



Preparatory Division Agreement 2011-2012

Please read each section and initialize below, indicating that you have read, agree to comply with and/or understand each statement.

The Preparatory Divisions I, II, III are the primary levels for establishing intermediate technique. The Prep Division syllabus leads to the pre-professional levels (Ensemble and Apprentice programs) of The Georgia Ballet School. Dancers of the Preparatory Division are expected to commit themselves to the program for the entire academic year: August 22, 2011 – May 26, 2012.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

Training

Each Prep Division student is required to minimally attend a program of regular dance instruction. For students interested in increasing their rate of skill growth, or who are interested in making dance a career choice, extra ballet classes are very strongly encouraged. These classes are at no charge and are subsidized by the ballet on the dancer's behalf. Dancers may take classes on their free days. Extra class schedules are designed on an individual basis according to the needs of each student and are generally taken at a lower level. The student's parent must consult the artistic director, school director or assistant school director for a personalized schedule before taking an extra class.

The Georgia Ballet School's syllabus and curriculum are carefully and specifically designed to maximize each dancer's potential by means of a thorough grounding in our methods. Therefore, all students of the Preparatory Division (as well as the entire Upper School) may not take dance classes of any kind outside of The Georgia Ballet School without approval and permission of the artistic director or the school director.

The summer months are an extremely important time for student dancers, and provide an opportunity for dramatic improvement in skill growth. For this reason, The Georgia Ballet's summer intensive program, held in June*, will be a requirement of each dancer in the Preparatory Division. For the benefit of our students, and in order to best guide them, attendance at summer dance programs other than The Georgia Ballet's intensive must be discussed with, and approved by, the artistic director or the school director. To clarify, attendance at other programs does not waive the requirement for The Georgia Ballet's summer program.

*Four weeks are required for graduating Prep III dancers; three weeks are required for graduating Prep I and II dancers.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

Performances

All performance opportunities are optional in the Prep Division. However, once a dancer has committed to any performance, he/she is expected to follow through on this commitment. The Artistic Staff reserves sole authority in the selection and casting of dancers for any given ballet. Respect for this authority is appreciated.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

Weekly Rehearsal and Schedule Notes

Weekly rehearsal and schedule notes are posted each Monday on the website and the school bulletin board for the entire week. Sometimes, due to unforeseen problems or schedule conflicts, the schedule may be adjusted during the course of the week. This will be the exception rather than the rule; however, it is the responsibility of the **student** to check the schedule on a **daily** basis.

Those dancers listed for any given rehearsal are **required** to attend that rehearsal, which may include Saturdays or Sundays. Dancers must remain at all rehearsals – studio or theatre- until excused by the Artistic Staff.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

Absences

Absence from *class* and absence from *rehearsal* will be dealt with separately. For the purpose of monitoring class absences, the ballet school year will be divided into two semesters as follows:

1st Semester August 22nd - January 14th

2nd Semester January 16th – May 26th

Class Absences

During a semester, a dancer must not be absent from class more than **four** times. The dancer's parent must call the School before class begins to report the absence. ***A fifth absence from class within a semester will be considered unexcused and must be made up within one month.*** A dancer with excessive absences may be dismissed from the program.

Rehearsal Absences

All rehearsals are mandatory. Absence from rehearsal must be reported in advance and must be approved by the Artistic Staff prior to the rehearsal. In the case of illness, the dancer's parent must call the school before the rehearsal begins to report the absence. Any absence *may* result in a dancer being pulled from a performance.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

Termination

A dancer may be notified of dismissal from the Prep Division program for any of the following violations:

- A. Excessive absence
- B. Violations of the Student Rules of Conduct and/or Theatre Rules of Etiquette (to be found on website):
<http://www.georgiaballet.org/pdf/GeorgiaBalletSchoolHandbook.pdf>
- C. Disrespectful behavior by the student or his/her parent towards any other dancer, teacher, staff member or GAB parent/community member.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

A Positive Spirit!

All members of our ballet community are expected to participate in promoting and maintaining a positive manner and a positive environment in which to do our work. It is strongly encouraged for dancers and parents to discuss any concerns about the program in private with the artistic director, school director and/or assistant school director, as opposed to other parents, to avoid miscommunication, misunderstanding and/or misinformation.

_____ (student)

_____ (parent)

I have read, agree to comply with, and understand all items contained in this document.

Student signature Date

Parent signature Date

Print student name

Print parent name