

## Company Attendance Policies 2022-2023

### Required classes (Senior, Junior, Apprentice):

- Saturday 10:00-12:00 Company class
- 3 additional ballet technique classes from below:
  - Monday 6:30-8:00 with Mr. Joyce (Levels 9+) OR 6:30-8:00 with Miss Bridgette (Level 8), as applicable
  - Tuesday 5:30-6:30 (Grades 6-7) OR 6:30-8:00 (Grades 8-10), as applicable, with Miss Kimberly
  - Wednesday 5:30-6:30 (Grades 7) OR 6:30-7:30 (Grades 8-10), as applicable, with Miss Melody
  - Any other ballet technique or exam class immediately below your own level with approval
    - For example: if you are in Grade 7 and have a conflict, you may ask to take Grade 6; anyone may ask to take Monday 5:30 Level 7 or Thursday 5:30 Level 7 (if they do not conflict with your class)
    - Using any lower level ballet class in place of ONE of the above classes must be pre-approved
  - One APA or OCSA ballet technique class may be used to fulfill one required class (may not be used for Saturday Company class)
- Pointe class
  - One OCSA pointe technique class may be used to fulfill the pointe requirement; attendance in HAD pointe is preferred
- One class of either Jazz or Lyrical (at HAD) or Modern (at school)
  - APA or OCSA modern or jazz technique class may be used to fulfill this requirement

### Required classes (Affiliate):

- Saturday 10:00-12:00 Company class
- 1 additional ballet technique class at HAD from below:
  - Monday 6:30-8:00 with Miss Bridgette
  - Tuesday 5:30-6:30 with Miss Kimberly
  - Wednesday 5:30-6:30 with Miss Melody
  - Any other ballet technique or exam class immediately below your own level with approval
    - For example: if you are in Exam 7, you may ask to take Grade 6; anyone may ask to take Monday 5:30 Level 7 or Thursday 5:30 Level 7
    - Using any lower level ballet class in place of the above classes must be pre-approved
- 1 additional class at HAD in any style

**\*NOTE: substitution of HAD classes with outside classes is subject to on-going review of their satisfaction of technical requirements.** If you are using any outside class to fulfill a class requirement, you must notify Miss Sasha you are doing so.

*Variations:* While Variations is not a required class, it is highly encouraged. Dance is not just technique, but also performance. Practicing variations with a focus on style, artistry and performance quality is invaluable and will help shape performance in BE productions. \*Limited Variations class time *may* be utilized for additional practice time for select BE production variations.

### Late Arrivals:

Dancers must be in class for at least 2/3 of the class time in order to receive attendance credit. Dancers arriving more than 20 minutes late will be marked as absent. If you have class conflicts, please inquire with your APA instructors for accommodations for early dismissal so you may attend your technique classes.

### Class Attendance Expectations:

It is expected that Company dancers have outstanding attendance. Dancers will be able to access their attendance record on the Jackrabbit parent portal and are encouraged to consistently track their own attendance rate. Dancers should have no more than 1-2 absences from their overall, total class curriculum (not per class) per month. If circumstances arise requiring more than a total of 2 absences in a month, dancers are encouraged to attend makeup classes.

Attendance, paired with hard work, is the cornerstone of a solid training program and is critical to developing strong technique and fostering a team atmosphere. Beyond meeting Company membership expectations, consistent attendance

and focused work when present are factors in your advancement that you can directly control. Each has the inherent value of leading to greater technical growth, thereby setting you up better to meet your casting and overall dancing goals.

Poor attendance may result in failure to advance to subsequent Company membership levels, inability to meet the technical benchmarks for roles that would otherwise be appropriate for your current Company membership level or, in extreme cases, being pulled from a role if your absences have affected your ability to safely dance such role to the required standards.

### **Makeups:**

Generally, classes may be made up in another class of the same or lower level in the same or different style. That said, it is best to try to make up a ballet class with another ballet class and a jazz or lyrical class with another jazz or lyrical class. Pointe may be made up in a lower-level pointe class, a lower-level ballet class taken en pointe, or Variations.

### **Rehearsal attendance requirements:**

Please be advised that you will be permitted 2 absences per role (including any understudy roles) per production (Nutcracker or any Spring production). Any additional unforeseen excused absences (funeral or sickness) will be at the discretion of the Artistic Director. Verifiable mandatory school functions (meaning that the Artistic Director has been in direct communication with school program directors about a select list of identified "mandatory" events) affecting a significant majority of Company members must be discussed with the Artistic Director prior to the start of the show and the Artistic Director will determine whether it is possible to adjust the rehearsal schedule around such functions. Otherwise, these absences will count against your allowable absences.

The first 2 weeks of rehearsals (for a specific role—note this may not be the first 2 calendar weeks), the final weekend of studio dress rehearsals (even if such weekend is Thanksgiving weekend), any Friday studio rehearsals prior to the second week of Nutcracker performances, and all theater tech/dress rehearsals are mandatory. Any Company member missing these rehearsals for any reason and any Company member whose absences (regardless of the number of absences) affect their ability to execute their role may not be permitted to perform in the Artistic Director's sole discretion. Dancers must be able to commit to all performance dates and times in order to participate. Dancers who are ill during any of these mandatory rehearsals or performances shall notify the Administrative Assistant immediately.

Ballet Etudes makes every effort to accommodate dancers' participation in other activities while still working to maintain our standards and the integrity of our program and policies. Please be upfront about any possible conflicts prior to auditions so we can either work to avoid these conflicts or cast you appropriately. Sometimes, however, conflicts may be too numerous, and our advice may be that you will need to choose between commitments, even if that means declining participation in a particular production (note that Senior, Junior and Apprentice members may not opt out of Nutcracker).

**NOTE: disclosing a conflict does not mean that we will be able to definitively work around that conflict. Also, if you see a conflict on the rehearsal schedule that you thought was disclosed, please re-notify the Directors for further clarification/instruction.**

### **FAQs:**

*What if I am having difficulty finding classes to attend for makeups?* Please set up a meeting with Miss Sasha to discuss what options may be available. You may always take classes below your level.

*What if I'm sick or injured and come to class to watch?* This will not be counted as an absence. Make sure your teacher marks that you were present and watching class.

*What if I have a conflict with attending a certain class?* Please set up a meeting with Miss Sasha to discuss what options may be available. As a member of Company, we do expect a certain commitment to your technique and so we appreciate the effort to avoid these conflicts.

*Can I really be pulled from a show for lack of attendance or missing a call time?* Yes. Our priority is to put on productions of the highest caliber and that requires commitment and attendance of our full cast in order to have effective rehearsals. The Artistic Director may determine it is in the best interests of the production to replace a dancer who has failed to meet attendance requirements. Call times are important; we need every cast member present for notes, required restaging or rehearsing, and to safely warm up. Once the preshow process begins, we must devise a plan of action and cannot then deviate from that plan for the sake of efficiency and clarity to other dancers.