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Our Mission: The Columbia Ballet School is committed to helping students develop technical skills, artistry, discipline, self-confidence, and respect for themselves and others.

While these qualities are the basis for dance education, they also are critical to the development of the dancer as a person. CBS supports the development of healthy and happy people, and we do that through a partnership with students and their families.

2023-24 Season Handbook

Greetings! Welcome to Columbia Ballet School. We are so glad you chose us, and we are committed to the whole education of your dancer.

We will communicate with you by email. Emails are answered as quickly as possible.

Parking is prohibited along the sidewalk entrance at all times. This is for the safety of our dancers.

Please park and walk with your dancer to the studio, especially the young dancers. Please pick them up in the same way so that they are not running through the parking lot. Your child's safety is most important.

We want parents to watch dance class occasionally. Please be mindful of our small hallways. No strollers, toys, or other items that would block the way of others. Please come no more than once a month.

The office is staffed from 3-6:30 daily, Monday through Friday.

What to wear

Every dancer should arrive at class properly dressed, with hair in a bun for ballet, and with a water bottle.

Dancers should wear the following leotard colors, based on their level:
Pre and primary – Pink
Leotards should be Bloch L5607 or LC5607. **No skirts, please, either on the leotard or separate.**

Levels 1-3 ~ Black of any style.

Levels 4-5 ~ Any color or style.

All girls should wear pink ballet tights and pink ballet shoes. Please do not purchase bedroom slippers.

Male ballet students should wear black tights or shorts, a solid white T-shirt that fits snugly and is tucked in, white socks, and black or white ballet shoes. (No athletic shorts, please.)

For tap, musical theatre, and contemporary, the dress code is more relaxed, but dancers should wear clothes that fit the body closely and allow free movement.

All new and returning students must complete a registration form online at columbiaballetschool.com before beginning class.

Following are policies that affect all students. Please read them carefully.

Invoices	Each family will receive a monthly invoice by email. The invoice will detail tuition and any other charges. The full amount is due before the 10 th of the month, or a late fee of 2 percent will be assessed.
Withdrawal	Withdrawal from classes must be in writing, two weeks prior to the student's last day. No recital or costume fees will be refunded after Jan. 1, 2024.
Payments	<p>Tuition is based on a 10-month schedule, August through May. Studio closures, such as winter holidays or spring break, are factored into the tuition to produce a monthly fee. The first invoice includes August and September, as well as registration fees. This invoice must be paid in full by cash, check, or autodraft.</p> <p>We prefer that you pay using automated draft through your bank. We require any student whose monthly invoice exceeds \$300 to pay by autodraft. Payments are drafted by the 2nd day of each month. Please provide a voided check or appropriate account information (routing and account numbers). You will receive an invoice even if you pay by autodraft.</p> <p>A return fee of \$35 will be charged for a returned check or returned autodraft.</p> <p>If there is an outstanding balance on your account and you do not respond to our reminders, we reserve the right to autodraft your account for the outstanding balance and any late fees.</p>
Class Cancellation	Classes may be cancelled, reorganized, or rescheduled based on enrollment.
Weather-related Cancellations	CBS tries never to cancel classes because of weather, but we do not take risks for our teachers or students. If the weather is threatening, you may choose whether to bring your child, but the studio will cancel classes only if we believe travel is unsafe for students or teachers. We will attempt to notify all families about cancellations, but these decisions sometimes are last-minute. We do NOT make up weather-related cancellations.
Dance Attire	The etiquette of ballet requires that all dancers wear proper attire and have their hair fixed in a bun or secured away from their face. Dancers should wear tights and ballet shoes, as well as their appropriate leotard. Attire for tap, theatre dance, and contemporary is more relaxed. Dancers will be removed from class if they do not practice this etiquette.
Recital and Performances	Fees are assessed for recital costumes and performance costs. No recital fees or costume fees will be refunded after Jan. 1, 2024.
Nutcracker	The Columbia Ballet School company performs <i>The Nutcracker</i> . An additional fee is charged for participation, and all rehearsals take place in addition to classes so that dancers miss no class time.
Social Media	<p>We ask that families follow the studio on Facebook to receive immediate notification of class changes.</p> <p>Please do not post photographs of dancers without family permission.</p>