



Gulfshore Ballet

STUDENT & PARENT HANDBOOK

Revised on 7/17/2026

Profile

Gulfshore Ballet is Southwest Florida's premier not for profit school of Classical Ballet. The school has an internationally acclaimed teaching faculty and offers area students the unique opportunity to study with professional instructors of the highest caliber. The training at Gulfshore Ballet combines Cuban, American and Russian technique and brings a quality of excellence not usually found outside of major metropolitan cities.

Philosophy

Classical Ballet is one of the most beautiful yet arduous art forms. Time and commitment from both the student and instructor are necessary to realize the true benefits of classical ballet. Correct instruction begun at the appropriate age is critical to the development of ballet dancers, and Gulfshore Ballet offers students of all ages correct technique training.

The developmental transformation of a young child into a self-confident artist is the most rewarding part of ballet training. As the novice dancer pursues control over mind and body, the child discovers the true beauty of the art form. Our philosophy is to develop and support each dancer's personal goals as they develop throughout their programs of study.

Vision

Gulfshore Ballet aims to continually expand our dance school through the inclusion of additional students, regardless of gender, ethnicity or personal circumstances. We strive to nurture a love of dance and provide excellence in Classical Ballet Training so that our Dancers reach their full potential, both artistically and personally.

Mission

Gulfshore Ballet prepares students for professional dancing careers and promotes academic, athletic, cultural and social growth.

Organizational Values

- The qualities gained from the disciplined study of classical ballet are advantageous throughout life.
- Beyond receiving ballet training of the highest caliber, Gulfshore Ballet students learn self discipline, concentration, focus and creative expression—all of which serve to build character, confidence, integrity and a positive self-image.
- Gulfshore Ballet strives to increase accessibility to classical ballet and to develop a stronger appreciation of classical ballet throughout the greater community.

Community & Outreach

At Gulfshore Ballet, we are dedicated to bringing high quality, professional performances to the community at an affordable price. Our annual performances include the holiday favorite The Nutcracker and a spring performance featuring both original and classical works. We also perform at many venues such as Grandezza, The Forest, Big Arts, Tribby, The Yacht Club and Fort Myers Art Walk among others.

Website

Information about Gulfshore Ballet as well as the School Calendar, Class Schedules, Tuition, Levels, Performances and more can be found on our website, www.gsballet.org. We encourage you to check it out as it is constantly updated. Parents/Students will also create their Studio Pro Account through the website or use this link <https://app.gostudiopro.com/online/gsballet>.

Level Placement

All New Students (except for Creative Dance, Adult Students & Professionals) are required to take a Placement Class prior to enrolling. Placement Classes are held during regularly scheduled classes and can be requested through our website, gsballet.org. Parents can also contact the office directly at 239-590-6191 or at gsballetoffice@gmail.com.

Parents play an important role in supporting their child's education in dance. Encourage your child to be the best that he or she can be regardless of what other students may achieve. Dance is an individual art form and no two children will progress at the same rate.

Placement decisions are derived from our artistic staff's many years of teaching experience. Our goal is to place each child in a level where he or she will feel most confident and successful in order to promote the development of skill mastery and self-esteem. Some students who are placed in too high a level become discouraged with the skill level, while others respond to the challenge of working with older students in a more technically demanding environment. Parents should avoid making comparisons of their child's progress to another child's and encourage their child to focus on their individual accomplishments.

Tuition

GSB offers 2 Semesters, Fall and Spring which each run for 5 months/18 weeks of actual instruction.

Semester 1, Fall - Mid August through December

Semester 2, Spring - Mid January through May

Tuition and Registration is **NON-REFUNDABLE** for Levels 1 through Pre Pro and when you sign up you are responsible for the entire Tuition payment for that Semester.

All accounts must have a current payment method set up under Auto Pay in the Studio Pro Portal. If your payment fails for any reason Gulfshore Ballet reserves the right to charge late fees.

Cash and checks are only accepted for Tuition Payments made in full for the Semester or for Drop in, Adult Ballet or Creative Dance Classes.

Tuition includes all rehearsals, shows and costumes if enrolled as a full time student.

Installment Payments

If you are utilizing the 4 pay installment plan please note that tuition payments are due as follows and will be processed by Auto Pay. Please note that when paying by credit/debit card or bank account you may incur processing fees.

Semester 1, Fall - Tuition due on:

August - Before Classes start, a registration email will be sent out ahead of the Semester start date

September 5th, October 5th, November 5th and no payment due in December

Semester 2, Spring - Tuition due on:

January - Before Classes start, a registration email will be sent out ahead of the Semester start date

Past Due Tuition

Tuition that is more than 3 days past due may incur late fees.

Students taking Placement Class, Drop In Classes or Open Classes must pay at the time they take classes. If payment is not made at time of class you authorize Gulfshore Ballet to charge the account using the Credit Card or Payment information on file.

Refund/Withdraw Policy

Baby Ballerinas, Pre Ballet 1, 2 & 3 can withdraw from their respective program without penalty but must give written notice one month (30 days) prior to stopping classes of their intention to withdraw their student from classes. Parents will be responsible for the current month's payment but the remainder of tuition will not be charged when proper notice has been given to Gulfshore Ballet. Please make sure that you confirm that the office has received your request to cancel classes.

Levels 1, 2, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and Pre Pro

Students are automatically registered for their respective level by GSB for the upcoming Semester and are responsible for the full tuition payment for any semester they are registered for.

If you are not planning to register for an upcoming Semester Parents **MUST** email the office at gsballetoffice@gmail.com prior to registration to let us know that you are withdrawing your child from our program.

Attendance

1. Attendance for all classes and rehearsals is essential to improving classroom skills and to successfully prepare for performances.
2. Excessive absences (3 or more) from classes or rehearsals will result in a determination made by the instructor and Artistic Director as to the student's readiness to perform on stage.
3. Students who have had excessive absences are strongly encouraged to schedule private 3 lessons (additional fees apply).
4. Once the rehearsal process has begun, new or returning students are welcome to join Gulfshore Ballet but are ineligible for participating in the performance.
5. Parents are required to supervise their children (students and non-student siblings) while in the waiting room and while classes are in session. Gulfshore Ballet staff are not responsible for children left unattended in the waiting areas.
6. Parents, please promptly pick up your Students when classes, rehearsals and shows are finished. We charge \$1 per minute beginning at the scheduled end time of class or rehearsal.

Please note that we do NOT offer makeup classes as there is no way to really make up missed classes. Leveled Students are enrolled in an ongoing program which encompasses all the classes that they are signed up for with the expectation that they will attend all their scheduled classes so there are no "extra classes" that can be joined for makeup classes.

Private Lessons

Gulfshore Ballet offers private lessons for all interested students, including Adults Private classes are for students who are seeking a positive and personalized ballet experience at a level that is appropriate for them or as supplemental lessons to class instruction.

1. Please contact the Gulfshore Ballet Office to schedule Private Lessons at gsballetoffice@gmail.com or 239-590-6191.
2. Please schedule private lessons 24 hours in advance.

3. Once you schedule and pay for your private lesson online you and the instructor will receive a confirmation email.

If a student cancels without providing 24 hour notice or if a student is not in attendance for their scheduled private lesson there will be no refund for that session. Please check our website for current Private Lesson Rates, which can vary depending on the instructor.

Sick Policy/Class Absences

If a Student will be absent please notify the office in writing via email at gulfshoreballet@gmail.com or by telephone at 239-590- 6191. Last minute illnesses should be phoned into the school before class begins. Attendance at each class is important to your child's progress and development. It also demonstrates a student's commitment to their class and supports the teacher in planning rehearsals for upcoming performances and showcases.

If your child is experiencing an illness (fever, flu-like symptoms, etc.) please keep them home from class in order to reduce the chance of spreading an illness. Students should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to GSB.

If a child has an injury they are encouraged to attend their classes to observe.

Cancellation of Classes

The management team will make an executive decision whether or not to cancel classes. You will receive a phone call and/or email only if classes are canceled.

In the event of a hurricane, Gulfshore Ballet will follow the cancellation notices as determined by the School District of Lee County. In case of a tornado or similar weather patterns, the school will advise parents to use discretion as to whether or not they feel able to drive in order to attend classes.

Classroom Conduct at GSB Studios and Performance Venues

Students are expected to show respect for their instructors and fellow dancers. Hanging from barres, talking out of turn, gum chewing, touching mirrors, frequent use of the rest room during instruction (unless a medical issue exists), and similar off-task behaviors will not be tolerated. Students are expected to participate in all class activities and to follow rules and Instructor/Staff directives to maintain safety in the classroom.

It is imperative that all young students (Pre Ballet 1/2/3 & Levels 1, 2) use the restroom both at home and prior to the start of class. Many young students require chaperoning when using the restroom and this poses a challenge for the instructor during class. In order to minimize distractions in class students will be allowed to use the restroom in between barre and center or when the instructor gives permission.

For safety and security, students are not permitted to play in the studios before, during or after classes and rehearsals. Students are not permitted in the studios unattended, without an adult staff member or **designated parent(s)**. During rehearsals, students must sit in their waiting area or in the rehearsal studio until their class or rehearsal is called.

Aluminum or tumbler style water bottles are allowed in the studios. Colored drinks, (Gatorade, soda, fruit punch, smoothies, iced tea, etc.) and food are not permitted in the studios. Food items are permissible in the lobby and student area only. Snack items and water are available for purchase by cash in the lobby.

Please use waste bins in the main lobby for disposing of all trash.

PLEASE LABEL WATER BOTTLES WITH STUDENTS NAME

In order to keep the studios and common areas clean and tidy please keep track of your personal belongings as Gulfshore Ballet will not store items that are left behind and GSB Staff are not responsible for personal belongings.

Lost and Found will be cleared at the end of the 2nd Semester.

Cell phones must be on mute in the studios. Students in possession of cell phones or other electronics may use these devices in the main lobby during breaks between classes and rehearsals or as directed by the instructor. Students are not permitted to use phones and electronic devices while class and/or rehearsal is in session unless the Instructor gives permission.

Communication & Emails

We will regularly send out emails, especially for Rehearsal Schedules, Performances and other important events. Rehearsal Schedules are usually posted on the Lobby Door.

Please make sure that our Office Manager has your correct contact information. In an effort to go green, we will be sending the majority of our information via email and/or posting on our website. If you are unable to access emails please alert our Office Manager and check in with us periodically to stay updated.

IMPORTANT! -Please do not Unsubscribe from our email list, even if you sometimes get emails from us that are not relevant to you because if you unsubscribe you will no longer receive ANY emails from GSB and you won't know what is going on!

And, we are unable to add you back to the email list unless you re-subscribe yourself.

Dress Code by Level

Personal appearance, appropriate dancewear, properly prepared dance bag and classroom conduct are all important elements of Classical Ballet training. Each element must positively reflect the program's traditional and disciplined approach. Therefore, we request that students comply with the policies listed below at all times when attending classes at Gulfshore Ballet. Failure to respect these policies may result in dismissal from the school.

All Students should have a tan/nude Dance Leotard with camisole straps to wear under costumes. Students should also have a Black camisole strap Leotard to wear under/with costumes. Students should bring their Nude/Tan Leo to all rehearsals and shows unless told otherwise.

Hair--Hair should be worn neatly off the face and fastened securely in a bun. We recommend using a hairnet. Hair too short for a bun should be pulled back away from the face and secured by hair clips. This allows for unrestricted movement and enables the teacher to see the shape and placement of the head and the total line of the body.

Ballet skirts-- Ballet Skirts are generally permitted for Pointe Class but students should first ask their instructor.

Jewelry-- Please refrain from wearing jewelry of any type in class (non-dangling stud earrings are acceptable). Instructors may request that Students remove jewelry that is distracting or dangerous and will expect the student to comply.

Nail Polish - No nail polish is allowed for Performances or Dress Rehearsals.

Tattoos - Any visible tattoos must be covered up for Rehearsals and Performances.

Class Level Uniforms

Pre-Ballet Division (Baby Ballerinas, PB1, PB2, PB3)

- **Girls:** Black or Pink leotard, pink tights, pink ballet slippers
- **Boys:** Black gym pants or shorts, White t-shirt, white socks, white or black ballet slippers

Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced, and Pre Professional Divisions (Levels 1, 2, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Pre-Pro)

Students in Levels 1 through Pre Pro have designated Color Leotards that correspond to their respective Levels. Please view the information appended to this Handbook for specific Leotard style and color.

- **Girls:** Monday- Thursday- Level Color Leotard, pink tights (full length convertible or footed with no holes, runs or tears and tucked into ballet slippers), pink ballet slippers. pink pointe shoes if applicable,

Friday- GSB DAY Girls may wear any color leotard

- **Boys:** Black or White male tights, or gym pants or shorts, white or black t-shirt, white socks, white or black ballet slippers

Saturday Classes

- Levels 3, 3A, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Pre-Pro: Students may wear a leotard of their personal choice for Saturday classes and rehearsals.

WE SUGGEST THAT ALL DANCERS NAMES BE PLACED INSIDE OF BALLET AND POINTE SHOES IN CASE THEY GET LOST OR LEFT IN THE STUDIO

Please also put Dancers Names on EVERYTHING that belongs to them

Leg Warmers/Skirts

Leg warmers and close fitting sweaters are permitted for injured students and/or if the weather is extremely cool. Ballet skirts and other dance accessories are permissible only at the discretion of the teacher.

Contemporary, Lyrical, Modern, Jazz, Pilates, Vaganova Floor Barre

Black dance shorts, black dance pants, sweatpants and any color leotard or fitted dance top that completely covers the midriff are acceptable. Black or tan slip on Jazz shoes may be required for all levels, depending on the Instructor and/or choreography. Dance Paws or Foot Undeez as well as bare feet are optional for Lyrical and Contemporary. Please check with the instructor for specific dancewear requirements.

Adult Students (Male & Female)

There is no dress code for adult students.

Leotards, Tights, Dance Skirts/Dance Pants and Ballet Slippers for Ballet, and Pointe Shoes for Pointe Classes are suggested for female Adult Ballet Students, Comfortable, fitted clothing, such as yoga or exercise wear, leggings and tank tops are also suggested for Adult Students.

Performance and Rehearsal Requirements

Performance fees are Included in all **FULL TIME** students tuition and therefore they are eligible to participate in two performances per year. While participation in these performances is not mandatory, we strongly urge you to take advantage of participating in each production. The teachers and students at Gulfshore Ballet work very hard throughout the year, developing and practicing skills that are applied to the choreography in each production. Those students wishing to perform will be required to be present at classes and scheduled rehearsals prior to the performance. A Rehearsal Schedule and/or a Consent Form possibly requiring parental signature will be presented prior to each performance.

Any student who is **NOT Full Time** will need to meet several prerequisites if the student wants to participate in a performance:

1. They must get permission from the Artistic Director(s)
2. Pay any and all performance fees
3. Pay for any additional class requirements in order to be a part of the performance.
4. Take a minimum of 3 Technique and 3 Pointe classes (if applicable) per week for Levels 6, 7, 8, Pre Pro
5. Levels 1,2,3, 4, 5 will need to get permission and any requirements from the Artistic Directors

Rehearsal Week

It is expected that students ages 12 and up be completely responsible for their own needs. Volunteer Moms will be backstage for the younger students. If your child has special needs, please notify your instructor. It gets very chaotic backstage so we want to be prepared ahead of time for any circumstances that may arise.

Parents are not allowed backstage (no matter how young or small your child is) unless they have signed up and been confirmed for a volunteer shift as "Backstage Parent" or "Room Mom".

Parent Volunteers are not allowed to bring siblings of any age backstage or to any shifts that they have signed up to volunteer for. This is to help maintain a calm, secure and productive atmosphere backstage.

Rehearsal week is a tremendously busy and arduous task for all involved. Please know what you are about to embark on. If this is your first performance please speak with the office staff, teachers, other parents and students to get a clear picture of the rehearsal process.

Parents, it is important to understand the nature of technical rehearsals at the venue. For instance, if rehearsals are from 5-8 pm, we expect students to stay the whole time. We do our best to stay as close to the schedule as possible, but there can be unforeseen circumstances which can cause delays or rehearsals to run over the time allotted. The dancing is only a portion of the whole production - tech rehearsals usually include light and sound and may take a while to get through. Please be patient with the rehearsal process especially at the various performance venues.

Students must remain at all rehearsals until they are excused by the Artistic Director. It is highly recommended that the students get their homework for rehearsal week in advance. Time management with these performances and school is crucial. Students should use Friday and Sunday to get ahead academically each week. GSB will not be responsible for failed academics. Pack enough food for an after school snack and dinner for your Dancers.

Parents, we appreciate all of your concerns. If you have any questions or concerns regarding GSB's rehearsal and/or performance process, please do not hesitate to address these concerns with your child's instructor. Together, we will make this experience truly rewarding for you and your child.

Casting and Performance Preparation

At Gulfshore Ballet, we believe that performing is a vital part of each dancer's education. For this reason, we attempt to provide a successful performance experience for our students in Pre-Ballet 2 through Pre-Professional.

Our fall production is Tchaikovsky's family favorite classic, ***The Nutcracker***. In the spring, we draw from other well-known classical works and add new works to our students' range and depth of experience. Both productions are enormous undertakings and require many hours of rehearsal for dancers, staff and volunteers.

Casting

All students involved in production will be cast in roles appropriate to their age and skill level. Roles are given according to each level at the school and not at the parent's request or discretion. The artistic staff at Gulfshore Ballet will cast the production as a team. Roles will not be up for discussion with the Artistic or Executive Directors. Attendance in class, energy level and effort, ability to receive and apply corrections toward improvement, and general attitude and behavior are all considerations when casting students for particular roles.

Parents and/or students may be less than thrilled with the part(s) for which they have been assigned. Each student needs to find within themselves a way to make their role(s) interesting and exciting for the audience. Having a negative or inattentive attitude adversely affects not only the individual but the entire group performing the dance. We seek to educate our parents and students to understand that there are no small roles in a production. Each role is integral to the entire performance and contributes toward its success in both story-telling and dancing. We ask all of our parents and students to embrace their roles with enthusiasm and dedication.

Performance Fees

Performance fees are included in all **FULL TIME** student tuition. Performance fees cover additional rehearsal time, theater rehearsal time, costume orders, preparation and design, costume repairs/alterations, costume cleaning, and storage preparation.

Performance fees for Students who are not enrolled into our full time program is non-refundable.

Costumes

All costumes are the property of GSB. Costumes are very costly and labor intensive to make and maintain.

Most, if not all, of Gulfshore Ballet's costumes are created by our volunteer parents and grandparents, who dedicate hours of work into their designs to customize each costume for each dancer.

For this reason, and to keep costumes clean, we do not allow Dancers to eat or drink anything other than water while wearing their costumes

Please do not sit on the floor in your costume and try not to excessively touch the costumes.

If you need an alteration or have a problem with your costume please notify your instructor right away. No costumes may be taken home unless permission is granted by Gulfshore Ballet staff. All parts of your costume must be returned at the end of each rehearsal and performance. Students who are missing parts of their costume will be charged the cost of the lost article.

The expectation is that each student is responsible for his/her own costumes. Each student is responsible to provide their own tights and shoes. Tights must be clean, without any holes or runs. We encourage all dancers to have an additional new/clean pair of tights on hand for performances.

Shoes must also be clean and neatly sewn.

Makeup

Students are usually responsible for supplying their own stage makeup and Instructors will let students know what is needed. In some situations, specialty makeup will be provided by GSB, such as the Baby Mice in Nutcracker.

Performance and Theater Conduct and Care of Props & Sets

Many productions involve the use of props & sets. Props are assigned to students by the instructor and are meant to

be used in the context of the production, not as toys for students to play with. Sets, such as a couch or sleigh, are part of the production and are not meant to be touched, sat in, or moved by students. Mishandling of props or sets will not be tolerated. Parent Volunteers assigned to dressing rooms, costumes, props, sets and backstage will be respected and obeyed by students, parents and adults.

Backstage Area

Students who are waiting backstage for their cue must do so quietly and at the direction of 9 Gulfshore Ballet Staff. Students are not permitted to be backstage too early before their entrance, as this may cause a distraction to the performers, the audience and the stage crew. Excessive talking and off task behavior will not be tolerated. Parent Volunteers assigned to dressing rooms, costumes, props, sets and backstage will be respected and obeyed by students, parents and adults.

Dressing Rooms

Water bottles are permitted in the dressing rooms. Students may not bring colored drinks (Gatorade, soda, fruit punch, smoothies, iced tea, etc.) into the dressing rooms. Students are asked to clean their counter space and dispose of their band aid wrappers, hair accessories, Kleenex and baby wipes in the receptacles provided. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted backstage. Please double check to make sure that all your belongings are removed from the dressing rooms after performances end and that dressing areas are clean and neat.

Kitchen Areas

Some theaters are equipped with a separate kitchen where food and drink are allowed. IF allowed by the theater, parents may bring food into the kitchen. They are responsible for disposing of their empty bottles, food items and trash into the receptacles provided. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted backstage.

Security Procedures

Some theaters have mandatory security rules for performers, companies, parents, volunteers and anyone working in the building. Gulfshore Ballet will follow ALL security rules set by the theater and we expect all parents, students, volunteers, workers, and staff to comply. Security procedures may include but not be limited to, Sign In/Sign Out Sheets, ID Name Tags etc.

Costume Rentals

From time to time, parents may want to rent a costume for a special photo shoot or ballet competition. Parents can rent costumes from GSB but must get permission from the Artistic Director to rent a particular costume from our inventory. The parent will need to sign a costume rental agreement and pay a \$100.00 deposit and rental fee. Upon the return of the costume and all pieces undamaged, the parent will receive a \$25.00 refund of their deposit.

Expectations between Parents, Students and GSB

Parents are responsible for keeping informed about schedules and obligations throughout the season. While we do our best to provide consistency in our communication, as with any large scale endeavor, changes occur. We rely heavily on email to communicate with the entire school, therefore it is essential to have an email account that is checked daily. Please be flexible in your understanding of what it takes to make this work. Make a phone call, check in to the studio once in a while, and join the many volunteers who help to put our productions together.

Parent Conduct & Conferences

Parents are expected to be a positive role model for their child as well as in front of other parents and students. While in our studios and performing venues, negative behavior and/or inappropriate language will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal of both the parent and/or student from Gulfshore Ballet.

We encourage parents to voice their concerns to the Gulfshore Ballet staff and not to other parents or students.

Instructors are not to be interrupted for conference matters during classes, rehearsals, and performances

Please make an appointment with the Office Manager to schedule a conference.. Every effort will be made to address your concerns in a timely manner.

Parent Drop-off & Pick-up

Please be prompt when dropping off (maximum of 30 minutes before class) and picking up your child (no more than 10 minutes past class). A parent or guardian must accompany all students under the age of 12 into and out of the Gulfshore Ballet studios. For safety and security, students are not permitted to wait for their ride outside of the building. Gulfshore Ballet is not responsible for monitoring the arrival and departure of students. Parents are required to supervise their children at all times while in the waiting room and while classes are in session. The Gulfshore Ballet staff is not responsible for children left unattended in the waiting areas.

During rehearsals at the studio and the theater, we ask that parents of the younger levels (Pre-Ballet, Level 1, 2, 3) wait during their child's rehearsal. In many cases, when a rehearsal is running smoothly, we will dismiss the younger children earlier than the advertised rehearsal time.

Tardiness (more than 15 minutes) in picking up your student after class/rehearsal will be addressed on an individual basis. If your child is not picked up after class or rehearsal ends, a fee of \$1 per minute may be applied.

Parent Observation

It is important for the student to develop a sense of independence in their classroom. Students achieve the most success when guests do not observe on a regular basis. Parents may only observe a class or rehearsals on scheduled open classroom dates as advertised in the Gulfshore Ballet season calendar.

During classes, rehearsals, events and performances we ask that parents not interrupt a session, engage in communication with their own or another student, give corrections pertaining to ballet technique, line order, spacing or similar technical instructions to their own or another student.

Parent & Student Use of Social Media

The use of Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Blogging and other social media outlets is commonplace. This policy is intended to provide Gulfshore Ballet parents and students general guidelines when using social media:

- Avoid posting and revealing any information that may compromise Gulfshore Ballet or any of its staff members, The sharing of personal information about instructors, directors, staff, students and/or their families is strictly prohibited.
- Students and parents should neither claim nor imply that they are speaking on behalf of Gulfshore Ballet.
- Avoid posting anything that might compromise the self-esteem of students who attend Gulfshore Ballet.
- Be respectful of the law, including those laws that govern defamation, discrimination, harassment, copyright and fair use. Avoid posting negative comments about Gulfshore Ballet, other ballet schools, teachers, events, rehearsals and/or performances.

Gulfshore Ballet's Harassment and Bullying Policy

It is important that all members of the Gulfshore Ballet community (faculty, staff, students, and families) recognize that behavior, either verbal or physical, which disregards or demeans the self esteem of others is unacceptable.

Such behaviors are unacceptable regardless of how they are communicated. Gulfshore Ballet reserves the right to refuse service to any individuals engaging in such behaviors. Other examples of misconduct include cyber bullying, smoking on the premises, physical or verbal aggression, possession, distribution or use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs in Gulfshore Ballet's facility or at any Gulfshore Ballet sponsored event.

Gulfshore Ballet is enriched by the diversity of its members. It recognizes and respects individual differences in culture, race, ethnic origin, religion, gender and sexual orientation and provides a welcoming environment of respect and sensitivity.

With the goal of creating a safe, welcoming, and positive experience for all students, Gulfshore Ballet holds students, families, faculty, and staff to a high standard of personal decorum and expects individuals, at all times, to demonstrate respect for others, the facilities and school property, as well as to promote a safe, positive environment that is welcoming for our diverse population.

Gulfshore Ballet will not tolerate bullying. Bullying is a serious societal issue that can have long lasting effects on both the victim and the bully. Recognizing and knowing how to address bullying is the first step to prevention.

Bullying will result in suspension or expulsion.

Bullying entails the following behaviors and is distinguished from other typical childhood "growing pains" in the following ways:

Bullying is any kind of physical or verbal abuse that:

- happens more than once
- involves an imbalance of power-the victim is unable to, or afraid to defend him/herself
- is done on purpose, with an intent to cause harm

Bullying can take many different forms, including:

- physical attacks-for example, shoving into lockers, punching or kicking
- verbal attacks-calling names, making cruel remarks about someone, teasing, making threats
- social attacks-spreading rumors, sabotaging friendships, deliberately excluding others
- online attacks, or cyberbullying-texting, emailing or posting on social media anything that is cruel, untrue or otherwise harmful about a person

Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

Use or possession of any alcohol, drug or tobacco products in the classroom or in the facility restrooms or public areas will result in immediate termination from the school. Tuition will not be refunded.

Supporting GSB

Word of mouth and referrals are our best form of advertisement. This plays a large role in helping us to build enrollment at each level. Ticket sales are the biggest contributor to revenue which keeps Gulfshore Ballet operating. Please help us fill up performances by inviting friends and family. GSB offers discounted group tickets when possible (depending on the venue). Please email gulfshoreballet@gmail.com for more information.

Tax-deductible corporate and private donations help immensely by making future performances possible. Please help us continue to grow by spreading the word about our beautiful performances-your guests will not be disappointed, we promise!

Studio Liability

Gulfshore Ballet and its staff are not liable for personal injuries occurring during class time, rehearsals and performances on or off our premises.

Right to Refuse Admission or Service

Gulfshore Ballet reserves the right to deny service, enrollment and/or revoke previously awarded privileges at the discretion of the Artistic Directors, President of the Board, and Board of Trustees.

Security Cameras

All studios and the lobby have security cameras for the safety of our students, adults, and staff.

Videos & Photos

By enrolling your Student in any of Gulfshore Ballet's Programs or taking classes you give us permission to take and use Photos and Videos. GSB generally uses dance footage and pictures for marketing, flyers, brochures, on our website and on various social media platforms to showcase the ability of our dancers, highlight the quality of training received at GSB and bring awareness about our school and the programs we offer to the public.