



# Pre-Professional Division Handbook 2015-2016

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## Pre-Professional Division Handbook 2015-2016

### Welcome!

Last season, BCA's Pre-Professional division made new and impressive strides. We produced Winter Works and Pre-Pro dancers excelled in contemporary and well as classical work. Last season's Spring Ballet "A Midsummer Night's Dream" also developed the range of our dancers, including numerous soloist roles for many of our Pre-Pros. In addition, Summer Intensive 2015 was our largest on record and also had the largest percentage of non-BCA dancers to date. Our dancers also earned wide-spread admission to some the finest Summer Intensive programs in the U.S. All told Pre-Pros displayed excellent work, a testament to the unified training that BCA dancers continue to receive.

As we look forward to the 2015-2016 season, we have a number of rising seniors that will begin auditioning for professional positions and/or applying to college. We look forward to the new opportunities that await these talented BCA Pre-Pros!

We also look forward to welcoming a new Year 1 track during Fall 2015. Many of these dancers took the Summer Intensive 2015 at BCA. And while they are all new to the Pre-Pro division, many have been taking Children's Classes for some time now and are ready to take a new step forward. On behalf of everyone in the Pre-Pro division, welcome new PP1s!

You are now on your way to gaining the best ballet training possible -- through both class lessons and professional stage experience -- so that you are fully prepared to launch a professional dancer career following high school or college. Please make sure to read this Handbook thoroughly. It's filled with lots of important information about the Pre-Pro program at BCA, including required classes, dress code, and much, much more. Make sure to visit the pre-professional site at BCA for more info visit [BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/prepro](http://BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/prepro).

See you in class!

Cordially,

Angie Lynn, Director  
Wayne Burritt, Ballet Master

### What's New

- The Calendar has changed: Make sure to update your calendars!

### What We Expect From You

Dancers who successfully pass an audition for our Pre-Professional division are required to take their level-specific classes, participate in BCA's productions -- including the Nutcracker and Spring ballet -- and attend class throughout the summer, including a recommended BCA summer intensive program. Other requirements include periodic progress conferences with the dancer and their parents, special rehearsals and activities, and absence policy, among others. All Pre-Pro dancers and their parent/guardian are required to sign a Pre-Pro contract prior to enrollment.

In addition, we expect all Pre-Pros to finish our 8 year training program, beginning with the Year 1 Class (5th academic grade) and ending with the Year 8 Class (12th academic grade). Only by committing to the full program does the dancer reap the highest benefit of our training program and the Vaganova (Russian) training syllabus. Sticking with the program is especially important during the extremely valuable intermediate and advanced year classes that begin in Year 4 Class (8th academic grade) and continue through Year 8 Class (12th academic grade).

That being said, we also understand that 8 years is a long time horizon and many things can change. Dancers and their families can move; dancers can lose interest in becoming professional dancers, especially as they enter high school; and dancers can decide to train elsewhere. We understand all this and want every Pre-Pro and their family to know that we will support them in any transition that may become necessary during the 8 year program. In the end, we want all our BCA dancers to gain the greatest happiness possible in their dance and their lives.

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### Absences

Pre-Pro dancers are allowed one absence per month (nine per school year) from a BCA required class, performance, or activity during the school year. Absences due to illness do not count. Excessive absences are grounds for immediate dismissal. Dancers are required to notify BCA if they are going to miss a required class, performance, or activity. Email and phone calls are acceptable. Dancer agrees not to be absent one month prior to a BCA performance.

### Ballet Outside of Class

- Go to ballet performances as much as possible.
- Participate in all BCA performance field trips, including Ballet in Cinema.
- Get ballet books and DVDs from the library or the book store. Study them.
- Go online and check out the tons of information on ballet.
- Watch YouTube.

### Calendar 2015-2016

Below is BCA's major event calendar. For a more detailed calendar, visit [BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/calendar](http://BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/calendar). All calendars are subject to change without notice.

Wed 6-3-15			Summer Classes Begin
Mon 6-22-15	to	Sat 7-18-15	BCA Summer Intensive 2015
Sun 8-9-15			Auditions for BCA's Pre-Pro Division & 2015 Nutcracker
Sat 8-15-15			Summer Classes End
Mon 8-17-15			Fall 2015-2016 Classes Begin
Wed 11-25-15	to	Sat 11-28-15	Thanksgiving Break
Sat 12-12-15			Fall Classes End
Mon 12-14-15	to	Fri 12-18-15	Nutcracker Rehearsals at DWT
Wed 12-16-15			Nutcracker Performances at DWT
Thu 12-17-15			Nutcracker Performances at DWT
Fri 12-18-15			Nutcracker Performances at DWT
Mon 12-21-15	to	Sat 1-2-16	Christmas Break
Mon 1-4-16			Winter/Spring Classes Begin
Sun 2-14-16			BCA Summer Intensive 2016 Auditions
Fri 3-4-16	to	Sat 3-5-16	Winter Works Rehearsals at DWT

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Sat 3-5-16			Winter Works Performance at DWT
Mon 3-28-16	to	Sat 4-2-16	Spring Break
Sun 5-15-16			Recital 2016 at DWT @ 2:00, 4:00, & 6:00
Sat 5-21-16			Winter/Spring Classes End
Mon 5-23-16	to	Sat 5-28-16	Spring Ballet Rehearsals at DWT
Fri 5-27-16			Spring Ballet Performances at DWT
Sat 5-28-16			Spring Ballet Performances at DWT
Mon 5-30-16			Summer Classes Begin
Mon 6-20-16	to	Sat 7-16-16	BCA Summer Intensive 2016
Sun 8-7-16			Auditions for BCA's Pre-Pro Division & 2016 Nutcracker
Sat 8-13-16			Summer Classes End
Mon 8-15-16			Fall 2016-2017 Classes Begin

### Classes & Rehearsals: School-Year 2015-2016

See the Pre-Pro Schedule for details. It is available for download at [BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/prepro](http://BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/prepro).

### Classes & Rehearsals: Summer 2015

During the 2016 summer (May 30 to August 13, 2016) BCA dancers must attend a BCA approved summer intensive for a minimum of four weeks. In addition, dancers are encouraged to attend daily open summer classes at BCA when in town. By doing so, the dancer should gain excellent progress and continuity during the important summer training months.

### Class Behavior

- Time permitting, arrive a minimum of 20 minutes early to warm up.
- When arriving for class, make sure your ballet attire and hair are properly done. Enter class quietly with a clear focus on ballet class.
- Don't talk in class. If you're waiting for your turn to dance, stand to the side of the room and study what your fellow students are doing. Don't lean on the barres or sit in class.
- Work hard in class. Don't allow yourself to get distracted. Focus on picking up the exercises quickly and don't allow mistakes to keep happening.
- We all have lots of questions. But most of the time if you're patient your question will be answered without having to ask it.

### Conferences

Pre-Pro dancers and their parent/guardian must attend teacher conferences as required.

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### Contract

Pre-Pro dancers and their parent/guardian are bound by a Pre-Professional contract.

### Curriculum, Program Levels, & Training

BCA's Pre-Professional division prepares dancers ages 10 (5th graders) and up for careers in the dance profession, post-secondary dance programs and universities, conservatories, and other top pre-professional programs. It is comprised of three programs: Beginner (5th & 6th graders), Intermediate (7th & 8th graders), and Advanced (9th-12th graders). Placement is based upon BCA program needs, talent, experience, maturity, academic grade and age, among others. For dancers in 7th grade or higher who may not yet be ready for the pre-pro program, BCA offers a Trainee Program.

Pre-Professional division classes are based on the 8 year Vaganova School curriculum currently in use today throughout Russia. This method of ballet training has produced world-class dancers consistently since 1738 and is the undisputed training method for many of the world's top ballet schools.

BCA Pre-Pro Program	Academic Grade	Vaganova Curriculum
PP1	5th Grade	Year 1 Class (Elementary)
PP2	6th Grade	Year 2 Class (Elementary)
PP3	7th Grade	Year 3 Class (Elementary)
PP4	8th Grade	Year 4 Class (Intermediate)
PP5	9th Grade	Year 5 Class (Intermediate)
PP6	10th Grade	Year 6 Class (Intermediate)
PP7	11th Grade	Year 7 Class (Advanced)
PP8	12th Grade	Year 8 Class (Advanced)

It typically takes a dancer eight years to finish their fundamental schooling in ballet. As a result, a dancer who begins with BCA in the fifth grade can expect to accomplish all their lessons and achieve a professional skill-set by the twelfth grade of high school.

We use the ballets from the unparalleled Russian tradition -- such as Giselle, Nutcracker, and Coppelia -- to provide crucial performing and training opportunities for our talented young dancers. By dancing in these ballets, students will bring to life the ballet technique practiced each day in class. This classical connection between the classroom and the stage offers our dancers an unparalleled insight into why they are doing what they are doing.

In addition, they experience some of the most beautiful and moving ballets ever produced for the stage. BCA pre-professionals are routinely cast in soloist and corps de ballet roles in our productions. We produce our ballets at Asheville's Diana Wortham Theatre, widely considered to be one of the finest dance venues in the U.S.

### Dismissal & Resignation

BCA may dismiss the dancer at anytime, for any reason, without cause or notice. Dancer may resign from the BCA Pre-Pro program with 30 days written notice to BCA.

### Dress Code

All Pre-Professionals are required to purchase the appropriate leotard, tights and shoes for their class. These items can be purchased at Sock Basket Asheville, 99 Edgewood Rd., Asheville, NC. Call (828) 251-7072.

- All Pink Tights: Body Wrappers A46 Mesh Classical Ballet Pink Tights
- PP1: Capezio TB1420 Royal Blue Cami Leotard with Adjustable Strap
- PP2: Eurotard 44819 Purple Adult Cami Leotard with Adjustable Strap

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- PP4: Mirella Garnet Leotard
- PP6: Any Black Leotard
- Pre-Pro Trainees: Capezio CC102 Navy Blue Leotard
- Boys: MStevens Black Footed Tights, Capezio Full-Seated Dance Brief, Black Sansha Pro Ballet Shoes, Black Socks, White T-Shirt
- Modern: Black tights, level-specific leotard, and bare feet
- Ballet Shoes: Body Wrappers Angelo Luzio Canvas Ballet Shoe, Style Wendy or Maria
- Pointe Shoes: Russian Pointe is recommended, but any shoe is permitted.
- BCA Warm-ups: Available at the Front Desk.

For ballet and pointe shoes, Pre-Pros may substitute a brand of their choosing if the BCA recommended brand doesn't work. No sports bras, regular bras, or panties. Dance bras with nude or clear straps are permissible. Only BCA approved warm-ups are allowed in class. Leg warmers, sweat pants, sweaters, skirts, and other extras are not permitted. Dancers may use their existing dancewear until new dancewear is needed. BCA approved dancewear is available at The Sock Basket Asheville, 99 Edgewood Rd., Asheville, NC 28804, (828) 251-7072.

### Faculty: Pre-Professional Division

#### Angie Lynn, Director

Ballet, Pointe, Repertory

Angie Lynn was born in England and enjoyed an extensive professional dance career, after training at The Arts Educational Schools, London, earning a diploma in dance performance. As a certified associate member of the Royal Academy of Dance and the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance, she earned certificates in classical ballet and modern dance education. She first joined Vienna Festival Ballet, touring in "Swan Lake" throughout England and Europe. She then ventured into musical theatre, performing for 6 years in Andrew Lloyd Webber's world-class productions of "Cats", as Victoria, the white cat; and "Phantom of the Opera", as Meg Giry.



#### Wayne Burritt, Ballet Master

Ballet, Pointe, Boy's Class, Variations, Repertory

Wayne serves as the BCA's Ballet Master. He studied at Orlando Ballet School (formerly Southern Ballet Theatre) and San Francisco Ballet. He danced professionally for Naples Ballet Theatre and Demetrius Klein Dance Company. His students have been placed in many of the most prestigious ballet schools in the U.S. -- including American Ballet Theatre School, School of American Ballet, and San Francisco Ballet -- as well as top-ranked University ballet programs -- including Indiana University, Butler University, and the University of Oklahoma. Wayne's students have also gone on to dance for Miami City Ballet, Nashville Ballet, Alabama Ballet, as well as on Broadway. Wayne completed Vaganova Teacher Training grades one through five with John White and two-year Professional Ballet Teacher Training with Ruth C. Petrinovic. He holds an MBA in Arts Management from Golden Gate University and a BA in English and Philosophy from Indiana University.



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### Performances & Activities

Pre-Pro dancers must participate in all performances, technical rehearsals, dress rehearsals, costume fittings and other related activities required by BCA, including The Nutcracker and Spring ballet productions. Some of these activities may occur on school days or nights. Classes and rehearsal are subject to change.

### Policies & Procedures

Pre-Pro dancers and their families must comply with BCA's Policies & Procedures. BCA maintains current Policy & Procedures at [BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com](http://BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com). These may be updated as necessary to maintain clear and helpful guidelines for students, families and the studio.

### Tuition & Fees

The BCA annual dance year runs mid-August through end of May and dance students enroll for the full dance year. Written withdrawal requests should be received by BCA 30 days before withdrawal date. Current Pre-Pro tuition and fees are listed on the form "Pre-Professional Schedule". You can download that form at [BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/prepro](http://BalletConservatoryofAsheville.com/prepro).

All BCA students -- including Pre-Pros -- are required to register, establish a payment schedule, pay registration fee and their initial tuition payment, and then maintain a paid balance in order to attend any BCA class, private lesson or workshop. Balances unpaid 30 days after due date should be settled before student continues to attend. Payments 7 days after due date will incur a \$10 late fee.