

# Littleton Youth Ballet



2022-2023  
Handbook

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# Contact Information

All rehearsals are held at Littleton Ballet Academy  
(*unless specified in the production schedule*)  
1169 W. Littleton Blvd Littleton, CO 80120

**(303) 794-6694**

[www.littletonyouthballet.org](http://www.littletonyouthballet.org)

[www.littletonballetacademy.org](http://www.littletonballetacademy.org)

For absences, please **email** [ballerinalba@gmail.com](mailto:ballerinalba@gmail.com)

## Artistic Directors

Alison Jaramillo and Bobbie Jaramillo

## Staff

Anna Rutter, Costume Mistress

Jennifer Haws, Stage Manager

## Board Members

President: Bob Palazzo

Vice-President: Diane Palazzo

Secretary: Wendy Vogel

Treasurer: Diane Christensen

Shauna Baity, Tim Baity, Scott Elliott, Alison Jaramillo, Bobbie Jaramillo, Anna Rutter, Brian Schmidt,  
Diane Sparks, Paul Strahsburg

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to maintain a first-rate non-profit youth company of dancers, enriching their lives and those of their families, schools, communities, and beyond. We also aim to provide a caring and respectful environment that offers each dancer quality performance experience to enable them to reach their fullest potential, not only as dancers, but in all areas of life. We strive to encourage and promote dance with dynamic, full-length productions and diverse outreach programs throughout the Denver area.

## Inclement Weather

The studio will be closed on inclement weather days (i.e. excessive snow) using Littleton Public School District ([www.littletonpublicschools.net](http://www.littletonpublicschools.net)) as a guideline. There will be an email sent out regarding the closure. In case of moderate weather despite a Littleton Public School District closure please call the studio and check your email after 1:00 p.m. In case of bad weather on Saturday an email will be sent out to all families no later than 7:30 a.m. regarding class and/or rehearsals that day. Information will also be sent via Remind, posted on the front page of the website, posted on the LBA Facebook Page, and on the LBA blog.

## Excused Absence Policy

Dancers in LYB are allowed two excused absences for rehearsals for each show. Two are allowed for *The Nutcracker*, two for Storybook Ballet, two for the LYB Concert, and two for the Encore Performance so please plan accordingly. If there is a problem, please let us know in advance. Acceptable reasons for missing rehearsals are illness, family vacations, and mandatory school concerts ONLY. **Please let us know of absences at least two weeks in advance VIA EMAIL.** If you are injured, you must continue to come to rehearsals (or call in when you need to be absent) or you will lose your place in LYB. If you need to be absent you MUST email us directly at [ballerinalba@gmail.com](mailto:ballerinalba@gmail.com). In case of a last-minute

## Performing Company Requirements

Being a part of a performing company gives a student the opportunity to gain additional rehearsal and performance experience which will help their technical and artistic development as well as giving them a chance to be part of a team. During the year the students will have rehearsals as many as three times a week to learn and work on choreography. These pieces will be performed in *The Nutcracker*, the Encore Performance, Storybook Ballet, in the LYB Concert, and in the School Performance. In addition, dancers will also be given the opportunity to perform at schools, assisted living homes, festivals, hospitals, and other charitable events throughout the year giving them invaluable performing experience and teaching them the value of community service. Students must audition annually. Fees are nonrefundable. **Participating in Littleton Youth Ballet requires a commitment from August 26th to May 27th.**

### Company Level A (Ballet 6, 7 and 8)

- To maintain your place in LYB's Company A
- **Regularly** attend five or more ballet classes per week as well as an additional open class
- Participate in all four performances
- Follow all general behavioral policies
- Work intelligently and continue to develop technique
- Participate in the outreach program
- Attend a summer intensive program (either LBA or out of state)

### Other opportunities

- Participate in the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition, YAGP, Universal Ballet Competition, and StarQuest
- Participate in additional coaching
- Attend Lorita's Monday night class on a **regular** basis
- Attend at least two summer intensive auditions for out of state intensives

### Company Level B (Ballet 6, 7 and 8)

- To maintain your place in LYB's Company B
- **Regularly** attend four ballet classes per week as well as an additional open class
- Participate in three or four performances
- Follow all general behavioral policies
- Work intelligently and continue to develop technique
- Participate in the outreach program

### Other opportunities

- Participate in the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition, YAGP, Universal Ballet Competition, and StarQuest
- Participate in additional coaching
- Attend Lorita's Monday night class
- Attend at least one summer intensive audition for out of state intensives
- Attend a summer intensive program (either LBA or out of state)

### Junior Company Level A (Ballet 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B)

To maintain your place in LYB's Junior Company A level

- **Regularly** attend four ballet classes for Ballet 4A and 4B or five ballet classes for Ballet 5 per week as well as an additional open class
- Participate in three or four performances
- Follow all general behavioral policies
- Work hard and continue to develop technique
- Attend a summer intensive program at LBA or approved program out of state (if applicable)
- Participate in outreach program
- Participate in the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition, YAGP, Universal Ballet Competition, and StarQuest (if applicable)

## Other opportunities

- Attend at least one summer intensive audition for out of state intensives (age appropriate)

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## Junior Company Level B (Ballet 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B)

To maintain your place in LYB's Junior Company level

- **Regularly** attend three ballet classes for Ballet 4 or four ballet classes for Ballet 5 per week as well as an additional open class
- Participate in three performances
- Follow all general behavioral policies
- Work hard and continue to develop technique
- Participate in outreach program

## Other opportunities

- Attend a summer intensive program at LBA

## Apprentice Level (Ballet 3)

- To maintain your place in LYB's Apprentice level
- **Regularly** attend three or more ballet classes per week
- Participate in at least three performances
- Follow all general behavioral policies
- Work hard and continue to develop technique

## Other opportunities

- Attend a summer intensive program at LBA
- Participate in outreach program
- Attend an additional open class

## Website Code

On the Littleton Ballet Academy website, there is a link to important information (forms, schedules, handbooks, etc.) that only LYB families have access to. The code is **Cinderella2022**.

## Production Fee

### Company Production Fee for the Season

If paid on or before September 15th	\$325
If paid September 16th to September 30th	\$375

This fee covers performance fees for the Encore Production, The Nutcracker, the Storybook Ballet, and the LYB Concert as well as the audition fee, fee for headshots, and admission for one parent and dancer to the banquet. It does not cover the LBA School Performance.

There are no monthly fees. **If fees are not paid after October 3rd, the dancer will be dismissed from LYB**

**All production fees must be paid to LYB directly. Because our accounting for LBA is separate we cannot automatically charge the card on file. You may pay fees either by bringing in your credit card to charge the fees, writing a check payable to LYB, or paying in cash.**

## LYB Contract

If you plan on participating in Littleton Youth Ballet **you will be required to fill out an online contract**. The form can be found online. Log in to the Family Portal and click on Classes and Events in the upper right-hand corner. Click on Find Events. Page down the list until you see Littleton Youth Ballet Contract. Please fill this form out (it only takes a few minutes) and make sure you read the agreement text.

## General Behavioral Policies

To achieve the skill level required in dance, students should understand the necessary level of focus and concentration that will be required of them prior to attending rehearsals. Talking during rehearsals is discouraged. This allows the maximum amount of progress to be made during rehearsal time since dance technique is based on continual repetition of movement to train and strengthen the muscles of the body.

Anyone who repeatedly violates any company rule may be dismissed from the company at the discretion of the co-directors. This includes students and family members.

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- Students are expected to behave respectfully and courteously at all times toward any faculty and staff, toward each other, and to all other dance related people (physical therapists, pointe shoe specialists, costumers, etc.)
- Complaining about casting on a continual basis either in person or on social media sites may result in dismissal from the company.
- Any verbal, physical abuse, or harassment (including texting or on social media sites) will not be tolerated and use of this behavior may cause permanent dismissal from the company.
- Gossiping or bullying will not be tolerated. This includes students AND parents.
- Self-destructive behavior is not permitted.
- Please refrain from general goofing off in rehearsals.
- If a director, LYB staff member, or guest gives you a correction, practice it right away.
- Accept a correction politely....do not have excuses, talk under your breath, or pout.
- If you have a problem, please discuss it with us. It's best to self-advocate for yourself.
- You may not understand the casting process and you have a right to ask what you can do in the future to change the outcome.
- Crying favoritism or politics is a waste of time. This policy also applies to parents.
- Honesty is always the best policy. Please remember the dance world is very small.
- Please be aware of your conversation in the hallways and break room.
- Dancers are expected to dance full out at every rehearsal.
- Please do not leave the studio during any rehearsal unless you have asked permission from the directors or LYB staff member (unless it is an emergency).
- Please be early for all rehearsals.
- Excessive unexcused absences may result in dismissal from LYB.
- Please follow dress code requirements for all rehearsals.
- Dancers must show respect for the property of others and for the facilities.
- Theft will not be tolerated and any person caught stealing will be dismissed from the company.
- Please clean up after yourselves. The lobby, break room, bathrooms, and studios should remain clean and free of debris at all times. Please put all trash, paper towels, and drink containers in the appropriate waste cans.
- No food or drink (except water) is allowed in the studios.
- No chewing gum is allowed in rehearsals.
- Please follow all rules and procedures that are listed in our production packets.
- Drug, alcohol, vaping, and tobacco use is prohibited.
- Parents: please do not email us about your child and then let us know that your child would be furious about going behind his or her back. We need to have an honest relationship with your child.

## Illness and Injury

- If you are injured, please let someone know immediately so we can help you.
- DO NOT come to rehearsals if you have a fever or are contagious. You should be resting and getting well.
- If you are injured or ill, please keep us posted on how you are doing.
- If you are injured, you are expected to come watch rehearsals if you are in the show. Please keep us updated on your condition.
- When you miss a rehearsal, you need to find out what was missed in rehearsal. We do not have the time to reteach choreography.

# Student and Parent Use of Social Media and Texting

Use of Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram, LinkedIn, blogging, and other online social media vehicles is commonplace as texting. This policy is intended to provide our students and parents with guidelines to eliminate any confusion concerning the use of social media.

- You DO NOT have permission to reveal any information that compromises LYB. By that we mean you are forbidden to share personal information about the director, other students or their families, or anything that is proprietary and/or confidential to them or LYB.
- When casting comes out please wait one week before posting your parts on social media.
- Students and parents should neither claim nor imply that they are speaking on behalf of LYB.
- Never post or text anything that could compromise the self-esteem of students or staff of LYB. This policy applies to parents and students.
- LYB owns the copyright to all choreography taught at the school.
- Respect the law, including those laws governing defamation, discrimination, harassment, and copyright and fair use. As stated in this handbook, parents and students should never post negative comments about other schools or teachers. Also, please do not post negative comments about school activities such as competitions and performances or about the directors of those events.
- Ensure that your social networking conduct is consistent with all of the policies contained in this handbook.
- Just a reminder: we can see what's posted on social media so if you are commenting on other people's posts remember that our staff can see those comments.



## Cell Phones and Cameras

We understand the importance of maintaining communication with family members. However, all cell phones, PDAs, pagers, etc. should be turned to mute if the device is in the studio. No calls or texting permitted during rehearsals. Please be careful when taking pictures with your cell phone or camera and if you post ANY pictures on any social media site please make sure that **all** people in the picture have given you permission to be online. Inappropriate postings will NOT be tolerated! Performances are not allowed to be videotaped by audience members. DO NOT post ANY part of any LYB performances, competitions, or rehearsals on any social media site unless you have obtained permission from the co-directors.

## Non-Discriminatory Policy

Littleton Youth Ballet does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and vendors, and provision of services. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, and clients.

## Casting Policies

- Artistic Directors have the final decision in casting for The Nutcracker and Storybook Ballet (LYB productions). However, outside judges and other faculty members may be involved in all casting decisions.

- Bad behavior in auditions (such as laughing, giggling, pouting, talking, poking, sarcastic remarks, talking back to your teachers, etc.) may result in not getting the parts you hoped for.

- When you receive your part(s), accept it graciously. You have one day to be disappointed and then it's important to move on. Continual complaining about parts, either verbally or on social media sites may cause dismissal from the production or future productions. (This also applies to parents)
- There are no specific "level" parts such as a Ballet 3 part.
- Just because you did a part last year does not mean you will have a new part the next year. You will end up repeating parts and it sometimes has nothing to do with ability. It also doesn't mean you will do the same part the next year.

We DO take in the following when doing casting

1. Technique (who is the best for the role)
2. Performance quality (how you perform on stage)
3. Behavior
4. Attendance (students who are here ON TIME and do not miss ANY rehearsals, this includes any excused absences)
5. Attendance at regularly scheduled classes and summer intensives (taking into account excused versus unexcused absences)
6. Commitment level
7. How right a person is for a role
8. Whether or not the dancer fits into a costume for a particular role

The following factors do not affect casting

1. How long a dancer has been with LYB
2. Age
3. Whether a parent holds a faculty or staff position
4. Whether a parent is on the LYB Board of Directors
5. Whether or not a parent has donated time or money

## Rehearsal Schedule

LYB rehearses during the following times.

Tuesday 7:15 pm to 8:45 pm Company

Friday 6:00 pm (or 7:30 pm) to 8:45 pm Company and sometimes Junior Company dancers

Saturday 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm All LYB dancers

This does not mean that dancers will rehearse during all of these times during the year. During The Nutcracker, most advanced dancers will not be needed on Saturday afternoons until mid to late October. Apprentices will rehearse on Saturday afternoons only. Occasionally we may need a few Sunday rehearsals for dancers in leading roles with guest artists, but we will try to schedule those as minimally as possible.

## Required Performance Wear

Depending on casting, LYB members may need to provide the following items as part of their own costuming. We will give you advance warning before you need to purchase these items. This list includes but is not limited to:

- |  |                                      |                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| • <b>Nude camisole leotard<br/>(NO CLEAR STRAPS)</b> | • Black character shoes              | • <b>Pink trunks</b> |
| • White camisole leotard                             | • Black footed convertible<br>tights | • Nude trunks        |
| • Black camisole leotard                             | • Black fishnets                     |                      |

We will let you know well in advance in case you do need these items.



## Outreach Performances

Part of the mission of LYB is to bring dance to people who don't often get the chance to see dance. This includes performing in festivals, schools, assisted living homes, hospitals, charitable concerts, and community events. Sometimes these shows will include dancers from LBA (especially dancers in tap classes). We are working on increasing our outreach program and hope to be able to do four or five shows per year. All dancers in Company A and B and Junior Company A and B are required to perform in at least one outreach performance (if needed). Apprentices are not required to participate but are highly encouraged to do so if we have the need. This is a wonderful chance to volunteer for your community and performances count toward school volunteer hours.

Outreach performances are full performances in smaller spaces with costumes and performance style hair (slicked back, hair sprayed bun with a hairnet (NO bun covers) or slicked back ponytail depending on the piece). We ask that you remove all nail polish before the outreach shows (please do this the night before at home). Makeup should consist of the following for our younger dancers: a little bit of blush and mascara and a natural pink lipstick. Older dancers can also wear eye shadow and liner and will need blush, mascara, and a natural pink lipstick. The point of the makeup is to bring out facial features but makeup does not need to be heavy because most of our outreaches are not done with stage lights.

Please remember that you are representing Littleton Youth Ballet and that good behavior is of the utmost importance. The words "please" and "thank you" go a long way! Sometimes we are not performing under the best conditions (with small stages, possibly on carpet or linoleum and even tinier dressing room situations). On these occasions please remember that we are guests in the facility and that the performance is the most important thing.

The performances we do in outreach situations are pieces that we have performed before or will be performing in the future. In certain cases, a limited number of parent volunteers will be used for events to minimize the number of people we bring. For example, if we are performing in an assisted living home for their residents we will only be able to take a small number of parents because there may not be enough seating for all the residents and extra parents. The volunteers we bring will be used to help with any quick changes. Any volunteers will also be expected to be on their best behavior as well. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

## Theatre Performances

Theatre performances are done with full lights and a marley dance floor in a theatre setting. These performances will require full makeup. Please follow the makeup and hair policies listed in the performance packets (these are emailed and posted before each performance.) In addition to this, in order to keep a professional image, we ask that you have natural hair color as well as a natural skin color. We also require you to wear deodorant. Remember, we share costumes and it's not fun to wear a costume that smells.

In addition, you **MUST** treat all costumes with respect. Please do not sit in any tutus (romantic or classical). If you absolutely have to sit in a costume, please make sure you are sitting on a blanket or shirt. We will inspect all costumes carefully after performances and you may be charged dry cleaning expenses if you have not taken care of costumes (such as not wearing deodorant) or if they are found lying on the floor because they are not hung up properly. If you are helping someone get into a costume, please make sure your hands are clean so you don't get makeup on the costumes. If you return a costume that has more than the usual share of wear and tear you may be charged dry cleaning fees and/or repair fees. Please ask Anna, Bobbie, or Ali if you have any questions about how to hang up costumes properly.

## Uniforms

In the fall, we will be ordering LYB uniforms which will include a jacket and pants. We encourage everyone in LYB to purchase one. Dancers who are participating in the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition, UBC, and YAGP will be required to have one. Each dancer will have their name embroidered on the jacket. We ask that dancers wear them to community outreach performances, auditions, master classes, and ballet competitions. When you are wearing

the uniform, PLEASE wear the full uniform. If the pants don't fit please substitute black pants that are comparable. We also sell other LYB apparel but only LYB dancers will have the opportunity to purchase the uniforms. We have chosen a timeless design that can be ordered in both child and adult sizes and we will keep this consistent so that you don't have to purchase a new uniform each year.

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## Photo Shoots

Every child in LYB will have a headshot taken at the fall of their first season. After that, we will take headshots every other year. You will have the option to buy these photos through the photographer. For dancers who are doing summer intensives, CPYB, and the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition, we will do an additional photo shoot in November for these photos. This is an additional charge, but it is so nice to have photos professionally done for auditions and competitions.

## Extra Opportunities

### Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition

The Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition is an annual event which gives dancers ages 10 to 18 the opportunity to participate in a master class with a guest teacher. Dancers ages 12 to 13 compete for scholarships in a judged master class and dancers ages 14 and up also have the opportunity to perform a variation in front of a panel of judges. The competition offers over \$20,000 in scholarship awards and is open to dancers from all over Colorado. The competition will be taking place the first weekend in March. Applications should be available in November

### YAGP

Youth America Grand Prix Competition is an annual event which gives dancers ages 9 to 20 the opportunity to perform classical and contemporary variations in front of a panel of judges on stage. It's a pricey competition that requires separate coaching. Dancers get to perform a solo on stage in a beautiful costume that we provide but the results can definitely be varied depending on the judges from year to year. As long as dancers aren't obsessed with the results, it's a great opportunity. Dancers need to be invited to participate.

### StarQuest

We are always trying to broaden our dancers' experience within the dance world. Starquest is a nationwide competition that gives dancers the opportunity for feedback as well as exposure to a different side of the dance. Jennifer Haws works for this company which prides itself on a positive competition experience and works to build relationships with local dance schools.

### Universal Ballet Competition

UBC is a newer competition which gives dancers ages 7 to 18 the opportunity to perform classical and contemporary variations in front of a panel of judges on stage. It's new to us and will require separate coaching. Dancers get to perform a solo on stage in a beautiful costume that we provide but the results can definitely be varied depending on the judges from year to year. Again, as long as dancers aren't obsessed with the results, it's a great opportunity. Dancers need to be invited to participate.

### Master Classes

Occasionally, master classes are offered in the area, sometimes by us and sometimes by an outside organization. We recommend taking advantage of these classes. It's a wonderful chance to study with some fabulous teachers! Generally master classes cost \$20 to \$35. The Vail Dance Festival offers a full series of master classes but these are for dancers in Ballet 6, 7, and 8 only. We hope to increase our master classes in the future by bringing in a few master teachers to do a residency at different points in the year.

### Summer Intensive Auditions

Dancers ages 11 and up have the opportunity to participate in summer intensive auditions. A summer intensive is an out of state summer program, similar to the one we do in July. Students have the opportunity to study ballet intensively during a period of two to five weeks (depending on the program); some schools also offer other types of dance as well. Most schools require an audition for admission and do an audition tour in January and early February. The auditions cost between \$25 and \$35 and are basically a master class. We recommend that you attend auditions for schools that are a good fit for you. Ali will help your child with this process if she is interested. Video auditions require an additional fee of \$75/hour to film and edit the video.

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## CPYB

For **some** dancers, we recommend the summer programs Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet has to offer. The programs are rigorous and are geared toward refining technique. Students may find themselves in a class with much younger dancers from CPYB's year-round school. Our students that have attended CPYB in the past have improved a great deal in a short time due to the intense training. CPYB is recommended for students who love hard work, have a tough skin, and truly love ballet. No auditions are required but specific pictures are needed with application. We will help you with these pictures because they are very specific and will determine placement. Dancers as young as ten may participate in this program if we feel they are ready.

## Attending Dance Performances

There are lots of dance companies in Colorado. We highly recommend that students go see dance performances on a regular basis, especially Littleton Youth Ballet performances. We have an annual field trip in the fall to see Colorado Ballet and often invite people to come see whatever shows they have to offer in the spring as well. Other companies include Aspen/Santa Fe Ballet, Third Law Dance Theatre, Wonderbound, etc. We also encourage taking a trip to see the Vail International Dance Festival in the summer. There are some wonderful dancers and companies that come every year.

## Arts Enrichment

We encourage you to see other performances as well. Whether it's going to see music concerts at Colorado Symphony Orchestra, Littleton Symphony Orchestra, Arapahoe Philharmonic, or Boulder Philharmonic, plays at the Denver Center Theatre Company, musicals at the Denver Center for Performing Arts or Town Hall Arts Center, or art at any of our local museums; these are all events that help enrich a young dancer's life. Sometimes you can take advantage of discounts by subscribing to different email newsletters or going on specific free days.

## Books

We recommend you and your child read books about dance. There are so many wonderful dance books available. Look for autobiographies by famous dancers (parents may want to screen a few of the ones written in the 80's), dance fiction (some children's, some tween), dance manuals, or dance history (there's a hilarious book *Tutus, Tights, and Tiptoes, Ballet History as it Ought to Be Taught*). Every dancer should have a copy of Gail Grant's *Technical Manual of Classical Ballet*. Amazon.com is a great place to start. We have lots of dance books and DVD's available for you to access on our Wish List. Just look up our Wish List and enter either LYB or our email address [dancelyb@live.com](mailto:dancelyb@live.com) and you will see a public list of books and DVD's that are worth taking a look at. Ali has read a lot of these but please make the final decision in making a purchase. (Please note: This doesn't mean we want these items, it's just an easy way to create a public list☺).

## Classical Music

Classical music is an integral part of ballet. It's important to at least have a basic knowledge of classical music. We suggest changing the radio station sometimes to 88.1 FM and just listen while cleaning the house or doing homework. We do recommend reading up on at least a few composers whose music is used frequently in ballet such as Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Chopin, Minkus, and Bach. You can find inexpensive albums with a large range of classical music available to download. Playing a musical instrument is also a terrific way to develop musicality which is essential in dance.

## Documentaries, TV, Movies

Dance in general is a popular subject right now thanks to reality TV and dance documentaries. Of course, there are some shows that definitely are not suitable for most of our dancers and please use your best judgment. There are some shows that are family friendly with lots of dance. There have also been a few documentaries that have come out in select movie theatres and via streaming apps about ballet specifically such as *First Position*, *Ballet 422*, *Ballet Now*, and *Getting to the Nutcracker*. Sometimes New York City Ballet's production of George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* has been presented live in theatres. Emerging Pictures Fathom Events also shows live ballets from various dance companies. You can find out what's showing by going to [www.emergingpictures.com](http://www.emergingpictures.com) or [www.fathomevents.com](http://www.fathomevents.com). The opportunity to see ballet is growing all the time.

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## Coaching for Variations

For dancers who would like to participate in the Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition, are invited to participate in YAGP or UBC, or would like to perform a solo at StarQuest, additional coaching is available.

All participants need to

- Commit to coaching all season (September to the end of April)
- Follow all the rules in the LBA and LYB handbooks
- Parents must also follow all the rules in the LBA and LYB handbooks

Coaching rates for invited dancers are as follows

\$100 per month per dancer billed September to April (8 months) or May (9 months).

- Coaching will begin at the end of August
- Please let us know ahead of time when you are going to be absent.
- Dancers need to warm themselves up before coaching so plan on arriving 15 minutes before coaching time.

**Payment will automatically be deducted from the card on file at the start date of each month beginning in September and going through April.**

**Studying privately with other teachers outside LBA is not allowed.** Some of our faculty and guest teachers will be working with some of our students this year.

Private coaching with Slava Mesropov or Ali Jaramillo is available

## Meet your Mentor Lunch

All LYB dancers are invited to meet their mentors on Saturday, September 10th from 1:15 pm to 2:00 pm. Dancers will be dismissed from class 15 minutes early. Please bring your own lunch. A dancer's mentor is a student in Ballet 7 and 8 and is someone a young dancer can talk to throughout the year and lean on for support if she or he should need it. Mentors can answer questions, provide advice, help with pointe shoes, and provide encouragement.

## Banquet

All LYB dancers are invited to the end of the season banquet. The date at this point is TBA. The banquet is free for all LYB dancers and one additional family member. Additional family members can purchase tickets for \$20. This is a dress-up affair and dinner will be served (gluten free options available). The annual banquet is a celebration of the successful season and each dancer is presented with a unique Littleton Youth Ballet pin.

Three awards are also presented: The James Clouser Award which is presented to an advanced dancer at the discretion of the artistic directors, the Fernand Nault Award which is presented to a younger advanced dancer at the discretion of the artistic directors, and the Peer Award which is chosen by the dancers.

# Pictures and Video

Throughout the year parents and students will have the opportunity to purchase pictures and videos through professional photographers and videographers that we hire for live performances. Please understand that flash photography is not allowed during a performance. Video recording any production is not allowed and is a copyright infringement. This is not just a Littleton Youth Ballet policy but a general policy of theaters and a courtesy to our patrons and a safety issue for our dancers. Every dancer will have a headshot for the program, however the photo shoot will ONLY be done one day so if the dancer is not there that day there will be no photo in the program for the entire season.

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## Donations

Littleton Youth Ballet is a 501c3 non-profit organization and we need your help! We are accepting tax-deductible donations at various levels. If you are interested in donating, please fill out a form and send it in to us today. We also accept matching gifts and business sponsorships as well.

## AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Littleton Youth Ballet every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will need to select Littleton Youth Ballet to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping.

## ColoradoGives

Littleton Youth Ballet is now part of ColoradoGives. ColoradoGives.org is a year-round, online giving website featuring the missions, programs and finances of more than 2,000 Colorado nonprofits. Made possible by Community First Foundation since 2007, ColoradoGives.org encourages charitable giving by providing comprehensive, objective and up-to-date information about Colorado nonprofits and an easy way to support them online. You can donate any time or you can choose to donate on Colorado Gives Day which is Tuesday, December 7th and features a \$1 million Incentive Fund. Every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day will receive a portion of the fund, increasing the value of every dollar donated.

## Fundraising

During various times of the year we may do some fundraisers for different projects such as raising money for travel marley, sets, or costumes or to bring in guest artists during the year. We promise to keep these to a minimum, but we will expect all members to participate. We always sell Butter Braids in the fall and may do another fundraiser in the spring. Thank you in advance for your support!

## Calendar

For all of our schedules, go to LYB Rehearsals and Info page on [www.littletonballetacademy.org](http://www.littletonballetacademy.org). You will need to type in the password to have access. New this year is a Google calendar on the LBA website. The entire year planned out for you on a Google calendar. You can also subscribe to this as well.

***The LYB handbook is a living breathing document and addendums may be added during the year as need arises. We thank you for being a part of Littleton Youth Ballet!***



## LYB Calendar 2022-2023

Subject to change

**Saturday, August 13th:** Last day of summer classes

**Monday, August 15th to Saturday, August 20th:** Open House, maintenance classes

**Monday, August 15th:** Information Meeting about the 2022-2023 Academic Year 4:30 pm

**Monday, August 15th:** LYB Information Meeting 6:00 pm

**Tuesday, August 16th:** Competition Rehearsal begin

**Tuesday, August 16th:** Information Meeting about the 2022-2023 Academic Year 4:30 pm

**Tuesday, August 16th:** Nutcracker Information Meeting 5:30 pm

**Wednesday, August 17th:** Information Meeting about the 2022-2023 Academic Year 4:30 pm

**Wednesday, August 17th:** Coaching and Competition Meeting 6:00 pm

**Thursday, August 18th:** LYB Information Meeting 4:30 pm

**Thursday, August 18th:** Information Meeting about the 2022-2023 Academic Year 6:00 pm

**Friday, August 19th:** Information Meeting about the 2022-2023 Academic Year 5:45 pm

**Friday, August 19th:** Competition Rehearsal

**Saturday, August 20th:** Western Welcome Week Parade 10:00 am

**Saturday, August 20th:** Competition Rehearsal 3:00 pm

**Monday, August 22nd:** 2022-2023 Academic Year begins

**Friday, August 26th:** LYB Auditions (Ballet 3, 4A)

**Saturday, August 27th:** LYB Auditions (Ballet 6, 7, and 8) and (Ballet 4B, 5A, and 5B)

**Monday, August 29th:** Coaching begins

**Tuesday, August 30th:** Encore Performance Rehearsal begin

**Monday, September 5th:** Labor Day NO CLASSES

**Tuesday, September 6th:** Professional Training Division begins

**Saturday, September 10th:** Meet your mentor lunch 1:15 to 2:00 pm (LYB only)

**Wednesday, September 14th:** Encore Performance Rehearsal (mandatory)

**Thursday, September 15th:** LYB online contract and fee due at lower rate (fee CANNOT be deducted automatically)

**Friday, September 16th:** Encore Performance Rehearsal (mandatory)

**Saturday, September 17th:** **Encore Performance: *Cinderella* at Newman Center for Performing Arts**

**Sunday, September 18th:** **Encore Performance: *Cinderella* at Newman Center for Performing Arts**

**Tuesday, September 20th:** Nutcracker Information Meeting 6:30 pm (NOT required for LYB)

**Saturday, September 24th:** Nutcracker Auditions 2:00 to 3:30 pm (we can use helpers from LYB)

**Wednesday, September 28th:** Nutcracker Casting sent

**Wednesday, September 28th to Friday, October 15th:** Nutcracker T-Shirts on sale

**Monday, September 26th to Saturday October 1st:** Observation Week: Pre-Ballet Division, ALL Intermediate Division classes (Ballet 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B), Musical Theatre (4A, 4B, 5A, 5B), Jazz (4A, 4B, 5A, 5B), Contemporary (5A, 5B), and Tap (4A, 4B, 5A, 5B)

**Tuesday, September 27th:** Nutcracker Rehearsals begin for Ballet 6, 7, 8

**Friday, September 30th:** Final deadline for LYB online contract and fee due at higher rate (fee CANNOT be deducted automatically)

**Saturday, October 1st:** Nutcracker rehearsals begin (Pre-Ballet 3, Ballet 1, Ballet 2, Ballet 3, Ballet 4A, Ballet 4B)

**Monday, October 3rd to Saturday October 8th:** Observation Week Primary Division (Ballet 1, 2, 3), Pre-Professional Division (Ballet 6, 7, 8), Musical Theatre (3, 6, 7, 8), Jazz (2, 3, 6, 7, 8), Contemporary (6, 7, 8), and Tap (1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8)

**Wednesday, October 5th:** Sugar Plum Fairy Tea tickets on sale

**Wednesday, October 5th:** Nutcracker online contract due (fee will be deducted at lower rate automatically)

**Wednesday, October 12th:** Final deadline for Nutcracker online contract (fee is \$25 higher and will be deducted automatically)

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**Monday, October 10th to Saturday, October 29th:** Butter Braid Fundraiser

**Wednesday, October 26th:** Nutcracker tickets go on sale

**Saturday, November 5th:** Nutcracker Cast Chili Party 6:30 pm at LBA

**Thursday, November 10th:** Next Steps Meeting

**Saturday, November 12th:** Butter Braid delivery

**Sunday, November 13th:** Sugar Plum Fairy Tea

**Saturday, November 19th:** LYB Program ads due

**Wednesday, November 23rd to Friday, November 25th:** Thanksgiving Break NO CLASSES/REHEARSALS (Classes and rehearsals resume Sat, Nov 26th)

**Thursday, December 1st:** *The Nutcracker* @ Newman Center

**Friday, December 2nd:** *The Nutcracker* @ Newman Center

**Friday, December 9th and Saturday, December 10th:** Nutcracker Photo Shoot

**Thursday, December 15th:** *The Nutcracker* Dress Rehearsal @ the Joanna Ramsey Theatre (modified LBA schedule)

**Friday, December 16th:** *The Nutcracker* @ the Joanna Ramsey Theatre

**Saturday, December 17th:** *The Nutcracker* @ the Joanna Ramsey Theatre

**Sunday, December 18th:** *The Nutcracker* @ the Joanna Ramsey Theatre

**Monday, December 19th to Monday, January 2nd:** Winter Break NO CLASSES (Classes resume Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>)

**Saturday, January 14th:** Competition Showcase

**Friday, January 20th to Sunday, January 22nd:** Universal Ballet Competition

**Saturday, January 21st:** Registration begins for Summer Intensives and Camps

**Tuesday, January 24th:** Rehearsals begin for Storybook Ballet (LYB-Ballet 6, 7, 8) continuing Friday & Saturday for lower levels

**Monday, January 30th to Saturday, February 4th:** Observation Week: Pre-Ballet Division, ALL Intermediate Division classes (Ballet 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B), Musical Theatre (4A, 4B, 5A, 5B), Jazz (4A, 4B, 5A, 5B), Contemporary (5A, 5B), and Tap (4A, 4B, 5A, 5B)

**Monday, February 6th to Saturday, February 11th:** Observation Week Primary Division (Ballet 1, 2, 3), Pre-Professional Division (Ballet 6, 7, 8), Musical Theatre (3, 6, 7, 8), Jazz (2, 3, 6, 7, 8), Contemporary (6, 7, 8), and Tap (1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8) **Friday, February 24th to Sunday, February 26th:** Youth America Grand Prix (LYB)

**Friday, March 3rd to Sunday, March 5th:** Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition

**Wednesday, March 15th:** Final deadline for School Performance at lower rate

**Monday, March 27th to Saturday, April 1st:** Spring Break NO CLASSES (Classes resume Monday, April 3rd)

**Saturday, April 8th** Deadline for Summer Intensive registration at lower rate  
**Saturday, April 15th:** *Snow White* Dress Rehearsal and Performance @ Lone Tree Arts Center (modified schedule)  
**Sunday, April 16th:** *Snow White* Performances @ Lone Tree Arts Center (modified LBA schedule)  
**Friday, May 26th to Sunday, May 28th:** StarQuest Competition  
**Saturday, May 27th:** Last day of 2022-2023 Academic Year  
**Monday, May 29th:** Memorial Day NO CLASSES  
**Tuesday, May 30th:** Priority registration for 2023-2024 Academic Year begins  
**Saturday, May 14th:** LYB Banquet 6 to 9 pm (LYB only) PENDING  
**Tuesday, May 31st to Wednesday, June 1st:** School Performance Pictures and Rehearsals PENDING  
**Thursday, June 2nd to Saturday, June 4th:** School Performances PENDING  
**Saturday, June 4th:** LYB Concert PENDING  
**Monday, June 5th to Friday, June 9th:** No regular classes  
**Monday, June 12th:** Summer Classes begin  
**Monday, June 12th to Friday, June 16th:** Fairy Tale Camps (ages 3-4 and 5-7)  
**Monday, June 19th:** Open registration for 2023-2024 Academic Year begins  
**Monday, June 19th to Friday, July 21st** Summer Ballet Intensive  
**Monday, June 19th to Friday, June 23rd:** Fairy Tale Camps (ages 3-4 and 5-7)  
**Monday, June 26th to Friday, June 30th:** Fairy Tale Camps (ages 3-4 and 5-7)  
**Monday, July 10th to Friday, July 21st:** Junior Summer Intensive  
**Monday, July 25th to Saturday, July 30th:** Summer Break (no classes)  
**Saturday, August 12th:** Last Day of Summer Classes  
**Monday, August 14th to Saturday, August 19th:** Open House Week  
**Monday, August 14th to Friday, August 18th:** Maintenance Classes  
**Monday, August 21st:** 2023-2024 Academic Year begins



