

## Instructors for 2026/2027

### Leah Scheele

Leah has danced at Ballet Westside for eleven years and has been a member of the NWARDC competition team for six years. She has received several awards for duet and group dances. She has demonstrated dance classes for Ballet Westside for six years. Leah is currently attending the University of Arkansas on the pre-occupational therapy track.

### Abby Ryals

Abby is a former student at Ballet Westside for twelve years; and ten years on the competition team. She won multiple awards for solos, duets, and group dances at the regional and national level. She has been a competition choreographer for the past 2 years where she has won numerous awards for pieces in several age ranges for groups and solos. She recently graduated with a degree in Graphic Design from the University of Arkansas.

### Jessica Jacobson

A dancer at Ballet Westside for 13 years and was a member of the performing company for 8 years. She has won numerous awards for duets and group dances at competitions. She was a member of the Rogers varsity dance team. She was a 2014 Dancer of the year finalist at Dance Olympus in Orlando. Her tap solo placed 5th out of 12 competitors in the senior tap category. Jessica will be teaching tap, jazz, ballet and tumbling.

### Jackie Yarbrough

Jackie danced at Ballet Westside for ten years, spending eight of those years with the performing company and competition team. She won multiple awards in both the group and solo categories, including top placement for her self choreographed solos. She continued dancing during college in Arizona as well as teaching and choreographing at a local studio. Now back in Arkansas, she assists with the competition team and coaches a local high school cheer team.

### Audra Warnick

Audra studied with Ballet Westside for 13 years and was part of the performing company for 8 years. During that time, she won many awards for group and solo dances. She was part of the Norse Star Dance Team while attending Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. She is also certified for Barre and Strengthening classes.

### Amber Williams

Amber has been dancing competitively since the age of 7. She has earned a degree in Dance Management from Oklahoma City University. She spent her summers performing in Branson and Frontier City. She has managed auditions and choreography for Six Flags theme parks. She has also performed in NYC, she was a featured dancer and aerialist on cruise ships and then spent 15 years as a professional dancer in Las Vegas. While in Las Vegas she has had the opportunity to work alongside many industry professionals - Pussycat Dolls, Billboard Music Awards w/Nikki Minaj - she opened Royal Jelly in Atlantic City and has performed at the Royal Albert Hall and the Savoy in London. Amber now works remotely as Director of Communications & Impact at Cure 4 The Kids Foundation in Las Vegas. She produces one of the city's most theatrical charity galas called Circus Couture.

### Varun Kotwal

Varun's Latin partner dance journey began when he took his first Salsa class 20 years ago. Since then, he has explored Bachata (since 2016) and Brazilian Zouk (since 2023), training and performing with incredible instructors and teams across India, Mexico, UK, Canada and the US. Today, he focuses on helping dancers grow with solid technique and joy on the dance floor. He currently teaches Zouk and Bachata at Ballet Westside. Follow "Breathe Dance Repeat" on Facebook & Instagram to stay up to date on Zouk & Bachata events.

### Devon Simpson

Devon has always been passionate about working with children and helping them express themselves. She enjoys teaching kids how to use dance as a creative outlet and a way to build confidence and connection. Devon currently works as a licensed clinical mental health therapist and has an extensive background in dance. She danced from ages 3-18 and was a member of the Ballet Westside competition team for 5 years. She also participated on the RHS dance team. While earning her undergraduate degree from the University of Arkansas, she also taught at Ballet Westside. When she is not working Devon enjoys spending time outdoors with her family.

## Transportation

Ballet Westside offers transportation to the studio from local schools and after school care centers. A charge of \$20.00 per month will be assessed for pick-up and return transportation. A charge of \$12.00 will be added to tuition for transportation to Ballet Westside only.

## Mission Statement

For four decades, the mission of Ballet Westside has been to provide dance education to students in Northwest Arkansas in a manner that will not only enhance technical skills but also self-confidence. Our goal is to instill in our students principals of self-expression, discipline, passion and respect. These principals will be valuable in every student's life regardless of what career path they choose. We are dedicated to helping all students reach their unique potential in a fun and safe environment.



## About the Director - Dorothy Taylor

Dorothy Taylor has owned and operated Ballet Westside in Rogers for 41 years. She is originally from Joplin, MO, where she studied dance for 15 years. She was principal dancer for the Joplin Dance Company and won numerous awards for her talent. She holds 5 grades in Cecchetti training as a student and her Associate III level in teaching. She is a past member of the Cecchetti Council of America and regularly attends seminars and master classes to further her training and teaching abilities. She choreographed the Walmart/ConAgra music video for their Facebook page and the 2012 Walmart Year Beginning Meeting. She has also been a consultant to Disneyland and Disney Special Events of Anaheim, CA. Her students have won top awards at dance competitions held in Kansas City, Tulsa, Branson, Little Rock, Las Vegas, New York City, and Orlando. Awards include Best Overall Choreography, Presentation, Precision, Costuming, Overall Grand Champion, and Best Technique. Her students have performed with dancers from Disney Special Events, toured with Dance Olympus as VIPs, performed at the Magic Kingdom, Epcot Center, and Disney Springs in the Walt Disney World Resort. Former students have been accepted into OCU's prestigious dance department, University of Arkansas's Razorback Dance Team, Miami Dolphins Cheerleader, the OCU Star Dance Company, danced for Carnival Cruise Lines, in traveling Broadway shows, portrayed "Sonny" on Fox TV's Grease Live and performed as King George in Chicago's Hamilton.

# 2026-2027 FALL BROCHURE



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## Tuition and Tuition Policy

Full tuition is due September through May, with half tuition due for June if classes go into June. Tuition paid after the 10<sup>th</sup> will be subject to a \$10.00 service charge. Discounts: If tuition for the year is paid by September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, May's tuition is free. Second classes per week are 30% off and third classes per week are half price of equal or lesser priced classes. Additional classes beyond the 3<sup>rd</sup> are half price (for the same child). A family rate of 20% off combined tuition is applied to immediate family members. This does not apply to already discounted 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> classes.

Automatic Debit: Those who enroll will receive discounted tuition. Tuition will be debited from checking accounts on the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. Costume deposits, costume balances and recital fees can also be withdrawn automatically.

### 60 Min Classes:

Regular price - \$85

Auto-debit price - \$80

### Two Hour Classes:

Regular price - \$105

Auto-debit price - \$100

### 90 Min Classes:

Regular price - \$95

Auto-debit price - \$90

### Private Lessons:

60 Min - \$55

## Recital

After paying your recital fee, tickets will be issued to you in May. If we are using Arkansas Arts Academy, tickets will be general admission with no reserved seating. If we use another auditorium, tickets will be reserved seating and issued through tututix. More information on recitals should be available in January. Tentative recital dates are June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2027.

## Costumes

Costume prices are \$75 and \$85 for child and adult-sized costumes, respectively. Costume deposits of \$35 per costume are due by October 15<sup>th</sup>. The remaining balance is due by January 7<sup>th</sup>. Parents needing installment plans may make payments from September until January. The remaining balance is due by January 7<sup>th</sup>. Costume deposits are non refundable after January 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Dance Shoes & Dancewear

The studio carries all the dance shoes, tights and leotards, needed for class. Our quality is better than Target or Walmart and our prices are very competitive too.

## Classes

### Children's Classes:

- Ballet, Tap & Tumbling: ages 3-7, 60 min: 20 minutes of ballet, 10 min. of tumbling and 20 min. of tap. Students are taught basic steps while learning fun song and dance routines.
- Jazz/Hip-Hop/Cheer/Pom: ages 5-11, 60 min each. Age appropriate music is used to teach the latest dance steps. Technique is emphasized to further the student's dance ability. Cheers, chants, jumps and pom routines will also be taught.
- Ballet, Tap & Jazz: ages 8-11, 60 min: 30 min. of ballet; Tap and Jazz alternate each week in the remaining time. Classes are taught in a fun atmosphere with correct technique encouraged.

### Intermediate/Advanced Classes:

- Ballet, Tap & Jazz Combination Classes: ages 8-teen, 90 min; 45 min. of ballet; tap and jazz alternate each week in the remaining time.
- Advanced Combination Class: 2 hours advanced technique in ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop and contemporary.
- Ballet Technique Class: 60 min, no recital routine. Focuses on correct technique, body placement and movement.
- Jazz/Hip-Hop & Lyrical Technique: Ages 10-teen. Class emphasizes correct technique while incorporating fun combos and up to date dance moves.

### General Classes:

- Tumbling for Dancers: ages 7-teen. We offer beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Teaches basic tumbling skills, flexibility and strength. Skills taught: forward & backward roll, cartwheel, round-off, handstands, front & back walkover, aerials and back handsprings (dependent on individual student ability).
- Ballroom for Adults: Taught by Varun Kotwal. Varun specializes in Zouk and Bachata. Follow "Breathe Dance Repeat" on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on classes offered.



## Calendar

August 1 - Glow Party 5:30-8 PM \$20/person

August 4 - Open House 5-7 PM

August 31 - Fall classes begin

September 7 - Closed for Labor Day

October 5-8 - Parents observation day

October 15 - Costume deposits due

November 9-12 - Bring a friend week

November 23-28 - Thanksgiving break

December 1-7 - Parents observation day

December 21 - January 1 - Christmas Break

January 7 - Costume balances due

February 1-4 - Parents observation day

March 22 -26 - Spring Break

May 31 - Closed for Memorial Day

June 5-6 - Tentative Recital Dates

