ballet Academy and School.

LILLIE CONNER



Lillie Conner lives in Spanish Fort, Alabama and began her dance training at the age of three at Mobile Ballet's Eastern Shore Studio in Daphne, Alabama. Lillie has danced at Mobile Ballet for sixteen years and became a member of the Mobile Ballet Company in 2017. "I have always loved dance, ballet in particular, because of the artistry and movement it entails. My ballet experiences have added so much joy to my life. I have been given the opportunity to perform in many Mobile Ballet productions, including *Ovation, The Nutcracker, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Princess and the Frog, Peter Pan,* and *Swan Lake*. I am excited for the opportunity to teach younger ballet students at Mobile Ballet, while continuing my ballet training and performing as a member of the Mobile Ballet Company". Lillie is also currently a student at the University of Mobile, majoring in Pre-Health Biology.

SAVANNAH CRABTREE



Savannah Crabtree is from Destin, Florida. She grew up dancing and training at the Northwest Florida Ballet for 10 years. When she graduated from their high school, she joined their pre-professional program. In 2019, she joined the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater's graduate program. She danced and performed with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater's company during their season in 2020. In addition, she received scholarships to summer intensives at Atlanta Ballet, Next Generation Ballet, and Pittsburgh Ballet Theater. She joined Ballet Pensacola in the corps de ballet in September 2021 and became a soloist in May 2022. Her repertoire includes Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*, Tinker Bell from *Peter Pan*, the snow queen in *The Nutcracker* and the doll from *Fairy Doll*. Savannah is very excited to be back teaching again this year at Mobile ballet.

LEILA CRUTHIRDS



Leila Cruthirds grew up dancing in Mobile, performing with several schools in the area. She was a member of Carol Graham Dance Center's competition company and performed with them for 5 years winning multiple awards on the local and national level. She also performed with Parapluie Dance Company. In college, she studied Ballet as a member of Loyola Ballet and performed with them for 3 years. While at Loyola New Orleans, she was also a member of the Loyola Dance Team. Upon graduation, Leila returned home to Mobile and began teaching at Carol Graham Dance Center. There she taught Ballet, Jazz, Tap, and Lyrical for 19 years. In addition to teaching, she has choreographed and performed in many Mardi Gras tableaux as well as McGill-Toolen's fundraiser, "Dancing With the Stars." Leila joined the faculty of Mobile Ballet in 2021.

ANGIE DUSSOUY



Angie Dussouy began her dance training at a young age in Louisiana. She graduated with a BFA in Dance Education from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2001. Angie has taught dance at various schools and after school programs throughout Mississippi, Georgia, and Alabama. She was a performer for Macon Moving Dance Theater in Macon, GA for several years. Angie has also performed and taken classes at venues such as American College Dance Association, Jane Comfort Dance Company of New York, and Liz Lerman Dance Exchange. In addition, she has received professional development at the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) national conferences, National High School Dance Festival, Alabama Dance Festival, Mississippi Dance Festival, and Whole Schools summer institute. In 2006 she started the dance program at Davidson High School in Mobile County. Many of her Davidson students have gone on to pursue successful careers in dance. Angie was also

selected to serve on the committee to rewrite the Alabama K12 Dance Course of Study in 2017. She is a board member for the Alabama Dance Council and recently received her master's degree in Kinesiology. Angie has been teaching Contemporary classes at Mobile Ballet since 2018.

KATIE NOLETTO FELIS



Katie Noletto Felis began her dance training at age 3 at Sheffield School of the Dance under the direction of her grandmother, Mary Lou Sheffield Noletto, and her aunts, Theresa Noletto-Hutchins and Celi Noletto-Shinn. Discovering a passion for ballet and performance, she trained at Mobile Ballet and was accepted into their preprofessional company in 1995. From 1995 to 2007, she performed with Sheffield School of the Dance and Mobile Ballet. She was awarded scholarships from PDTA-Hoctor to attend the Joffrey Ballet Summer Intensive in New York City from 1997-1999. Additional summer training included American Dance Center in Saratoga Springs, NY, American Ballet Theatre Summer Intensive in Tuscaloosa, AL, and American Ballet Theatre Summer Intensive in NYC. In 2007 she graduated Summa Cum Laude from Spring Hill College's Honors Program with a BS in Elementary Education and began a Master of Fine Arts program at the School of Dance at Florida State University. While at FSU, she was a performing member of Dance Repertory Theatre, and an instructor at Wildwood Ballet in

Tallahassee. Since receiving her Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance in December 2010, she has taught dance at several schools in Missouri and Arizona, has performed with Treeline Dance Works in Phoenix, AZ and Sanspointe in Birmingham, AL, and has choreographed for Faulkner State Community College and the University of South Alabama. Along with teaching at Mobile Ballet, she is also a tutor with Read Write and is greatly involved with the Mobile Bay Walk to End Alzheimer's.

MADELAINE IRELAND-BRIGGS



Madelaine Ireland-Briggs has been teaching and coaching dance for over 17 years and is proud to be a member of the Mobile Ballet family since 2022. Originally from the sunny east coast of Australia, Madelaine operated the Madelaine Ireland Dance Academy in Northern New South Wales, Australia, and also worked at the Karen Ireland Dance Centre. Her students have consistently achieved top marks and scholarships at international competitions, including Prix de Lausanne, Youth America Grand Prix, and Asian Grand Prix. Many of her students have been accepted into top dance companies and schools all over the world.

Madelaine began dancing at the age of 4 and started full-time ballet training at 15 with Prudence Bowen at Atelier Australia. She received a diverse training, studying three ballet syllabi with Royal Academy of Dance, Cecchetti Ballet Method, and Ballet Australasia Limited, and also studied Contemporary, Pilates, Khorobushka National Character, Tap, Jazz, and Hip Hop. She studied Health Science at Griffith University, and incorporates her knowledge of anatomy and physiology into her teaching techniques, emphasizing safe dance practice.

ELIZABETH MCGINLEY



Elizabeth McGinley is a native of Mobile and has been dancing since the age of three. During grade school and high school she competed with the Carol Graham Dance Company affectionately known as the 'C-Gees." While competing she was awarded several group top awards, judge's choice awards and special recognition in overall performance in tap and jazz. Elizabeth continued studying dance at the University of South Alabama where she performed the lead for 2 seasons. Right after high school she began teaching ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical and hip hop at Carol Graham Dance Center. She also has been choreographer for many local theater plays, Mardi Gras tableaus, and for the past 3 years, choreographer for McGill-Toolen's "Dancing with the Stars." Her knowledge of dance has also allowed her to be a judge for several local dance teams and competitions. This year will make Elizabeth's 20th year of teaching dance and her second year at Mobile Ballet. "I'm honored to be a part of the Mobile Ballet family. I have grown up in Mobile and have fond memories of watching the performances they have put on over the years. I'm excited to be a part of this prestigious tradition here in Mobile."

MIYA MOBLEY



Miya Mobley comes from a military family, eventually settling in Fort Walton Beach FL.. For six years she attended Northwest Florida Ballet Academy. At the age of 13 she was accepted into Next Generation Ballet School at the Patel Conservatory in Tampa, FL, where for three years, she trained under Peter Stark, Ivonne Lemus, and Philip Neal. She performed roles such as a Wili in *Giselle*, Cupid in *Don Quixote*, and Balanchine's *Donizetti Variations*. She also competed in YAGP, ADCIBC, and NASL where she won several awards including Top 12 in her divisions, Traditional Excellence Award, and second place overall for NASL. In 2017, after attending Houston Ballet's Summer intensive, she was accepted into Houston Ballet Academy's year-round program. She trained with a professional company, athletic trainers, strength coaches, and many excellent teachers. She performed a variety of choreography including Stanton Welch's *The Nutcracker, Ladies*, and *La Bayadare* Kingdom of the Shades. After struggling with an injury in 2019, Miya decided to take a step back from ballet to heal and explore other trades. She became a licensed esthetician and nail artist and continued to self-train through Pilates and local ballet classes. Three years later Miya is passionate about guiding Mobile Ballet dancers in everything from structured techniques, building strength, and injury prevention.

KRIS NOBLES



Kris Nobles started his training at the Debbie Allen Dance Academy in 2001. By 2006 Kris won the Tanzolymp Danz Festival in Berlin, Germany competing in the classical ballet category. During the following year Mr. Nobles performed solo and received a bronze medal from His Royal Highness, Prince Edward who is the youngest son of Queen Elizabeth II. Kris was honored to receive an award from H.R.H. Prince and former governor of California Arnold Schwarzenegger for participating in the "Duke of Edinburgh's Young Americans Challenge" which was the first given in the United States. In 2008, he was asked by H.R.H, Prince Edward again to perform for his visit to California to celebrate the second annual "Young Americans Challenge". During that same year, Kris was featured in Paramount Pictures "Dance Flick" as a principal dancer. After DADA, Kris continued his studies in classical ballet at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts under the direction of American Ballet Theatre's principal dancer, Ethan Stiefel. During that time he performed leading roles in Ethan Stiefiel's "Nutcracker", George Balanchine's "Symphonia Concertante", Jerome Robbin's "Fanfare", and Larry Keigwin's "Kingdom" just to name a few. Afterward he joined

Complexions and performed with the company from 2011 until 2014. Kris is featured in Hal Blanfields' book "I Am Dance" and has played the title role in Debbie Allen's "The Hot Chocolate Nutcracker" numerous times. He is also featured on the Netflix documentary "Dance Dreams and "The Hot Chocolate Nutcracker". Mr. Nobles loves giving back and sharing knowledge that was given to him by instructing students of all ages at Debbie Allen's summer intensive programs in Atlanta and Detroit.

ALICIA REDING



Alicia Reding is a Mobile native, and began her training at the age of three at Gale's Studio of Dance. She then continued her classical ballet training with Lori Bilbrey-Vaghefi at Dunbar Creative and Performing Arts Magnet School. She attended the University of South Alabama and was a member of the USA Prowlers dance team. She graduated from the University of South Alabama with a B.S. in Elementary Education and went on to earn her master's degree. She is in her 20th year of teaching and is currently teaching first grade at Saraland Early Education Center. Alicia has taught dance for 23 years including ballet, tap, and jazz. She began teaching at Mobile Ballet in 2008. Alicia uses her experience and knowledge of early childhood learning to help young dancers learn the fundamentals of classical ballet.

PAIGE WELLER



Paige Weller, a native of Baton Rouge, LA, received her classical training and performed with the Louisiana Ballet under Artistic Director, Phoebe Brantley. She received additional training during multiple Summer Programs at the School of American Ballet, studying under Alexandra Danilova, Antonia Tumkovsky and Suki Schorer. Paige also trained and performed with the Eglevsky Ballet under the direction of Melissa Hayden, Edward Villela and Michael Vernon. She received the Bravo Scholarship from University of South Florida's College of Performing Arts where she studied under Gretchen Warren and Martin Friedman. Paige's performance experience includes Serenade, La Sylphide, Coppelia, The Nutcracker, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Rodeo, Quadracycle, an original work by Gilbert Rome, and other original works by Martin Friedman, Gretchen Warren, Bette Winslow, and Phoebe Brantley; and most recently as Queen Florestan in Mobile Ballet's 2017 production of Sleeping Beauty. Paige graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in Interior Design. She lives in Fairhope where she and her husband, Bruce, have raised three daughters. Paige joined the Mobile Ballet faculty in 2005.

RALEY ZAMPIERI



Raley Zampieri, a native of Foley, AL, began her early dance training at Green Acres School of Dance and Dare 2 Dance in Robertsdale, AL. She expanded her training at Mobile Ballet's Eastern Shore studio under the instruction of Zoe Lombard-Todd. She also trained at Sheffield's School of Dance where she won numerous awards at local dance conventions and competitions. She attended the University of South Alabama as a Primary and Special Education major and also joined *The Prowlers*, USA's dance team. She was part of the Universal Dance Association staff, 2011-2012, where she taught hundreds of high school and college level dance teams UDA technique and choreography. In 2007 Raley received the acceptance call to dance with the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes. From 2007-2016 Raley had the opportunity to perform with the touring cast and New York City cast of the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, as well as many other TV, talk show and national broadcast appearances and performances. She had the honor of performing next to Heidi Klum on America's Got Talent on The Great Stage of Radio City Music Hall. Raley began teaching at Mobile Ballet in 2006.

WELCOME OUR NEW FACULTY MEMBERS FOR 2023-2024

NOEL POLLARD HANLEY



We are so happy to welcome back Mobile Ballet's former School Director, Ballet Mistress, and Principal Dancer. Noel will be teaching Ballet and Pointe classes at the Mobile Studio.

Full bio coming soon!

ASHTON MEREDITH



We are so excited for the new energy and enthusiasm Ashton brings to our school. Ashton will be teaching Jazz and Hip-Hop classes at the Mobile Studio.

Full bio coming soon!

NOTES:		

"Sometimes people think ballet is just for a certain audience — but we want to bring it to everyone.

Ballet is entertainment, but at the same time, it is food for the soul."

Katia Garza, Artistic Director

IMPORTANT MOBILE BALLET SCHOOL DATES

2023

Aug 16	Open House - Mobile Studio
Aug 17	Open House - Eastern Shore Studio
Aug 21	First Day of Classes
Sep 4	Labor Day (no classes)
Sep 15	Nutcracker Children's Audition (Levels 5 and up)
Oct 16 - 20	Fall Evaluations
Oct 22	35 th Annual Jubilee Festival (Daphne)
Oct 24 - 31	Out-of-Uniform Week (Halloween Theme)
Nov 20 - 25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 4 - 9	Nutcracker Week - ONLY Primary classes meet
Dec 10	Nutcracker Tea
Dec 11 - 16	Out-of-Uniform Week (Nutcracker/Holiday Theme)
Dec 20	Christmas Break Begins

2024

Jan 3	Classes Resume
Jan 5	Sleeping Beauty Audition
Jan 15	Martin Luther King Jr Day (no classes)
Jan 19 - 21	Alabama Dance Festival (Birmingham)
Jan 25	Cuba Exhibition Gala (The Exploreum)
Jan 29 - Feb 3	Class Observation Week (Primary - Level 5)
Feb 5 - 10	Class Observation Week (Level 6 - Advanced)
Feb 12 - 14	Mardi Gras Break
TBA	Sleeping Beauty Tea
Mar 29 - 30	Easter Weekend (no classes)
TBA	School Photos
May 6 - 16	Spring Evaluations
May 17 - 18	Annual School Showcase
May 18	Last Day of Classes
May 20	Mobile Ballet Company Audition

MOBILE BALLET 2023-2024 SEASON PRODUCTIONS

Oct 7	Eclectic
Dec 8-10	The Nutcracker
Mar 23-24	Sleeping Beauty

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND LEVELS

PRIMARY DIVISION



PRIMARY 3-4 • 3 & 4 years old • 45 minute class

- Dancers MUST be completely potty-trained.
- Class focuses on coordination, balance, rhythm, and dance movement. Very basic ballet vocabulary is introduced in a creative setting. While they dance students will also learn discipline and team participation.

PRIMARY 5 • 5 years old – Kindergarten • 45 minute class

• Students will learn creativity, discipline, listening skills, coordination, and movement patterns. They will learn to differentiate between right and left while developing physical conditioning with poise and grace.

BALLET LEVELS



<u>LEVEL 1</u> • 6 yrs old – 1st Grade • 1 hour class

• In this level young children are introduced to basic classical movements, building strength, rhythmic skills, and discipline. Students will begin learning the fundamentals of classical ballet, focusing on musicality, basic ballet vocabulary, and basic ballet technique with center floor work and across the floor exercises.

<u>LEVEL 2</u> • 7 yrs old – 2nd Grade • 1 hour class

• Students will continue learning the fundamentals of classical ballet focusing on musicality, basic ballet vocabulary, and basic ballet technique with center floor work and across the floor exercises building strength, rhythmic skills, coordination, listening skills, discipline, and team participation.



<u>LEVEL 3</u> ● 8 yrs old – 3rd Grade • 1.25 hour class • 2 ballet classes/week recommended

- Dancers continue learning the fundamentals of classical ballet, focusing on proper body alignment, musicality, basic ballet vocabulary and basic ballet technique. Students will learn self-discipline, listening skills, coordination skills, and team participation. Barre work is introduced in this level, as well as basic turning and allegro exercises.
- Beginning with level 3, dancers will be evaluated in the spring for future placement.

<u>LEVEL 4</u> • **9** yrs old – 4th Grade • 1.25 hour class • 2 ballet classes/week recommended

- Placement class or Level 3 evaluation required
- This level continues to focus on developing body alignment, while introducing jumps and turns with musicality. Class will have barre and center work, exercises across the floor and basic allegro exercises.



<u>LEVEL 5</u> • Ages 10 & up • 1.25 hour classes • 3 ballet classes/week recommended

- Placement class or Level 4 evaluation required
- Level 5 continues to build on ballet technique, while progressing towards more advanced ballet movements, demanding grace and fluidity.

LEVEL 6 • ages 11 & up • 1.5 hour classes • 3 ballet classes/week recommended

- Placement class or Level 5 evaluation required
- Technique continues to build and increase in difficulty. Pointe work is introduced for those who have met the qualifications and have been approved by the director (see En Pointe Requirements)
- Students can keep improving their ballet technique without the pointe training.

<u>LEVEL 7</u> • ages 12 & up • 1.5 hour classes • 4 Ballet classes/week recommended

- Placement class or Level 6 evaluation required
- Performance quality and artistic presentation are elements of focus in this level. Students continue to build on ballet technique and strength, with increasing difficulty in allegro exercises. Dancers also work on strengthening their pointe work.

<u>LEVEL 8</u> • ages 13 & up • 1.5 hour classes • 4 Ballet classes/week recommended

- Placement class or Level 7 evaluation required
- Technique continues to build and increase in difficulty and speed at the barre, center work and in allegro exercises. Dancers focus on developing confidence in their performance quality, artistic presentation and strengthening their pointe work for the ladies and the allegro for the gentlemen.

LEVEL 9 • ages 14 & up • 1.5 hour classes • 4 Ballet classes/week recommended

- Placement class or Level 8 evaluation required
- Students will continue to strengthen their technique and build their confidence through increasingly difficult combinations at the barre and in center work. Dancers will work on growing in their musicality and artistry to enhance their performance quality and artistic expression.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND LEVELS

BALLET LEVELS (continued)

<u>INTERMEDIATE</u> • ages 15 & up • 1.5 hour classes • 4 Ballet classes per week strongly recommended for optimal growth

- Placement: Director approval required
- This level is for students ready for slower, more challenging combinations while adding musicality, artistry, and choreography to their ballet technique and gradually incorporating speed. Performance quality and artistic presentation, en pointe, are elements of focus in this level.

<u>ADVANCED</u> • ages 15 & up • 1.5 hour classes • 4 Ballet classes per week strongly recommended for optimal growth

- Placement: Director approval required
- This level is for students ready for challenging combinations while adding musicality, artistry, and choreography to their ballet technique. Performance quality and artistic presentation, en pointe, are elements of focus in this level.

EN POINTE REQUIREMENTS

Dancing en pointe is a difficult and physically demanding endeavor. Dancers must have a very solid ballet technique foundation and muscular and skeletal strength to pursue this art form. At Mobile Ballet our dancers' health and safety are our top priority. Therefore, we adhere to the following requirements for pointe training:

All students in Levels 5 and up, who are enrolled in and regularly attending a minimum of three (3) ballet technique classes per week at the Mobile Ballet School (Mobile and/or Daphne locations) will be evaluated for Beginning Pointe training in the spring semester. If approved, dancers receive a personal invitation to attend the Beginning Pointe Workshop in the summer. Dancers must attend this workshop in order to enroll in pointe classes the following fall. They also must continue to train in at least three ballet technique classes per week to continue their pointe training at Mobile Ballet.

CONTEMPORARY

These classes combine ballet with techniques from various modern styles. Contraction and release, off center balances and suspensions are introduced, while students develop musicality and self-expression. Contemporary is highly recommended in addition to Ballet and Jazz.

JAZZ

These classes introduce students to Jazz steps, syncopated rhythms, and body isolations. Class emphasizes musicality, body alignment, flexibility, conditioning, and strengthening while working on musicality and the ability to learn choreography and skills with upbeat music. Jazz is highly recommended in addition to Ballet and Contemporary.

TAP

Tap combines rhythm and sound with an expression of music. Learning tap technique improves balance, coordination, musicality, and muscle control for the dancers. Tap is an important skill for dancers interested in musical theater.

HIP-HOP

Hip-Hop classes incorporate many styles of street dancing, breaking, popping, and locking to create energetic choreography to music with strong rhythmic patterns. Dancers will work on developing strength, stamina, balance, and coordination to successfully execute the moves and skills of this genre of dance.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

<u>Primary Division</u>: All Primary classes perform in the end of the year Showcase.

<u>Ballet 1-4</u>: End of the year Showcase and with the Mobile Ballet Company in *The Nutcracker*

<u>Ballet 5 & up</u>: End of the year Showcase and with the Mobile Ballet Company in *The Nutcracker* and other productions, by audition

ALL Jazz, Contemporary, Tap, and Hip Hop classes participate on the end of the year Showcase.



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

DRESS CODE AND APPEARANCE

In keeping with classical ballet tradition and to achieve a uniformity of appearance, a strict dress code is followed. Hair must be secured into a neat classical ballet bun for all ballet classes. Very short hair must be secured neatly off the face in a way that will not distract the dancer in class. Starting with Level 3, underwear should not be worn under leotards and tights. No sports bras are to be worn in ballet classes; if a dancer desires extra support, a nude dance bra with clear straps may be worn under your leotard. Other than small stud earrings, no jewelry or accessories are allowed in class. No smart watches are allowed in any class!

CLASS UNIFORMS

Mobile Ballet School students are required to wear the uniform assigned to their level for all classes.

Ballet: Girls: pink ballet tights and shoes; and leotard and skirt from the chart below

Boys All Levels: white, tight-fitted t-shirt, black footed tights, black ballet shoes, and a dance belt (when necessary)

Jazz/Tap: Uniform leotard, black jazz pants, black jazz and tap shoes Contemporary: Uniform leotard, black leggings or bike shorts, bare feet

LEVEL	BRAND	LEOTARD	SKIRT	COLOR
Primary 3, 4, & 5	Nikolay	Short-sleeve Dress	NA	Light Pink
Levels 1 and 2	Nikolay	Evita	Echo	Light Blue
Levels 3 and 4	Nikolay	Ellen	Echo	Lavender
Levels 5 and 6	Nikolay	Ellen	Echo	French Blue
Levels 7 and up	Nikolay & Bullet Pointe	Nikolay - Ellen	Bullet Pointe	Black

Dancewear can be purchased at The Dance Shop in Mobile (251-473-3623) or Daphne (251-626-7680).

CLASSICAL BUN INSTRUCTIONS

A classical bun can be a low bun, middle bun, or high bun based on where the bun is located on the back of the head (not on the top of the head). Any of these positions are appropriate for ballet class.

You will need...

- Strong thick hair elastic to match hair color
- V shape hair pins
- Bobby pins
- Hair net
- Brush or comb
- Hairspray & Gel
- 1. Brush hair to get rid of any knots or tangles.
- 2. Brush hair back and pull back into a ponytail, avoiding any "lumps and bumps". Secure ponytail tightly with hair elastic. A neat and tight ponytail with hair drawn snugly back is the key to making a good ballet bun.
- 3. Twist the ponytail as you gradually wrap it around the hair elastic, inserting V shape hair pins as you wrap, creating a coiled circle. Be sure that your hair pins contain hair from both the head and the ponytail. This will hold your bun close and flat to your head. (For thicker hair, split the ponytail and half. Twist and pin the first half around the hair elastic; and the second half around the first spiral.)
- 4. Wrap your hair net around the bun as many times as it will allow for a snug fit. Try not to make the net too tight, as this will make the bun protrude too much from the head causing an egg shaped bun!
- 5. Add additional hair pins to hold the hair net in place; use bobby pins and hair spray to pin back any stray hairs!

The idea is to have your bun as flat as possible to the head.



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCES, AND MAKE-UP CLASSES

As with any subject, regular class attendance and participation is vital to progress. Please, make every effort to be at all classes. Especially when learning choreography for performances, attendance is important, not only to you, but your instructor/choreographer and your fellow dancers. Advancement to the next level is dependent on your grasp of and proficiency in the material presented in your current level.

For parents:

- We encourage you to call the office at (251) 342-2241 if your child is ill or unable to attend class so that we may notify the faculty.
- If your child must miss a class due to an illness or another approved reason and would like to "make up" the class, please see the studio office staff or email info@mobileballet.org to make proper arrangements.
- Tuition is not prorated for sickness, holidays, weather, or days missed for personal reasons.

CLASS ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to follow appropriate Etiquette for Dancers:

- o Arrive with adequate time to prepare and be on time for class.
- o Be in class uniform, with hair in a neat bun, and without jewelry (except stud earrings).
- o If you are late to class for any reason, stand at the door of your studio until the teacher acknowledges you and permits you to enter.
- o If you will need to leave class early for any reason, notify your teacher before the beginning of class.
- o Do not eat, drink, or chew gum in the studios. Only water bottles are permitted.
- o Talk with friends before or after class, not during. Use quiet voices in the lobby area to be respectful of other classes.
- o Stand still and straight and give your instructor your full attention.
- o Listen and do not talk while the teacher is talking.
- o Do not sit, lean, climb, or hang on the barre.
- o Be attentive at all times, especially when waiting for your turn.
- o Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged if you have a question.
- o Promptly implement corrections from your instructor.
- o Take every correction even if it wasn't directed to you.
- o Refrain from correcting others.
- Respect the personal space of others.
- o Phones or other electronics are not permitted in the studios during classes.
- o Never wear dance shoes outside the studio, and never wear street shoes in the studio.
- Applaud and thank your instructor at the end of every class.

Have a positive attitude, try your best, don't give up, and be an encourager to your fellow dancers.

EVALUATION AND PLACEMENT

Mobile Ballet has something for everyone, whether you are training to become a professional or learning to dance for the first time. We offer an opportunity to learn, improve, train and have fun with the correct training in a safe and encouraging environment.

After Level 3, placement is based on technique rather than age, as we recognize that every student's needs and skill level are different, and children progress at different rates.

Starting with Level 3, Mobile Ballet students are evaluated twice during the year, so they will know what to work on to improve during the school year. Their spring evaluation will include their Level placement for the next year.

Any dancer new to Mobile Ballet and over the age of eight, will need to attend a placement class.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Thank you for choosing Mobile Ballet and entrusting us with your child's dance training. Please carefully review the following policies and information to help ensure the best dance experience for your dancer.

REGISTRATION

Registration Fee: All students must register for each school year. A discount on registration is offered to returning students registering by the early registration deadline for the upcoming school year and they are given priority in class placement. Registration fees also include a Mobile Ballet T-shirt. Please be sure to select your requested T-shirt size during the online registration process!

Student	Registration Fee	Sibling
New	\$ 55	\$ 45
Returning, if registered by early deadline (JULY 15, 2023)	\$ 45	\$ 35
Returning, if registered after early deadline	\$ 55	\$ 45

TUITION

Tuition is based on the total yearly cost for classes. Tuition may be paid in full upon registration; or for convenience and affordability, payments for annual tuition may be made in monthly installments. On the monthly installment plan your annual total is divided into 9 monthly payments (see additional info in Payments section below).

There is a five percent (5%) discount for annual tuition paid in full by September 1. (If you choose "FULL PAYMENT" at registration, Studio Pulse will apply the discount for you. Otherwise, email the registrar at info@mobileballet.org to receive the discount and make payment.

Parents are financially obligated by the terms of registration to pay for their full annual tuition for the dance season. Monthly tuition is never prorated but is determined from an average of entire classes for the year. There is no reduction in tuition for months with holidays or due to absence or illness. Fees and/or tuition are not refundable, including costume fees.

Family Discount: A discounted rate is offered to siblings of registered students. The child taking the most classes per week pays full tuition and fees. Each additional sibling receives five percent (5%) a discount.

Tuition Schedule: Class prices are based on length of the class, and a percentage discount is given based on number of classes taken.

Class Length (in hours)	Class Price	Class Types
0.75	\$65.00	All Primary classes, Conditioning
1.00	\$70.00	All Level 1 & 2 classes, Pointe, Jazz, Contemporary, Tap
1.25	\$75.00	Levels 3, 4 and some 5 & 6 Ballet classes, Level 3-6 Jazz-Tap combo
1.50	\$80.00	Most Level 5 and up Ballet classes

Number of Classes Per Week	Discount	
2	10%	
3	25%	
4	35%	
5	40%	
6	45%	
7	45%	
8 & up	47.5%	

Payment: Monthly tuition payments are due the 1st of each month. A late fee of \$15 will be assessed if payment is received after the 10th. After completing online registration, you may access your password-protected student account and pay tuition online by bank draft or by credit / debit card (payment site works best on desktop, laptop, or tablet).

Payments are also accepted in the office during office hours. We accept American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa, bank draft, check, and cash. A tuition drop-box is also provided in the lobby for check or cash payments; please be sure to include student's name on payment envelope.

Automatic recurring payment by bank draft or by credit or debit card is strongly encouraged! This is a simple, convenient way to be sure your monthly tuition payments are made on time. In our online registration system, you can easily set up a recurring payment option. Please note: the system defaults to the auto-pay option during registration, please update your preferences if you prefer to make payments manually each month. The office staff can also assist with payment setup.

Credit Card Payment Fees: Beginning June 2023, a 3% surcharge will be assessed on all Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express credit card payments. You can avoid this additional fee by paying via ACH/e-Check.

Returned Payment Fee: A fee of \$25 per item will be assessed if any check or ACH/e-Check payment is returned or not honored.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

OTHER FEES

There are several optional fees payable throughout the year based on participation in our exciting performance opportunities! Performing is an important part of dance training and we encourage students to take advantage of all performance opportunities offered at their Level.

Like tuition, fees can be paid through your password-protected student account by bank draft or with a credit or debit card. Fee payments are also accepted in the office. Each student's account must be paid in full for current tuition due and applicable fees in order to participate in performance opportunities.

Level	Performance	Participation Fee	Sibling Participation Fee	Accessory Fee Costume Rental
All Students	Showcase	\$110 (Includes 6 tickets)	\$60 (Incl. 2 additional tickets)	\$20
Company and Junior Company	Showcase	\$110 (Includes 6 tickets)	\$60 (Incl. 2 additional tickets)	\$50 (Rental)
All non-Company and Children's Roles	Mobile Ballet Productions	\$30	\$25	\$50 (Rental)
Non-Mobile Ballet Students	Mobile Ballet Productions	\$125	N/A	\$50 (Rental)

WITHDRAWAL

Enrollment for the school year means that we are counting on your child's attendance and participation and have planned accordingly. If you are considering withdrawal from a class or the school, we encourage you to make an appointment to discuss this with your child's teacher or the School Director at your studio location.

Withdrawal requests must be made in writing to <u>info@mobileballet.org</u>. One month's notice is required. Billing to your child's account will continue until written notice is received and during the 30-day notice period.

REFUNDS

Parents are financially obligated by the terms of registration to pay for their full annual tuition for the dance season. Monthly tuition is never prorated but determined from an average of entire classes for the season. There is no reduction in tuition for months with holidays or due to absence or illness. Fees and/or tuition are not refundable, including costume fees.

COMMUNICATIONS

Email - Studio Pulse: Email is our primary means of communication with our students and parents. Updates and reminders are sent throughout the school year to the email address provided during online registration in the Studio Pulse system. Check your SPAM folder and add Mobile Ballet emails to your 'preferred sender' list to ensure that you receive all communications. Emails from Studio Pulse will show "MOBILE BALLET, INC" as the sender.

Remind App: In the 2023-2024 school year we will begin using the Remind app, which is a text messaging platform for Mobile Ballet to communicate easily with student families. Parents will receive information about Remind upon registration.

Direct all general and school inquiries to: Alicia Borowski, Registrar, at info@mobileballet.org

Please, refrain from speaking with instructors in the hallways between classes, as they have minimal breaks or none at all. If you need to speak to your child's instructor, the directors, or any faculty member, contact the office at 251-342-2241 or info@mobileballet.org to schedule a meeting.

Mobile Studio

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Phone: 251-342-2241

Eastern Shore Studio

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, during class times only

Phone: 251-626-8932

CONTACTS:

Kendra Utsey, Operations Manager, <u>office@mobileballet.org</u>
Amanda Napper, Development, <u>development@mobileballet.org</u>

Molly Dolan, Advancement & Marketing, advancement@mobileballet.org

Alicia Borowski, School Registrar, info@mobileballet.org

Jordan Smith, Accounting, accounting@mobileballet.org

Heather Rodgers, Eastern Shore Administrative Assistant, daphneschool@mobileballet.org

THE ACADEMY

The Mobile Ballet Academy is a daytime, pre-professional ballet training program for dancers interested in pursuing ballet at the collegiate or professional level, or dancers who desire a more intensive training experience in a small class environment.

Admittance is by audition only.

Age/Level requirements: Mobile Ballet LEVELS 8 – ADVANCED or AGES 12 & UP, with a minimum of two full years of pointe training

Audition options: Mobile Ballet Company annual audition, Mobile Ballet Summer Intensive, or private audition with Artistic/School Director, Katia Garza, or Ballet Master, Israel Rodriguez.

Location: Mobile Studio

Schedule: Wednesday and Thursday

• 1:00-2:30 Ballet Technique

• 2:30-3:30 Pointe/Variations/Conditioning

<u>Tuition</u>: 1 day per week - \$1350 or nine installments of \$150/month (September 2023 – May 2024) 2 days per week - \$2475 or nine installments of \$275/month (September 2023 – May 2024)



Whether you're beginning, continuing, or returning to ballet or want to try contemporary dance – older teens and adults of all ages have a welcoming place in the Mobile Ballet studios. Our Adult Ballet Classes and Teen/Adult Beginning classes include a nurturing environment with professional instruction, led by Mobile Ballet faculty.

Registration Fee: There is not a registration fee for Adult Ballet classes at Mobile Ballet.

<u>Tuition</u>: Annual tuition is based on the number of classes per year and is divided into monthly payments for your Convenience, therefore, tuition is not prorated for holidays or other absences. Tuition is due the 1st of each month. A late fee of \$15 will be assessed if tuition is received after the 10th.

1 class per week - \$65 per month

2 classes per week - \$100 per month

3 classes per week - \$135 per month

4 or more classes per week - \$160 per month

<u>Drop-in Classes</u>: All Adult Ballet classes at either studio can be attended as Drop-in classes at the rate of \$20 per class. Dancers must still be registered in Studio Pulse. Payment is required before each class and can be paid online or in the office.

<u>Fees</u>: The only additional fee for Adult Ballet students is an optional \$25 Showcase Participation Fee due in April.

<u>Uniforms</u>: Adult classes at Mobile Ballet do not require a specific uniform. However, we recommend the following:

Ballet: Ladies: pink ballet tights and shoes; and leotard and skirt of any solid color

Men: white or black t-shirt, black footed tights, black ballet shoes, and a dance belt

Contemporary: leotard or tank top, leggings or bike shorts, bare feet or socks







THE MOBILE BALLET COMPANY

The Mobile Ballet Company exists to fulfill the part of our Mission which states, "to present quality performances, and promote the ballet to the community as an expression of the human spirit." Our student company accomplishes this each season by bringing three major productions to the stage, as well as appearing in numerous community events and outreaches. The Mobile Ballet Company includes up to 40 auditioned students, filling positions from Junior Company to Corps de Ballet to Soloist. They are privileged to join exceptional guest artists on stage in the season's three signature productions, and to represent Mobile Ballet in numerous events, including LoDa Artwalk, Fairhope First Friday Artwalk, City of Mobile Lighting of the Tree, the Fairhope Christmas Parade, the Mobile Arts Council's annual Arty's Awards, and many others. The discipline and training required of our student dancers is something that will reap benefits the rest of their lives, wherever there future takes them.

AUDITIONS

- Membership in the Mobile Ballet Company is by audition only
- Auditions are held annually in May
- Dancers must be age 12 by December of the current year
- Dancers must have at least one year of training en pointe
- Each dancer must present a parent/quardian-signed waiver on the day of the audition

COMPANY COMMITMENT

For dancers invited to join the Mobile Ballet Company, a signed Company Agreement is required. Dancer commitment includes:

- Annual Dues
- Dancers must be enrolled in a minimum of four ballet classes at Mobile Ballet School
- Mandatory rehearsals are scheduled two nights per week and on Saturdays
- Additional rehearsals are required in the weeks leading up to theater productions
- There are NO approved absences during theater weeks

MOBILE BALLET COMPANY 2023-2024 SEASON

MOBILE BALLET'S 2023-2024 SEASON:

All performances are at Mobile Civic Center Theater

ECLECTIC

Saturday, October 7

THE NUTCRACKER

Friday, December 9

Saturday, December 10

Sunday, December 11

SLEEPING BEAUTY

Saturday, March 23

Sunday, March 24





THE RELEVÉ TUITION ASSISTANCE PROJECT



Mobile Ballet's Relevé Project tuition assistance fund was established to help reduce the financial burdens that prevent children from accessing dance training.

Relevé is a classical ballet term meaning 'raised, lifted.'

Thanks to generous donors, tuition assistance may be available for families facing financial hardship.

To inquire about tuition assistance availability, visit www.mobileballet.org/ballet-school to complete the online inquiry form.

THE MOBILE BALLET BARRE

The Barre is an organization of volunteers who support Mobile Ballet School and Company. Membership is open to everyone who has an interest in the Ballet: parents, extended family, balletomanes, etc. Everyone! The Barre sponsors events throughout the year to support the Ballet and The Relevé Tuition Assistance Project. Barre projects for the 2023-2024 Season include:

- Mobile Studio Open House August 16th
- Eastern Shore Studio Open House August 17th
- Mobile Ballet Barre Annual Kick-off Meeting September 11th
- Nutcracker Tea December 10th
- Nutcracker Cast Party December 10th
- Sleeping Beauty Tea TBD
- Sleeping Beauty Cast Party March 24th
- Mobile Ballet Boutique at all Mobile Ballet theater performances
- Additional fundraising activities throughout the school year
- Teacher Appreciation end of the school year

There are numerous other volunteer opportunities to support the Mobile Ballet School and Company, such as assisting in the costume room with alterations, ushering at our Discover Dance and public performances, aiding with publicity, helping in the office, or helping with our outreach programs for the community, to name a few. The best part is – no experience needed! The only requirement is the desire to help.

Membership opportunity never ends so you can join The Barre at any time. However, if you join by September 30th your name will appear in the season programs. We feel it is important to recognize all those who help make the magic of Mobile Ballet happen each year. There is a suggested \$30 annual membership donation, but what we really need is your time and talent! A membership form is enclosed with this handbook. Please complete and return this form to the Mobile Ballet office as soon as possible. And join the Mobile Ballet Barre Facebook group. We look forward to working with you to make 2023-2024 a great season for Mobile Ballet!









HOW TO SUPPORT MOBILE BALLET

Mobile Ballet has been an integral part of the Mobile arts community for over 35 years, providing quality productions, impactful outreach programs, and excellent dance instruction. Generations of audiences, students, and donors have contributed to our long-term success. We are grateful and honored to receive operating support from Alabama State Council on the Arts, the City of Mobile, and Mobile County Commission, along with grants, sponsorships, and contributions from many foundations, businesses, and individuals.

Your support of Mobile Ballet helps ensure the ongoing programs that touch the lives of so many in our community. School tuition and performance ticket sales alone do not cover the cost of getting productions to the stage and providing outreach programs for the community. A broad base of community support helps ensure the success of each performing season and helps create a vibrant and diverse arts community.

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOU MIGHT CONSIDER SUPPORTING MOBILE BALLET THIS SEASON:

- Purchasing tickets to performances and attending our special programs and events ensures that our performances
 are successful and also strengthens support for all the arts in our community.
- Making an individual tax deductible donation helps to amplify our work and expand our impact in the community. If 100% of our families and faculty participate by giving back to the ballet, our possibilities are endless. No donation is too small! Your gift can also be fulfilled over time with monthly recurring payments.
- Securing corporate donations, sponsorships, and program ads helps us to build lasting relationships with businesses in the community for ongoing support. If you have a connection with a local business, ask them to consider making a donation, becoming a sponsor, or purchasing an ad in our season programs. Remind them that partnering with Mobile Ballet and supporting the arts is a valuable way to give back and improve the quality of life in their community.
- Volunteering through the Mobile Ballet Barre supports all the behind-the-scenes efforts that make it possible for us to do what we do. Your time, talent, and help makes it all possible!
- Following Mobile Ballet on social media pages and sharing, liking, and commenting helps boost our visibility online. Writing a positive review on Facebook or Google lets others know why you love Mobile Ballet, and is always appreciated.

CONNECT WITH MOBILE BALLET

Purchase tickets or make a donation:

www.mobileballet.org

Inquire about sponsorships or program ads:

development@mobileballet.org

Follow us on social media:

www.facebook.com/mobileballet

www.instagram.com/mobileballet

THANK YOU!

There are many ways to show your support, and we are grateful for the part you play in Mobile Ballet!

We are here because of YOU!





SINCE 1987





www.mobileballet.org

info@mobileballet.org

Mobile Studio and Main Office 4351 Downtowner Loop North, Mobile, AL 36609 251.342.2241

Eastern Shore Studio 26436-B Kensington Place, Daphne, AL 36526 251.626.8932

Mobile Ballet, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization