

# ATLANTA BALLET

## CENTRE FOR DANCE EDUCATION

# Student Handbook



## CENTRE LOCATIONS

**Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre** 1695 Marietta Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

**Buckhead Centre** 4279 Roswell Rd, Suite 703, Atlanta, GA 30342

**Virginia-Highland Centre** 504 Amsterdam Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

Accredited by the **National Association of Schools of Dance**

# MISSION

Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education exists to open the world of dance and ballet to the broadest possible community through superior dance education, professional training, and community engagement — meeting students of all ages and levels where they are in their artistic and educational journeys.

# VISION

To transform the future of dance by creating a robust and diverse pipeline for future stages and by opening the hearts and minds of the community to the artform of ballet.



**GENNADI NEDVIGIN**  
Artistic Director,  
Atlanta Ballet



**SHARON STORY**  
Dean, Centre for  
Dance Education

## DIRECTION

The Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education (Centre) features a team of over 40 professional instructors. Gennadi Nedvigin retired from the stage as a principal dancer after 19 seasons with San Francisco Ballet and joined Atlanta Ballet as artistic director in 2016. With Dean Sharon Story, they lead the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education and its students to new heights by developing their technique and artistry. The Centre is dedicated to providing a nurturing experience in the art of dance that aids in the physical, intellectual, and artistic development of students at all levels. Our instructors are among the best in Atlanta, including current and former members of Atlanta Ballet and other professional dance organizations from around the world. Join us as we continue to provide excellent dance education programs.

## ABOUT THE CENTRE

Founded in 1996 by former artistic director John McFall and overseen by Sharon Story, the Centre provides an opportunity for everyone in the community, no matter their age or experience, to discover the joys of dance. The Centre instills confidence and self-awareness that will help anyone achieve their goals and dreams in a non-competitive atmosphere.

Since its founding, the Centre has become one of the top ten dance education facilities in the country and continues to set a high standard for excellence. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, the Centre has world-class faculty and a challenging and comprehensive curriculum designed to inspire future dancers. Students also receive the special benefit of being able to rehearse with and observe the professional company and be inspired to reach their highest potential. The Centre Dance program proudly serves over 1,000 students as part of our Community Engagement programs for 30 years.

## ADMINISTRATION

**Sharon Story**

*Dean*  
sstory@atlantaballet.com

**Diane Caroll**

*Community Partnerships Director*  
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**Kelly Tonina Cooper**

*Centre Administrative Director*  
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**Mia Givens**

*Virginia-Highland Centre Manager*  
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**Ansilla Bearden**

*Buckhead Centre Manager*  
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**Evan Rozier**

*Centre Associates Manager*  
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**Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre (MCC)**

1695 Marietta Boulevard NW, Atlanta, GA 30318  
**Phone** 404.873.5811 | **Fax** 404.874.7905

**Buckhead Centre (BH)**

**Mia Givens, Centre Manager**

Chastain Square | 4279 Roswell Road, Suite 703, Atlanta, GA 30342  
**Phone** 404.303.1501

**Virginia-Highland Centre (VH)**

**Ashley Suta, Centre Manager**

Amsterdam Walk | 504 Amsterdam Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30306  
**Phone** 404.883.2178

**Adult Dance Division** – Mia Givens, [adultdance@atlantaballet.com](mailto:adultdance@atlantaballet.com)

**Atlanta Ballet Boutique** – Louise Gordon, [boutique@atlantaballet.com](mailto:boutique@atlantaballet.com)

**Summer Programs** – Ansilla Bearden, [csummer@atlantaballet.com](mailto:csummer@atlantaballet.com)

**Kids In Step** – [education@atlantaballet.com](mailto:education@atlantaballet.com)

Visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com), [@atlantaballetcentre](https://www.instagram.com/atlantaballetcentre) and [Facebook.com/AtlantaBalletCentre](https://www.facebook.com/AtlantaBalletCentre) for the latest information.

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## PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS

All students will be carefully placed in the classes matching their technical abilities. The age of one student may differ from the other students. The Centre for Dance Education (Centre) will make a concerted effort to keep the age ranges as close together as possible. However, the main emphasis will be placed on a student's technical ability. A dancer must be challenged but not overwhelmed, so the student will be placed in the level that encourages the most progress to help them achieve their goals.

### EVALUATIONS/ADVANCEMENT

Students will be evaluated by the faculty at the end of each semester to ascertain progress and determine their placements for the coming semester. The first evaluations will be for spring recommendations and identify what needs attention. The final evaluations will be for the following year's placement. Progress is closely evaluated for each individual throughout the year. The changing of levels in the Centre is always decided with your child's best interest and advancement in mind. If a child is promoted too soon, they will miss some very valuable training. The dancers in the Centre will be placed with care and consideration at all levels of training.

### POINTE AGREEMENT

Your child will be notified by an approved pointe agreement letter when they are ready for pointe. Please be aware that students may not go on pointe or change levels until given written permission from the Centre.

### POLICY FOR LESSONS OUTSIDE OF CENTRE

The Centre for Dance Education is committed to providing students consistent training at the highest level. The Centre works in partnership with students and parents to maximize their weekly schedules to the needs of each individual dancer. This requirement ensures consistent training for your child's dance education without conflicting ideologies or possible injuries to your child. **To this end, it is strongly advised that students and their families not seek outside classes, private lessons, or coaching.**

### OBSERVATION OF CLASSES

Parents should wait in the lobby during class. To avoid any distractions to the students and instructors, no one will be allowed to watch classes. There are the observation weeks throughout the year so that you may see your child's progress. Please check the Centre calendar for the dates of observation weeks. Cameras, video recorders, and cell phones are NOT allowed in the studio during observation.

### CLASS ASSISTANT PROGRAM (CAP)

The Centre is proud to offer an opportunity for our students in the BIII level and up to participate in the class assistant program, in which they volunteer to assist instructors in any Creative Movement class amenable to their schedules. Responsibilities include gathering young students, demonstrating exercises, and setting a great example of focus and attitude. Interested students must complete a CAP interest form, which is available online at <https://forms.office.com/r/jKvqtH93C7>, in order to be considered.

## PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

### SPRING CONCERT

All registered Centre students participate in our annual Spring Concert. An additional fee is required. Please note that any missed rehearsals disrupt the entire class, as well as the choreography and planning by the instructor, so it is imperative that you attend all rehearsals. The Centre reserves the right to dismiss a student from performing due to excessive absences. In the event of a withdrawal or inability to participate, the concert fee is nonrefundable.



**In the event that a student wishes to opt out of performing, a signature is required via online Opt-Out Form.**

### THE NUTCRACKER & FAMILY BALLET

All Centre students have priority casting for *The Nutcracker*, presented by The Carlos Family in Honor of Thalia N. Carlos, and the Family Ballet. They must be 6 years of age by September 1 and enrolled in the AIII level or higher in order to participate. Casting for *The Nutcracker* is chosen by audition. The audition process does not guarantee a role in the performances. If selected, there is a required participation fee.

### TICKETS TO ATLANTA BALLET PRODUCTIONS

Atlanta Ballet offers special discounts for Company productions to Centre families. Please open your Centre emails each month for details about these ticket offers. Your ticket purchases not only support the Atlanta Ballet company, but also enrich your child's dance experience.

Contact **Patron Services** at [patronservices@atlantaballet.com](mailto:patronservices@atlantaballet.com) with any ticketing questions.

## PARENT RESOURCES

### PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

At the time a child is enrolled in the Centre, the parent/guardian automatically becomes a member of the Parents' Association. For information, contact the Centre administrative director at [admissions@atlantaballet.com](mailto:admissions@atlantaballet.com) or visit [centre.atlantaballet.com/about](http://centre.atlantaballet.com/about)

### PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

\$15 Adult Dance classes

This offer is available at all Centre locations for the school year!

**Note:** If your child decides to withdraw from the Centre, your partnership will be discontinued.

### PARENT RESOURCE PAGE

The Centre offers all administrative requests and other information via our online parent resource page. Please visit and bookmark this page to find all necessary forms for any requests needed throughout the school year.

<https://centre.atlantaballet.com/parent-resources>

## HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

For more information on associated doctors, contact Centre staff members.

**Dr. Letha Griffin** – Orthopedic Doctor, Peachtree Orthopedic Clinic

**Dr. Nadine Kaslow** – Ph.D, ABPP, Psychologist, Emory University

**Dr. Cassidy Foley** – DO, Pediatric Sports Medicine, Pediatric Orthopedic Assoc.

**Sara Baker** – PT, MS, OCS, Inspire Health ([inspireatlanta.com](http://inspireatlanta.com))

**Emily Cook Harrison** – MS, RDN, LD

**TriHealth Physical Therapy**

# ENROLLMENT DIVISION



## ENROLLMENT DIVISION CREATIVE MOVEMENT CLASSES

Creative Movement classes combine stories and music in a child-friendly setting for ages 2 to 7. At each level, the students further develop their body awareness, rhythm, flexibility, coordination, and confidence, which form an important foundation for their future ballet technique training. **All students must be of appropriate age for their respective level as of Sept. 1 of the respective school year. Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for up-to-date tuition information.**



<b>A LEVEL</b>	Age 3, student age as of Sept. 1
<b>AI LEVEL</b>	Age 4 student age as of Sept. 1
<b>AII LEVEL</b>	Age 5 student age as of Sept. 1
<b>AIII LEVEL</b>	Age 6, student age as of Sept. 1
<b>AIV LEVEL</b>	Age 7, student age as of Sept. 1

### DRESS CODE A-AII:

**Girls:** Light **pink** short-sleeve Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, **pink** pull-on skirt, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching ballet shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

### DRESS CODE AIII-AIV:

**Girls:** Light **blue** short-sleeve Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, light **blue** pull-on skirt, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching ballet shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

**Visit the Atlanta Ballet Boutique at MCC or Buckhead for all uniform requirements.**

## ENROLLMENT DIVISION SESSION CLASSES



Session classes are offered in short, consecutive sessions throughout the year.

*Classes will not be held on the Monday observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.*

### TINY DANCER & ME Age 2 (as of Sept 1)

This class, designed for a 2-year-old and accompanying adult, introduces the young student to locomotive movement and music.

### DRESS CODE:

**Girls:** Light **pink** Atlanta Ballet logo short sleeve leotard, pink pull-on skirt, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching ballet shoes, tap shoes

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes, tap shoes

**Adults:** Comfortable clothing

**Visit the Atlanta Ballet Boutique at MCC or Buckhead for all uniform requirements.**

## ENROLLMENT DIVISION

### B LEVELS

B level classes are designed around a structured classical ballet curriculum. Students use the ballet barre and center exercises to learn technique, vocabulary, flexibility, coordination, and confidence. Classes in this division are carefully placed by age, physical strength, and development. Students are promoted according to individual progress in acquiring technique and strength. To ensure each student receives the best level of instruction for his or her age and ability, the Centre requires placement classes for each new dancer aged 9 and up. Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for up-to-date tuition information.

#### B, BI, & BII LEVELS

B & BI classes meet for 1 hour, TWO times per week (mandatory).

BII classes meet for 1 hour, TWO times per week (mandatory). Three times highly recommended.

#### DRESS CODE:

**B/BI Girls: Royal blue short-sleeve** Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes, hair in bun

**BII Girls: Royal blue** tank Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

#### BIV LEVELS

BIV classes meet for 1.5 hours, TWO times per week (mandatory). Three times, plus Pre-pointe, highly recommended.

#### DRESS CODE:

**Girls: Purple short-sleeve** or **Lilac tank** Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes (demi-pointe shoes as directed by teacher), hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

Visit the Atlanta Ballet Boutique at MCC for all uniform requirements.

#### BIII LEVEL

BIII classes meet for 1.5 hours, TWO times per week (mandatory). Three times highly recommended.

#### DRESS CODE:

**Girls: Purple short-sleeve** Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

#### BV LEVEL

BV classes meet for 1.5 hours, TWO times per week (mandatory). Four times, plus Pointe I (approval required), highly recommended.

#### DRESS CODE:

**Girls: Burgundy** Atlanta Ballet logo tank leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

## ENROLLMENT DIVISION

### C LEVELS

To ensure each student receives the best level of instruction for their age and ability, the Centre requires placement classes for each new dancer. Students are promoted according to individual progress in acquiring technique and strength. C & CI level classes present the dancers with an advanced vocabulary.

**A minimum of two times per week is required.** Four times per week is highly recommended at this level. Under the instructor's guidance, these classes ensure the student's mastery of the syllabus. C & CI level classes meet for 1.5 hours per class, plus Pointe II or Advanced Pointe (approval required). Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for up-to-date tuition information.



#### DRESS CODE C-CI:

**Girls: Black tank or camisole** Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

Visit the Atlanta Ballet Boutique at MCC for all uniform requirements.

## ENROLLMENT DIVISION STUDENT DIVISION CLASSES

### PREPARATORY LEVEL

The Preparatory program is an introductory level for middle and high school students who are new to ballet or new to the Centre. This fast-paced class focuses on building basic vocabulary, while challenging the dancer to perfect more complex movements. To ensure each student receives the best level of instruction for their age and ability, the Centre requires placement classes for each new dancer. Students are promoted according to individual progress in acquiring technique and strength.

Preparatory classes meet for 1.5 hours, TWO times per week (mandatory). Three times highly recommended. Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for up-to-date tuition information.

### BOYS CLASSES

Ages 5+ (as of Sept 1).

Boys classes are available to male dancers ages 5 and up and are essential in the development of a young male dancer's technique. The instructors, both current and former male dancers from Atlanta Ballet's professional company, are mentors and examples of what today's young male dancer can aspire to become. The boys class meets once a week. Students enrolled in a boys class should also enroll in at least one age-appropriate ballet class.

Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for up-to-date tuition information.



#### DRESS CODE:

**Girls:** Navy tank Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights and matching shoes, hair in bun

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black shorts or tights, white socks, black ballet shoes

Visit the Atlanta Ballet Boutique at MCC for all uniform requirements.

## ENROLLMENT DIVISION STUDENT DIVISION CLASSES

### OPTIONAL DISCIPLINES

Optional Discipline classes provide an opportunity for students to access a variety of dance techniques outside of Ballet. Through challenging exercises, improvisations, and combinations, students will have the opportunity to study techniques in a variety of forms including Jazz, Modern, and Tap. Some optionals are offered as part of our ten-month program when added to a full ballet schedule. Students also have the option of taking an optional low-level commitment to try a new genre of dance. Please see our website for a current list of offerings.



Photo by Shoccarra Marcus

#### DRESS CODE:

**Girls:** Black short-sleeve Atlanta Ballet logo leotard, classic pink or skin tone tights, black jazz pants or bike shorts, class-appropriate shoes

**Boys:** White Atlanta Ballet t-shirt, black jazz pants or tights, class-appropriate shoes

Visit the Atlanta Ballet Boutique at MCC for all uniform requirements.

# ACADEMY

Advanced students may audition for the Academy, an intense program designed for students who wish to pursue careers in professional dance. With up to five hours of required daily classes (depending on the level), Academy students practice classical and contemporary ballet, pointe, and modern. Advanced students may rehearse with Atlanta Ballet's professional company, learn repertory, and possibly perform on stage at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center at City Springs and elsewhere. Academy classes are offered at the Academy I through Academy VI levels, and Atlanta Ballet 2.

The Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD).



## ACADEMY

### ACADEMY LEVELS I & II

Audition is required.

Level I and Level II are designed for our youngest dancers beginning committed preparatory training. The dancers will be recommended by Centre faculty and Centre Principals before being approved by the Dean. They will train exclusively with Academy faculty. Classes meet five days per week. Classes include classical ballet, pre-pointe, pointe, modern, and character. Academy students receive free tickets to all Atlanta Ballet productions.

Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for up-to-date tuition information.

**Academy Level I: Ages 9 - 11**

**Academy Level II: Ages 10 - 12**

### Credit Hour Requirements:

**Academy Level I & II:** 10.75 hours per semester

*(Transfer credits are not accepted. Please see website for more credit hour information.)*



Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for Academy Dress Codes.

## ACADEMY

### ACADEMY LEVELS III, IV & V

Audition is required.

Advanced students may audition for Academy Levels III, IV and V, intense programs designed for dancers who wish to pursue careers in professional dance. With up to five hours of required daily classes, Academy Levels III, IV and V students practice classical ballet, pointe, modern, and character, and study dance history. They rehearse with Atlanta Ballet's professional company, learning repertory and possibly performing on stage at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre. Academy students receive free tickets to all Atlanta Ballet productions.

#### Credit Hour Requirements:

**Academy Level III:** 19.25 hours per semester; optional add 4 hours

**Academy Level IV & V:** 19.75 hours per semester; optional add 4 hours

*(Transfer credits are not accepted. Please see website for more credit hour information.)*



Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for Academy Dress Codes.

## ACADEMY

### ACADEMY LEVEL VI

Audition is required.

Academy Level VI dancers are select individuals who are at a crucial point in their development. This progressive level of training allows a young artist the opportunity to mature before entering the demanding work of a professional company. The dancers will be chosen from our Centre for Dance Education, Advanced and Professional Summer Intensives, and interested national and international candidates.

Academy Level VI dancers will be involved in daily classes taught by Atlanta Ballet artistic staff, principal faculty members, and guest master teachers. They will have a total of 30 hours of instruction during the week, Monday to Saturday. These classes are designed to enhance a student's level of technique and artistry. The classes include technique, pointe, men's, variations, pas de deux, modern, character, dance history, and repertoire. The dancers will follow the Company's daily schedule from 9:30am to 6:10pm with a common lunch break. This will allow for rehearsal with the Company from 3:10 to 6:10pm, as needed, along with learning their own repertoire. This schedule is designed to allow the dancers to work with the professional company and also have an outside means of employment.

There will be several opportunities to perform with the Atlanta Ballet company in many of its larger productions. They will be a large part of our educational commitment to the community with involvement in Community Engagement activities. These young adults are on the verge of becoming professional dancers. The Academy Level VI program will present its own works at Spring Concert and performances throughout the year.

**Credit Hour Requirements:** 29.75 hours per semester; optional add 1.75 hours

*(Transfer credits are not accepted. Please see website for more credit hour information.)*

Please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for Academy Dress Codes.

## ATLANTA BALLET 2

Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education is proud to present Atlanta Ballet 2 as its highest level of training, which provides new performance opportunities for the next generation of professional dancers. The program represents Atlanta Ballet's continued commitment to training dancers for professional careers. Atlanta Ballet 2 is the pathway to becoming an Atlanta Ballet Company member.



Atlanta Ballet 2 dancers are selected from all over the world and represent the artistic vision of Artistic Director Gennadi Nedvigin. These young individuals are dancers who have arrived at a defining point in their transitions to becoming professional dancers. They receive individual classes and coaching from esteemed faculty mentors. The intense

level of training, opportunities to rehearse with the Company, and the experiences of their own performances help mold the young artists' awareness of the high expectations demanded of professional company members.

The position involves taking Atlanta Ballet 2 classes in addition to select Company classes and rehearsing with the Company on a daily basis. There are several opportunities to perform with the Atlanta Ballet company in larger productions such as *The Nutcracker*, full-length ballets, and the family ballet, which features Atlanta Ballet 2 dancers in leading roles. Atlanta Ballet 2 also has its own performances of selected repertoire around the metro Atlanta area.

Candidates for Atlanta Ballet 2 are selected from the Academy Levels, Summer Professional Intensive, and by audition. The Atlanta Ballet 2 dancers receive a weekly stipend and shoes during the Company's season. They also receive free tuition to all classes and activities at the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education.

- 14 Centre Graduates are current company members for the 25|26 season.
- Two Atlanta Ballet 2 Dancers have been promoted to the Atlanta Ballet Company.
- One Academy student was promoted to Atlanta Ballet 2 for this season.
- Other Graduates are dancing with elite ballet companies across the globe and attending universities.

**Credit Hour Requirements:** 40 hours per semester.

*(Transfer credits are not accepted. Please see website for more credit hour information.)*

*\*Audition is required for an Atlanta Ballet 2 dancer position. Audition dates and cities to be announced.*

*Please continue to visit [centre.atlantaballet.com/pre-professional/AB2](http://centre.atlantaballet.com/pre-professional/AB2) for updates.*

# SUMMER PROGRAMS



## SUMMER PROGRAMS

We would like to recommend the many summer programs the Centre has to offer. If your child is interested, please visit [centre.atlantaballet.com/summer-programs](http://centre.atlantaballet.com/summer-programs).

To ensure the highest quality of continuity in your child's dance education, the Centre does not recommend summer programs at other schools unless a dancer is in Academy Level IV and up. The students are carefully placed into summer programs that develop a relationship for future professional careers. If you are pursuing summer programs outside of the Centre, they should be discussed with your Centre Manager and approved by the Dean. This policy comes with your child's best interest in mind, as conflicting styles can take months to repair and could lead to injuries. Students must be of age at the start of the summer program.

## SUMMER INTENSIVE PROGRAMS

Audition is required. See [centre.atlantaballet.com/summer-programs](http://centre.atlantaballet.com/summer-programs) for audition dates and locations. Summer dates to be announced. All Summer Intensives take place at the Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre.

**Advanced**  
Ages 12+  
(Recommended for BIV & up)

**Professional**  
by invitation only  
(Recommended for Advanced dancers seeking a professional experience)



Company member Emily Carrico teaches a Summer Intensive class.

## SUMMER DANCE PROGRAMS\*

Summer Dance Programs offer a variety of dance classes for dancers at a beginner and intermediate level. Students enjoy ballet technique classes Monday through Friday with opportunities to explore other dance styles and genres. Past sessions have offered pre-pointe/poite, variations, jazz, tap, modern, hip hop, musical theatre, choreography, international dance styles, and nutrition. No audition required. Summer Dance Programs are available at the Buckhead and Virginia-Highland locations.

### Creative Movement Summer Classes

For ages 2–6  
One 45-minute class per week

For dancers age 2-6 years old, Creative Movement classes introduce your child to dance while developing body awareness, rhythm, flexibility, coordination, and confidence. The class will meet for 7 consecutive weeks.

### Dance for Joy

For ages 5–7  
Classes held Monday – Friday,  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Each week-long program is built around a story ballet theme. Students will also explore different dance genres such as tap and jazz, as well as express creativity through arts & crafts. Each theme week will conclude with an in-class performance on Friday.

### Young Dancers Summer Experience

For ages 8–10  
Classes held Monday – Friday,  
10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Classes offered vary each year and session. End-of-program showings are available to students who are registered for the second AND third session at either location.

### Junior Summer Intensives

For ages 10+  
Classes held Monday – Friday,  
10 am – 4:00 pm

Classes offered vary each year and session. End-of-program showings are available to students who are registered for the second AND third session at either location.

\* Summer Dance programming is subject to change based on enrollment.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



It has been a long-standing mission of the Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education to educate, inspire, and reach out to youth who may not otherwise be exposed to dance. Through strong partnerships with Parklane Elementary School, Michael R. Hollis Innovation Academy, Utopian Academy for the Arts, City of Refuge, and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta, the Centre for Dance Education was able to do just that by establishing the Centre Dance in-school program. Centre Dance integrates dance classes into the standard academic curriculum using before, during, and after-school programs. This approach provides an alternative learning environment to encourage students' self-expression and social awareness, while enriching each school day.

Students are able to experience many types of dance, including ballet, jazz, modern, and hip-hop. Teachers of students who participate in the Centre Dance program have noticed positive changes in attendance, behavior, and academic performance, as well as a growth in confidence. Scholarships are awarded to a select group of program participants from elementary through high school to support a path for a continued education in the arts. All partnering schools have access to several dance performances during the Atlanta Ballet season.

Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education and the Centre Dance program have been awarded Fulton County Schools' Prestigious Partner Award by Parklane Elementary, along with five Blue Ribbon Awards. This is the highest award for partnership given by the school system and recognizes organizations that have made unique and lasting impacts on the school, are active parts of the school community, and show deep interest in the success of the school.

**For additional information regarding Centre Dance, contact Diane Carol, Community Partnerships Director, at [dcaroll@atlantaballet.com](mailto:dcaroll@atlantaballet.com).**

## EDUCATE. MOTIVATE. ELEVATE.



### OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES

The Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education offers level BIII – CI students the opportunity to connect with a select group of mentors, peers, and faculty through the *Educate. Motivate. Elevate.* (E.M.E.) mentoring program. Group mentoring is a motivational and inspirational tool to set every student up for success. This platform encourages students to participate fully in their dance training experience, voice their opinions and concerns, and engage with others at the Centre beyond their studio.

To better serve and equip the Centre's upper level students, *Educate. Motivate. Elevate.* seeks to:

- Inspire young students to establish personal goals in their dance experience and create a supportive environment amongst their peers, faculty, and staff.
- Build trust, embrace diversity, and build confidence.

E.M.E. will begin at the top of each school year in August and conclude with the end of the school year in May or June. Each class will be mentored by their designated

**EDUCATE. MOTIVATE. ELEVATE.**



instructor. Additionally, company dancers and other affiliated professionals will serve as adjunct mentors who will participate periodically throughout the 10-month mentoring program.

Each class level will meet approximately every other month, alternating between sit-down discussions, hands-on activities, and special events. A sample of past meeting topics include:

- AB Company Dancer Q&A
- Diversity & Inclusion Workshops
- Dance History Sessions
- Learning Variations
- Theatre Field Trips
- Mental Health for Dancers
- Guest Speakers
- Options Beyond the Stage

**For additional information regarding E.M.E., please contact program coordinators Ashley Suta and Calla Vaughn at [eme@atlantaballet.com](mailto:eme@atlantaballet.com).**

# CENTRE PROCEDURES



## CENTRE PROCEDURES

### PARENT RESOURCE PAGE

The Centre offers all administrative requests and other information via our online parent resource page. Please visit this page to find all necessary forms for any requests needed throughout the school year. <https://centre.atlantaballet.com/parent-resources>

### ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

All students must sign in and sign out daily. When your child enters the building, they should immediately check in with the front desk. This is not only for attendance records but also for emergency and security reasons. For safety and security, all students must be picked up in the lobby by a parent or guardian on the submitted approved pick-up form. **No child will be allowed to wait outside or leave the lobby without a parent or guardian.**

### LATENESS

Dancers will have a 10-minute grace period for lateness. If they arrive more than 10 minutes late, they can only watch class. If they arrive more than 10 minutes late and have another class following, they will be allowed to warm up themselves and join the class at the teacher's discretion.

### LATE PICK-UP POLICY

Due to security and staffing concerns, there will be a fee if you are late picking up your child after class or rehearsal. Beginning 15 minutes after class or rehearsal, there will be a **\$15** charge for each additional fifteen minute period until your child is picked up. This charge will be recorded by the front desk associate and added to your account. Always call ahead if you anticipate being late.

### LOST AND FOUND

The Centre studios will hold lost items for one week. Any unclaimed clothing will go to charity and the Community Programs Division. It is advised that all clothing have the student's name printed on them so that we may return the items promptly.

### ABSENCES

Please call the front desk at your location to report absences. Front desk staff will notify the faculty.

### INJURIES

Injuries are handled on an individual basis. A doctor's note must be provided to excuse a student from class and to let the Centre know when the student is fit to return.

### FOOD AND BEVERAGES

No food is allowed in the studios, bathrooms, dressing rooms, or studio hallways. Only water is allowed in the studios.

### SCHEDULE CHANGES

Schedule changes must be made with the ONLINE schedule change form until October 1. A change made at the start of the spring session can ONLY occur if an instructor has advised your child to make such a change to his or her schedule. Any change you feel necessary to make mid-session MUST be approved by the dean. If approved, you will incur a **\$25** fee. You may add a class to your child's schedule at any time without incurring the \$25 fee. You will be notified via email once the charge has been processed and informed of any fees due.

## CENTRE PROCEDURES

### WITHDRAWAL

All withdrawals must be done through the Centre. Withdrawal forms can be obtained from your Centre Principal or the Centre Administrative Director, and they must be turned in to the location Principal or Centre Administrative Director. Full tuition for the month the student stops attending classes is still due. You will be responsible for your tuition commitments until the withdrawal form is presented to the Centre Manager or Centre Administrative Director. There is no refund for Academy student withdrawals.

### MAKEUP CLASSES

Level-designated makeup classes will be held throughout the year at all locations. Any registered student may take a makeup class at any location. In order for your child to attend a makeup class, you MUST register no later than one week prior to the scheduled "makeup" class to reserve their spot. Classes are limited to 12 students at the A level and 20 students for levels B through C1. We will not pro-rate tuition for missed classes. Students may not attend other classes as make up without permission from the Principal or Centre Administrative Director.

### CANCELATION OF CLASSES – INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

If a class is canceled, all local TV stations are notified and emails will be sent to all affected students. Updates will also be available in the Centre eNews and on the Centre Facebook page and blog. **The Centre will follow Fulton County school system's closings in the case of severe weather conditions.** Students are allowed to make up any classes missed as a result of cancelation. See the makeup class procedure above.

### COMMUNICATION

Information regarding the Centre is sent via email and eNews blasts and is available via the online calendar. All families are included on the eNews distribution list with the email address used for registration. It is recommended to not unsubscribe from any Atlanta Ballet emails to ensure that you continue to receive all important Centre information. For emergencies, the Centre utilizes a text alert system.

### FACULTY COMMUNICATION

The faculty do not have time between classes to address concerns properly. If you wish to speak with your child's instructor, a meeting request form is available on the Parent Resource page. Write your concerns, name, and phone number in the form, and the appropriate staff member will contact you. Faculty and staff members' phone numbers, addresses, and emails will not be given out to students or parents. Faculty and staff will not participate in social media with students or parents.

### STUDENT LIBRARY

A student library has been established at the Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre; computers, books, magazines, will be available to the students. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. This is a place to do homework. It is not a lounge for the students and must be respected as such. If this is not respected, the library will be off-limits to those students who are not obeying the guidelines set by the Dean and Atlanta Ballet Administration.

### DISCRIMINATION

It is the intent of Atlanta Ballet and the Centre for Dance Education that all students and employees will enjoy an environment that is free from discrimination and/or harassment of any student and/or employee by another student, employee, supervisor, or non-employee. Atlanta Ballet has established specific policies regarding these issues. A copy of these policies is available upon request from the front desk. Any infringement of these policies should be reported to the Dean immediately.

## DANCER RESPONSIBILITY

As a representative of the Centre for Dance Education, each student must be encouraged to achieve the highest standards of etiquette and professionalism.

### DAY TO DAY RESPONSIBILITIES

All dancers must check in with the front desk for attendance to ensure the utmost security.

**No student will be allowed to leave the building unaccompanied.**

All dancers and parents/guardians are responsible for checking school call boards in the lobby daily for any upcoming events and changes that may occur.

### CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

- There will be no talking or hanging on barres in class at any time.
- Dancers must wait in the hall by dressing rooms for class at Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre.
- No food, gum, or cell phones permitted in the studios or hallways. No beverages, other than water, allowed. Studios must be picked up upon departure.
- The pianos and mirrors will not be touched or played with at any time.
- The teacher and peers will be treated with the utmost respect at all times. The faculty and accompanists will be properly thanked after each class.
- There is zero tolerance for inappropriate behavior, disrespect, or bullying in or outside the classroom. If this general etiquette is not followed, the teacher has the right to dismiss the dancer from class. If the dancer is dismissed from class, they must see the dean.
- The use of alcohol, cigarettes, illegal substances, and weapons is strictly forbidden at all Centre locations and at any Centre activities or anywhere on Centre property. Students in violation will be dismissed immediately.

### DRESS CODE AND APPEARANCE

- Dressing rooms are provided at each location. Lockers at the Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre location are available for Atlanta Ballet 2 dancers and Academy students.
- All students in levels A through Academy Level VI must have their hair up in a bun.
- For the students' safety, there will be no jewelry worn in class, including watches, necklaces, and dangling earrings.
- No visible undergarments under uniform. Underwear should not be worn under tights.
- Students MUST wear the required ballet attire with appropriate hair in a proper bun in order to participate in class. This attire includes the uniform leotard, tights, and **leather** ballet shoes. If your child does not wear them, they will be asked to sit and watch class as well as write out various syllabus rules and corrections that take place in class. A box of "lost and found" shoes is provided at the front desk. These shoes are available to borrow and must be returned at the end of class.
- **Students must enter and exit the building with street shoes and a cover-up over leotards & tights.**

## CENTRE COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

- Be an ambassador and welcoming at all times.
- Show utmost respect for each other and faculty/staff at all times.
- Act as role models amongst yourselves and to the younger students.
- Support one another at all times.
- Strive for excellence.
- Work hard and do not compare yourself to others.
- Take ownership and responsibility for your own individual progress.
- Be present, be positive, and be collaborative.
- Be proud of your work and have confidence in yourself.
- Take all corrections in a positive manner as if they were your own.
- Demonstrate empathy and concern for one another.
- Welcome an atmosphere of inclusiveness.
- Do not practice in any forms of bullying.
- Use appropriate language in all areas of the building.
- Be aware social media can be a negative tool. Use all forms of social media in a positive fashion.
- Respect quiet zones of the buildings.
- Keep all areas clean and safe.
- Believe in yourself, be kind, and have fun.

**We encourage you to enjoy your work, be open to corrections, and find the creative potential in you.**

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION INITIATIVES

We stand in solidarity with and support our communities of color. [Read more on our website](#) about our action plan dedicated to creating an inclusive culture both within our own walls and throughout the community.

<https://www.atlantaballet.com/about/diversity-and-inclusion-initiatives>

## ATLANTA BALLET BOUTIQUE



The Atlanta Ballet Boutique has been serving the local dance community for more than 20 years. The Boutique is a full-line dancewear store for students and professional dancers with two locations: the Michael C Carlos Dance Centre and the Buckhead Centre. It is the exclusive provider of all required Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education uniforms and provides expertise in fitting for all ages of dancer. In addition to uniforms, the Boutique carries a wide range of dancewear and accessories as well as leisurewear and a curated line of unique gifts.

The Boutique supports the Atlanta Ballet's mission to provide greater opportunities for diversity and inclusion within the wider community by offering a full range of skin tone tights and shoes at competitive pricing.

For weekly Boutique store hours, please contact the Centre front desk at 404-873-5811 x1100.

In addition to our stores, we have an online Boutique available 24/7. Please go to the Centre website and follow the link to the eBoutique or click the link here:

[atlantaballetboutique.myncrsilver.com](http://atlantaballetboutique.myncrsilver.com)

For questions or further assistance, please email us at [Boutique@atlantaballet.com](mailto:Boutique@atlantaballet.com)

All proceeds from the Boutique support Atlanta Ballet and the Centre for Dance Education.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR A PROPER BUN

1. With one hand, gather hair into a "bunch" at back of head. With other hand, lightly spray hair with water or hair products as appropriate.
2. Brush hair into a ponytail and secure with covered elastic. Ponytail should be no lower than middle from back of head. If hair is worn in a protective style, all hair should be secured tightly to head and secured with covered elastic. Center ponytail between ears so that it is not leaning to one side or the other.
  - **Medium to long length:** Twist ponytail and begin to spiral hair around elastic. Coil hair into bun a bit at a time, insert hairpins at every inch. Insert pins, coil a bit more, insert more pins, etc. until ponytail is wound around to make a "snail coil" (as flat against head as possible).
  - **Short to medium length:** Secure hair off of face and neck with bobby pins and/or a tight-fitting headband.
  - **Protective styles:** secure hair in a bun or off of face and neck according to length
3. IMPORTANT! Wrap hairnet around bun.
4. Add a few extra hairpins to ensure that bun is closely attached to head and hair is secured away from face and neck.
5. Beads, bows, and other hair decor should be kept to a minimum to prevent accidental injury. This includes another dancer slipping on a fallen bead, or a student chewing their hair and choking on a bead.
6. Please make sure hair is done when children arrive at the studio or in the theatre.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Proper hair is part of ballet etiquette. It is important for ALL students of ALL ages to have proper, neat, and appropriate hair for auditions, class, and performances. Performance hair requirements will be shared with dancers one month prior to show so that they can be prepared with the proper performance hairstyle.



### BUN CLINIC

The Centre is proud to offer its annual bun clinic, "The Big Bun Theory!" Held in the weeks prior to Spring Concert, the bun clinic provides hands-on instruction for mastering the proper ballet bun for class and performances. This clinic is complimentary and open to the public. Look out for the announcement in your eNews.

## TUITION POLICIES

Online registration is available for returning students. Please note that all online registrations will incur a **\$5 processing fee**. There is only one annual registration fee per household if registrations for all students within a household are completed at the same time. **Spring Concert fee is due in October.**

The Centre offers three tuition payment options:

1. **One Installment** due at registration, with 5% tuition discount
2. **Two Installments**
  - First half due at registration, covers classes for the fall term
  - Second half due January 1, covers classes for the spring term
3. **Ten Installments**  
First and last installments are due at registration with the remainder due the first of every month, September through April. Please note that each of the ten payments covers 4 weeks of classes, not the "calendar month."

### INVOICES WILL NOT BE MAILED!

Tuition is refundable before August 11, 2025 OR before your child's first class if it is different than August 5, 2024. **No refunds are given after a student's first class.**

If you have selected the two or ten installment options, please keep in mind that each installment is due on the **first** of the month. We offer a grace period. On the 16th day of the month, the payment will be considered late. At that time, a **\$35 late fee** will automatically be charged to your account.

Please be aware that if your account becomes delinquent by two installments, we will respectfully remove your child from class and/or Spring Concert until the account is made current.

In order to change your child's schedule or withdraw from classes, a **schedule change and/or withdrawal form** must be completed and submitted to the Centre Administrative Director or the Manager at your location. Your account will continue to accrue tuition until a withdrawal form is received.

In the event of an injury or international travel, a temporary withdrawal is available at no penalty. In order to maintain your student's spot in class, tuition will still be due. Maximum length of temporary withdrawal is two months.

## PAYMENT POLICIES

Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education accepts payment by check, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express.

All registered families who select a payment plan will be set up on auto bill for all tuition balances and spring concert fees. If you need to update your credit card at any time, please visit the Parent Resource Page.

<https://centre.atlantaballet.com/parent-resources>

### REFUND POLICY

After a student's first class, any tuition or performance fees paid are **non-refundable**. If a student withdraws prior to the first day of class, all tuition is eligible for a refund except the registration fee. The Centre does not prorate tuition within an installment period. Academy tuition is nonrefundable.

### AUTOMATIC BILLING

All registered families are required to remain on auto bill throughout the school year. The card on file will be used to process tuition and/or outstanding fees. In the event that the credit card is declined, the Centre reserves the right to remove your child from classes until payment is made, and to remove your account from automatic billing. If payment is not received by the close of business on the 15th day of the month, a **\$35 late fee** will be charged to your account.

**Spring Concert Fee automatic billing** will be scheduled for October unless prepaid at registration.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are offered based on demonstrated financial need and are available to students who have attended the Centre for one or more years. Scholarship students will be asked to share some responsibilities within the Centre. They will also be expected to act as teachers' assistants and examples to the younger students. Scholarships will be **revoked** if students or parents do not meet the high expectations or standards set by the Centre. Visit [centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com) for more information.

## REQUIRED STUDENT RELEASES

### Must be signed for student registration

#### CREATIVE MOVEMENT PARENTS

I understand that due to the young age of my student, he/she will need to be accompanied to the restroom when emergencies arise during the class. I give permission for Atlanta Ballet's instructors, instructor assistants, or Centre Principals to escort my student to the restroom when necessary. To assist the staff with this situation, I will allow my student ample time to use the restroom prior to entering class.

#### RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I am aware that ballet training and the stretching exercises associated with it place athletic demands on the body and carry with them the risk of injury. On behalf of my child and myself (and I am no longer a minor, on my behalf), I assume the risk and agree that Atlanta Ballet Centre for Dance Education shall not be liable in any way for injuries sustained during attendance at the Centre or any of its related functions. It is also understood that dance instruction involves kinetic corrections and may include physical contact from the instructor or fellow students as part of regular class work and rehearsals.

#### PHOTO / VIDEO RELEASE

I hereby give Atlanta Ballet's videographer and/or photographers the right and permission to copyright, use, reuse, publish, and republish photographic pictures of my child, or reproductions thereof, in color or black and white for any purposes whatsoever, including the use of any printed matter in conjunction therewith. I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve the finished photograph and/or advertising copy or printed matter that may be used in conjunction therewith or to the eventual use that it might be applied. I hereby release Atlanta Ballet from any liability as a result of any distortion, blurring, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, whether intentionally or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking, processing, or reproduction of the finished product, its publication, or distribution of the same. I have read the foregoing release, authorization, and agreement and warrant that I fully understand the contents thereof.

#### SPRING CONCERT

Spring Concert is a mandatory performance for all registered students and, once paid, it is non-refundable. In the event that you need to opt your child out of performing, a signature is required and due by the deadline. If the opt-out form is not received by this date, you are still liable for the performance fee, even if your student does not participate.

#### EMAIL POLICY

By registering with the Centre, I will receive email communication from all departments of Atlanta Ballet. If I unsubscribe, I understand that I am unsubscribing from ALL Atlanta Ballet email communication (including Centre emails) and may miss out on important information related to my child's dance education.

We recommend adding [enews@atlantaballet.com](mailto:enews@atlantaballet.com) to your safe senders list.

## STUDENT CALENDAR

Check online calendar at [centre.atlantaballet.com/calendar](https://centre.atlantaballet.com/calendar) for updates.

**The Atlanta Ballet Centre for  
Dance Education is committed  
to inspiring excellence.**

## **OUR VALUES**

Uncompromising **INTEGRITY** in pursuit of our mission.

Placing the **PATRON** at the center of our **UNIVERSE**.

**UNDERSTANDING** and **EMBRACING** the critical  
intersection between artists and patron.

**DIVERSITY** and **INCLUSION**.

Mutual **RESPECT** and **TRUST**.

**COLLABORATION** and **COOPERATION**.

**CONSTRUCTIVE DISAGREEMENT**.

Having **FUN**.

**[centre.atlantaballet.com](http://centre.atlantaballet.com)**

**Michael C. Carlos Dance Centre** 1695 Marietta Blvd NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

**Buckhead Centre** 4279 Roswell Rd, Suite 703, Atlanta, GA 30342

**Virginia-Highland Centre** 504 Amsterdam Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30306