



# 2025 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.

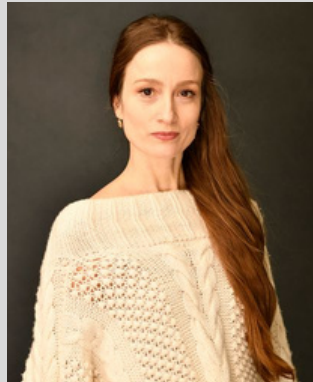


# MEET THE ACADEMY



**Stanton Welch**

Artistic Director,  
Member of the Order  
of Australia



**Julie Kent**

Artistic Director



**James Nelson**

Executive Director



**Jennifer Sommers**

Academy Director



**Yahudi Castañeda**

Academy Artistic  
Operations Associate  
Director



**Katie Wesche**

Academy  
Administrative  
Associate Director



**Kaitlyn Otto**

Associate Director  
of Student Life



**Carla Cortez**

Academy  
Communications  
Manager



**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**  
Associate  
Director of  
Programs and  
Performances



**Orlando Molina**  
Boys Program  
Coordinator



**Betsy  
McMillan**  
Lower School  
Principal



**Cheryne Busch**  
Upper School  
Principal



**Claudio Muñoz**  
HBII Ballet Master



**Susan Bryant**  
Principal  
Instructor

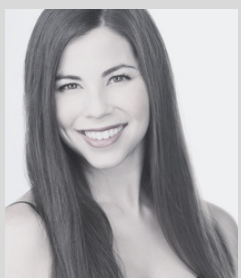


**Kelly Myernick**  
Principal  
Instructor



**Christopher  
Coomer**  
Principal  
Instructor

## ACADEMY INSTRUCTORS



**Heidi Erickson**



**Carla Flores**



**Melissa Ludwig**



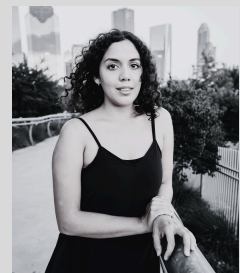
**Bria Greenwood**



**Paola Murga**



**Lucinda Rohrer**



**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

Jennifer Sommers  
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713-535-3210

# CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP CALENDAR

All dates and times are subject to change.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>DECEMBER</b>						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<i>Registration Opens for Current Students</i>						
<b>JANUARY</b>						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					<i>Registration Opens for New Students</i>	
<b>MARCH</b>						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Sleeping Beauty Children's Workshop</i>						
<b>JUNE</b>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Raymonda Children's Workshop Boys Workshop</i>						
<b>AUGUST</b>						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<i>Nutcracker Children's Workshop</i>						

# Registration

## Schedule

Children's Workshop: *The Sleeping Beauty*: March 10, 2025 - March 14, 2025

Children's Workshop: *Raymonda*: June 2, 2025 - June 6, 2025

Boys Workshop: June 2, 2025 - June 6, 2025

Children's Workshop: *The Nutcracker*: August 11, 2025 - August 15, 2025

*\*Times are subject to change.*

<b>Children's Workshop: <i>The Sleeping Beauty</i>*</b> Ages 5-7 - must be at least 5 years old as of 3/10/2025 Birthdate Range: 3/11/2017 - 3/10/2020	
Ages 5-7 1:00PM-3:00PM	
<b>Children's Workshop: <i>Raymonda</i>*</b> Ages 4-7 - must be at least 4 years old as of 6/2/2025 Birthdate Range: 6/3/2017 - 6/2/2021	
Ages 4-5 10:00AM-12:00PM	Ages 6-7 1:00PM-3:00PM
<b>Boys Workshop</b> Ages 8-15 - must be at least 8 years old as of 6/2/2025 Birthdate Range: 6/3/2009-6/2/2017	
Group A (under 3 years' experience) 4:30PM - 7:00PM	Group B (3+ years' experience) 4:30PM - 7:45PM
<b>Children's Workshop: <i>The Nutcracker</i>*</b> Ages 4-7 - must be at least 4 years old as of 8/11/2025 Birthdate Range: 8/12/2017-8/11/2021	
Ages 4-5 10:00AM-12:00PM	Ages 6-7 1:00PM-3:00PM

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: *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Raymonda*, and *The Nutcracker* include two tickets to a selected performance of the corresponding Houston Ballet Company repertoire. Performance dates will be confirmed during registration.

## 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 Sleeping Beauty Workshop</i>	\$400	Required for all students registered for the <i>The Sleeping Beauty Workshop</i> (includes two tickets to select performance)
<i>Raymonda Workshop</i>	\$400	Required for all students registered for the <i>The Raymonda Workshop</i> (includes two tickets to select performance)
<i>The Nutcracker Workshop</i>	\$400	Required for all students registered for <i>The Nutcracker Workshop</i> (includes two tickets to select performance)
Boys Workshop Group A	\$300	Required for all students registered for the Boys Workshop <i>Scholarships will be applied as appropriate.</i>
Boys Workshop Group B	\$325	Required for all students registered for the Boys Workshop <i>Scholarships will be applied as appropriate.</i>

Payment Schedule						
Installment	Due Date	<i>The Sleeping Beauty Workshop</i>	<i>Raymonda Workshop</i>	<i>The Nutcracker Workshop</i>	Boys Workshop: Group A	Boys Workshop: Group B
#1	At the time of registration	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$300	\$325
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$325</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 non-refundable and non-transferable.** Remaining tuition is refundable prior to March 1, 2025. Formal withdrawal must be received prior to March 1, 2025, to be eligible for any refund. *All fees and tuition are non-refundable and non-transferable after March 1, 2025.* The Academy is not liable or obligated in any way to process any refunds or issue any tuition credits after March 1, 2025.

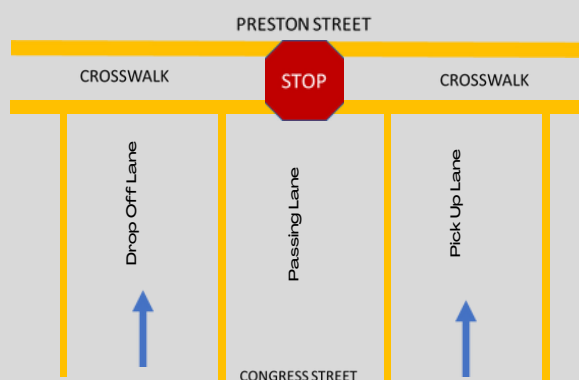
# Academy Procedures

## 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
  - 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.
- 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 10:00AM, please do not enter the driveway until 10:00AM.
- 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 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**

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 Sleeping Beauty* Workshop, *The Raymonda* 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 are unable to offer an observation during the Boys Workshop.

Click on links  
for more  
information

# Class Attire

	<b><i>The Sleeping Beauty/The Raymonda/The Nutcracker Workshops</i></b> <b>Ages 4-5</b>	<b><i>The Sleeping Beauty/The Raymonda/The Nutcracker Workshops</i></b> <b>Ages 6-7</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</b>	<b>Boys Workshop Group B</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/gray ( <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	Capezio	Spray Fashion Brown	
Brazen Brown		Blendz Brazen Brown	Capezio Mocha	Spray Tan	
Maven Mahogany		Blendz Maven Mahogany	Capezio	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 or in person at [Dance Trends](#) or [Apollo Dancewear](#). Leotards and shirts purchased via [E-Commerce](#) 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 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

Apollo Dancewear  
3120 SW Fwy Office 575-1  
Houston, TX 77098  
(832) 205-1524

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