



Ballet Brazos

## **2018 Ballet Brazos Fee Schedule\***

Nutcracker Audition Fee: \$25 online, \$30 at the door Rehearsal Fee: \$125

*\$75 Rehearsal Fee for 3rd sibling*

There is no costume rental fee.

Late Payment Fee \$25

*If fees not paid on first rehearsal day.*

\*The above fees only cover a small percentage of our expenses. We rely on the generosity of sponsors to allow us to continue to grow while keeping dancer fees and ticket prices affordable. Ballet Brazos is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible and can be given through our website [www.BalletBrazos.org](http://www.BalletBrazos.org).

**Ballet Brazos Mission Statement:** Ballet Brazos is a non-profit organization whose mission is to instruct, educate and enrich young people and their audiences through the art of dance, and provide quality classical ballet performances for the community. These performances provide an opportunity to showcase local talent, cultivate an appreciation for the arts, and inspire the next generation of dancers. Dancers and instructors are recruited from dance studios across the Brazos Valley, and collaborate to create a truly civic ballet company.

Each August, Ballet Brazos holds auditions for its annual Nutcracker. Dancers selected for roles in The Nutcracker are considered members of Ballet Brazos for the twelve months following auditions, until the next auditions are held. During this year-long membership, dancers may be invited to participate in other performances, Master Classes, publicity events, or other community activities.

Selection of a dancer for participation in Ballet Brazos is a distinguished achievement. In order to best further the vision of Ballet Brazos, we expect that all dancers will strive to perform to their best ability, in dance and otherwise, and will represent Ballet Brazos with integrity and maturity throughout the community.



# Expectations for all Participating Performers and Families

1) All dancers will adhere to the Attendance and Tardiness policies.

- All Ballet Brazos rehearsals are important. To host a production of this kind, dancers must be willing to commit to the schedule. Only **two** missed studio rehearsals will be excused. *This excludes all rehearsals the week of the performance.*
- Please do not audition if there are conflicts with school, sports, or family engagements where you will need to miss more than 2 rehearsals.
- Please do NOT bring dancers who have a contagious illness to the rehearsals, production, and/ or performance. If a dancer has missed two rehearsals and has a contagious illness, please contact Ballet Brazos via email.
- Dancers may return to rehearsal when they have been fever free for 24 hours **without** medication and have not vomited nor had diarrhea for 24 hours. Any health related questions may be referred to the Ballet Brazos Health Advisor.
- If a dancer has missed 2 rehearsals, and will need to miss another rehearsal, for any reason, the dancer may choose to pay a fine of \$50 or be dismissed from Ballet Brazos. If a dancer misses more than three rehearsals, their role(s) will be recast.
- The Ballet Brazos Board may see cases where extenuating circumstances were present on a case by case basis. AT NO TIME, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, SHOULD A DANCER,

FAMILY MEMBER OF THE DANCER, OR GUARDIAN  
CONTACT THE ARTISTIC DIRECTORS CONCERNING  
ABSENCES OF DANCERS.

- **In the Event of Dancer Injury:** If a dancer is injured, the dancer is required to attend rehearsals to observe the class.
- **In the Event of Dancer Illness and Contagious:** If a dancer is ill and considered contagious, and has not yet missed a rehearsal, this will count as one excused absence. If the dancer has already missed two rehearsals, they will need to pay the fine for missing the third rehearsal. If they have already missed three rehearsals, their role(s) will be recast. In extenuating circumstances, the Ballet Brazos Board may consider the case.
- **In the Event of Dancer Illness and NOT Contagious:** If a dancer is ill and NOT considered contagious, the dancer should attend the rehearsal and observe the class.
- **Late Policy:** Dancers should always arrive 10-15 minutes PRIOR to their scheduled dance time and arrange to remain for the entire rehearsal time. If a dancer is 10 minutes late **or leaves** 10 minutes early, they are considered tardy. Two late arrivals/early departures will count as one absence. Four late arrivals/early departures will count as one absence and one \$50 fine. After five late arrivals, the role(s) will be recast.
- If a dancer who is cast in multiple roles violates attendance policy for one role, all of the dancer's roles will be recast.

Please note: Dancers who are asked to leave Ballet Brazos, for any reason, will not receive a refund on their fees.

2) Dancers are expected to adhere to the dress code in all rehearsals.

- Girls will wear a black leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet slippers or pointe shoes. No skirts, shorts, or tutus. On cold weather days, instructors may allow appropriate warm up clothes until dancers have warmed up.
- Girls will keep their hair secured away from the face in a classical ballet bun, French twist, or similar style.
- Boys will wear a crisp white t-shirt, ballet shoes or jazz shoes, white socks, and black tights or shorts. Hair should be neatly combed and out of the face.

3) Participating families are expected to complete their financial obligations to Ballet Brazos in a timely fashion. A late charge of \$25 will be added to fees not paid on the first day of rehearsal.

4) Ballet Brazos relies on parent/guardian involvement. The Nutcracker is a large-scale production requiring the help of many volunteers. For dancers under the age of 18, at least one parent/adult from each family must volunteer in some aspect of the production. An opt-out fee of \$150 will be accepted in place of volunteer hours.

5) Additional volunteers are appreciated throughout the year for outreach performances, PR events, and future planning.

6) Ballet Brazos dancers and families are expected to adhere to the following Code of Conduct:

- Ballet Brazos dancers and families will positively represent Ballet Brazos at all times.  
This includes rehearsals, performances, and other events, as well as in the dancer's home studio, academic school, and online.
- Dancers will respect the privacy and belongings of others. Theft, damaging personal property, and/or damaging studio property is grounds for dismissal.
- Non-dancing siblings must not be left unattended during rehearsals.
- Dancers and families will respect the dance facilities provided for rehearsal. There is no gum, food, drinks (other than water) or smoking allowed in any rehearsal facility.
- Dancers are responsible for keeping rehearsal facilities clean and tidy. Please dispose of all trash and take personal belongings with you. Ballet Brazos is not accountable for any items lost or left behind.
- Electronic devices, such as cell phones or iPods, are permitted in the studio inside the dancer's bag only, with the ringer(s) set to silent. These items may not be brought into the rehearsal room.

- Dancers will refrain from using negative language regarding their own body image, or that of another dancer.
- Emotional outbursts, negative attitudes, and/or use of inappropriate language by dancers or families will not be tolerated. In a positive forum, please present any concerns to Ballet Brazos artistic staff or board members to be handled appropriately.
- Excessive talking during rehearsal, and/or disrespectful behavior toward instructors or other dancers will result in a meeting between the Ballet Brazos directors and parents of the dancer. If the problem is not quickly resolved, the dancer's role will be recast.
- **Casting decisions are non-negotiable.** Dancers may select the number of roles they are willing to accept prior to auditioning. If a dancer chooses to decline a role, then all roles will be forfeited and the dancer will be excused from the production. This must be done within 24 hours of the cast-list being posted online or the dancer will be ineligible to audition with Ballet Brazos the following year.

7) Dancers and Families will adhere to dress rehearsal/performance rules.

- Costumes should be handled carefully. Any abuse of costumes will result in a cleaning or repair fee of \$50 or more.
- Dancers should arrive at the theater with dance wear covered. Dance shoes should not be worn outside at any time.

- Female dancers must arrive in clean tights, and have, at minimum, one extra pair of new tights with them.
- Nuditards are allowed, and depending on the role, may be required to be worn under costumes.
- Females may be required to purchase/provide pink or nude brief style ballet trunks under costumes.
- New or clean shoes are required.
- All dancers under the age of 13 must have a parent/guardian sign them in/out of the performance facility.
- **Dancers should arrive with hair and makeup ready.** The backstage committee will assist each dancer in checking out assigned costumes.
- Label EVERYTHING! Pack extra bobby pins, hair pins, hairspray, safety pins, Band-Aids, etc.
- No nail polish on stage.
- Dancers will arrive, at minimum, one hour prior to performances.
- Dancers must follow guidelines regarding hair and make-up requirements for the performances, which will be distributed prior

to the performance.

h. Dancers who are only performing in Act I **must** be picked up during intermission.

g. **EYEGLASSES:** Dancers who wear glasses will be asked to wear contacts or no glasses on stage if it does not impair their ability to safely dance. Glasses can reflect stage lights and cause distractions for audience members and can fall off during performances causing a hazard for other dancers. If a dancer must wear glasses on stage, please notify the Ballet Brazos Board President to discuss acceptable stage options such as plain, neutral colored frames, clear straps to secure frames, etc.

#### 8) Non-Discrimination

- Ballet Brazos does not discriminate based on race, sex, religion, economic status, or sexual orientation, and is an equal opportunity education facility, contractor, and employer.
- Auditions are judged by outside, guest professional judges to ensure impartiality in casting.

#### 9) Additional Opportunities

- Ballet Brazos will offer Master Classes and other performing opportunities throughout the year, based on availability.
- Being cast in the Nutcracker means the potential for inclusion in other Ballet Brazos events. The Nutcracker is our largest scale performance, while additional events tend to be much smaller due to size of venues and costume limitations. Any invitation will be made via email, and require a response to accept the role offered.

If confirmation is not provided, the role will be offered to another dancer. (Again, this is only in regards to productions or events that are NOT the Nutcracker.) The August audition is used for casting of these smaller events and are based on the level of dancers needed, attendance, and behavior throughout the season. We ask that dancers selected use discretion and are sensitive towards dancers who are not invited.

- Master class and performance invitations will be issued based on the level of the dancer. Level placement is non-negotiable.

#### 10) Communication

- Ballet Brazos will communicate with dancers and their families through the Ballet Brazos website, email, and on Facebook. Participating families have a responsibility to read all communication in order to stay informed about upcoming rehearsals, performances, and any changes to existing schedules or announcements.
- Parents and dancers will NOT contact the Ballet Mistress and/or Artistic Directors regarding casting.

### **How to contact Ballet Brazos:**

Please email all questions and concerns to Ballet Brazos at [info@balletbrazos.org](mailto:info@balletbrazos.org) or you may send a personal message to Ballet Brazos through Facebook messenger.

