

# Rejoice

SCHOOL OF BALLET

**Mission:** Motivated by Christ's love, Rejoice School of Ballet empowers youth to realize their potential by training, nurturing and celebrating dancers from diverse racial, socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.

## **Class Offerings for 2022-2023**

*Any questions about your dancers placement should be emailed to [office@rejoiceballet.com](mailto:office@rejoiceballet.com) and our staff would be happy to help.*

### **CHILDREN'S DIVISION** (ages 4 through 9)

Children's Classes meet once a week for 45 minutes. Designed to explore movement through the use of imagination and creativity, these classes provide building blocks for classical ballet training while working to enhance age-appropriate milestones. These classes foster musicality and finding joy in dance and prepare students for Pre-Ballet.

**Pre-Primary Ballet** is designed for 4 and 5 year-olds.

**Primary Ballet** is designed for 6 and 7 year-olds (*7 year olds who already have one or more years of ballet experience should be placed in Pre-Ballet*).

**Pre-Ballet** is designed for ages 7 through 9 (*7 year olds with less than one year of previous ballet experience should be placed in Primary Ballet*). This class acts as a bridge toward formal ballet class. It meets once a week for one hour and is designed to incorporate similar imagination and creativity of the primary levels, while beginning to increase classical ballet vocabulary and movement. This class also acts as a perfect starter class for beginning dancers who may be too mature for the Pre-Primary and Primary levels.

**Tap 1** is our beginning tap class and is open to dancers 6 or older.

### **BALLET DIVISION** (ages 8 and up)

The following levels are designed to increase a child's vocabulary and classical ballet technique while continuing to foster a love of movement and performing. The progression through levels is unique to each child and considers their maturity, coordination, focus, strength and determination. The number of days and hours increase as repetition is key in mastering classical ballet, however it is the goal of Rejoice School of Ballet to ensure that every child who wants to study dance has the opportunity. We seek to offer what works best for

families and to assist students in achieving their personal goals. Through communication and careful planning, a child can maintain their study of dance, even while exploring other pursuits.

**Level 1** – meets twice a week for one hour each class. An additional 45-minute tap class can be added (Tap 1 for younger dancers with no tap training, Tap 2 for those with 1-2 years of tap training). Level 1 is designed for dancers who are 8+ and have at least 1-2 years of ballet training.

**Level 2** – meets twice a week for one hour and fifteen minutes each class. An additional 45-minute tap class (Tap 2) can be added. Level 2 is designed for dancers who are 9+ and have 2-3 years of ballet training.

**Level 3** – meets three days a week, ballet class increases to one hour and thirty minutes, additional study in modern and pre-pointe work begins. Total hours increase to six per week. Level 3 is designed for dancers who are 10+ and have 3-4 years of ballet training.

**Level 4** – meets four days a week and total hours increase to nine per week. Pointe shoes are often introduced when appropriate. Level 4 is designed for dancers who are 11+ and have 4+ years of ballet training.

## **Rejoice Youth Ensemble**

Each year the Rejoice Youth Ensemble will perform a classical ballet and/or original choreography for public performances, outside of the training done in regularly-scheduled classes. This is an excellent opportunity for a young dancer to increase their skills while being mentored by professionals in the field. Additionally, performances will begin to add the element of live music, enhancing your dancer's experience and introducing more collaboration between young artists and professionals.

Auditions will be held prior to each performance to determine casting. Rejoice School of Ballet students that wish to participate in a Youth Ensemble performance will all have the opportunity. The audition process will allow the artistic staff to determine the best casting for each particular work. Following auditions, families will be given a complete rehearsal and performance schedule so they have everything necessary to make a final commitment to the performance (rehearsals will take place outside of regular class time and will be an additional commitment). Class is where dancers fine tune their skills and this increases their strength and performance skills.

The rehearsal periods will typically be within an 8-week time frame. This is intentionally brief as we will require perfect attendance from dancers during that time. Rehearsals are mandatory and regular class attendance is mandatory as well. A complete and detailed schedule should allow families to avoid any conflicts (with the exception of illness and unforeseen extenuating circumstances).

It is the goal of Rejoice School of Ballet to begin to offer more performing opportunities throughout the year and to seek out unique collaborative experiences for these young artists, including choreography opportunities and special workshops.

Participation in the Rejoice Youth Ensemble is completely free. Rejoice covers the cost of all rehearsal time and theater hours, as well as any necessary costumes or performance materials.