



# 2024 CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS HANDBOOK

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# HOUSTON BALLET MISSION STATEMENT



To inspire a lasting love and appreciation for dance through artistic excellence, exhilarating performances, innovative choreography, and superb educational programs.

In furtherance of our mission, we are committed to maintaining and enhancing our status as:

- A classically trained company with a diverse repertory, whose range includes the classics, as well as contemporary works.
- A company that attracts the world's best dancers and choreographers and provides them with an environment where they can thrive and further develop the art form.
- An international company that is accessible to broad and growing local, national, and international audiences.
- A company with a world-class Academy that provides first rate instruction for professional dancers and meaningful programs for non-professional dancers.
- A company with state-of-the-art facilities for performances, rehearsals, and ongoing operations.

## **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Statement**

Houston Ballet is dedicated to creating meaningful change by cultivating a space that honors what is unique in all of us. Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) are instrumental in the fulfillment of our mission and values. We recognize our responsibility to be an inclusive and open organization for students, artists, staff, trustees, and volunteers of all backgrounds.

Join us, together we are Houston Ballet.



# MEET THE ACADEMY



Stanton Welch

Artistic Director,  
Member of the Order  
of Australia



Julie Kent

Artistic Director



James Nelson

Executive Director



Jennifer Sommers  
Academy Director



Yahudi Castañeda

Academy Artistic  
Operations Associate  
Director



Katie Wesche

Academy  
Administrative  
Associate Director



Bryana Bordelon

Academy Student Life  
Manager



Carla Cortez

Academy Registrar



Dustin Shaw

Academy Programs  
Manager



Reagan Lynch

Academy Artistic  
Operations  
Coordinator



Tempest McLendon

Academy  
Administrative  
Coordinator



Angela Galvez

Academy Student  
Support Coordinator

# ACADEMY ARTISTIC STAFF



Beth Everitt  
Lower School  
Principal &  
Children's Ballet  
Master



Orlando Molina  
Boys Program  
Coordinator



Cheryne Busch  
Upper School  
Principal



Claudio Muñoz  
HBII Ballet Master



Susan Bryant  
Principal  
Instructor



Kelly Myernick  
Principal  
Instructor



Christopher Coomer  
Principal  
Instructor

## ACADEMY INSTRUCTORS



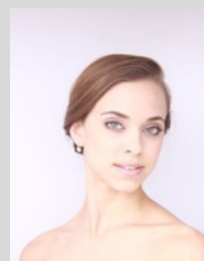
Heidi Erickson



Carla Flores



Betsy McMillan



Mallory Mehaffey



Paola Murga



Lucinda Rohrer



Kamryn Spell



Holda Torres



Dalirys  
Valladares

# ACADEMY CONTACT INFORMATION

Summer Program classes are held at the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance.

Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance Address:  
601 Preston Street  
Houston, TX 77002



Administrative Offices Phone Number:  
713-523-6300

Academy General Inquiry Email Address:  
[hbacademy@houstonballet.org](mailto:hbacademy@houstonballet.org)

Houston Ballet Summer Programs Webpage:  
<https://www.houstonballet.org/about/academy1/summer-intensive-program/>

## Academy Administrative Staff Contact Information

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713-535-3210

# SUMMER CALENDAR

All dates and times are subject to change.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>DECEMBER</b>						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Registration Opens for Current Students					
<b>JANUARY</b>						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Registration Opens for New Students	
<b>MARCH</b>						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	<i>Four Seasons Children's Workshop Begins</i>				<i>Four Seasons Children's Workshop Ends</i>	
<b>AUGUST</b>						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Nutcracker Children's Workshop & Boys Workshop Begin				Nutcracker Children's Workshop & Boys Workshop Ends	

# Registration

## Schedule

Children's Workshop: *The Four Seasons*: March 11, 2024 - March 15, 2024

Children's Workshop: *The Nutcracker*: August 5, 2023 - August 9, 2023

Boys Workshop: August 5, 2023 - August 9, 2023

*\*Times are subject to change.*

Children's Workshop: <i>The Four Seasons</i> *	
Ages 5-7 - must be at least 5 years old as of 3/11/2024	
Birthdate Range: 3/12/2016-3/11/2019	
Ages 5-7	
1:00PM-3:00PM	
Children's Workshop: <i>The Nutcracker</i> *	
Ages 4-8 - must be at least 4 years old as of 8/5/2024	
Birthdate Range: 8/6/2015-8/5/2020	
Ages 4-5	Ages 6-8
10:00AM-12:00PM	1:00PM-3:00PM
Boys Workshop	
Ages 8-15 - must be at least 8 years old as of 8/5/2024	
Birthdate Range: 8/6/2008-8/5/2016	
Group A (ages 8-12 with little to no experience)	Group B (ages 10-15 with at least 3 years' experience)
3:30PM-6:00PM	3:15PM-5:45PM

Registration and payment (tuition and fees) are due at the time of registration to secure their enrollment. Registration will close once level/section caps are reached.

\*Registration and payment for the Children's Workshop: *The Four Seasons* and *The Nutcracker* include two tickets to a selected performance of the corresponding Houston Ballet Company repertoire.

*The Four Seasons*: performance on Sunday, June 9, 2024 at 2:00PM

*The Nutcracker*: performance on Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 6:30PM OR Friday, December 13, 2024 at 7:30PM

## Withdrawal Policy

If a student wishes to withdraw from the Preschool Summer Classes, the Registrar's Office must receive a completed Withdrawal Form available [HERE](#). Verbal notification of withdrawal will not be accepted. Please refer to the refund policy on the next page.



# Tuition & Fees

<i>The Four Seasons</i> Workshop	\$400	Required for all students registered for the <i>The Four Seasons</i> Workshop (includes two tickets to select performance)
<i>The Nutcracker</i> Workshop	\$400	Required for all students registered for <i>The Nutcracker</i> Workshop (includes two tickets to select performance)
Boys Workshop	\$295	Required for all students registered for the Boys Workshop <i>Scholarships will be applied as appropriate.</i>

Payment Schedule				
Installment	Due Date	<i>The Four Seasons</i> Workshop	<i>The Nutcracker</i> Workshop	Boys Workshop
#1	At the time of registration	\$400	\$400	\$295
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$295</b>

Houston Ballet accepts checks\*, cashier's checks, cash, or credit cards. Payments may be mailed, hand-delivered, completed online, or phoned into the Academy office. \*If a check is returned for any reason, a \$25 fee will be charged. The fee must be paid in cash within one week from the time the owner of the account is notified.

## **REFUND POLICY**

***All fees and 1/4 of tuition are nonrefundable and nontransferable.*** Remaining tuition is refundable prior to March 1, 2024. Formal withdrawal must be received prior to March 1, 2024, to be eligible for any refund. *All fees and tuition are nonrefundable and nontransferable after March 1, 2024.* The Academy is not liable or obligated in any way to process any refunds or issue any tuition credits after March 1, 2024.

# Academy Procedures

## Houston Ballet Academy Rules & Policies

Houston Ballet Academy rules and policies can be found [HERE](#). We recommend reviewing this document in addition to the Summer Program Handbook.

This document will include overall rules for the Center for Dance, proper student/employee engagement, non-discrimination/non-harassment policy, anti-bullying policy, media & social media policies, health policies, and releases included in the registration form.

## COVID-19 Protocols

The COVID-19 vaccine and boosters are strongly encouraged but not required for Houston Ballet Academy's 2024 Workshops. Houston Ballet reserves the right to adapt masking protocols based on community spread in the city of Houston.

## Arrival & Departure

- Parking options are listed [HERE](#).
- Families may use the driveway, entering from Congress Street.
  - Students being dropped off should use the far-left lane
  - Students being picked up should use the far-right lane
  - Middle lane should be clear for those to pass



## Driveway Policies

- Students will not be allowed into the building until 15 minutes prior to the start of class.
- Recommended to arrive no earlier than the end of the student's last class.
- Do not drop off or pick up students on the roads next to the Center for Dance.
- Families cannot park in the driveway.
- Do not walk up the ramps.

Always follow instructions provided by HPD officers, security guards, and class monitors at the Center for Dance and all City of Houston driving/parking regulations.

## Attendance

- Students that arrive more than 15 minutes late to class may not be permitted to participate in class. This is at the teacher's discretion and for the safety of the student.
- If a student is absent, complete the absence notification form [HERE](#). Please note that we are unable to accommodate make-up classes during the summer.
- Tuition will not be prorated for missed classes.

## Injury & Illness

If a student is injured prior to attending the Children's Workshop, they must submit a full release of all activities by a doctor.

The Houston Ballet Academy employs thoroughly trained instructors and utmost care is given to all students; however, the Academy cannot be responsible for any injuries sustained by a student. If a student becomes ill or injured, the following must take place:

- Notify an Academy staff member immediately
  - If a student is ill, the parent/guardian will be notified to pick up the student for the remainder of the day
  - If a student is injured, the following will take place
- The Academy staff member will contact the Athletic Trainer or Assistant Athletic Trainer to determine the appropriate next steps.
- The parent/guardian will be notified of the injury and recommendations for next steps.

The Houston Ballet Academy employs thoroughly trained instructors and utmost care is given to all students; however, the Academy cannot be responsible for any injuries sustained by a student. If a student becomes ill or injured, the student or instructor should notify an Academy staff member immediately. If a student is ill or injured, the parent/guardian will be notified to pick up the student for the remainder of the day.

## Evaluations & Private Lessons

There are no formal evaluations/assessments given during the summer program.

Private lessons or studio use for private use during the summer program are not allowed.

## Observations

On the final day of the *The Four Seasons* Workshop and *The Nutcracker* Workshop, families will be invited to attend a mini-performance for the last ten minutes of class. Please keep guests to a maximum of 2 per student.

Unfortunately, we will be unable to offer an observation during the Boys Workshop.

Click links  
for more  
information

# Class Attire

	<b>The Nutcracker Workshops Ages 4-5</b>	<b>The Four Seasons/The Nutcracker Workshops Ages 6-8</b>
Female-Identifying Dancers	<b>Leotard:</b> <u>Wear Moi style Coralie - cap sleeve leotard</u> or sleeveless, scoop-neck, tank leotard - black <b>Tights:</b> Footless - pink or skin-tone inclusive <b>Shoes:</b> None	<b>Leotard:</b> <u>Wear Moi style Coralie - cap sleeve leotard</u> , <u>Wear Moi style Galate - sky blue</u> , or sleeveless, scoop-neck, tank leotard - black <b>Tights:</b> Footed - pink or skin tone-inclusive <b>Shoes:</b> Ballet shoes - pink or skin tone-inclusive
Male-Identifying Dancers	<b>Shirt:</b> <u>Wear Moi style Conrad - white</u> or short-sleeve, form-fitting crew neck t-shirt - white <b>Bike Shorts:</b> Bike shorts - black ( <i>recommended:</i> Motionwear style 7105)	
	<b>Shoes:</b> None	<b>Shoes:</b> Ballet shoes - black and tall socks - white
	<b>Boys Workshop Group A (ages 8-12)</b>	<b>Boys Workshop Group B (ages 10-15)</b>
Male-Identifying Dancers	<b>Shirt:</b> <u>Wear Moi style Conrad - white</u> or short-sleeve, form-fitting crew neck t-shirt - white	
	<b>Bike Shorts:</b> Bike shorts - black ( <i>recommended:</i> Motionwear style 7105) <b>Shoes:</b> Ballet shoes - black and tall socks - white	<b>Tights:</b> Tights - slate ( <i>recommended:</i> Body Wrapper style M90) <b>Belt:</b> Dance belt - black ( <i>recommended:</i> Discount Dance Supply style 62S) <b>Shoes:</b> Ballet slippers & tall socks - white

## Skin Tone-Inclusive Shoes & Tights Matching Guide

	Blendz Tights	Shoe Options			
Confident Cocoa		Blendz Confident Cocoa	Spray Fashion Brown		
Brazen Brown		Blendz Brazen Brown	Capezio Mocha	Spray Tan	
Maven Mahogany		Blendz Maven Mahogany	Spray Bark		
Tenacious Tan		Blendz Tenacious Tan	Capezio Light Suntan	Capezio Nude	Spray Chamois

## Attire Procedures

- Female-identifying students should have their hair pulled back away from the face and secured neatly in a ballet bun. Students with short hair should wear a headband and secure the hair at the back. For more information on Houston Ballet Academy's hair requirements for female-identifying students, please see our bun tutorial [HERE](#).
- Male-identifying students should have their hair neatly groomed and pulled back away from the face.
- Students with hair that is in braids, twists, or locs should secure hair back, without loose ends, and off the nape of the neck.
- Leg warmers and sweatpants are not allowed to be worn in class.
- Students may wear one pair of earring studs. No other jewelry may be worn.
- Students should not wear dance clothes as street wear outside Houston Ballet.
- Students should not apply lotion in the studios or apply lotion to the skin on days where they will be doing floor work. Lotion and oils can create slick spots on the studio floor.

## Purchasing Attire

Houston Ballet does not have a dance supply store onsite. Students should arrive at the start of the program with all required attire and shoes.

Uniform leotards and shirts can be purchased through [E-Commerce](#) in Classe365. Uniform leotards and shirts purchased prior to May 15th will be shipped to the student, except for students with international addresses. Uniform leotards and shirts purchased on or after May 15th will be held at the Center for Dance for pick-up prior to the first day of the workshop.

For questions and concerns regarding E-Commerce orders, contact Leslie Goodrum at [lgoodrum@houstonballet.org](mailto:lgoodrum@houstonballet.org).

For additional supplies, including tights and shoes, items may be purchased via online stores or one of the dance store options in the Houston area listed below. We recommend calling any store before arriving to ensure they have the needed items in stock.

Dance Trends  
14520 Memorial Drive  
Houston, TX 77079  
(281) 558-1400

Jazz Rags Dancewear  
25701 Interstate 45 N #10a  
Spring, TX 77380  
(281) 364-1600