

YAGP Information

Ballet competition season is nearly here. We are SO very proud of the hard work all of our dancers have done! Everyone looks fantastic and has made excellent progress. We feel our kids have already won-they have learned and improved so much. And that is more important to us because we are looking at long term success and raising amazing human beings.

Please remember that YAGP can be a very political competition. We have seen beautiful dancers not place, and we have seen not so wonderful dancers do very well. Dancers should look at this competition as an extra performance opportunity and at the coaching as an opportunity to grow. Please do not put all the focus on winning or base your year's success on whether or not you placed. Ballet competitions are a matter of opinion and judging will vary from year to year based on judges' opinions. Also, competitions look for the ideal ballet body type and beautiful feet.

Parents also need to be on their best behavior and support their children in the best way (which might just be letting them have their own space). You may not understand the judging, but that is not your job. Please do not cry politics or make it about some unknown conspiracy, particularly in public. Dance competitions breed dance moms, and this is not our style at Littleton Ballet Academy.

NO DANCE MOMS!

Here are some major no-no's for both dancers and parents

- Crying in public (unless they are tears of joy). Wait until you get into your car.
- Gossiping.
- Comparing your kid to others.
- Talking about other dancers or studios in public. Even making faces or whispering is bad. Just don't do it! You don't know who is sitting near you.
- Telling your kid that she did a horrible job after she performs. (And yes, this has happened!).
- Bad behavior toward your fellow dancers.
- Bad behavior toward other dancers from other studios (even if they are rude to you-if a studio is being rude PLEASE tell Ali immediately. This happened last year).
- Bad behavior toward your coaches (this includes parents).

Schedule

The preliminary schedule is attached. The schedule can change, even the night before so PLEASE pay attention to EVERY EMAIL YOU RECEIVE!

Right now, the schedule is

Friday, February 28th: Pre-Competitive Contemporary, Pre-Competitive Classical, Junior Contemporary, and then start Junior Classical

Saturday, February 29th: Junior Classical, Senior Contemporary, Senior Men, and then start Senior Classical

Sunday, March 1st: Senior Classical, Ensembles, then the Awards Ceremony

There are also master classes. We suggest you take advantage of these! These are on the schedule attached as well.

Awards

All dancers are expected to be at the Awards Ceremony. **Please dress up.** We're talking beautiful dresses and shoes for the ladies and dress shirts and pants for the boys. (Don't forget underwear and shoes). Everyone goes up onstage and gets "presented" by school.

Things to Know

- All parents will need to check in their child the day or day he or she performs except for Ensembles. Have the numbers handy.
- YAGP can sometimes run early but mostly runs late. It helps to follow them on Instagram.
- All dancers should wear their uniforms to and from (except the from part on Sunday). You also wear your jacket over your costume backstage.
- Bring extra warmups, socks, and booties-it may be cold backstage. Just make sure you don't leave them behind.

- Leave valuables (other than phones) at home.

Costumes

Most costumes have been provided for you at no additional charge by Littleton Ballet Academy and Littleton Youth Ballet. For most of you, this means one to three professional ballet tutus, tiaras with Swarovski crystals, or professionally made tunics, as well as costumes for ensemble pieces. Again, please keep in mind that we do not charge for these costumes. We expect you to treat these costumes with respect. All dancers are required to wear deodorant. Also, we will need your help in transporting these costumes. We will let you know how you can help in the near future. But if you or your child sees us struggling under the weight of something, we respectfully ask that you help us carry whatever that is in. Thanks!

Competition Fees

Competition fees have been posted to your account. These will be charged on February 20th unless you have worked out a payment plan with us. All fees were previously explained in the YAGP letter sent out at the beginning of the year.

- If you are competing in YAGP as an Ensemble-member and you are doing one or two solos, your fees will be \$45 for the Ensemble and a registration fee of \$95.
- If you are competing in 3 or more solos, we will pay for Ensemble fee for the regionals only, HOWEVER, you will still need to pay the registration fee of \$95 per dancer (and the soloist fees).
- Please remember that we do not charge extra to make a profit like every other school does.

YAGP Meeting

We would love to have a meeting to discuss everything in person, but we know that time is limited.

Here are the two times we can meet:

Sunday, February 16th at 11:30 am

Wednesday, February 19th at 7:00 pm

Meetings should last no longer than an hour.

This is not mandatory, but it is certainly helpful, especially if your kid is not good at letting you know what happens at dance or you feel you need more information.

Costume Requirements (Ladies)

Ensemble or solo piece	Costume needs (you provide)
1-2-3-4 (Gomes, Metz, Wiley, Woodward)	Pink tights, pink ballet shoes, pink ribbons*
Barnacle Bill	Pink tights, pink ballet shoes, pink ribbons*
Pre-Competitive classical solo (except Holmes)	Pink tights, pink ballet shoes, pink ribbons*
Pre-Competitive contemporary solos (except Holmes)	Pink tights, pink ballet shoes, pink ribbons*
All Junior and Senior classical solos and Holmes	Pink tights, pink pointe shoes
Eyes Shut, What We Save Saves Us	No tights, ballet shoes should match skin
Flight, Wings	No tights, ballet shoes should match skin
Scherzo	Pink tights, pink ballet shoes, pink ribbons* or pointe shoes
Two-Part Invention, Iron	Pink tights, pink pointe shoes
Springtime, Le Corsaire Pas, Satanela Pas	Pink tights, pink pointe shoes
A Simple Moment (Janney, Armstrong)	No tights, pointe shoes should match skin
Un-Ravel (Rodawig and boys)	Pink tights, pink pointe shoes
Junior, Senior and Holmes contemporary solos	TBA-I can release another sheet closer to the date

*we have pink ribbons available for purchase at LBA

Costume Requirements (Men)

Ensemble or solo piece	Costume needs (you provide)	Costume (we provide)
Flight	Black tights, black ballet shoes	Grey mesh shirt
Scherzo	Black tights, black ballet shoes	White peasant shirt
Iron	Black tights, black ballet shoes	Black mesh shirt
Still Rock N' Roll (Ethan)	White shirt, jeans, black ballet shoes	

Indecision (Gilbert)	Flesh ballet shoes, waist elastic	Grey tights
Un-Ravel (Rodawig and boys)	Black tights, black ballet shoes	Black tights, black ballet shoes
A Simple Moment	TBA	TBA
Le Corsaire Pas	Flesh ballet shoes, waist elastic	Arabian costume
Satanella Pas	Black tights, black ballet shoes	Black tunic
Classical variations	TBA	

Makeup

All dancers will need full stage makeup. The younger kids should wear what they always wear just a little bit darker. They will be responsible for their own red lipstick and putting it on, but we feel confident that they can handle it. No parents are allowed backstage. For advanced dancers, they will need eyelashes because there are full stage lights.

Representation

Please remember that you are representing LBA and LYB so let's be nice, positive, appreciate, and amazing. Your child has worked so hard and has really come far from where he or she has started so please support your kids, don't worry about the results, and be positive role models for your kids! We are very proud of them!

Thanks!

Bobbie, Ali, and Jenn