

2019-20 HOLLAND PROGRAM HANDBOOK

HOLLAND AREA ARTS COUNCIL CLASSES

Creative Dance

In our 45-minute class, your child will learn musicality, coordination, classroom etiquette, and ballet vocabulary. It also provides an outlet for them to set a goal and learn the discipline it takes to achieve it.

Elementary Ballet

Elementary Ballet is an introduction to formal ballet training for 6-7-year-olds. In this class students are introduced to ballet vocabulary and barre work while building flexibility of movement, dance exploration, and classroom etiquette.

Explorer Dance

Grand Rapids Ballet School is committed to supporting those with Down syndrome to live fulfilling and productive lives. This 45-minute class, designed for children five and older, focuses on using dance movements to increase muscle tone, coordination, and ability to interact in a group setting. The result is a supportive environment where students form strong, lasting friendships.

ADMISSION & REGISTRATION

The Holland classes through Grand Rapids Ballet School has an open enrollment policy. Students generally progress within their age group. Students may register for the upcoming school year online by visiting www.grballet.com, or by calling 616.454.4771 ext. 17.

TUITION

GRBS students enroll in two 18-week semesters. Tuition can be paid in full for the year (receiving an 8% discount), by the semester, or on a monthly payment plan (incurring an 8% charge per month). Monthly payment plans are automatically deducted the first Monday of each month from the credit card information provided. Scheduled holidays, breaks and weather-related school closings do not alter monthly tuition.

Grand Rapids Ballet School maintains a policy of offering no refunds. Once the program in question has begun, tuition is non-refundable and if unused will be received as a donation. Tuition will not be reduced or refunded due to common illness or family vacation. Students who wish to may schedule a make-up class through the School Office.

LEVEL PROGRESSION

Advancement from one class level to the next is done through an evaluation process. Progression is determined by both the student's age, as well as physical and mental preparedness for the challenges of the next level. Parents and students should not anticipate annual level advancement; students often spend two years in each level.

POLICIES

Policies of the Grand Rapids Ballet School and Holland Area Arts Council

The Holland Area Arts Council lobby also serves as a public gallery. It is an open and welcome place with some seating available. Therefore, we ask that parents of students be mindful of other Arts Council guests while they wait for their children. Below are policies for GRBS Families:

- Food and drinks are restricted to the lobby area
- Only plain water is allowed in the studios
- Cell phones are not allowed in the studios
- Students/parents/siblings are responsible for picking up after themselves; this includes garbage, bobby pins, Band-Aids, etc.
- Students are expected to wait for class quietly in the lobby
- Students should please keep all valuables with a parent/guardian during class
- GRBS is not responsible for lost or stolen items
- Animals (other than working service dogs) are not permitted in the building
- While waiting in the lobby, any sibling of a GRBS student must be accompanied by a parent/guardian
- **No filming or photography of classes**
- No cameras or recording devices permitted in Dressing Rooms or public restrooms

Student Conduct

All students share equal responsibility for the vitality and well-being of the community and learning environment at GRBS. Grand Rapids Ballet School reserves the right to impose disciplinary measures for any student in violation of a GRBS rule or who exhibits consistent inappropriate/distracting behavior. Failure by a student to correct unacceptable conduct as requested by GRBS staff will result in parental notification. In serious or repetitive cases of misbehavior, GRBS may dismiss a student from the program.

The following are forbidden at Grand Rapids Ballet School:

- Physical intimidation or injury
- Theft
- Verbal abuse
- Sexual Harassment
- Inappropriate display of affection
- Possession of drugs and/or alcohol:
- Smoking: The Holland Area Arts Council is a smoke free facility.
- Firearms or weapons of any kind
- Self-destructive behavior
- Intentional destruction or misuse of Holland Area Arts Council's (or another person's) property
- Filming or photographing in the bathrooms
- Inappropriate use of the internet
- Improper use of cell phones
- Slanderous or defaming comments about other students or faculty

DRESS CODE

Students should follow the guidelines below regarding the Dress Code:

- No warmers in class (i.e. sweaters, leg warmers)
- Jewelry should be minimal (no bracelets or watches in class, please).

Creative Dance / Elementary Ballet

Girls: Soft pink leotard, soft pink tights, and pink ballet shoes

Boys: Black ballet tights or black leggings with black socks, black ballet shoes, and plain white fitted t-shirt

Explorer Dance

Girls: Black leotard, black leggings, and pink ballet shoes

Boys: Black pants, black socks, black ballet shoes, and plain white t-shirt

GENERAL INFORMATION

Class Etiquette

The following are basic ballet class etiquette components expected of all GRBS students:

Respectfulness (speaking politely, trusting the teacher's directions, addressing the instructor as "Ms." or "Mr.).

Punctuality and Dress (arrive to every class on time in the correct attire).

Focus (quiet, attentive listening in class).

Attendance/ Illness or Injury

Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes. If a student is injured, they are instructed to observe class. When a child is sick (running a fever and/or contagious) they are asked to stay home to prevent exposing others to illness. If a student is ill but still able to attend class, we encourage them to come and observe as long as they are not contagious. All injuries sustained in or outside of the ballet class must be reported to the School Office promptly. The School Office will document the incident and any medical instructions. Please notify the School Office with all cases of absence.

Lost and Found

Any lost and found items will be kept at the Holland Area Arts Council. Please see the front desk at the Arts Council about any items, lost or found.

Communication

Families receive updates from the School Office via email. GRBS also has a Facebook page that remains updated with information regarding upcoming events. **Please contact the School Office as soon as possible if you are not receiving our emails.**

Questions or Concerns

All questions and concerns should be directed to the School Administrator (school@grballet.com or 616-454-4771 ext. 17) who will address your issue through the appropriate channels.

Parent Watch Week

Parents are invited to observe class during designated observation weeks. This is an opportunity to experience your child's ballet class. This observation is NOT open to the public (siblings, friends, etc.) but is for parents/guardians to observe their child's progress. Observation weeks and parent sign-up will be posted in the weekly newsletter. **Please note, there is no filming or photography during this parent watch class. The opportunity to take photographs will be after the class finishes.**

School Closing/Cancelled Classes

When GRBS will be closed and/or have classes cancelled due to the weather, it will be posted in three locations:

- The Grand Rapids Ballet School Facebook Page
- WZZM13
- Email

As a general rule, if Holland Public Schools are closed due to the weather, GRBS will not hold classes.

GRBS Student Ticket Discount

All students enrolled full time at GRBS have the opportunity to purchase one ticket per GRB **Company** show at the starting discounted price of \$20.00. This ticket may be purchased at the Ballet Box Office, using your name and GRBS level, up to 48 hours prior to the scheduled performance. Please note, this student discount ticket is not available when purchasing tickets online through Ticketmaster. Offer is available for the student only. Offer is subject to availability.

Holland Area Arts Council Parking/Waiting/Pick-up

Holland Area Arts Council is located at 150 E 8th Street in Holland, Michigan. The building is on the corner of 8th and Columbia Avenue in Downtown Holland, right next door to Skiles and across the street from Macatawa Bank. Parking is available on 8th street, behind the HAAC, or in the parking garage off 7th Street.

The Holland Area Arts Council requires that parents come into the building to pick up their children from class. For their safety, children may not leave the building unattended by a parent / guardian.

While your dancer is taking class, you are welcome to explore downtown Holland. There are coffee shops located within a few blocks where you can rest and refresh – 205 Coffee Bar and Marriott Café are mere steps away!