

The Director supervised all classes.

Studio of Dance reserves the right to reassign and substitute a teacher at any time, cancel a class due to insufficient enrollment, and close a class that has reached capacity.

If a student or parent has any questions or concerns, please call as soon as possible. Limited private consultation is available throughout the year. Telephone calls and e-mails will be returned within two business days.

For daily announcements, please refer to the bulletin boards on both floors.

Thank you for your patronage.

CONTACT AND MAILING INFORMATION

Studio of Dance

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Bette-Ann Libin's photo courtesy of Nancy Sarra-Allen

□ *Studio of Dance 2005*



STUDIO OF DANCE

Bette-Ann Libin
Artistic Director

WELCOME TO THE STUDIO OF DANCE

This brochure has been created to acquaint Studio of Dance students and parents with the policies, procedures, events, and special services of the School, and to familiarize students and parents with issues and concerns that are unique to the dance field.

Please read this brochure thoroughly and keep it available for easy reference throughout the year.



Injuries. Students who sustain an injury are requested to submit a diagnostic communication form (available at the studio) completed by a physical therapist or physician prior to returning to class.

The director may recommend that a student seek a therapist's assessment when an injury is not yet present. Recognizing the physical condition of a student is integral to their training and their subsequent advancement in the art of dance.

An injured student is expected to attend class in proper attire and participate in a capacity consistent with the extent of the injury. The Director will assist the student in managing their activities in class.

Building Rules. The Studio of Dance leases its space from The Masonic Hall Association of West Hartford, Inc. The Association has implemented the following rules, which we ask everyone to abide by to ensure a positive experience.

- *Food and drink are prohibited in all areas of the building except the kitchen on the lower level. Water bottles are allowed.*
- *Deposit unused food, food containers, and bottles in trashcans in the kitchen on the lower level.*
- *Pets or animals are not allowed, except guide dogs.*
- *Smoking is not permitted.*
- *No-charge telephones are available in the upstairs lobby and in the kitchen downstairs and are to be used for outgoing calls only. Long distance and 411 calls are strictly prohibited.*

While waiting for class, students should refrain from loud conversations and boisterous behavior in the building. Proper etiquette and respect for teachers, classmates, and facilities are expected. Older students are expected to set the standard for behavior while in the building and to serve as role models for younger students.

Specific rules for student attire include:

- *No jewelry, except pierced earrings.*
- *No skirts, children's leotards with attached tutus, leg warmers, or sweats.*
- *Students must enter and leave the building wearing street clothes and not dance attire.*
- *Street shoes are not allowed to be worn on the dance floor by anyone. Shoes may be placed under the coat rack upstairs.*

All female ballet students must wear their hair up in a secured bun. Short hair must be secured off the face and neck. Dance bags containing personal items and valuables are the responsibility of the student and should be brought into the studio during class and labeled with the student's name.

Safety Policy. The Studio of Dance requests that all students 7 and under be escorted to and from the building by an adult. Teachers arrive 15 minutes prior to class. Please do not drop off students until the teacher is present. Do not leave children unsupervised either inside or outside the facility.

Parents or escorts are required to pick-up their child at the conclusion of classes. Students may not remain inside the lobby while waiting for their rides once the final class of the day has ended.

Parents or escorts are requested to remain in the upstairs lobby during class. Children will meet them in the lobby once class is dismissed. The doorway, hallway, and stairs are to be kept clear. Parents or escorts of children ages 3 and 4 are requested to remain in the upstairs lobby during class in the event their child requires the use of the bathroom. Teachers are not permitted to leave a class in progress.

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PHILOSOPHY OF THE STUDIO OF DANCE

To impart the finest dance education available, taught in a nurturing and creative environment to a variety of students.

To promote the study of dance at every level of development, serving diverse individual needs and aspirations.

To welcome the serious student as well as those who wish to discover dance for art appreciation and for pure physical enjoyment.

To provide professional training in an atmosphere fostering proper technical development, love, and joy of the art.

To demand the very best effort from each student, imparting the student with a positive self-image and a sense of discipline and dedication.

“The School offers high quality dance training from experienced and highly trained instructors with student’s individual abilities and needs in mind, in the convenient location of West Hartford Center.”

*—Emily Gresh, former soloist, Boston Ballet (1989-1997);
Hartford Ballet and School of American Ballet, alumnae.*

Rehearsals and Performances. The Studio of Dance does not produce an annual recital. As students progress in their training and ability levels, opportunities to perform will be available to qualified individuals in the form of lecture demonstrations, student performances, and roles with regional dance companies.

Class Observation Week. Parents are asked to remain in the waiting area and not to peek into classes in session since it is distracting to both students and instructors. Occasional guests are permitted to observe Pre-Professional Division classes at the discretion of the Director. The Studio of Dance offers formal class observation during the last week of classes of each session. (Cameras and video recorders are welcome at this time).

Guests are requested to be seated prior to the start of class and to remain seated for the full class period. Guests are also asked not to bring young children to the observation.

Dress Requirements. Students are expected to follow the dress code at their class level. Attire requirements are distributed at the start of the academic year. Students not properly attired for class will not be allowed to participate in class, but will observe instead. (Correct classroom attire not only allows teachers an unobstructed view of correct alignment and muscle use; it is also part of the discipline of dance class).

STUDENT AND PARENT INFORMATION

Rules and Regulations. Every student in the School is expected to conduct themselves in a disciplined and responsible manner while in the School facility, and to conform to the School's rules and regulations. The Studio of Dance reserves the right to dismiss any student whose conduct, attendance, and attitude are found to be unsatisfactory.

Attendance, Make-up Classes. The Studio of Dance requires punctual, regular class attendance as an essential component of dance discipline. Since each new lesson builds on the previous class, a total effort to attend every class should be made. Students or their parents must report all absences prior to class time, and students are encouraged to make up any missed classes by attending another scheduled class at the same or lower level. All missed classes must be made up within the same session. There are no transfers, credits, or cash refunds for missed classes.

Students must arrive at least 15 minutes before class to have sufficient time to warm up. Those arriving more than 10 minutes late will be asked to sit and observe the class.

Class Cancellations will be announced on NBC TV Channel 30 Connecticut News Storm Watch, WTIC AM 1080 Storm Center, and 96 WTIC FM. When in doubt, call the Studio of Dance one hour before class. There will be no make-up classes for days missed due to weather.

THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Bette-Ann Libin,
Founder and
Artistic Director



Bette-Ann Libin, a graduate of The School of The Hartford Ballet Teacher Training Program, has been teaching dance to children and adults for over 24 years. Ms. Libin established the Studio of Dance to train fine dancers of all ages, at any level of their development.

Ms. Libin brings to her work extensive training in creative movement, creative dance, ballet, pointe, contemporary, jazz, and flexibility, and a deep commitment to dance as an art form and a natural part of healthy living.

Ms. Libin utilizes her extensive expertise in designing dance classes that balance individual strengths and needs with the standard of excellence associated with professional training.

In 1999, Ms. Libin founded Ballet Theatre Company where she served as Ballet Mistress, as well as Executive and Artistic Director before returning in 2005 to her first love, the training of exceptional dancers.

ABOUT THE STUDIO OF DANCE

The Studio of Dance was founded in 1993 and continues to grow as one of the leading dance institutions in the Northeast. As West Hartford's premier school of ballet, we are committed to training fine dancers and bringing this vital art form to our community.

Classes are offered for ages 3 to adult in creative movement, creative dance, pre-ballet, ballet, pointe, contemporary, jazz, hip-hop, flexibility, and pilates.

Well-known for its exemplary training geared to teaching students of all levels the art of dance, the Studio of Dance places strong emphasis on proper technique.

The Studio of Dance recognizes, encourages, and develops each and every student through a comprehensive curriculum, including master class offerings taught by prominent guest artists-in-residence, complimentary and supportive consulting seminars, and outstanding performance field trips. In support of these goals, the central philosophy of the Studio of Dance is to demand the very best effort from each student, whether or not the student plans a professional career in dance.

The ballet program taught is based on the Russian Vaganova Pedagogical Method, which builds strength and grace in the dancer. It is enhanced through the inclusion of contemporary dance styles, preparing graduates for the eclectic demands of dance programs and majors at colleges and universities, and regional and professional dance companies.

OPEN AND ADULT DIVISION

The Open and Adult Division is designed for anyone (teenager or adult) who wishes to learn more about the aesthetic rewards and physical benefits of dance. Enjoy one class weekly or develop a comprehensive class schedule tailored to your specific needs and level of experience.

Open and Adult Division classes are offered for teenagers (twelve years and older) and adults who enjoy dance. Classes are offered in three levels of ballet, from Beginning (for those with little or no previous ballet training) to Advanced (for former Pre-Professional Division students who prefer part-time study, and adults and professionals who seek extra training). Modern, jazz, hip-hop, flexibility and pilates are also offered. No audition is required.

All classes feature exceptional faculty members of the School, as well as appropriate master classes taught by outstanding guest faculty. Enrollment in any Open and Adult Division class constitutes a commitment to the full academic year of thirty weeks. Please contact the Director or Administrator to inquire about placement and registration in the Open and Adult Division.

If you have any questions about our programs, or any aspect of the School, please call or e-mail us. We will be happy to talk to you.

FOUNDATION DIVISION

At age 8, students are ready both physically and mentally to begin studying the beautiful and disciplined art form that is classical ballet. Auditions are not required. Foundation Division ballet classes lay the essential groundwork for more advanced study and provide formal emphasis through highly structured class work in greater degrees of complexity.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

The Pre-Professional Division is designed for students who are highly motivated, both physically and mentally, and meet the full curriculum requirements at their levels, and include students who have become serious about their dance training. All students should be able to meet the demands of the classical syllabus and are required to participate fully, without exception, in the complete curriculum as specified by the Director.

Pre-Professional Division students are expected to participate in select master classes, seminars and workshops for additional fees where appropriate. Enrollment in the Pre-Professional Division constitutes a commitment to the full academic year of thirty weeks. Auditions are required for admission.

Studio of Dance students represent the future of dance: As dedicated, enthusiastic members of the dance community, and as potential members of regional and professional dance companies.



FACILITIES

Conveniently located on The Green in the Masonic Temple at 11 South Main Street in West Hartford Center, the Studio of Dance has use of two spacious, newly renovated, air-conditioned studios with bathrooms and changing areas located on both floors adjacent to studios and waiting areas.

Ample parking is available in the public parking lot near the rear of the Masonic Temple, and metered parking may be found directly in front of the building.

PRE-SCHOOL DIVISION

The Pre-School Division is divided into creative movement and creative dance for ages 3-5 and pre-ballet for ages 6-7. Auditions are not required.

These programs provide a meaningful prelude to formal ballet instruction, introducing children to movement and music through a structured, developmental

progression that stresses creativity and group interaction. At the conclusion of pre-ballet, the children will have been introduced to ballet steps and terminology and the essential basics of dance.

All students enrolled are eligible to enter the Foundation Division. Our Pre-School Division brochure provides a comprehensive overview of this division.

