



TEXAS METROPOLITAN BALLET

Big Steps by Little Feet

Little Dancers Daytime Discovery Program Information

Welcome to our dynamic learning environment, where dance education is explored and discovered! At Texas Metropolitan Ballet, we believe each child is a unique individual, and we will work with them where they are in their growth and development to inspire and nurture their budding intellect and creativity, strengthening their hearts, minds, and bodies within the world of the performing arts.

Every class day, students will spend time with our experienced and compassionate teachers on carefully planned activities that enhance early literacy and mathematical concepts, artistic creativity, fine and gross motor skills, and social-emotional learning. Children will be encouraged to grow in reverence and respect for one another, fostering good manners within a loving family-like atmosphere.

Schedule:

Arrival and Greetings

Opening Circle Time/Music and Fingerplays

Core Themed Readiness Lesson

Fine-Motor Skill Building/Sensory Activities/ Small Group Rotations

Gross Motor Movement/Ballet Lesson

Snack/Storytime

Art/Creativity Project

Team Building Game/Choreography

Clean-up/Dismissal

Showcases:

One unique and exciting feature about our Little Daytime Dancers Program is the opportunity for students to perform choreography they have learned throughout the month for their guardians. Each class's showcase performance will take place during the last 15 minutes of the last class of each month. Each showcase is unique and offers a wonderful opportunity for students to demonstrate their newly learned skills to those they love. Performances will be conducted in their own dance/activewear with occasional props loaned by TMB. On our showcase days, "drop-in" students will not be admitted into the program.

Safety:

Texas Metropolitan Ballet is committed to the safety of your children at all times under our loving care. All teachers are certified by the American Heart Association 1st Aid and CPR Lifesaver Course and conduct routine safety drills with both students and staff members.

Arrivals and Departures:

Students and guardians will enter the WEST side of the building into our reception and waiting area. The building door and lobby will open for our families at 8:45am to ensure plenty of time for sign-in and student preparation. The classroom studio room will open at 9:00 to ensure a timely beginning to our day.

Upon arrival to every class, parents are to sign-in their student, along with an up-to-date local, third-party (other than parents/guardians) emergency contact that is authorized for pick-up and transport of their student for that day. All individuals picking up their child must be prepared to show a valid ID, when requested by staff.

We also appreciate your promptness in picking up your child. Little ones become very concerned and apprehensive when their rides are late. Upon pick-up, guardians will be required to note the time and provide their signature. Once your child has been signed out, you are responsible for their supervision. If your child needs to be picked up early, please give the teachers advanced notice (if possible) upon drop-off or via email, so we can have your child ready for your early arrival.

Separation Anxiety:

Occasionally, a little one has difficulty saying good-bye, which is a very normal part of their growth and development as they learn to become strong, independent learners. Please remember that your positive attitude and confidence is the single biggest factor in helping your child through these strong emotions. While you are welcome to stay in our waiting area to observe our class through our closed classroom door, often the best practice is to give your love and depart quickly, leaving your child within the loving care of our teachers. It is the moment of separation that is the toughest, and when it is over, we're on our way to a happy day!

Dress Code:

Students may dress in comfortable active playwear or dancewear. Please consider that at times students will be getting creative with projects that might include paint, chalk, clay, etc, so please dress accordingly. Dancers may also "layer" their dancewear underneath playwear if they want to have options throughout our varied schedule. Dancers may participate in the program barefooted or in ballet shoes. Please no socks, as these pose a hazard on our dance floor. Hair is to be secured out of the face to ensure maximum focus and ease of movement. Jewelry (to include watches) is not permitted. When entering and exiting the studio, please make sure your child's dancewear is covered with non-dance clothing. Ballet shoes may NOT be worn outside the building.

Change of Clothes:

In our busy world of discovery, sometimes we get messy or accidents happen. We ask that you provide **a complete change of clothes** (seasonally appropriate) for your child and place them in a zip-style bag labeled with your child's name in case the need arises they need to change. Please begin to practice at home the process of your child changing and dressing themselves INDEPENDENTLY. Keep in mind zippers, belts, and overalls are very tricky for young fingers still learning fine motor skills. Teachers are not permitted to help your child change in and out of clothing. If a child struggles with this while at the studio, parents/guardians will be called to assist the process.

Communication:

Your child's teacher will communicate with you via email regarding classroom activities on a regular basis. Please make sure that your email is set up in a way to receive the school's communications, to avoid important messages getting "lost" in Spam or Trash folders.

If you need to contact your child's teacher, please email us at:

Contact@TexasMetropolitanBallet.com. While we try to respond to emails as fast as possible, please allow 24 hours for a response. Keep in mind that while class is in-session, your child's teacher may not be able respond. During class hours, you may call the school at **254-252-4640** or Mrs. Guidry's cell phone at **940-781-7700** to get a more direct message to our staff while they are with your student.

Weather:

Central Texas often times has unpredictable weather. Please ensure your child dresses appropriately. Teachers and staff are aware of and monitor weather conditions. In case of severe weather, such as tornado warnings or winter advisories, the program may be delayed or canceled for the day. In these cases, we always try to give the most advance notice as possible and emails will be sent out if the studio requires a closure at any time. If a warning occurs while students are in the studio, students will be lead to a safe, internal room within the studio until the "all clear" is sounded—it is recommended that parents take shelter and wait for the "all clear" before picking up their child. If parents are present when this occurs, parents will be advised to stay with their children and shelter in the studio until the "all clear" is sounded.

Snacks:

Texas Metropolitan Ballet is happy to offer a small pre-packaged healthy snack for all children attending our Little Dancers Daytime Discovery Program. Snacks may include, but are not limited to items such as: small crackers or grahams, cereal, pretzels, cut fruit or vegetables, etc. If your child desires to bring their own snack, please make sure they bring their snack in a labeled container and is something they can open easily. Please make sure ALL food allergies are communicated to staff with documentation.

Water is offered throughout the program and is available upon request. If a child brings their own personal water bottle, please make sure it is labeled clearly with their first and last name. Please make sure bottles contain WATER ONLY to mitigate mess if spills occur. Liquids such as juice, sports drinks, and milk will not be permitted inside the studio room.

Birthdays:

We love helping to make your child's birthday a special day! Your child may bring a simple treat to share with the class to celebrate, if they desire. Birthday treats will always be shared during Snack Time. Please inquire in advance about approximate class size, as our class roster may change daily/monthly depending upon enrollment.

Absences:

We know there are many reasons why a student may be absent from class. If you know ahead of time of an anticipated future absence, please email us so the teachers can be prepared. Many times, this will help us anticipate availability for students who wish to “drop-in” their student for the day. If your child is sick, to include a fever of 99.5 degrees or greater, exhibiting symptoms such as nausea, vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours, or any other signs of illness, we ask you to please keep your child at home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours.

Health Policy:

Texas Metropolitan Ballet is NOT authorized to administer any medication to any student. Staff may provide an instant cold pack or apply bandages to small cuts and scrapes, if needed. If more advanced medical attention is required, guardians (and if necessary, emergency medical services) will be notified immediately.

If your child has medical needs, such as an allergy (mild or severe) or pre-existing condition, please provide written notice to TMB staff regarding the condition and restrictions, if any, required by medical professionals. It is our desire that all children remain safe and healthy within our care.

“Drop-in” Students:

Our program ***always*** encourages students to “drop-in” to try our program for one day or periodically, but not consistently. Sometimes this might include a visiting relative or friend that might be joining a current student for the day. Guardians are encouraged to call or email ahead of time to check availability. If a child arrives at the program without prior registration, staff may determine whether or not a space is available for the student for the day. Registration and payment will occur online once space availability is determined. Drop-in students will not be admitted on showcase days (the last class of the month).

In closing, please feel free to email us or call with any questions or concerns you may have during the year. We can best help your child grow and develop by working together. We are excited and honored to be part of this exciting journey for our youngest of dancers!

Meet Our Staff



Megan Guidry

Director and Lead Teacher

Megan has been dancing ever since she can remember but began studying ballet seriously with the Boehm Ballet Academy in Wichita Falls, Texas at the age of 7. Her dedication led her to become a Company Member and Principle Dancer for the Wichita Falls Ballet Theater for 8 years, dancing leading roles in The Nutcracker and other ballets and also founding a liturgical ballet group within her community. During this time, she participated in multiple Intensive Programs for institutions such as The Joffrey Ballet School in New York City and The American Ballet Theater.

While in pursuit of her advanced education, Megan continued to dance at Texas A&M University, performing with their newly-founded Dance Department and participating in events such as “National Dance Week.” She also initiated the ballet program at the Texas A&M University’s Recreation Center, where she taught for 3 years and was awarded “Instructor of the Year” by university staff.

Following her graduation with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Education, Megan married her husband, Heath, and took her love of ballet wherever the Army sent them. She has taught Preschool and ballet classes in Oklahoma, Kansas, Tennessee, Texas, and Germany, also working in partnership with great organizations such as The Armed Services YMCA and The Army MWR’s SKIES Unlimited Program.

Megan moved to Killeen with her family in 2022 and immediately became part of the TMB family. She has enjoyed dancing as a company member in both their Nutcracker and Spring Gala productions alongside her daughters, Arya and Adelaide. She is honored to serve as a director, teacher, and choreographer for the Primary and Junior Level classes in the Texas Metropolitan Ballet Academy. Megan is also a certified early childhood educator through the Texas Education Agency and a Registered Children’s Yoga Teacher through Yoga Alliance.

Megan’s passion for the arts and ballet has always been brought to its fullest when teaching the youngest of dancers. Her hope is to spark that joy in every one of her students, giving them the inspiration and confidence to perform from their heart.

Sasha Robinson

Assistant Teacher



Sasha is so excited to be taking part and helping in the Daytime Discovery program! She has been practicing ballet for over three years and currently serves as an Apprentice for the Texas Metropolitan Ballet Company. She loves dancing more than anything! Because of her passion for understanding how children learn and grow, Sasha is also currently studying Child Development at Central Texas College and works part-time at Movin' Easy Dancewear in Austin. She enjoys working with children because of their unique perspectives and enthusiasm, which always makes each day a different adventure. When she is not in class or assisting our youngest dancers, she is either rock climbing or spending quality time with her boyfriend.