

# Western Arkansas BALLET

4701 Grand Avenue  
Fort Smith, AR 72904-7141  
(479) 785-0152  
www.waballet.org

## Brianna Hagar Dance Faculty & Wardrobe Mistress

Brianna Hagar is originally from Minot, North Dakota where she began her formal dance training at the Rinat Mouzafarov's Institute of Dance and Ballet Theatre. She had the opportunity to perform soloist roles in *The Nutcracker*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Paquita*, *Chopiniana*, and *Les Sylphides*. She was the lead in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Christmas Carol* and *The Anne Frank Ballet*. Brianna was honored to perform for many years at the Norsk Høstfest, North America's Largest Scandinavian Festival. She has had the distinction of performing with the Moscow Ballet and BalletRox's *Urban Nutcracker* as a guest artist. Brianna attended summer programs at The Kirov Ballet Academy, The Pilobolus Institute and received a full scholarship to Burklyn Ballet Theatre. Brianna has had the opportunity to work with artists such as Thom Clower, John Gardner, Amanda Mckerrow, Helen Starr, Alun Jones, and Robert Mills. At Burklyn Ballet Theatre, she performed solo roles in classical works such as *Giselle*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Coppelia*, *Paquita*, and *Graduation Ball*, *Harlequinade* and *La Bayadere Grande Pas de Deux*. Brianna was the recipient of The Boston Conservatory Merit and the Jan Veen Scholarships where she graduated from The Boston Conservatory Cum Laude with a BFA in dance. While at the conservatory, Brianna had the fortune to perform works by Jose Limon (*The Winged*), Alwin Nikolais (*Pond*), and Ohad Naharin (*Three*). In addition, she also performed original works by Gianni Di Marco (*Munecos*), Daniel Pelzig (*Trio in A Minor*) and Danielle Agami (*Ema*). In 2012, she joined Ballet Quad Cities as a full company member. For the 2013-2014 season, Brianna was a principal company member with Ruidoso Dance Ensemble, where she performed *Sugar Plum Fairy*, *The Lonely Cowgirl in Rodeo* and *Medora in Le Corsaire*. Since working with Western Arkansas Ballet, Brianna has had the privilege to perform as Princess Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty* and as The White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*.

## Nicholas Mesa, Dance Instructor

Western Arkansas Ballet would like to introduce Nicholas Mesa as our newest faculty member. He began his training at the age of 13 from Thom Clower, Debbie Lee, Alexei Badrak and Erika Farrar. Nicholas has performed lead roles in classical ballets such as *The Nutcracker*, *Le Corsaire*, *La Bayadere*, and *Firebird*. He also has performed in and choreographed contemporary works for Yuma Ballet Theatre. Teaching since 2005, Nicholas has found that he enjoys helping young students grow. WAB is excited to have him teaching ballet, tap, jazz and hip-hop. Come meet this fun and engaging teacher.

## Melissa Schoenfeld Executive Artistic Director

Mrs. Schoenfeld has been with Western Arkansas Ballet for 29 years. Previous to joining WAB she earned her Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Fine Arts Ballet Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma, one of the top dance departments in the country.

While at the University of Oklahoma, she studied under Yvonne Chouteau, one of the five famous Indian Ballerinas from Oklahoma, Mary Margaret Holt and Miguel Terekhov, Professor Emeritus of Dance at OU. She was also afforded the opportunity in 1985 to travel to Russia and study ballet from Clara Nicolayevna, an instructor with the Byelorussian State Academy, USSR. During her tenure with Western Arkansas Ballet, Mrs. Schoenfeld has attended many continuing education workshops including a Russian Ballet Seminar in Denver Co., Teachers' Workshops in conjunction with the International Ballet Competition in Jackson, MS. (90, 94, 98, 02, 06 and 14). Faculty for these workshops included David Howard, Finis Young and Roni Mahler. She attended the International Ballet Teachers' Workshop in Vail, CO., which was in conjunction with Vail International Evenings of Dance in 1990, 1994 and 1998.

Mrs. Schoenfeld has performed with Oklahoma Festival Ballet Company, Renaissance Festival Featured Presentation on PBS Television and with Western Arkansas Ballet.

Under her direction, Western Arkansas Ballet Company auditioned and was asked to become a performing member of Regional Dance America/Southwest. RDA/SW is a national organization of regional ballet companies. Membership in RDA helps WAB maintain their high level of dancing and prepare students to dance in college or in a professional company.

With Western Arkansas Ballet, Mrs. Schoenfeld believes that children should have the opportunity to take dance for exercise, self esteem and self confidence. As a non-profit organization, she and WAB follow their mission statement: "To create a community dedicated to the Fine Arts through quality dance education, training and performance."



**Jared Mesa**  
Ballet Master

Jared Mesa, born in Yuma, began his formal dance training with Dancer's Workshop at the age of 17 in Yuma, AZ and joined YBT as a member in 2000. Professionally, he has danced with Ballet Quad Cities in Rock Island, IL, dancing roles as Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet* and The Couple in *Tango*, as well as Harlequin Doll and Russian in *The Nutcracker*. He has studied on scholarship and danced with Burklyn Ballet Theatre for 10 summers dancing the *Le Corsaire Pas De Deux*, *Harlequinade Pas De Deux*, *Espada in Don Quixote*, *Drummer Boy in Graduation Ball* and *Peasant Pas in Giselle* as well as many contemporary works. Jared is now an administrator and ballet master for Burklyn Ballet Theatre. His guest work includes Ballet Yuma: Hilarion in *Giselle* and James in *La Sylphide*; New England Ballet: Prince Ivan in *Firebird* and Prince Desire in *Sleeping Beauty*. Jared has also guested with Gleich Dances, based in London, England, at the Rouses Point Fête de Danse, Ketchikan Theatre Ballet in Ketchikan, Alaska, and Abilene Ballet Theatre and Patty Harper Dance in Abilene, Texas. Jared has also worked with the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders and Sheryl Crow.

As an award winner for his 2003 choreography, "Lucha con el Toro", at Burklyn Ballet Theatre he has continued to choreograph for them from 2005 to Present. He has also been commissioned to choreograph for companies in Great Falls, MT, Orange, CT and Phoenix, AZ. Jared has recently been Ballet Master for Ruidoso Dance Ensemble in Ruidoso, NM as well as dancing lead roles in *The Nutcracker* and *Le Corsaire*. Jared has a strong creative talent in choreography. His focus on developing and growing within his dance career make him an excellent candidate for teaching, performing, rehearsing and setting new works.

# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND DRESS CODE

**Creative Movement** is a 45-minute class that meets once a week for ages 4 & up. It develops the musicality, motor skills, rhythm, and coordination of young dancers. Required attire for girls is pink leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Ballet I** is a 60-minute class that meets once a week for ages 6 & up. Beginning Ballet Technique is taught, as well as the development of coordination. Required attire for girls is a light blue leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Ballet II** is a 75-minute class that meets once a week for ages 8 & up. Basic Ballet Technique is taught as well as self-discipline. A second ballet class is recommended. Required attire for girls is a lavender leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Ballet III** is a 90-minute class for ages 10 & up. Basic Ballet Technique and the ability to take correction are the main focuses of this level. A second ballet class is highly recommended. Required attire for girls is a red leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Ballet IV** is a 90-minute class for ages 11 & up. Ballet Technique and the ability to take correction are the main focuses of this level. A second ballet class is strongly suggested. Pointe Technique is offered for those given permission by the faculty. The faculty will place dancers in this level. Required attire for girls is a black leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Ballet V** is a 90-minute class for ages 12 & up. Intermediate Ballet Technique along with the ability to dance in a group are the focuses of this level. Pointe Technique is offered for those given permission by the faculty. Three classes a week are strongly suggested. The faculty will place dancers in this level. Required attire for girls is a black leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Ballet VI** is a 90-minute class for ages 13 & up. Advanced Ballet Technique with Pointe work are the required aspects of this level. Three classes a week are strongly suggested. The faculty will place dancers in this level. Required attire for girls is a black leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Intro to Ballet** is a 60-minute class for beginning students ages 10-16 with little or no ballet experience. Required attire for girls is any solid color leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes, and for boys black shorts or tights, a white fitted t-shirt, and black ballet shoes.

**Men's Class** is a 60-minute class for males ages 12 and up. Strength building and principles of male ballet technique are the focus of this class. This class requires a white fitted t-shirt, black tights, and black ballet shoes.

**Adult Ballet** is a 60-minute class that meets weekly for an 8-week session (Wednesday 5:30-6:30, Sept. 14- Nov. 2 and Jan. 11—Mar. 1). No previous dance training is necessary. Required attire is exercise pants and fitted t-shirt or leotard and tights, pink ballet shoes for women and black ballet shoes for men.

**Pre-Pointe** is a 30-minute strengthening class for ages 11 & up, designed as a preparation for Pointe Technique. Prerequisite to Beginning Pointe. Required attire is the same as you wear in your ballet class.

**Beginning, Intermediate and 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 you wear in your ballet class with the addition of pointe shoes. Pointe shoes must be checked by faculty before sewing on elastic and ribbon.

**Tap I and II** require the same color leotard and tights as your ballet class (if not enrolled in ballet a solid color leotard is acceptable) and black tap shoes. Tap shoe elastics are strongly recommended. Black jazz pants (hemmed to the appropriate length) or shorts are optional.

**Tap I** is a 30-minute class that meets once a week for ages 6-7. Basic Tap Technique is taught as well as sound recognition. The faculty recommends Ballet I immediately before or after to assist in the connection between ballet and tap.

**Tap II** is a 45-minute class that meets once a week for ages 8-9. Basic Tap Technique, sound recognition, and the ability to tap in unison are the main focuses. The faculty recommends Ballet II immediately before or after to assist in the connection between ballet and tap.

**Jazz 1, 2, 3, and 4** require a solid color leotard (preferably the same color as your ballet level), pink tights, and black jazz shoes. Black jazz pants (hemmed to the appropriate length) or shorts are optional.

**Jazz 1** is a 45-minute class that meets once a week for ages 8-9. Basic Jazz Technique, as well as basic routine choreography, are taught at this level. The faculty strongly recommends dancers in this level take at least one ballet class (Ballet II) in addition.

**Jazz 2** is a 60-minute class that meets once a week for ages 10 & up. Jazz Technique and routine choreography are the main focuses. The faculty strongly recommends a prerequisite of at least one year of ballet class, in addition to current ballet class (Ballet III or IV) enrollment.

**Jazz 3** is a 60-minute class that meets once a week for ages 10 & up. Jazz Technique that introduces embellishments and refines steps learned in Jazz 2. We strongly suggest at least one year of ballet & jazz as a prerequisite. The faculty will place dancers in this level.

**Jazz 4** is a 75-minute class that meets once a week for ages 12 & up. Advanced Jazz Technique in addition to monthly routines are the main goals. The faculty strongly recommends a prerequisite of at least three years of ballet class, in addition to current ballet (Ballet V or VI) enrollment. The faculty will place dancers in this level.

**Open Hip Hop** is a 45-minute class that meets once a week for ages 10 and up. Basic Hip Hop technique is introduced. A ballet and/or jazz class is strongly recommended in addition to Hip Hop. Required attire is appropriate fitted dancewear that you are able to move easily in and jazz shoes or dance sneakers.

**All Modern Classes** require a leotard, convertible or footless tights or jazz pants, and bare feet.

**Intro to Modern** is a 30-minute class that meets weekly for ages 9 & up. This class is designed to introduce a new style of movement to dancers who have had only ballet training.

**Beginning Modern** is a 45-minute class that meets weekly for ages 10 & up. Principles of contemporary movement technique will be the main focus. The faculty strongly suggests one year of ballet training as a prerequisite.

**Intermediate Modern** is a 60-minute class that meets weekly for ages 12 & up. Principles of contemporary movement technique will be the main focus. The faculty strongly suggests two years of ballet training as a prerequisite.

**Advanced Modern** is a 75-minute class that meets weekly for ages 14 & up. Principles of contemporary movement technique will be the main focus. The faculty strongly suggests two years of ballet training as a prerequisite.

# 2016-2017 ACADEMY TUITION

**Registration Fee:  
\$30 per family**

Registration will be accepted on a first come, first served basis through Feb. 15, 2017.

Fall Registration Day is August 17, 2016 from 4–6 pm.

**Register by mail by sending your registration fee along with desired class list to:  
Academy of Western Arkansas Ballet  
4701 Grand Avenue  
Fort Smith, AR 72904-7141**

**To calculate tuition:**

1. Choose the classes you are enrolled in and add the number of minutes for each class from the Class List Chart
2. 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.**), **Jazz II**, one class per week (**60 min.**), and **Beginning Modern**, one class per week (**45 min.**). Add the minutes per class for each class to find the total minutes per week as below:

180  
30  
60  
+45  
**315 TOTAL Minutes per week**

**315 min. per week = \$1,709.00 Annually  
\$ 802.00 Fall Sem.  
\$1,002.00 Spring Sem.  
\$ 211.00 Monthly**

Class List	Minutes Per Class
Creative Movement	45
Ballet I	60
Ballet II	75
Ballet III	90
Ballet IV	90
Ballet V	90
Ballet VI	90
Intro to Ballet	60
Men's Class	60
Pre-Pointe	30
Beginning Pointe	75
Intermediate Pointe	90
Advanced Pointe	105
Intro to Modern	30
Beginning Modern	45
Intermediate Modern	60
Advanced Modern	75
Tap I	30
Tap II	45
Jazz 1	45
Jazz 2	60
Jazz 3	60
Jazz 4	75
Open Hip Hop	45
Adult Ballet (Sep- Nov and Jan-Mar)	8-wk session \$100

Minutes of Class per Week	Monthly Tuition	Fall Semester Tuition with 5% Discount	Spring Semester Tuition with 5% Discount	Annual Tuition with 10% Discount
30	\$52.00	\$198.00	\$247.00	\$421.00
45	\$57.00	\$217.00	\$271.00	\$462.00
60	\$67.00	\$255.00	\$318.00	\$543.00
75	\$72.00	\$274.00	\$342.00	\$584.00
90	\$87.00	\$331.00	\$413.00	\$705.00
105	\$98.00	\$372.00	\$466.00	\$794.00
120	\$109.00	\$414.00	\$518.00	\$883.00
135	\$112.00	\$426.00	\$532.00	\$907.00
150	\$119.00	\$452.00	\$565.00	\$964.00
165	\$124.00	\$471.00	\$589.00	\$1,004.00
180	\$128.00	\$486.00	\$608.00	\$1,037.00
195	\$137.00	\$521.00	\$651.00	\$1,110.00
210	\$145.00	\$551.00	\$689.00	\$1,175.00
225	\$155.00	\$589.00	\$736.00	\$1,256.00
240	\$161.00	\$612.00	\$765.00	\$1,304.00
255	\$171.00	\$650.00	\$812.00	\$1,385.00
270	\$181.00	\$688.00	\$860.00	\$1,466.00
285	\$191.00	\$726.00	\$907.00	\$1,547.00
300	\$201.00	\$764.00	\$955.00	\$1,628.00
315	\$211.00	\$802.00	\$1,002.00	\$1,709.00
330	\$221.00	\$840.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,790.00
360	\$241.00	\$916.00	\$1,145.00	\$1,952.00
390	\$261.00	\$992.00	\$1,240.00	\$2,114.00
405	\$271.00	\$1,030.00	\$1,287.00	\$2,195.00
495	\$317.00	\$1,205.00	\$1,506.00	\$2,568.00
510	\$326.00	\$1,239.00	\$1,549.00	\$2,641.00
540	\$340.00	\$1,292.00	\$1,615.00	\$2,754.00

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. There is a discount 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** and are delinquent after the 5<sup>th</sup>. After the 5<sup>th</sup>, a \$25 late fee is charged. **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 is required**. If the written notification of withdrawal is submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month (without class attendance), there will be no charge for the month. Above policies are explained in your Academy Handbook.

# westernArkansas BALLET

## 2016-2017 Calendar

Fall Registration	August 17, 2016 4:00-6:00 pm
Academy Classes Begin	September 6, 2016
Studio Showing	September 15, 2016
<i>The Nutcracker</i> Auditions	September 17, 2016
Parent Observation Month	November 2016
<b>Thanksgiving (Closed)</b>	<b>November 23-25, 2016</b>
<i>The Nutcracker</i> Performances*	December 10-11, 2016
<b>Christmas Break (Closed)</b>	<b>December 21, 2015 – January 3, 2017</b>
Audition for Spring Ballet	January 7, 2017
Dance Fusion	March 5, 2017
<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>March 20-24, 2017</b>
Spring Ballet ( <b>tentative dates</b> )*	April 1-2, 2017
<i>Earquake!</i> with Fort Smith Symphony	April 24, 2017
RDA National Festival, Phoenix, AZ*	May 1-7, 2017
Last Day of Academy Classes	May 11, 2017
Spring Dance Concert Rehearsal	May 12, 2017
Spring Dance Concert	May 13, 2017
Company Auditions	May 18, 2017
WAB II Auditions	May 19, 2017
LCSDW	June 4-9, 2017
Dance Camps (detailed schedule will be posted later)	Week of June 12-16, 2017

**\*Please note some classes may be rescheduled or cancelled the weeks of Dec. 6-9, 2016 and March 28-31, 2017 due to production rehearsals at the theatre, and May 1-7, 2017 due to RDA National Festival.**

### 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 posted on our voicemail, website, Facebook, Channel 5 and Channel 40/29. 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:**

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**Email: [info@waballet.org](mailto:info@waballet.org)**

**Website: [www.waballet.org](http://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 Heritage, 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.**

Stacey Archer, President  
Becky Timmons, Vice President  
Leslie Bagby, Secretary  
Debra Young, Treasurer

Melissa Schoenfeld,  
Executive Artistic Director  
Jared Mesa, Ballet Master  
Brianna Hagar, Dance Faculty and Costume Mistress  
Nicholas Mesa, Dance Instructor  
Jody Drew, Administrator