



Benicia Ballet Theatre

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Company Dancer Agreement 2024-2025 Season

BBT Company

Benicia Ballet Theatre (BBT) is a pre-professional ballet company comprised of dancers of varying levels and ages. Dancers aged 10 and above have the option of signing a company agreement instead of a family contract. Company dancers have additional rehearsals that includes nearly every Saturday afternoon and some weekday afternoons/evenings to prepare for roles in the *Nutcracker* and Spring production. Additional performance opportunities are available to company dancers including school outreach performances, community dance showcases, and fundraising events.

Fees, Volunteer Hours, and Fundraising

Company members must pay the Company Annual Contract fee of \$400.00, contribute 10 volunteer credits (equivalent to 50 hours) per family, and participate in two company fundraising events throughout the 2024-2025 year. Additional volunteer opportunities other than the two productions are available. The following are some examples:

1. Helping with movie nights, babysitting, or other company fundraisers
2. Outreach programs
3. Student teaching assistance
4. Grant writing
5. Poster and postcard distribution
6. Promoting BBT and performances at the Farmer's Market and other community events
7. Participating in a BBT Board Committee

The Company annual fee can be paid in four installments. Payments are due August 24, 2024, October 1, 2024, January 21, 2025 and March 1, 2025.

Volunteer Fee: Volunteer fee deposit (\$300 for Nutcracker and \$200 for Spring Show) per family is required (Deposit in check form). **This fee will be held and returned to you a week after the performance for those families that fulfilled volunteer credits for this production. The Volunteer fee check for BBT is due on September 15 for Nutcracker**

and February 22 for the Spring show. Please write a separate check so we can return it to you after completion of the required volunteer hours. Checks will be kept at a local bank's safety deposit box for security.

A family may opt to "buy out" of the volunteer requirement as follows: \$500 for the season, \$300 for Nutcracker and \$200 for Spring Show. Buyout funds will be used to support the productions. Should a family opt for buy out, please inform BBT by October 1 for the Nutcracker and March 1 for the Spring Show.

All company dancers are required to stay after the last performance of each show to help clean up dressing rooms and pack up BBT property.

If a dancer decides to no longer participate in BBT Company, fees paid are nonrefundable.

Performing

BBT is a performance organization. The faculty is committed to having all interested dancers perform in professional-level stage productions. Even the youngest dancers learn from the very beginning about the policies, protocols, and traditions followed in the theater throughout the ballet world. If they later choose to enjoy dance as an audience member, they will have a greater appreciation and understanding of the art. Company members are role models for younger dancers and should respect this honor with proper dress and conduct at all BBT associated events. They are expected to treat all dancers, faculty members, and parents with respect. No dancer or group of dancers should use or abuse their power to intimidate, hurt, oppress, or damage someone else, covertly or online.

Casting

Casting is based on an audition held for each performance and at the discretion of the Artistic Director. Casting is a complex process and includes factors such as availability of costumes, compatibility of roles, availability for rehearsal times, experience and stage presence, among others.

Once the cast lists have been posted at the studio and/or emailed through our email group, please note your dancer's role(s) and cast(s) and review with your dancer. Ensure that your dancer's casting matches their availability. Each cast corresponds to the set of dress rehearsal dates and performance dates and times. If there are discrepancies in casting or if their name is misspelled, report the error in writing to the Artistic Director at teresabeniciaballetdirector@gmail.com as soon as possible. Casting determines your dancer's call times to rehearsals and shows and parent/guardian volunteer availability so be sure you understand the relationship between the cast lists, rehearsals, and performance times. It can be overwhelming at first, so feel free to ask a veteran BBT family or staff member for assistance in interpreting the listing. Check the cast lists from time to time because occasional changes are necessary.

Costumes

BBT provides the performance costumes. However, each dancer is responsible for the proper color and style of shoes, tights, leotards, hair supplies, and make-up. Shoes, tights, and leotards must be clean. Costumes are worn by many dancers, so clothing underneath must be clean, dry, and free of odor. Dancers must wear street clothes to and from the theater. Female dancers need to have a nude-colored leotard and appropriate undergarments for support to wear under costumes. Male dancers must have a clean white T-shirt with no printed design to wear under jackets and costumes.

Rehearsals

Company Dancers are expected to make a commitment to attend all scheduled rehearsals for the season's two major performances. BBT endeavors to produce well-rehearsed and professional quality performances. We try to keep the amount of rehearsal time to a necessary minimum. A quality performance requires extra rehearsal time as well as regular class training. **More than two unexcused absences** from scheduled rehearsals may result in the dancer being dismissed from one or more roles. If an unforeseen conflict, illness, or injury arises, you must notify the artistic staff as far in advance as possible to be excused from rehearsal.

A performance is a team effort. If a dancer does not attend rehearsal, it affects not only that dancer, but also other dancers who are expecting to perform with them. It also comes at a great cost in faculty time.

Actual rehearsal times for each role are posted on the bulletin boards and sent out via email at least **one week prior to each rehearsal date**. Please make a note of these times and any changes. **No dancer may miss the Full Call Rehearsal or the on-stage Dress Rehearsal.**

Email Group

BBT uses email to circulate important information about casting, rehearsals, performances, volunteering, and ticket information. Any changes to rehearsal dates or times will be announced through email. It is very important to add your email address to the mailing list as changes to schedules do occur. To request to be added to the email group, please email info@beniciaballet.com. Only emails added to the group will receive the important emails. Please add all email addresses that you need in order to receive the information.

Expected Behavior

Each dancer is expected to treat all dancers, faculty members, staff and parents with respect. No dancer or group of dancers should use or abuse their power to intimidate,

hurt, oppress, or damage someone else, covertly or online. Every role is important to the overall production and every dancer should be treated with respect.

Parent / Guardian Code of Conduct

BBT would like to remind parents and guardians that, as adults, we serve as role models for the children. Any acts of disrespect in and around the studio or in the presence of members of Benicia Ballet, including the use of foul language, demeaning or derogatory comments with the intent to hurt, intimidate, or humiliate anyone, including teachers, staff, dancers and other parents/guardians will not be tolerated. Such acts are considered harassment and may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including being removed from the show.



COMPANY DANCER AGREEMENT SIGNATURE PAGE

By my signature below, I agree that I have read the full text of the “Company Dancer Agreement” for the *2024-25 Season* and understand what is expected under this agreement, including the fulfillment of volunteer work hours and fundraising assistance. I understand that it is a privilege to be a Company Member, and I agree to hold myself to a high standard of behavior as a representative of BBT.

I hereby in good faith agree to attend all rehearsals and performances for Benicia Ballet Theatre’s 2024-25 productions. **I understand that all rehearsals are mandatory.** Therefore, if I am unable to attend due to illness or emergency, I will notify the artistic staff to request an excused absence. I will make sure that I am on time to all rehearsals, dress rehearsals, and performances. Regular attendance is necessary to be fully prepared to dance in these performances. I understand how important it is to work together as a team with other dancers, the Directors, and technical staff for the success of the entire production. If attendance becomes an issue, I will be dropped from the show at the discretion of the Artistic staff and/or the BBT Board of Directors.

In the event of missed rehearsals, I will access the YouTube channel that BBT provides for dancers. This channel allows dancers to review and practice dance routines at home in order to be prepared for the following rehearsals.

I will attend the Nutcracker dress rehearsal on **December 13, 2024**. I understand the performance dates will be **December 14 and 15, 2024**. BBT’s Spring Show will hold its dress rehearsal on **May 9, 2025**, and the performance will take place on **May 10, 2025**, at Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre.

Dancer’s Name (please print): _____

Dancer’s Signature: _____

Parent Name (please print): _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Amount Paid at Audition: _____ cash _____ check # _____ credit card