

The School of the
Albany Berkshire Ballet
Madeline Cantarella Culp, Director

September 9, 2011—June 4, 2012



25 Monroe St., Suite #210
Albany, NY 12210
518-426-0660
admin@schoolofabb.org
www.schoolofabb.org



25 Monroe St.
Suite #210
Albany, NY 12210

Nutcracker Audition

Sunday, September 11th 2011
Open to all local girls and boys ages 4 and up. Please arrive in dance attire.

Audition Times

Ages 4 - 5	10:00 AM
Ages 6 - 8	10:45 AM
Ages 9 - 11	12:30 PM
Ages 12 & Up	2:30 PM

Students auditioning on
Sunday, September 11th will be
performing in Albany, NY and / or
Pittsfield, MA

Audition fee for Ages 4-5 — \$10

Audition fee for Ages 6 and up — \$15

About the School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet

The School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet is known for its outstanding balanced dance curriculum. Director Madeline Cantarella Culpo founded the School of Dance in 1955 with the goal of providing personal attention and training for students and professional dancers. Graduates have gone on to dance with the Albany Berkshire Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Jacob's Pillow and the Pennsylvania, Ohio, Portland, and Washington Ballets.

The School teaches the Cecchetti method of ballet developed by Enrico Cecchetti, world renowned teacher of the Ballet Russes and ballet master of Diaghilev Ballet Russes, who trained such dancers as Pavlova, Fokine, and Nijinsky. Among his protégés was English ballerina Margaret Craske who later taught at the Juilliard School and Jacob's Pillow. From Miss Craske, Madeline Cantarella Culpo developed her technique.



Artistic Director

Madeline Cantarella Culpo

Director-Founder and Artistic Director of the Albany Berkshire Ballet, Mrs. Culpo is an alumna of the Juilliard School where she studied ballet with Margaret Craske, Antony Tudor and Alfredo Corvino and modern dance with Martha Graham. She is a nationally recognized teacher of dance, having taught throughout the United States, including at Jacob's Pillow. She was featured in the November 1996 issue of "Dance Magazine" in an article entitled "Great Starts American Teacher Series" - "A Tribute to Teachers Who Have Produced Outstanding Results." In addition, Mrs. Culpo has received three choreography fellowships from the NEA.

Academy & Junior Company Program

The Academy Program of the School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet is a comprehensive training program for the talented and serious pre-teen to teen student who desires to commit more time to the art of dance. Advanced students may audition for the Albany Berkshire Ballet's Junior Company. These pre-professional classes accelerate talented students and expose them to nationally known teachers. Both the Academy and the Junior Company perform frequently in the Capital Region and the Berkshires throughout the year. Admission is by audition only.

2011-2012 Tuition Schedule – 33 Weeks

Registration begins August 9th

- * Advanced registration is required. Classes close when they reach maximum capacity.
- * Registrations are accepted by mail and in person.
- * Discounts given only if paid by date due. * Tuition is non refundable nor transferable.
- * \$20 Returned Check Fee, \$10 Late Fee. * \$15 Annual Registration Fee for all students.

Please choose a payment plan and pay by date indicated.

Plan A – Full payment by Sept. 9, 2011

Plan B – Two equal payments due Sept. 9, 2011 and Jan. 20, 2012

Plan C – Four equal payments due Sep. 9, Nov. 4, 2011, Jan. 20, Mar. 17, 2012

Class	# per week	A	B	C
Classical Program				
PreBallet 1 & 2, or Introductory	1	361	185	95
Ballet 1 and 2	1	414	213	109
	2	798	410	210
Ballet 3 and Up	1	528	271	139
	2	1003	515	264
	3	1429	733	376
	4	1889	969	497
Professional Rate	Unlimited Ballet and Modern	1976	1014	520

Contemporary Program

Modern, Jazz, Tap, Broadway,	1	414	213	109
Contemporary Lyrical Fusion,	2	798	410	210
	3	1151	591	303
	4	1474	757	388
Professional Rate	Unlimited	1759	903	463

Combined Classical and

	1	251	129	66
(Professional Classical Rate + this	2	502	258	132
discounted Contemporary	3	753	387	198
Class rate)	4	1005	516	264
	5	1256	645	330

Adult Class Card

1 Hour Classes	5 Class Card	\$71.25	10 Class Card	\$140
1.5 Hour Classes	5 Class Card	\$88.75	10 Class Card	\$175

Drop In Classes

45 Minutes- \$13.25	1 Hour- \$15.00	1.5 Hours- \$18.75
---------------------	-----------------	--------------------

SCHOOL OF THE ALBANY BERKSHIRE BALLET
September 8, 2011 – June 4, 2012

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
4:00-5:30 Ballet 3 with pointe Culpo	4:00-4:45 Pre-Ballet 2 King	4:00-5:00 Elementary Modern Homicek	4:00-5:30 Ballet 5 Geren	4:00-5:00 Pointe 1 Culpo	4:00-5:00 Ballet 2 King	4:00-5:00 Intermediate Modern 2 Piaggione	4:00-5:00 Tap 1 Flansburg	8:30-10:00 Ballet 3 with pointe Culpo	8:30-9:30 Ballet 2 Homicek	8:30-10:30 Ballet 1 Ballet 4 w/pointe Culpo	9:30-10:30 Ballet 1 Homicek
5:30-6:30 Pointe 2 Culpo	4:45-5:30 Intro to Ballet King	5:00-6:00 Academy 1 Repertory Homicek	5:30-6:30 Jr. Academy and Academy 2 Rep Geren	5:00-6:30 Pointe 3 Culpo	5:00-6:30 Ballet 5 King	5:00-6:30 Ballet 5/6 Geren	5:00-6:00 Tap 2 Flansburg	10:00-11:30 Ballet 4 w/pointe Culpo	10:30-11:15 Pre-Ballet 1 Homicek	11:30-1:00 Ballet 6 and up Culpo	11:15-12:00 Pre-Ballet 2 Homicek
6:30-8:00 Advanced Ballet Culpo	6:15-8:00 Jr. Company Repertory Swindiehurst	6:00-7:00 Intermediate Modern 1 Homicek	6:30-7:30 Lyrical Contemporary Fusion Rogers	6:30-8:00 Jr. Company Repertory Culpo	6:30-7:30 Boys Class Amato	6:30-7:30 Intermediate Jazz Pier	6:00-7:00 Elementary Jazz Flansburg	1:00-2:00 Broadway Rogers	2:00-3:00 Hip Hop Rogers	11:15-12:00 Pre-Ballet 2 Homicek	12:00-12:45 Intro to Ballet Homicek

Faculty

Deirdre Duffin Swindlehurst started dancing at age five under Madeline Cantarella Culpo and went on to be a principal dancer with the Albany Berkshire Ballet. She joined the Pennsylvania Ballet in 1980, and rose to soloist in *The Nutcracker*, *Coppelia*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Les Sylphides*, and *The Four Temperaments*. Ms. Duffin has appeared as a guest artist at Jacob's Pillow and has toured the US with Leonid and Valentina Kaslov and with Cynthia Gregory and her "Celebration Tour". Miss Dede teaches advanced levels of ballet and is Ballet Mistress to the Junior Company in Albany.

Kelly Flansburg began her training with the School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet. Kelly also studied modern dance under the direction of Claire Jacob-Zysman of the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company, and studied and performed in a Summer Intensive Program with COMPLEXIONS in New York City. She has just completed her second year as a member of Nacre. Kelly is currently a full-time student at Russell Sage College where she is majoring in Spanish Education with a minor in Dance. She will be teaching tap and jazz this fall.

Christine Geren began her training with The Northeast Ballet Company. Supported by dance and academic scholarships, she earned a BA in Dance from Mercyhurst College while also performing lead roles with The Lake Erie Ballet in *The Nutcracker*, Balanchine's *Serenade*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. Ms. Geren is currently a principal dancer with the Albany Berkshire Ballet and guest artist with the Ajkun Ballet Theatre. Her repertoire includes *Carmina Burana*, and *The Rockwell Suites*, as well as principal roles in *Caprice*, *Nocturnes*, *Our Town* and *The Nutcracker* with ABB and Chiara Ajkun's *Le Corsaire* and *Giselle pas de deux*. Ms. Geren teaches ballet and is certified under POWER PILATES® for Pilates Mat classes. She is also the School Administrator.

Alicia Hornicek is a graduate of the School of The Albany Berkshire Ballet and has performed extensively with their professional company, notably in *The Nutcracker*, *Cinderella* and *Carmina Burana*. Ms. Hornicek has been teaching at the School for a number of years and teaches modern dance, and ballet for the Pre-Ballet levels through Advanced and Adult. She is also ballet mistress for the Academy Program. She holds a MA degree from Russell Sage College and is a practicing Physical Therapist.

Nancy Ropelewski King is a graduate of the Cantarella School. Mrs. King was a principal dancer and ballet mistress with the Albany Berkshire Ballet for many years. At Jacob's Pillow she taught classes and also performed in *Coppelia* with the ABB. Her choreography "Peter and the Wolf" has been performed extensively throughout the Northeast. Mrs. King along with Artistic Director Madeline Cantarella Culpo choreographed the popular "Cinderella" and "Mother Goose" ballets.

Kerry Piaggione is a graduate of the School of The Albany Berkshire Ballet and has performed extensively with their professional company in *The Nutcracker*, *Les Sylphides* and *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*. Ms. Piaggione minored in Dance at Hofstra University and holds a MA in Teaching from Union College. Ms. Piaggione teaches at the school and assists in rehearsals for both *The Nutcracker* and the school's annual recital.

Bianca Pier is a graduate of the School of The Albany Berkshire Ballet and has performed with their professional company in *The Nutcracker*, *Corelli Suite*, and *Alice In Wonderland*. Ms. Pier holds a BS degree in Cellular Biology from Siena College and is currently working toward her PhD in Biology from R.P.I. in Troy. She has been on the faculty at the school for the last four years teaching ballet, jazz and modern. She is also a ballet mistress for the Albany Berkshire Ballet's *Nutcracker* rehearsing students from age 4 through 18.

Marcus Rogers studied in NYC on scholarship at Peridance Center, Studio Maestro and the Jeffrey Ballet School. Some of his professional credits include the national tour of *Sesame Street Live*, the national tour of *Bear in the Big Blue House Live* and Jean Ann Ryan Productions with the Norwegian Cruise Lines. Marcus has performed many principle roles with the Northeast Ballet Company. He has also worked with the Schenectady Light Opera Company, Park Playhouse, SPAC, the National Museum of Dance and Spotlight Management. Recently he performed with the Albany Berkshire Ballet in *The Nutcracker* 2009 and 2010 season. He is currently a faculty member and Assistant Director of Dance at Union College.

School Policies and General Information

Placements: Students will be placed in classes that are appropriate for their level of physical development and maturity. Placement decisions are made by the director and are final.

Make-up Lessons: Make-up lessons are offered for absence due to illness provided notification of a student's inability to attend classes has been received in advance and must be used within one month of absence. Students are expected to arrive on time for classes or may be asked to watch or attend a make-up class. This promotes an injury free environment and encourages respect for our instructors and for our fellow dancers.

Private Lessons: Private Lessons are available and must be arranged through the School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet

Recital and Costume Fees: Our annual recital takes place in late May or early June. Although it is not mandatory, we encourage participation as it is a rewarding experience and builds confidence. Costume fees are to be paid in full by **November 1st** for each class you register.

S Child-\$45 M/L Child-\$47 XL Child/ Lg Adult-\$52 XL Adult-\$57

Closings: Please phone the school for weather related closings. Check your local radio or television stations or the website or Facebook page for further information.

Dress Code

We strive to maintain a professional atmosphere for our students, therefore our dress code will be enforced at all levels and styles. All girls wear pink or white tights and white ballet slippers for ballet. Hair must be worn in a bun, no bangs. Members of the Academy and Jr. Company program have required leotards for repertory classes.

Pre-Ballet and Intro:	Pink Leotard with Cap/Short Sleeves
Elementary Ballet 1 or 2:	Light Blue Leotard with Cap/ Short Sleeves
Ballet 3	Navy Blue Leotard
Ballet 4 and up	Black Leotard
Boys	Black Pants/Tights, Black Shoes, White T-shirt
Modern	Leotard, Footless Tights
Jazz, Broadway Dance	Leotard, Tights or Jazz Pants, Black Jazz Shoes
Hip Hop	Comfortable clothing, Jazz or Dance Sneakers
Tap	Leotard, Tights, Tap Shoes
Pilates	Fitted Clothing
Skirts	Allowed the first week of each month

Calendar Information

Days Off - Parent Observations - Special Dates

Classes Begin Friday, September 9, 2011

Sep 11	Nutcracker Audition	Jan 16	MLK Jr. Day
Oct 8	Yom Kippur	Jan 20	Plan B2& C3 Tuition Due
Oct 10	Columbus Day	Jan30-Feb5	Parent Observation Wk
Nov 1	Recital Payments Due	Feb 19-26	Mid Winter Break
Nov 4	Plan C2 Tuition Due	Mar 17	Plan C4 Tuition Due
Nov 11	Veteran's Day	March 2012	Spring Open House
Nov 22-27	Thanksgiving Break	Apr 6-15	Spring Break
Dec 20-Jan 2	Winter Break	May 27-28	Memorial Day Wknd
Jan 3	Classes Resume	Jun 4	Last Day of Classes
		June 3, 2012	Recital (Tentative)

The Curriculum

Pre-Ballet 1 (3 & 4 years old) Creative movement encompassing stretching, motor coordination, music appreciation and rhythm. *Pre-Ballet students must be 3 years old to start - No Exceptions

Pre-Ballet 2 (5& 6 years) A continuation of Pre-Ballet 1 with an introduction to basic ballet steps.

Introduction to Ballet (7 years) The basics of the ballet barre are taught with development of center and diagonal floor work. Focusing on proper alignment and strength.

Ballet 1 through Ballet 3 (8 years old and up) The basics of ballet barre and center work are taught with emphasis on proper placement and body alignment. Each level builds on material learned in the previous level with more complex musicality, rhythm, and physical movements added as the student progresses. * *Serious dance students are encouraged to study more frequently in preparation for pointe work and men's technique.*

Ballet 4 through Advanced Levels - Emphasis on strengthening technique with new steps introduced at each level. Total body awareness becoming an integral part of development. Combination steps, speed, more advanced skills and musicality and lyricism are reinforced at these levels.

Adult / Teen Ballet - These classes are designed especially for teens or the adult student who is new to the art of dance or refreshing a past knowledge. Offered in five week sessions.

Pointe (10 years old and up with teacher approval) All pointe students are strongly encouraged to take ballet class twice a week. Pointe work requires strength, ankle flexibility and correct alignment. Students are recommended for pointe work on an individual basis at the discretion of the director.

Jazz Dance (7 years and up) Stylized dance form based on fundamental ballet training and notable dancers and choreographers such as Bob Fosse, Gus Giordano, and Jerome Robbins. Inspired by the pulse of today's popular music.

Modern Dance (7 years and up) Dance form based on fundamental ballet training and focusing on the modern dance techniques of Martha Graham, Jose Limon, and Lester Horton.

Tap Dance (5 years and up) Stylized American theatrical dance form using precise rhythmical foot patterns and movements and audible foot tapping. Tap dance is popular in many musicals and Broadway shows.

Broadway Dance (8 years and up) Dance class focused on Broadway style of dance. May include jazz, lyrical, tap. Mr. Rogers will introduce classic as well as modern-day musicals.

Hip Hop (8 years and up) Fast moving and energetic dance inspired by street dancing and sounds of today's urban and popular music.

Lyrical/Contemporary Fusion (8 years and up) is a mix of ballet, jazz, and modern dance techniques geared towards the trained dancer. Set to popular music, this class will focus on conveying musicality and emotion through movement in addition to highlighting the beauty, openness and strength of the dancer.

Pilates A method of exercise and physical movement integrating breath, precision, and body awareness designed to stretch, strengthen, and balance the body. Exercises are based upon strengthening the "core" muscles of the abdomen while increasing flexibility and definition in the legs, arms and smaller supporting muscle groups. Offered in five week sessions.