

Benicia Ballet Theatre, Inc.
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Company Dancer Agreement 2022-2023 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 rehearse nearly every Friday evening and Saturday afternoon and sometimes other weekday evenings to prepare for roles in the *Nutcracker* and Spring production. They also have other opportunities to perform with BBT in school outreach performances, community dance showcases, and fundraising events.

Fees, Volunteer Hours, and Fundraising

Company members must pay the Company Contract fee of \$350.00, contribute 50 family volunteer hours, and participate in two company fundraising events throughout the 2022-23 year. Company members do not pay the costume rental fee, so if you know your dancer can commit to both productions, there is a \$50 annual savings over the family contract. Company families have to volunteer a total of 10 credits per family (5 hours per credit). However, there are more volunteer opportunities available than just the two productions. Company families can earn volunteer credits by working the following events:

1. Volunteering for Nutcracker and the Spring show
2. Helping with movie nights, babysitting, or other company fundraisers
3. Outreach programs
4. Student Teaching assistance
5. Grant writing
6. Poster and postcard distribution
7. Working at Farmer's Market table

The Company annual fee can be paid in four equal payments. First payment is due by August 20. The second payment is due by October 1. The third payment is due January 21, 2023. The final payment is due by March 1, 2023.

A family may “buy out” of the volunteer work hour requirement for \$500 for the season, \$300 for Nutcracker and \$200 for Spring Show, in order to allow BBT to hire people to fill in where volunteers would otherwise be needed. 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 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 the policies, protocols and traditions followed in the theater throughout the ballet world. If they later chose to enjoy dance as an audience member, they will have a greater appreciation and understanding of the art. As company members, they 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. If a dancer will not be available for one or more dress rehearsals or performance times, be sure to contact the Artistic Director directly at teresabeniciaballetdirector@gmail.com. Casting is a complex process and includes factors such as number and relative sizes 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 or emailed to the through our Google email group, note your dancer’s role(s) and cast(s). Each cast corresponds to the set of dress rehearsal dates and performance dates and times, and may include weekday outreach performances. Make sure your dancer’s casting matches her/his availability. If there are discrepancies in casting or if her/his name is misspelled, report the error in writing to the BBT office at once. Casting determines your dancer’s call times to rehearsals and shows and volunteer availability so be sure you understand the relationship between the cast lists, rehearsal 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 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 the 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 Director Teresa Taylor (teresabeniciballetdirector@gmail.com) 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 electronically via the Google group email list at least **one week prior to each rehearsal date**. Please make a note of these times and any changes. **No dancer may miss the on-stage Dress Rehearsal.**

Google Group

BBT uses info@beniciaballet.com and beniciaballet.board@gmail.com to circulate important information about casting, rehearsals, performances, volunteering, ticket, DVD, and flower sales. Any changes to rehearsal dates or times will be announced through our group email. It is very important that you become have your email added to the mailing list as changes to schedules do occur. To request to be added to the email group please send a request to info@beniciaballet.com or beniciaballet.board@gmail.com and your information will be added.



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 *2022-2023 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 2022-2023 productions. I understand that all rehearsals are mandatory. I will make sure that I am on time to all rehearsals, dress rehearsals and performances. If I am absent without an excuse, I understand that I may be dropped from the show.

I agree to attend my dance classes on a regular basis. Regular class attendance is necessary to be fully prepared to dance in these performances. Missed classes should be made up. I will explain to my dancer how important it is to work together as a team with other dancers, the Director, and technical staff for the success of the entire season’s productions.

I will attend the Nutcracker dress rehearsal on December 10. I understand the performance dates are December 10 and 11 and the Spring show dress rehearsal and performance date will be determined at a later date. Families will be updated once dates have been confirmed.

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