

2026-2027 Calendar

<u>June</u>		<u>December</u>	
4	Company Meeting 6pm	5	Guild/ Company Poinsettia Delivery
8-11	Jazz Camp	15-18	The Nutcracker Rehearsals ArcBest PAC
8-12	Elevé Dance Workshop	17	The Nutcracker School Performances (Thurs) ArcBest PAC
15-19	Rhinestone Roundup & Fairy Princess Ballet Camps	19	The Nutcracker Performance 7:00 p.m. ArcBest PAC
20-21	Junior Tennis Tournaments	20	The Nutcracker Performance 2:00 p.m. ArcBest PAC
		21-1/3	Closed for Christmas Break
<u>July</u>		<u>January</u>	
27-31	Nutcracker Ballet Camp	4	Academy classes resume
		16	Spring Ballet Rehearsals Begin
<u>August</u>		<u>February</u>	
5	WAB Company Class Begin	4	Company Parent Meeting (RDA) 6:45 p.m.
5-8	Guest Choreography	TBA	RDA Adjudication
10-14	WAB Company Classes & Choreography		
13	Academy Open House 4:30-6:30, Guild Meeting 6:30		
17-21	WAB Class & Choreography	<u>March</u>	
17-21	WAB II Classes Begin & Choreography	7	Alice in Wonderland Tea Party
22 or 23	Dancewear Pop-up Shop-Location TBD	18-20	RDA/SW Festival Monroe, LA
24-28	WAB Company Classes & Choreography	22-26	Spring Break
24-28	WAB II Classes Choreography	30-4/2	Alice in Wonderland Rehearsals -VBFAC
31-9/1	WAB Class & Choreography		
31-9/1	WAB II Classes & Hair/Makeup Sessions	<u>April</u>	
		3/30-2	Alice in Wonderland Rehearsals -VBFAC
		3	Alice in Wonderland Performance 7:00 p.m. -VBFAC
		4	Alice in Wonderland Performance 2:00 p.m. -VBFAC
		TBD	Academy Spring Pictures (All Academy)
<u>September</u>		<u>May</u>	
1	WAB & WAB II Classes	1 or 2	Dance Fusion
2	WAB/WAB II Pictures 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	6	Company Prospective Meeting 7:00 p.m.
8	Academy Classes Begin	20	Last Day of Academy classes
26	The Nutcracker & Spring Ballet Auditions	21	Spring Dance Concert Rehearsal-VBFAC
		22	Spring Dance Concert Performances-VBFAC
		24	WAB II Company Auditions
		25	WAB Company Auditions
<u>October</u>		<u>June</u>	
5-8	Bring a Friend to Class week	7-10	Lorraine Cranford Summer Dance Workshop
10	*Fall Ballet at VBFAC 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.	7-11	Elevé Dance Workshop
15	Company Parent Meeting 6:45 p.m.	14-18	Summer Dance Camps (ages 4-9)
15-11/12	Guild/Company Poinsettia Sales	TBA	WAB & WAB II Company Meeting 6:00 p.m.
17	Nutcracker rehearsals begin	<u>July</u>	
		26-30	Nutcracker Ballet Camp

***Please note that some classes may be rescheduled or cancelled the week of Dec. 15-18, 2026, and March 30-April 2, 2027 due to productions and festivals.**

Holidays:
The Academy of Western Arkansas Ballet will observe the Fort Smith Public Schools calendar for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Spring Break schedules ONLY. Notification of weather-related closures will be made via email and text as well as posted on our voicemail, website, Facebook and Instagram. Make-ups are available during other class times of the same level (Example: Ballet III Monday class may be made up during the Ballet III class offered on Wednesdays). If another class is not available for the level, a make-up will be scheduled with notification provided at the next class.

Contact us:
 Western Arkansas Ballet
 4701 Grand Avenue
 Fort Smith, AR 72904
 Phone: 479-785-0152
 Email: info@waballet.org
 Website: www.waballet.org

Western Arkansas Ballet is a non-profit organization. This program is supported, in part, by the Arkansas Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Parks, Heritage, Tourism, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Western Arkansas Ballet is a performing company member in Regional Dance America/Southwest, an association of regional ballet companies.

The Board of Directors has set forth the following mission for the organization: To create a community dedicated to the Fine Arts through quality dance education, training, and performance.

Sarah Boone, President
 Felicia Lyons, Vice President
 Amber Bryant, Secretary
 Chris Hedrick, Treasurer
 Jared Mesa, Artistic Director
 Amy Willadsen, Executive Director
 Brianna Mesa, Associate Artistic Director
 Kortney Marsden, Administrator
 Allison Strasser, Dance Instructor



waballet.org
 479-785-0152
 4701 Grand Ave.
 Fort Smith, AR 72901-7141
 Enrollment is open!



Registration and Scholarship Information

Excellence in Dance Education

- Non-competitive, supportive training environment
- Focused instruction in dance fundamentals
- Meaningful performance opportunities
- Experienced, professional faculty

Ballet | Pointe | Modern | Jazz | Tap | Hip Hop

Ages 2 to Adult

Faculty & Staff

Jared Mesa, Artistic Director
 Amy Willadsen, Executive Director
 Brianna Mesa, Associate Artistic Director
 Kortney Marsden, Administrator
 Allison Strasser, Dance Instructor



CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND DRESS CODE

Dance With Me
This class introduces young children movement through music building motor skills, coordination, and confidence. Requires participation with a parent, grandparent, guardian, caregiver, etc.

Creative Movement, Ballet I, Ballet II & Ballet III
These levels teach your dancer the discipline of on how to take a dance class. As well as develop their coordination, musicality, and basic ballet technique.

Ballet IV-VI
Transforming the basic ballet technique by learning how to combine the steps into more complex combinations and focusing on the artistry of movement. Two classes a week is recommended. **Class placement at this level is by instructor approval only. Please contact the studio for information on a placement class for dancers new to the studio.**

Adult Ballet
Recreational classes for learning the basics of ballet technique to help improve strength and stability. Beginning is open to anyone, no experience needed. Intermediate needs approval by the staff.

Pre-Pointe is a 30-minute strengthening class, designed as a preparation for Pointe Technique for ages 10 & up.

Beginning - Advanced Pointe
Classes are by invitation only, and require enrollment in at least two ballet classes per week in addition to Pointe class. Required attire is the same dress as Ballet III-VI with the addition of pointe shoes. Pointe shoes must be checked by the faculty before sewing on elastic and ribbon.

Ballet Partnering Class
This class is designed to further enhance the technique and artistry level of our most advanced dancers.

All Tap Levels
Tap teaches you musicality, sound recognition, and bridges into complex rhythms and intricate foot work.

All Jazz Levels
Jazz class blends classic techniques with contemporary styles, focusing on rhythm, coordination, and performance.

All Hip Hop Levels
Hip Hop teaches you the fundamentals of Hip Hop, including grooves, footwork, isolation, tricks and freestyle skills.

All Modern Levels
Modern classes are designed to introduce a new style of movement to dancers, the principles of contemporary movement technique and improvisational skills to strengthen their movement vocabulary.

Cardio Workout
This class is a cross-training class to build strength specifically for dancers.

Class & Age Requirement	Dress Code	Class Minutes Per Week
Dance with Me (2-3 years old)	Any color leotard with tights or shorts	30
Creative Movement (4-5 years old)	Pink Leotard	45
Ballet I (ages 6-7 years old)	Light Blue Leotard	60
Ballet II (8-9 years old)	Light Purple Leotard	75
Ballet III (10 & up)	Red Leotard	90
Ballet IV (12 & up)	Dark Green Leotard	90
Ballet V (12 & up)	Dark Blue Leotard	90
Ballet VI (13 & up)	Black Leotard	90
Adult Ballet (17 & up)	Fitted t-shirt, leggings, or leotard & tights, pink or black ballet shoes	*By Session
Pre-Pointe	Color-level leotard	30
All levels of Pointe <i>By Invitation Only</i>	Color-level leotard	75 & 90
Ballet Partnering Class (14 & up) <i>By Invitation Only</i>	Solid black or blue leotard with no back straps	60
Beginning Modern (10 & up)	Leotard, convertible or footless tights, leggings, shorts or jazz pants, bare feet	60
Intermediate Modern (12 & up)	Leotard, convertible or footless tights, leggings, shorts or jazz pants, bare feet	60
Advanced Modern (14 & up)	Leotard, convertible or footless tights, leggings, shorts or jazz pants, bare feet	60
Cardio Workout (12 & up)	Fitted athletic wear	45
Tap I (6-8 years old)	Solid colored leotard, tights, dance pants, black hard sole tap shoes	30
Tap II (9 & up)	Solid colored leotard, tights, dance pants, black hard sole tap shoes	45
Tap III (12 & up) <i>By Invitation Only</i>	Solid colored leotard, tights, dance pants, black hard sole tap shoes	60
Adult Tap	Fitted t-shirt, leggings and tap shoes	*By Session
Beginning Jazz (9-11 years old)	Solid colored leotard, pink tights, black jazz pants, jazz shorts black, jazz shoes	60
Intermediate Jazz (11 & up)	Solid colored leotard, any color tights, black jazz pants, jazz shorts, black jazz shoes	60
Advanced Jazz (14 & up) <i>By Invitation Only</i>	Solid colored leotard, pink tights, black jazz pants, jazz shorts black jazz shoes	60
Hip Hop (8-12 years old)	Fitted athletic wear-dance sneakers only (not to be worn outside)	45

All levels of Ballet

Hair must be back in a tight bun. Pink tights & pink ballet shoes.

All Classes

All dance shoes are only to be worn in the studio.

Dancers must wear something over their leotard when arriving and leaving studio.

Dance with Me

Fall Sept. 18-Nov.20,2026

Spring Jan.15-Mar. 19,2027

\$100 Sessions

Beg Adult Ballet & Adult Tap

Fall Sept. 14 - Nov. 16, 2026

Spring Jan. 11 - Mar 15, 2027

Interm. Adult Ballet

Fall Sept. 16 - Nov. 18, 2026

Spring Jan. 13- Mar 17, 2027

***Adult Ballet Sessions- \$180**

***Adult Tap Sessions- \$135**

Receive a discounted rate of \$275 a session by taking both Adult Ballet & Adult Tap together.

2026-2027 ACADEMY TUITION

Registration Fee:

\$50 per family

Online Registration is available at www.waballet.org beginning June 15, 2026

To calculate tuition:

- Choose the classes you are enrolled in and add the number of minutes for each class from the Class List Chart
- Based on the number of class minutes per week, look at the tuition chart to determine your tuition based upon how you will pay: annually, by semester, or monthly.

Example: Sally is enrolled in the following classes: Ballet III, two classes per week (90 min. x 2 days = 180 min.), Pre-Pointe, one class per week (30 min.), Beg. Jazz, one class per week (60 min.). Add the minutes per class for each class to find the total minutes per week as below:

180

30

+60

270 TOTAL Minutes per week

225 min. per week = \$1684

Annually

\$790

Fall Sem.

\$987

Spring Sem.

\$208

Monthly

Scholarships Available

Scholarships to assist with monthly tuition and class uniforms are available click the QR code for information or contact the studio at info@waballet.org or 479-785-0152



Western Arkansas Ballet Annual Fees

\$50 registration fee (one per family)

Monthly tuition (Sept-May) per dancer at rate stated above

\$40 Spring Dance Concert fee (one per family)

*****Academy dancers pay no additional costume fees, choreography fees, or additional ticket sales for the Spring Dance Concert*****

All class periods are dedicated to one discipline of dance (ballet, tap, jazz, etc.) and lead by experienced, professionally trained faculty.

The Academy is in session for nine months(4 Fall months & 5 Spring months) and all tuition is based on the total annual cost of the program. Payments may be made annually, by semester, or by month. A discount applies for payments made annually or by semester. Discounts are not provided for absences, vacations, academy holidays or snow/inclement weather closures. Checks should be made payable to Western Arkansas Ballet or WAB. Monthly payments are due on the first day of the month. Automatic payments may be set up in your Studio Pro payment portal. A \$25 late fee is charged after the 5th of the month. A student whose account is 30 days past due will be asked to observe rather than participate. RETURNED CHECK CHARGE is \$25. It is understood that a student who is admitted to the Academy is to be enrolled for the entire 9-month-term. If it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw, communication or written notice from an adult/guardian to the Administrator is required. If the written notification of withdrawal is submitted by the 15th of the month (without class attendance), there will be no charge for the month. Above policies are explained in your Academy Handbook.