



STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

We are so glad you have chosen West Jersey Youth Ballet for your dance education! We look forward to seeing your dancer grow through their time here at WJYB. This document has all the necessary information you will need: Uniforms, Tuition, Performance Opportunities and Special Events. Please save this so that you can reference it throughout the year.

Quick reference information:

West Jersey Youth Ballet

67 Beaver Ave., Suite 19

Annandale, NJ 08886

Website: www.westjerseyyouthballet.com

Emails:

admin@westjerseyyouthballet.com

joanna@westjerseyyouthballet.com

elena@westjerseyyouthballet.com

Studio phone: 908-283-6613

Directors:

Joanna Andriopoulos

Elena Andriopoulos

Office Manager:

Kristen Klein

School Calendar

WJYB year runs 12 months, from September to August

September

10: First Saturday Nutcracker Rehearsal
12: Classes begin
26: School's Out Camp
9/30-10/2: NUVO Competition

October

5: School's Out Camp
10-16: Bring a Friend Week
29: Trunk-or-Treat/Fall Festival
31: Studio Closed

November

8, 10, 11: School's Out Camp
19: Movie Night!
21-27: Studio Closed- Happy Thanksgiving!

December

10 & 11: Nutcracker performances
17- Pajama Party!
12/22-1/2 : Studio Closed- Winter Break

January

3-7: Spirit Week!
7: Pep Rally!
12-15: Youth America Grand Prix
16: School's Out Camp

February

12-Valentine Party
17, 20: School's Out Camp
24-26: National Ballet Competition

March

11: Glow Party!
17-19: Royal Dance Competition
20: School's Out Camp
25-26: Connecticut Classic

April

7-16: Studio Closed- Spring Break
22: Earth Day Party!

May

12-14: NYCDA
26: School's Out Camp
29: Studio Closed- Memorial Day

June

TBA: ABT Exams
16: School's Out Camp
23: Dress Rehearsals for Spring Ballet and Recital
24: Spring Ballet (2 shows)
25: Recital
6/26-7/9: Studio Closed- Summer Break

July/August

7/10-8/25: Summer Session

Parent Portal:

WJYB uses Dance Studio-Pro (DSP), as our studio management software. You will need to access DSP throughout your time here at WJYB. Please download the app, available on the Apple Store and Google Play, **Dance Studio-Pro Portal**

<https://dancestudio-pro.com/online/wjyb>

All registration, tuition payment, dancewear link, spirit wear, and recital and performance tickets, school calendar, and announcements will happen all in one place!

Classes Offered:

(ages are as of 10/1/22)

Age 1.5 to 3 years: Dance Together!

Age 3-4: Pre-Primary 1

Age 4-5: Pre-Primary 2

Age 5-8: Primary A/B/C, Jazz

The following levels are by placement:

Age 8+: Ballet 1, Jazz, Modern, PBT

Age 10+: Ballet 2, Jazz, Modern, PBT

Age 11+: Ballet 3, 4, 5, Jazz, Modern, PBT, Variations

Registration Fee: \$50 (individual), \$90 (family)

Registration fees will be assessed each year on your registration anniversary.

Tuition:

Conservatory (annual, 12 months)

Part-Time (monthly)

Primary: \$3630

30 min \$50

Level 1/2: \$3975

45 min to 1 hour \$80

Level 3: \$6597

1.25 hrs \$100

Level 4/5: \$7728

1.5 hrs \$120

1.75 hrs \$140

2 hrs \$152

2.25 hrs \$171

2.5 hrs \$190

3 hrs \$228

3.5 hrs \$266

4 hrs \$288

4.5 hrs \$324

5 hrs \$340

Dress Code:

Ballet Classes

Level Pre-Primary and Primary :

Ballet tights and uniform leotard and skirt from WJYB's Nimble site. Canvas ballet shoes can be purchased through WJYB or at It's a Dance Thing on Main Street in Flemington. Hair is to be secured neatly into a classical bun.

Level 1 - 5:

Ballet tights and uniform leotard from Nimble. Canvas ballet shoes can be purchased through WJYB or at It's a Dance Things on Main Street in Flemington. Hair is to be secured neatly into a classical bun.

Jazz Classes

Form fitting workout wear, it is optional to wear a leotard. Leggings or workout joggers. Shorts are not permitted unless over leotard and tights. Jazz booties are required and can be purchased through WJYB's Nimble site. Hair is to be secured neatly away from the face.

Modern Classes

Form fitting long leggings / joggers and shirts are required, it is optional to wear a leotard. Tights and shorts are not permitted. No shoes are required. Please be prepared with dance socks or something similar for each class, please no knee length socks or socks with grips on the bottom. Hair is to be neatly secured back from the face.



Nimble Site



Dance Socks

Referral Program:

WJYB is happy to announce a new referral program for our families! Beginning September 1st, if you refer a student to WJYB, they enroll in a regularly scheduled class for 6 months, you will receive a \$25 credit on your account

Communication:

-WJYB wants to ensure that all families know what is coming up and what your children are doing in class! You may get periodic emails from us regarding upcoming events, so please make sure the email address and cell number are correct on your account.

Attendance:

For the continued progression of your dancer, regular attendance at classes is important. Teachers have arranged their classes with a progression in mind, and missing class leaves holes in the student's experience.

If a dancer has a fever or is significantly ill or contagious, keep your child home.

If your child has an injury or minor discomfort, we encourage them to observe their class. For students age 8 and older, we have observation forms we ask them to fill out as the class happens, and we involve them in class discussion. It is valuable, and concepts do not get missed, even if they can not participate physically.

For the safety of all dancers, any student entering class more than 15 minutes late may be asked to observe. This is not punishment for your child or you! Each class has been crafted so that our dancers' safety is paramount. Please understand that we do not want your child to injure themselves in class by not being properly warmed up. We appreciate your understanding!

Policies/Code of Conduct:

-Tuition is due on the 1st of the month. We require a credit card on file, and will post tuition to that card on the 1st of the month. If you need to pay another way, please discuss with us. Please be aware, if tuition is not paid by the 5th of the month, a \$15 late fee will apply. We highly encourage the auto-pay option to avoid late fees. If an account goes beyond 30 days in arrears, WJYB may seek additional debt collection services, at the expense of the account holder.

-First and last month tuition is due at registration. If you wish to withdraw from the class, you must give us 30 days notice, and your last month tuition payment will apply to the last month you are with WJYB.

-There are no refunds of payments once paid to WJYB. We have monthly options, so if you are unsure that you will be staying through the year, choose the monthly option rather than pay in full.

-Parents will be asked to sign a photo/video release prior to completing registration, as well as a medical/liability waiver. This is also found in your DSP account.

-No classes, including private lessons, should be interrupted. Parents are encouraged to wait in our waiting room or kitchen. Students do their best work when their parents are not watching!

-Please assure that your child is picked up in a timely manner. Our studio is a family friendly environment, and many of our students do stay in between classes and rehearsals if they are in multiple in one day. Please notify us if your child will be staying, so that we are aware of the arrangements. Please make sure your child knows the arrangements as well! We do have a refrigerator and microwave in the event they need to have food or snack. You are welcome to leave a ziploc bag of snacks with your child's name on it in the cabinet. We do not take responsibility for any missing food, so please make sure it is clearly labeled. All food must be consumed in the kitchen.

-All questions regarding your dancer's tuition, progress, etc., must go through reception. The best way to address any issues you may have is via email, and we aim to answer each email within 24 hours. Please do not approach teachers with questions before, during, or after class, as their time is valuable in the studio. We will be happy to answer any concerns you may have outside of class times.

-Any instances of bullying, cyber bullying, disrespect or defamation will not be tolerated at WJYB. If there are issues that arise with a student or parent, we will call a meeting with the Directors to discuss. Dependent on severity, a student or family may be dismissed from the studio or a plan will be established to ensure the issues do not arise again.

-We provide permanent cubbies for Conservatory students, and temporary cubbies for Part time students. Conservatory students may keep their belongings at the studio, but WJYB does not take responsibility for any lost or stolen property. If you are a part time student, please use the temporary cubbies while you are in class, and remove all items when you leave for the day. All items left in temporary cubbies will be removed and placed in the lost and found. The lost and found is located inside the main office.

Safety:

The directors and staff at WJYB are educated in the negative impact of inappropriate music and costume selection when it comes to performing dance routines and are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring children in all of our dance routines are not subjected to any inappropriate songs or costuming. We recognize that songs with sexist, explicit, violent, racist, homophobic or criminal content may influence our dancers and/or audience and will strive to avoid using such music. We are committed to restricting costumes that project sexuality, contain explicit graphic or textual content.

If your child has an allergy, or requires the use of an epi-pen or other medication, please let us know. If there are no allergies, we will not limit the type of food at the studio, but if there is a necessity, we are happy to alert everyone to products that should not enter the studio.

Privacy:

When you register, we collect information for the purposes of your time at WJYB. We promise that this is confidential, and will not be shared with anyone outside the staff. Directors, and our office manager will have full access to the information, and our faculty will have limited access to certain information.

Social Media:

WJYB is on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. We routinely post on social media for promotional purposes, to congratulate our dancers for achievements and also, starting in September, we will also recognize studio birthdays! When indicated, we may use first names (such as for birthdays) in our posts.

Please be mindful of your posts when representing WJYB as a volunteer.

Please, out of courtesy, ask the parents of other children if you wish to post a photo on your social media that includes their child.



@westjerseyyouthballet



West Jersey Youth Ballet

Examinations:

WJYB presents students annually for the American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum examinations. As a Conservatory student, you are required to participate. Part-time students are highly encouraged to participate. In January, we will provide recommendations for exam level placement. We are conservative in our placement, and want all students to pass their exam. Please trust that we know what level your child will excel in!

Students will be asked to memorize a class, and with minimal cues from the teacher, will present this class to the ABT examiner that will visit WJYB. The students will also participate in a Master class taught by the examiner the following day. Students must be 5 years and 6 months minimum to present for examinations.

Competitions and Conventions:

WJYB Conservatory students have the opportunity to participate in Competitions and Conventions throughout the year. For more information on Competitions, please discuss with the Directors.

All WJYB students are invited to participate in Conventions. These are multi-day events and may require travel.

Students at WJYB must enter any competition as a WJYB student, and may not enter as Independent. All choreography is the property of the studio, and may not be performed, competed or presented without the express written permission of the studio directors and choreographer.

Performances:

The Nutcracker: Dancers age 4 and older are invited to audition for our annual Nutcracker production. Rehearsals are generally held on Saturday afternoons from September through the performance in December. Please ask the Directors if you are interested in participating.

Participation fee: \$400 for non-WJYB students, \$300 for WJYB Part-Time, and included in Conservatory tuition

Story Ballet: Dancers age 7 and up are invited to participate in our June Story Ballet. Each year, a different ballet is chosen, from Classical favorites to original works choreographed by our faculty! Rehearsals are generally held on Saturdays from mid-January through June. Please ask the Directors if you are interested in participating.

Participation fee: \$400 for non-WJYB students, \$300 for WJYB Part-Time, and included in Conservatory tuition

Recital: For dancers under age 7, and certain older classes, we will offer the opportunity to participate in a recital dance. Information regarding the recital will be provided in January.