

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CONTACT:** Laura Grimes, [laura@theportlandballet.org](mailto:laura@theportlandballet.org)**The Portland Ballet holds auditions  
for its world-class academy  
and offers free classes**

PORTLAND, Ore. – [The Portland Ballet](#) will hold auditions through August for the upcoming curriculum year and offer a series of free classes for ages 6-9.

In-person [auditions](#) will be held August 6, 2022, for ages 8 and up, at the studio, 6250 S.W. Capitol Highway. There is no registration fee, but pre-registration is highly encouraged to guarantee a spot. Pre-register by contacting [registration@theportlandballet.org](mailto:registration@theportlandballet.org). Video auditions can be submitted through Aug. 31.

[Free beginning ballet classes](#) for ages 6-9 will be held on three Saturdays on Aug. 13, 20, and 27. The classes introduce young dancers to the fundamentals of ballet and help them decide if ballet is right for them. TPB welcomes all new dancers in this commitment-free series with the goal of giving students the basic foundations and an appreciation of dance. The classes develop motor skills, creativity, confidence, social skills, balance, focus, and flexibility, all in a safe and non-competitive environment. If students wish to continue, the final class acts as a placement assessment for the Curriculum Ballet program.

**Performance opportunities** for all ages include dancing in the audience-favorite "The Enchanted Toyshop" this Thanksgiving weekend, where poodles and dolls come alive to entertain two children locked in a toyshop, and the world premiere of Tom Gold's "Carnival of the Animals" in the spring.

New this year: Ballroom dancing and a free hip hop and body control class.

TPB builds artistry, confidence, and discipline in its students, who train within a professional curriculum, guided by resident teachers and guest masters with expertise in both the classical and contemporary repertoire. With its nurturing, student-centered training, TPB welcomes all identities.

In the men's program, classes are taught by men for men to address the needs and skills specific to young male dancers, who develop strength, poise, and discipline.

Live music accompanies every class. TPB is one of only a handful of U.S. ballet schools linked to The George Balanchine Trust, which provides students with the opportunity to learn and perform works by the master choreographer.

According to a parent, TPB has "...a rare combination of a nurturing, supportive atmosphere and very high artistic standards."

Scholarships are available and no students are turned away because of lack of funds.

**More information or to register:** [theportlandballet.org](http://theportlandballet.org), 503.452.8448.

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**The Portland Ballet**, a world-class dance academy in Portland, Oregon, is committed to fostering the future of ballet by building the next generation of dancers and audiences. Founded in 2001, TPB is shaped by the vision, artistic experience, and family-centered sensibility of the founding directors. **Artistic Director Nancy Davis** and **Executive Director Jim Lane** trained at the School of American Ballet and enjoyed distinguished professional careers in companies throughout the U.S. After retiring as principal dancers of the Los Angeles Ballet – where their partnership onstage led to a marriage and family off the stage – they moved to Portland, Oregon, and founded The Portland Ballet. **Graduates** have carried TPB's reputation for excellence into major professional companies and conservatory programs throughout the U.S. and abroad.

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