



# THE POINTE

SEPTEMBER 2021

*Dedication ♦ Discipline ♦ Determination ♦ Devotion*

## WELCOME TO BALLET CALIENTE

We are so glad that you and your family have made the decision to enroll for our 2021-2022 season! We are planning several exciting performance opportunities for our dancers this year, and look forward to sharing those with you in the coming months. In the meantime, if you have questions, here's how to contact us:

**General Inquiries** - Barbara Hanks  
[patronservices@balletcaliente.com](mailto:patronservices@balletcaliente.com)

**School Manager** - Katrina Okoniewski  
[schoolmanager@balletcaliente.com](mailto:schoolmanager@balletcaliente.com)

**Billing & Payments** - Karen Breslauer  
[billing@balletcaliente.com](mailto:billing@balletcaliente.com)

**Artistic Director** - Sheryl-Marie Dunaway  
[director@balletcaliente.com](mailto:director@balletcaliente.com)



## SCHEDULE ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP CLASSES ONLINE!

If you know your dancer will miss class, you can let us know through your parent portal. Begin by logging into the portal, and select the student who will be absent. Click on the "Absences" tab and follow the steps. Please note that you will not be able to schedule a makeup until the teacher has taken attendance and marked the student "eligible for makeup."



## STUDIO ETIQUETTE

Thank you for helping to keep our studio safe and clean for our dancers!

- Please ensure your dancer has a cover-up and street shoes for traveling to and from our building.
- Dance shoes should not be worn outside to keep our studio flooring clean and in good repair.
- Parents are welcome to enter the building to drop off and pick up dancers, but should not stay during class.
- For your safety when exiting the parking lot, please make a right hand turn only.

## COMING SOON - STUDIO APP



In the near future, you'll be able to register for classes, pay your bill, access account information - all from your phone or tablet. You'll even be able to upload pictures of your dancer and access our social media pages! Stay tuned for more information.

## DATES TO REMEMBER FALL 2021

<b>Sept. 7</b> First day of Classes!	<b>Sept. 13</b> Fall merchandise order deadline	<b>Nov. 1</b> Costume fees invoiced	<b>Nov. 11</b> Veterans Day NO CLASSES	<b>Nov. 24-28</b> Thanksgiving Break NO CLASSES	<b>Dec. 1</b> Costume Fees Due for Spring Shows
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# In the Spotlight



Loved the recital and June performance pictures, but haven't purchased your favorites yet? The galleries are still available for viewing! Simply follow the link below to access the galleries for these culminating events.

Password information to access the gallery was sent via email - please message us if you need that information.

*Photo credit: Reid Silverman Photography*  
<https://reidsilvermanphotography.zenfolio.com/f45876610>

## UNDERSTANDING LEVEL PROGRESSION

### *A Letter from the Artistic Director*

Every fall when placement letters are promulgated, we receive questions from caring parents: What skills are needed for my dancer to advance? How is placement determined? Will my dancer be accepted to Junior Company? What is Studio Company?

As parents, we all want our children to succeed in every aspect of their lives. When studying dance, there are many components to consider for advancement. Any art form takes many years to gain proficiency; hence, one of the great benefits of pursuing dancing in this immediate gratification world. Parents often wonder "Why is my dancer repeating the same level?" You should expect your dancer to repeat each level for two to three years. Dancing is similar to academics where concepts are grasped then students advance to more challenging concepts. However, in dancing, students must understand the positions, steps and movements cerebrally then using auditory and visual skills implement the muscles to accomplish the skills. It takes time to grasp concepts, then develop the muscle memory. Finally, we address the artistry and performance aspect. For the lower levels, one might view it as the first and second-year students are leaning the new concepts, movements, corresponding French language and terminology associated. Further study provides time for proper weight and body placement as well as execution of the movement consistently performed in the proper manner. Different genres and duration of classes are added as the student physically and socially matures. Flowers always bloom at different times!

Junior Company girls and Studio Company girls are expected to take classes in all genres to become well-rounded dancers. Studio Company members are serious dancers that have made the choice to pursue dance throughout high-school, college, or professionally. Thus, it is necessary for them to be proficient in all genres. They are an elite group of close-knit girls with a common interest and a healthy support group. Should the teaching staff determine a placement change is needed, we will contact you. Please see the Ballet Caliente website for further explanation of each level.

Dancingly,  
Sheryl-Marie Dunaway

## WHERE TO PURCHASE DANCEWEAR

**In Motion Dance Shoppe**  
[www.inmotiondanceshoppe.com](http://www.inmotiondanceshoppe.com)

Located directly beneath Ballet Caliente's studios, In Motion Dance Shoppe carries a variety of class leotards, tights and shoes. Please check their website for current store hours.

**Online Stores:** [www.DiscountDance.com](http://www.DiscountDance.com) and [www.DanceSupplies.com](http://www.DanceSupplies.com)



## FALL LOGO ORDER DUE OCTOBER 15

Our fall merchandise shop is now open! If you would like to purchase Ballet Caliente logowear, please have your online orders in by Friday, October 15. **NEW ITEMS** will be added to the line-up soon so please click below to visit our shop!

[www.balletcaliente.com/shop](http://www.balletcaliente.com/shop)