



THE CURRICULUM TRACK & THE CHOICE TRACK - CLASS LEVELS

Ballet Idaho Academy offers opportunities that enrich and enlighten students of all ages and abilities: three years old to adult, beginning to professional. All students -- whether aspiring to a professional career or studying for enjoyment -- are equally valued by faculty members. Through focused discipline and training, Academy teachers encourage students to share their love of the art. In addition to learning sound technique, students develop life skills such as self-motivation, confidence, poise, and respect. For these reasons, students and their families are encouraged to take full advantage of the many classes, programs, and performances available – Ballet Idaho provides a complete dance experience.

The study of classical ballet technique is the foundation of a professional dance education. Ballet Idaho Academy students study in a professional environment and follow a sequential curriculum divided into Five Levels: Pre-Ballet 7+ (Choice only), Ballet 1 (Choice) and 1A (Curriculum), Ballet 2 (Choice) and 2A (Curriculum), Ballet 3 (Choice) and 3A (Curriculum), Ballet 4A (Curriculum only).

Levels are divided by age (depending on how birthdays fall in our Academic year), ability and talent.

Unlike Academic schools, Ballet Idaho Academy has a 5-tier program and assumes that not every student will advance to the next level after one year only. Our primary concern is that a student be placed in a level that is appropriate to his or her skills and physical strength. Because students grow and develop at different rates, advancement to the next level will be different for each child. For instance, a child that has a growth spurt may need additional time to gain strength and coordination necessary to execute specific dance steps appropriately. Please do not assume that “something is wrong” if your child remains in his or her current level for more than one year. A student who carefully develops his or her technique early in the curriculum will reduce their risk of injury and will actually improve their rate and likelihood of advancement in later years.

The Curriculum Track (Ballet 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A) is designed for the more serious student. It methodically trains the discipline of classical ballet in 5 tiers following a progressive curriculum. Students who enroll in this track enroll for the Academy term (September – May) and are required to take a specified number of classes per week in order to achieve success in the program and fulfill the expectations of the Academy. In addition, students are encouraged to enroll in alternative dance disciplines, such as modern dance, jazz, hip-hop and musical theatre to increase versatility.

Should a student wish to pursue a career in ballet, the Curriculum Track will provide the foundation for such endeavors. It will, in any case, develop and strengthen in the student qualities of character, discipline, motivation, manners, teamwork, leadership and the overcoming of obstacles in the achievement of goals, together with a life-long admiration for dance, great music and Western culture.

The Choice Track (Pre-Ballet levels, Beginning Ballet, Ballet 1, 2, 3, Adult Classes) combines the methodical ballet training of the Curriculum Track with convenience and flexibility for students who wish to pursue other activities outside Ballet Idaho Academy and who are not able to commit to a mandatory class schedule. It also includes the alternative dance disciplines described above to mix and match with the ballet classes chosen by the student. Students who enroll in this track for ballet must be leveled by Ballet Idaho Academy faculty prior to purchasing a self-determined schedule of classes in specified four specified eight week sessions. Class cards can be purchased at anytime for an individual period, however, all classes must have a total of 5 students registered per week, per session before classes begin or it will be canceled.