



July 17, 2022

We would like to invite you to participate in the 2022-2023 Competition Season.

There are four competitions this season:

- Universal Ballet Competition (UBC) is January 20-22 at the Newman Center
- Youth America Grand Prix Competition (YAGP) which is February 24-26 also at the Newman Center
- Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition (March 3-5) at the Pinnacle Theatre and
- StarQuest (May 26-28) in Westminster this year.

We are inviting you to compete as both a soloist and in the ensemble. You can choose which competitions to participate in as a soloist but if you would like to be in the ensembles you will need to participate in the ensembles for UBC, YAGP, and StarQuest.

To participate in competitions, we need everyone to fill out the Competition 2022-2023 Google Form to avoid any issues involving parents not being aware of what solos their child agreed to.

Not everyone is invited to compete, so please use discretion when discussing this with other dancer and/or parents.

We need everyone to update their email that they want emails to go to (it needs to be a parent's email) and update your height. The rest of the information (cell, address, and birthdate) are saved in the competition registration, so only new dancers need to fill this out.

We need this information completed ASAP but earlier is always better. Some YAGP regionals closed after only being open for 5 days!

Remember, dancers must

- Commit to coaching all season (last week of August to either April 8th or the end of May)
- Follow all the rules in the LBA and LYB handbooks
- Parents must also follow all the rules in the LBA and LYB handbooks
- Have pride in their home studio. Bashing us on social media is not okay and any dancer or parent caught doing this will be banned from the studio.

Please refer to the coaching rates provided on the coaching letter.

Please remember, that competitions can be very political. We have seen beautiful dancers not place, and we have seen not so wonderful dancers do very well. Dancers should look at this competition as an extra performance opportunity and at the coaching as an opportunity to grow. Please do not put all the focus on winning or base your year's success on whether or not you placed. Ballet competitions are a matter of opinion and judging will vary from year to year based on judges' opinions. Also, competitions look for the ideal ballet body type.

Parents also need to be on their best behavior and support their children in the best way (which might just be letting them have their own space). You may not understand the judging, but that is not your job. Please do not cry politics or make it about some unknown conspiracy, particularly in public. Dance competitions breed dance moms, and this is not our style at Littleton Ballet Academy. NO DANCE MOMS!

Costumes

- LBA and LYB will provide all costumes for classical variations and Ensembles. Contemporary costumes will be at the discretion of what we have and what you have, but costumes shouldn't be pricey.
- **Please understand that we are the ONLY studio in town that does not require dancers to purchase their own costumes.** If any dancer is rude or pouty about our costumes, they will need to provide their own.
- All dancers need to treat costumes and tiaras with care! Please make sure you wear deodorant.

YAGP Information

- Due to the popularity of YAGP, the semi-finals have begun to close quickly. We ask that if you decide to participate, please let us know ASAP. Ali needs to complete registration on behalf of the school and will register the dancer by paying at least the registration fee to hold the dancer's place. These fees will be passed on to you.
- **This year, the fees will be charged to the credit card on file on September 15th.** If you are injured or decide to quit after committing to YAGP, there are NO refunds.
- The competition schedule is provided to us only about a week and a half before the competition begins. It changes every year.

Soloist Information

- We highly suggest you compete at least two classical variations (for the Junior and Senior categories). All dancers ages 12 and older should also compete a contemporary solo as well. For Pre-Competitive, we suggest one to three solos, but this will be based on experience and readiness.
- Registration fee is \$110 per dancer.
- Each solo is \$115 for each dancer.
- Final deadline to commit to YAGP and how many solos or variations you'd like to do is **July 31st**. We will enter all solos as TBD (to be determined), so don't worry if you don't know which variation or solo you'd like to do.

Ensemble Information

- If you are invited to compete in YAGP as an Ensemble member **only**, your fees will be \$60 for the Ensemble and a registration fee of \$110.
- If you are competing in 3 or more solos, we will pay for Ensemble fee for the regionals only, **HOWEVER** you will still need to pay the registration fee of \$110 per dancer as well as and the soloist fees.

YAGP Finals

- If any soloist or ensemble is invited to the Finals, we **HIGHLY** suggest you go. You can opt into the longer option or choose a shorter 3-4 day option. This is a huge honor and students can learn a lot from the experience. There **IS** a cost to compete. Soloist fees are \$350 per dancer (Junior and Senior) and \$320 (Pre-Competitive). Ensemble fees are \$215 per dancer. There is an additional fee of \$50 each to compete in additional ensemble pieces. These fees include admission to all the events, lectures by guest artists and directors, and admission to nearly daily master classes. LBA cannot cover everyone's fees. The travel expenses can be pretty cost effective by sharing rooms, cars, and traveling in groups. The overall expenses however pale in comparison to the chance to compete in this wonderful opportunity!

Click [here](#) to read the YAGP Rules and Regulations for 2023

UBC Information

- This is a newer competition, but it would be helpful to let us know ASAP if you are competing in UBC. Ali needs to complete registration on behalf of the school and will register the dancer by paying at least the registration fee to hold the dancer's place. These fees will be passed on to you.
- **This year, the fees will be charged to the credit card on file on October 15th.** If you are injured or decide to quit after committing to UBC, there are NO refunds.
- The competition schedule is provided to us only about a week and a half before the competition begins. It changes every year.

Soloist Information

- We highly suggest you compete at least two classical variations (for the Junior and Senior categories). All dancers ages 12 and older should also compete a contemporary solo as well. For Pre-Competitive, we suggest one to three solos, but this will be based on experience and readiness.
- Registration fee is \$30 per dancer.
- Mandatory Masterclass fee is \$140
- Each solo is \$105 for each dancer.
- Final deadline to commit to UBC and how many solos or variations you'd like to do is **July 31st**. We will enter all solos as TBD (to be determined), so don't worry if you don't know which variation or solo you'd like to do.

Ensemble Information

- If you are invited to compete in UBC as an Ensemble member **only**, your fees will be \$70 for the Ensemble and a registration fee of \$30, and a Mandatory Masterclass fee is \$140
- If you are competing in 3 or more solos, we will pay for Ensemble fee, HOWEVER you will still need to pay the other fees

UBC Levels

There are two different levels for UBC. Intermediate and Competitive. The Intermediate level is for less experienced dancers. Competitive level is harder and for dancers who are more experienced, more advanced for their age, and have competed more. Our faculty will decide what level a dancer should be placed in.

UBC Finals

There is a UBC Finals. If you are interested in going, we can have a conversation about that. The Finals are May 25th to 29th in Miramar Beach, Florida.

Click [here](#) to read the UBC Rules and Regulations for 2023

Denver Ballet Guild Young Dancer's Competition Information

This competition is back!!! Monica Hill has retired as the director but now it will be led by Francisco Estevez and Tracy Jones. Therefore, they will not be coaching any of our dancers for Guild. (They can for the other competitions).

We currently don't have any other information but will let you now as soon as we hear more.

StarQuest Information

- StarQuest is often a dancer's favorite competition! It's late in the season this year but it would certainly be a great way to end the year! There are lots of different types of dancing, but they respect ballet and dancers really enjoy the fun vibe and camaraderie of the competition.
- **This year, the fees will be charged to the credit card on file on December 15th.** If you are injured or decide to quit after committing to StarQuest, there are NO refunds.

Soloist Information

- You can compete one classical variation.
- The mandatory media fee is \$25 per dancer (\$15 for a sibling) You get a video and all photos.
- Each solo is \$130 for each dancer.
- If you are invited to compete in StarQuest as an Ensemble member **only**, your fees will be \$70 for the Ensemble and a media fee of \$25.
- **Final deadline to commit to StarQuest and how many solos or variations you'd like to do is October 31st.** We will enter all solos as TBD (to be determined), so don't worry if you don't know which variation you'd like to do.

Ensemble Information

- If you are invited to compete in StarQuest as an Ensemble member **only**, your fees will be \$70 for the Ensemble and a media fee of \$25.
- If you are competing one classical variation, we will pay for Ensemble fee, HOWEVER you will still need to pay the other fees

StarQuest Levels

There are three different levels for StarQuest. Nova (we don't qualify), Classic, (less experienced), and Select (more experienced). Our faculty will decide what level a dancer should be placed in.

Thanks so much! Let us know if you have any questions.

Ali and Bobbie