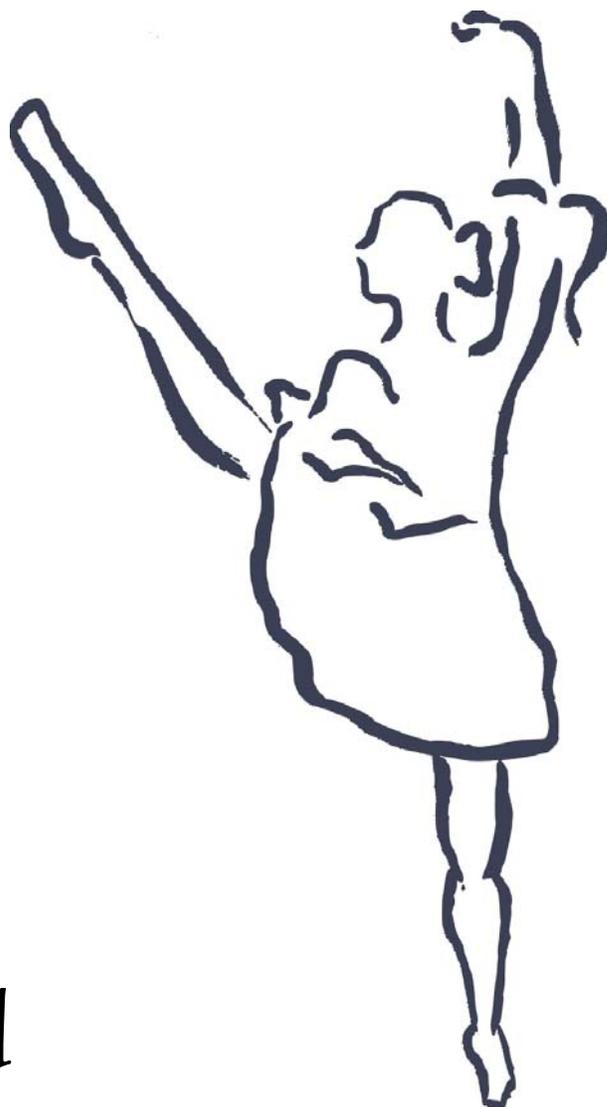


2007-2008
Ballet School Handbook



Oxford
Ballet
School

Genevieve Fortner, Founder/Director

Our Mission

The Oxford Ballet School is dedicated to offering quality training primarily for the student of classical ballet, seeking to train students who wish to either pursue a career in dance or simply enjoy the art form. The faculty's goal is to impart to all students the knowledge and appreciation of dance through the discipline of body and mind, and to develop each individual student's gifts to his or her highest potential.

Faculty

Angela Barlow

(Ballet) began her training at the age of two with Gayle Burrow and Shera Hopkins in Texarkana, Texas at Gayle Burrow's School of Dance. She has studied ballet, tap, jazz, modern and contemporary styles of dancing. Angela began teaching dance at All Star Dance Center, in Texarkana, Texas, in 2003. Angela was a member of the Texarkana Community Ballet Company for five years. Her performances with the company include *The Nutcracker*, *The Christmas Collage*, and *Coppelia*. She has attended intensive dance workshops and summer camps under the instruction of Richard and Roberta Walker of Dallas, Texas. She has continued her study of dance here in Oxford at the University of Mississippi where she has taken advanced ballet and contemporary dance classes. Angela is currently a sophomore at Ole Miss majoring in business.

Ashley Brookshire

(Ballet) began dancing at the age of seven at Dance Conservatory in Dover, Delaware. At the age of 13, she began training at Central Delaware Dance Academy and became a member of The Delaware Ballet under the direction of Daniel Kaiser. She has studied ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern and tap. Ashley attended summer intensive programs at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, Virginia School of the Arts, and master classes in New York. Ashley has had the opportunity to work and train with many artists including Gennadi and Larissa Saveliev, Freddy Moore, and Giuseppe Canale. She has performed in *The Nutcracker*, *Le Corsiari*, *Carmen* and other productions as well as competed in the Youth Grand Prix and other dance competitions. In 2003, Ashley started teaching ballet and tap. Currently, she is a sophomore at the University of Mississippi and is majoring in Elementary Education. She is active in the Mississippi: The Dance Company and performed in their 2006 production of "Play."

Emily Haadsma

(Ballet) began dancing at age three in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the Grand Rapids Academy of Dance Arts. Emily continued her training at the Tupelo Academy of Dance Arts, under the direction of Sharon Long, at age 10 and has studied with this school ever since. Emily became a member of the Tupelo Ballet in 2000, and has performed in numerous productions such as *Les Sylphides*, *A Mid-Summer Night's Dream*, and *Coppelia*. Emily has performed in numerous performances of *The Nutcracker*, roles including solos such as Dew Drop, and Snow Queen. Emily also appeared as The Fairy Godmother in the Tupelo Ballet's production of *Cinderella*, and Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*. During the summers, Emily attended the Alabama Ballet's Intensive Summer Workshops under the direction of Wes Chapman, and was trained there under master teachers—Roger Van Fleteren, Sean Black, and Amanda McKerrow. Emily is a freshman English major in the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College at the University of Mississippi.

Faculty

Genevieve Fortner

(Ballet) began her dance training with Princeton Ballet School. While in high school, she also studied with the Hartford Ballet, The Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, Ballet Magnificat and Le Centre de Formation Regional de la Danse in Nantes, France. She graduated magna cum laude from Belhaven College in Jackson, MS with a BA in English and a minor in dance. She immediately joined the ballet company, Hosanna Sacred Arts in Nashville, TN and later danced with Ballet Mississippi in Jackson, MS. Her performances include *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, *Carmina Burana*, Mississippi Opera's *Orfeo ed Euridice*, and American Ballet Theatre's *Don Quixote*. She is the founder of the ballet programs at Covenant School for the Arts, First Presbyterian Day School, in Jackson, MS, and Oxford Ballet School. She currently directs and teaches at Oxford Ballet School and teaches ballet at the University of Mississippi. (email: genevieve@oxfordballetschool.com)

Class Etiquette

As part of a student's training, it is important for the student to learn and respect the rules, traditions, and class etiquette followed by the dance and theatre world and held by the Oxford Ballet School.

Promptness and Attendance

1. Please arrive promptly.
2. Be sure to leave time to be dressed for class.
3. If student is late to class, it is the teacher's decision whether the student may take class or watch and take notes.
4. Regular attendance is very important. Any class missed can be made up in another level below. Be sure to fill out the make-up class form available at the desk.

Respect

1. Respect for the teacher, other students, the studio, the theatre, and guest artists will be expected of all students.
2. Students may not enter the studio area until invited by the teacher. Students may wait quietly in the foyer or dressing room.
3. Gum, food or drinks are never allowed in studio area.
4. No conversations between students during class, and the student's hand should be raised when there is a question for the teacher.
5. It is the tradition at the end of class to thank the teacher (and accompanist if present) by applauding.
6. If student needs to leave class early, please let the teacher know before class starts. At the appointed time, the student should thank teacher and then leave the studio quietly.
7. Hanging on barres is not allowed.
8. Cell phones should be turned off during class.
9. Bathroom needs should be taken care of before class time.
10. No street shoes allowed on studio floor.

Guidelines for Parents

1. Parents of younger students please attend to your child's bathroom needs before class.
2. Please make sure child is dressed and hair is up before class.
3. Any snacks should be eaten before arriving to the school.
4. If your child is 11 years old or older, please schedule a placement class by contacting the school director. Refer to the placement chart if your child is younger than 11 years.

Level Placement:

Your child must be at least

- three years old by September 1 to enroll for the Pre-Ballet class.
- five years old by September 1 to enroll in Ballet I.
- seven years old by September 1 to enroll in Ballet II.
- nine years old by September 1 to enroll in Ballet III.

5. Due to the open design of the studio and foyer, we ask if you are waiting for your child at the school to wait quietly as to not distract the students.
6. Class observation days are listed in the Calendar.
7. Please drop off and pick up your child promptly before and after class. Remind your child to always wait inside studio to be picked up.
8. Teachers may have several consecutive classes to teach each day. If you have a question for your child's teacher but are unable to speak with her before class, please feel free to write a note and place it in her box by the desk.
9. Any class with less than four students are subject to cancellation.

Note: Parents of younger children are encouraged to speak with the child's teacher concerning access to dressing room prior to class.

Dress Regulations

The mark of a truly fine dancer is reflected by the dancer's strong technique, artistry, simplicity and neatness in style. Teachers can more effectively correct students, and students will concentrate better without the distraction of loose hair and extraneous clothing. Therefore, we ask that no sweatshirts, T-shirts, shorts, plastic pants, or large jewelry be worn. Solid color ballet skirts may be worn in Pre-ballet, pointe and Ballet III-V classes only.

Ballet

Girls should wear a regulation leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes with elastics.

Boys should wear a white T-shirt, black dance pants, white socks, and black or white ballet shoes with elastics.

Regulation Leotards

Simple leotards with no ruffles, appliques, or puffy sleeves please.

Pre-ballet - pink leotard (may wear a skirt)

Ballet I - light blue leotard (no skirt)

Ballet II - lavender leotard (no skirt)

Ballet III - burgundy leotard (no skirt)

Ballet IV - navy leotard (solid color skirt only)

Ballet V - black leotard (solid color skirt only)

Beg. Adult Ballet - students preferably may wear any colored leotard and tights but may also wear any clothing easy to move in.

Pointe shoes - please consult teacher before purchasing.

Pink tights and ballet shoes for everyone.

Theatrical pink tights are preferable for performances.

Jazz

No Jazz boots or jazz sneakers.

Adult Jazz

Girls wear black leotard or form fitting T-shirt, black tights or black jazz pants, and black jazz oxfords.

Guys wear white or black T-shirt, black dance pants, and black jazz oxfords.

Tap

Students wear any color T-shirt or tank top (no midriff please) black jazz pants or capris, and black flat heel tap shoes. Students may need to purchase a new pair for recitals.

Hair

It is important for a student's safety and concentration that hair is neatly and securely up and away from face. No pony tails will be allowed except for Pre-Ballet students.

Registration

Registration

A non-refundable fee of \$20 per student is due when registering for enrollment. Students registering in the Fall do not need to re-register in the Spring.

Tuition

1. Tuition may be paid by the month or semester.
2. Monthly payments are due by the 15th. A \$5.00 late fee will be added to payments received past the due date.
3. Please make checks payable to Oxford Ballet School.
4. Returned checks will be subject to a \$25 fee.
5. For households with more than one family member enrolled there is a 10% discount off the tuition for each family member after the first enrolled.

Financial Aid

A limited number of work scholarships are available.

Withdrawal

If a student should have to withdraw from class, please fill out a withdrawal form available at the school. The student's place in class will be held and billing will continue until the school is notified. The \$20 registration fee will apply to students who withdraw and return within the 2004-2005 school year.

Cancellations

Cancellations of Oxford Ballet School classes due to severe weather will follow Oxford City Schools' decision.

Class Schedule

2007-2008

DAY	TIME	SEMESTER TUITION	TEACHER
PRE-BALLET		\$140	
Monday	2:15-3:00		Angela Barlow
Tuesday	2:15-3:00		Angela Barlow
Wednesday	4:45-5:30		Emily Haadsma
Wednesday	5:30-6:15		Emily Haadsma
BALLET I		\$160	
Monday	3:00-4:00		Angela Barlow
Tuesday	3:00-4:00		Angela Barlow
BALLET II		\$200	
Monday	4:30-5:45		Genevieve Fortner
BALLET III (2X per week)		\$300	
Tuesday/Thursday	4:30-5:45		Genevieve Fortner
Ballet IV (3X per week)		\$460	
Monday	5:45-7:00		Genevieve Fortner
Tuesday/Thursday	4:30-5:45		
Ballet V (5X per week)		\$480	
Mon/Tues/Thurs	5:45-7:00		Genevieve Fortner
Wednesday/ Friday	3:30-4:45		
BEG. POINTE		\$80	
Thursday	4:00-4:30		Genevieve Fortner
INT. POINTE		\$40	
Thursday	5:45-6:15		Genevieve Fortner
ADV. POINTE			
Wed/Friday	3:30-4:45		Genevieve Fortner

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DAY	TIME	SEMESTER TUITION	TEACHER
Beg/Int Adult Ballet** Wednesday	6:15-7:15	\$160	Genevieve Fortner
Beg. Adult Ballet Intensive** Tuesdays, September 11-Oct. 2	12:30-1:30	\$40	Angela Barlow
TAP I** Tuesday	4:00-4:30	\$80	Angela Barlow
TAP II** Monday	4:00-4:30	\$80	Angela Barlow
TAP III Intensive** Tuesdays, Aug 14-Sept 4	7:00-8:00	\$40	TBA
JAZZ Intensive** Tuesdays, Sept 11-Oct 2	7:00-8:00	\$40	Jennifer Mizenko
Beg. Modern Intensive** Tuesdays, Oct 9-Oct 30	7:00-8:15	\$40	Jimmye Listenbee

REHEARSALS

Friday 4:45-6:45 levels TBA
 Saturday 10:00-12:00 Levels TBA

**Open Enrollment Classes \$15 per class/\$12 university student discount
 All Classes subject to change.
 Classes with less than 3 students will be closed.

Registration fee \$20

Description of Ballet Classes

Pre-Ballet

Ages 3-4

Emphasis on creative dance with an introduction to basic ballet technique and tap steps. Creative dance nurtures the child to move freely, develop music and listening skills, and express creativity through movement.

Ballet I

Ages 5-6

Emphasis on ballet technique and beginning tap including the continual development of musical and improvisational skills.

Ballet II

Ages 7-9

Emphasis on ballet technique focusing on correct placement, body alignment, and leg and arm coordination while furthering student's ballet vocabulary, music, and performance skills.

Ballet III

Ages 10+

Continual emphasis on elements taught in Ballet II while focusing on strengthening ankles and feet in preparation for advanced foot-work and Beginning Pointe. Girls must be at least 12 years old to begin pointe. Students will be individually considered as to readiness for pointe shoes. Students must attend class twice a week.

Beginning Pointe

Age 12 +

In addition to attending Ballet III classes, students will stay an extra half hour a week to study pointe. Students must obtain permission to attend this class.

Intermediate Pointe

Age 13+

In addition to technique classes, students will stay an extra hour per week to study pointe. Students must obtain permission to attend this class.

Ballet IV

This level is structured for the serious dancer committed to pursuing a career in dance or considering a college dance degree. Students must obtain permission to take this level and must attend a minimum of three classes per week.

Beginner/Intermediate Ballet

Age 13 -18

This class is designed for the teen student who wishes to begin ballet class or to continue ballet training for the enjoyment and exercise without the higher involvement demanded in Ballet III and IV.

Beginner Adult Ballet

Emphasis on learning ballet technique while enjoying freedom of movement and relaxing tense muscles from the day's work.

Teen Jazz

Age 14-18

Students must be at least 14 years old and will be required to take a minimum of one ballet class per week to attend this class. Students will learn contemporary, hip-hop, and theatre jazz styles.

Adult Jazz

Age 18+

Intermediate/ Advanced level class

Students will further training in contemporary, hip-hop, and theatre jazz styles. Good knowledge of ballet technique is strongly recommended as a prerequisite to this class.

Junior Tap

Age 5-6

Students will learn beginning tap.

Senior High Tap

Age 13-18

Students will further training in theatre and rhythm tap.

Oxford Ballet School II

A pre-professional ballet program will be offered to the serious ballet student ages 11 through 25 by audition only. In addition to a minimum of three weekly classes, OBS II company classes and rehearsals will be on Fridays and Saturdays.

Calendar

- 2007-2008 Class Dates -

Classes begin	Monday, August 13, 2007
Fall Class Observation Week	Mon.-Fri. November 26-30
Last day of Fall classes	Monday, December 10
Spring classes begin	Monday, January 7, 2008
Spring Class Observation Week	Mon.-Fri. April 28-May 2
Last day of Spring classes	Monday, May 5
Makeup day	Friday, May 9

- Holidays (no classes) -

Labor Day	Monday, September 3
Thanksgiving break	November 19-25
Winter Break	December 11-January 6
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, January 21
Spring Break	March 10-March 16
Easter Break	Friday, March 21-23

- Performances -

The Nutcracker Ballet	December 8, 2007
The Coppelia Ballet	May 17, 2008

- Audition Dates -

Nutcracker Ballet	Friday, August 24 at 4:45pm
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- Summer 2008 Workshops -

Ballet & Art Workshop (ages 3-6)	June 16-20	9:30-12 noon
Ballet & Art Workshop (ages 7-10)	June 23-27	9:30-12 noon
Ballet & Art Workshop (ages 3-6)	July 14-18	9:30-12 noon
Ballet Workshop	June 2008	