









HoustonBallet

2027 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 improving 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 dancers.
- A company that offers **high-quality dance educational programming** prioritizing historically underserved communities in Houston and the surrounding area.
- 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



Sonja Kostich
Executive Director



Jennifer Sommers
Academy Director



Katie Wesche
Academy Administrative
Director



Beth Everitt
Associate Director of
Programs and Performances



Yahudi Castañeda
Academy Artistic Operations
Associate Director



Kaitlyn Louis
Associate Director
of Student Life



Carla Cortez
Academy Communications
Manager



Jamie Cegelski
Academy Programs Manager



Reagan Quandt
Academy Artistic Operations
Coordinator



Angela Flores
Academy Administrative
Support Coordinator

ACADEMY ARTISTIC STAFF



Betsy McMillan
Lower School
Principal

ACADEMY INSTRUCTORS



Lucinda Rohrer



Holda Torres



Jasmine Yoo



Jen Kim

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

Please send all Academy questions to:
hbacademy@houstonballet.org

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

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS

Week-long workshop opportunities for students ages 4+. No audition required for any of our Children's Workshops.

Elementary Ballet Workshop

AGES 6-7
(MUST BE AT LEAST 6 YEARS OLD AS OF 9/1/2026)
These week-long workshops are a young dancer's introduction to classical ballet techniques and vocabulary. Students will learn and develop musical appreciation – this includes both quality and rhythm, as well as the coordination of their movements to the music. Classes are structured to provide a strong foundation as students move into the Pre-Professional Program the following year. In addition to physical strength, students also develop memory and patterning skills, as well as following specific directions.
Dates:
Week 1: June 7-11, 2027
Week 2: June 14-18, 2027
Week 3: July 26-30, 2027
Week 4: August 2-6, 2027
Times:
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Boys Workshop

AGES 7-15
(MUST BE AT LEAST 7 YEARS OLD AS OF 6/1/2027)
Join us for an empowering dance workshop designed exclusively for boys! This week-long program will equip students with the essential skills to build strength, technique, and confidence on their dance journey.
Dates: June 1-4, 2027
Times:
Group A: Under 3 Years' Experience: 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Group B: 3+ Years' Experience: 4:30 pm - 7:45 pm

Children's Workshop - *Swan Lake**

AGES 4-7
(MUST BE AT LEAST 4 YEARS OLD BY THE START OF THE WORKSHOP)
Step into the magical world of *Swan Lake*! In this week-long workshop, students will explore the beloved story while engaging in movement and crafting activities inspired by the ballet. *Enrollment includes a discount code for tickets to a 2027 performance of Houston Ballet's *Swan Lake*.
Dates: June 1-4, 2027
Times:
Ages 4-5: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Ages 6-7: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Children's Workshop - *The Nutcracker**

AGES 4-7
(MUST BE AT LEAST 4 YEARS OLD BY THE START OF THE WORKSHOP)
Step into the magical world of *The Nutcracker*! In this week-long workshop, students will explore the beloved story while engaging in movement and crafting activities inspired by the ballet. *Enrollment includes a discount code for tickets to a 2027 performance of Houston Ballet's The Nutcracker.
Dates: July 19-23, 2027
Times:
Ages 4-5: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Ages 6-7: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Dates: August 9-13, 2027
Times:
Ages 4-5: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm; 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm
Ages 6-7: 1:00 pm-3:00 pm; 4:30 pm-6:30 pm

SUMMER CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP CALENDAR

All dates and times are subject to change.

December 15, 2026	Registration Opens for Current Students	
January 15, 2027	Registration Opens for New Students	
June 1 - 4, 2027	**Boys Workshop** Under 3 Years Experience: 4:30pm - 7:00pm 3+ Years Experience: 4:30pm - 7:45pm ***Swan Lake* Workshop** Ages 4-5: 10:00am - 12:00pm Ages 6-7: 1:00pm - 3:00pm	
June 7 - 11, 2027	**Elementary Ballet Workshop** 4:30pm - 6:30pm	
June 14 - 18, 2027	**Elementary Ballet Workshop** 4:30pm - 6:30pm	
July 19 - 23, 2027	***The Nutcracker* Workshop** Ages 4-5: 1:00pm - 3:00pm Ages 6-7: 4:00pm - 6:00pm	
July 26 - 30, 2027	**Elementary Ballet Workshop** 4:30pm - 6:30pm	
August 2 - 6, 2027	**Elementary Ballet Workshop** 4:30pm - 6:30pm	
August 7 - 13, 2027	***The Nutcracker* Workshop**	
	Ages 4-5: 10:00am - 12:00pm 1:00pm - 3:00pm 4:30pm - 6:30pm	Ages 6-7: 1:00pm - 3:00pm 4:30pm - 6:30pm

REGISTRATION

Elementary Ballet Workshop Ages 6-7 - must be at least 6 years old as of 9/1/2026	
Birthdate Range: 9/2/2019-9/1/2020	
Boys Workshop Ages 7-15 - must be at least 7 years old as of 6/1/2027	
Group A Under 3 years experience	**Group B** 3+ years experience
Children's Workshop - *Swan Lake** Ages 4-7 - must be at least 4 years old as of 6/1/2027	
Ages 4-5 Birthdate Range: 9/2/2021-9/1/2022	**Ages 6-7** Birthdate Range: 9/2/2019-9/1/2020
Children's Workshop - The Nutcracker* Ages 4-7 - must be at least 4 years old as of 7/19/2027	
Ages 4-5 Birthdate Range: 7/20/2021-7/19/2023	**Ages 6-7** Birthdate Range: 7/20/2019-7/19/2021

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 Workshops - *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker,* include a discount code for a selected Houston Ballet company performance. The discount code will be sent during the week of corresponding Children's Workshop.

Withdrawal Policy

If a student wishes to withdraw from the Summer Intensive Program, a completed Withdrawal Form available in the PowerSchool Parent Portal must be received by the Academy Office. Verbal or email withdrawal notifications will not be accepted.

Refund Policy

All fees and ¼ of tuition are nonrefundable and nontransferable. The remaining tuition is refundable before May 1, 2027. Formal withdrawal must be received before May 1, 2027, to be eligible for any refund. All fees and tuition are nonrefundable and nontransferable after May 1, 2027.

TUITION & FEES

Program Registration Fee: $75.00

Elementary Ballet Workshop
$300.00

Boys Workshop
Group A (under 3 years experience): $225.00
Group B (3+ years experience): $300.00

Children's Workshop - *Swan Lake*
$225.00
Enrollment includes a discount code for tickets to a 2027 performance of Houston Ballet's *Swan Lake.*

Children's Workshop - *The Nutcracker*
$275.00
Enrollment includes a discount code for tickets to a 2027 performance of Houston Ballet's *The Nutcracker.*

Registration fee and tuition are due at the time of registration.

Houston Ballet accepts checks*, cashier's checks, cash, ACH[+], 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.

[+]ACH payments incur a processing fee of $1.50 per transaction. Credit card payments incur a processing fee of $2.75 per $99.99.

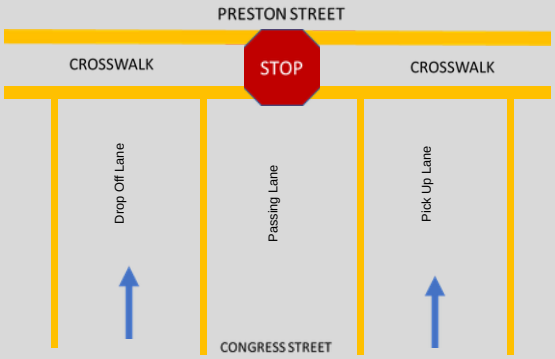
ACADEMY PROCEDURES

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 includes 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.

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
  - The middle lane should be clear for those to pass



Driveway Policies

- Students will not be allowed into the building until 15 minutes before the start of class.
- Please do not arrive to pick up your student until the end of the student's class. For example, if your student's class ends at 10:00 AM, please do not enter the driveway until 10:00 AM.
- Do not drop off or pick up students on the roads next to the Center for Dance.
- Families cannot park in the driveway.
- If you are in the driveway, do not drop off your student near the underground garage entrance or make the student walk up the ramp. They must be dropped off near the Preston Street entrance.
- 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 who 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 found in your PowerSchool Safe Arrival School Messenger application. Please note that we are unable to accommodate make-up classes during the summer.
- Tuition will not be prorated for missed classes.

Injury & Illness

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 each workshop session, families will be invited to attend a class observation for the last ten minutes of class. Please keep guests to a maximum of 2 per student.

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

CLASS ATTIRE

Elementary Ballet Workshop/Children's Workshop

Leotard: Wear Moi style Coralie - cap sleeve leotard
Tights: CONVERTIBLE TIGHTS Bloch T0982G| T0982L
Color: Pink or Skin Tone
Shoes: S0205g/S0205L Full Sole Leather Ballet Shoe
Color: Pink or Skin Tone
OR
Shirt: Wear Moi style Conrad - white
Shorts: Eurotard 33440C/33440 Unisex Long Legged Dance Short
Color: Black
Shoes: Bloch: S0205g/S0205L Full Sole Leather Ballet Shoe
Color: Black
Socks: White

Boys Workshop

Shirt: Wear Moi style Conrad
Color: White
Shorts: Eurotard 33440C/33440 Unisex Long Legged Dance Short
Color: Black
Shoes: Bloch S0205g/S0205L Full Sole Leather Ballet Shoe
Color: Black
Socks: White

Sample Skin Tone-Inclusive Shoes & Tights Matching Guide



ATTIRE PROCEDURES

- 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 their hair at the back. For more information on Houston Ballet Academy's hair requirements for most students, please see our bun tutorial **HERE**.
- 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 the Houston Ballet Center for Dance
- Students should not apply lotion in the studios or apply lotion to the skin on days when 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 on-site. Students should arrive at the start of the program with all required attire and shoes.

Uniform leotards and shirts can be purchased through our online site and in person at Dance Trends. Leotards and shirts purchased via our website before May 15th will be shipped to the student, except for students with international addresses. Leotards and shirts purchased on or after May 15th will be held at the Center for Dance for pick-up.

For questions and concerns about HB Academy uniform online orders, contact Leslie Goodrum at lgoodrum@houstonballet.org.

For additional supplies, including tights and shoes, items may be purchased via online stores or the dance store 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