

ROLANDO YANES

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM



MILWAUKEE
BALLEI
SCHOOL
& ACADEMY

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

LEADERSHIP



MICHAEL PINK
Milwaukee Ballet
Artistic Director



KRISTIN DIMMER
Milwaukee Ballet
School & Academy
Director



TATIANA JOURAVEL-MALINKINE
Head of Training for Academy &
Pre-Professional Divisions

FEEDBACK FROM OUR ALUMNI

- "The Pre-Professional Program prepares you to reach your goals by giving you a sharpened skill set and diverse toolbox of all the things you need to know to have a successful career."
- "The most valuable aspect of the program and my time there was the one-on-one training and coaching I received during class and rehearsals. The daily corrections really helped to focus on improving my technique in ballet and other styles!"
- "I would recommend this Program to other dancers because of the positive effect on your technique, which really makes you stand out among other dancers."
- "I would recommend Milwaukee Ballet's Pre-Professional Program to all prospective ballet students who are seeking the next level of their training...The program also offers various opportunities to make connections and to build a performance repertoire."

2026 | PROGRAM DETAILS

ELIGIBILITY & AUDITIONS

Students must be post-high school advanced level dancers or current high school students that display potential for a professional career in dance. Ladies must have at least 4 years of intensive pointe training.

Visit our website for information regarding audition opportunities.

milwaukeeballet.org/pre-professional-program

TUITION

Tuition for the 2026/27 school year is \$7,848 (\$872/month).

- 9 monthly payments are due September - May.
- September tuition is due at the time of registrations with a one-time \$100 registration fee.
- Tuition includes all classes, rehearsals, costumes, and performance participation.
- Students are responsible for their own housing, meals, transportation, dance attire, shoes, and academic tuition if still enrolled in high school.
- Online applications for financial assistance, as available, open June 2026. Contact the Registrar with questions or how to apply.



REGISTRATION

Students will be contacted with their acceptance and registration materials by May 8. Space is limited, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage prospective students to register with a first month's tuition payment as soon as possible upon acceptance into the program to secure their place.

Contact our School Office with questions or for assistance:

mbsa@milwaukeeballet.org | 414.902.2150

PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy offers a robust Pre-Professional Training Program (PPP) that educates, trains, and prepares students for a career in professional dance.

This post-secondary certificate program is intended for recent high school graduates and current high school students with alternative academic study options. The program offers daily intensive training led by Tatiana Jouravel-Malinkine, Head of Training for Academy and Pre-Professional Divisions.

Prospective students are those seeking rigorous and professional quality training. Students may apply from our own Milwaukee Ballet Academy Division or from external studios and dance programs.

Students typically progress through our program on a two-year track although exceptions may be made due to age and individual student needs. Students are typically ages 15 to 21; however, admittance into the program is subject to the discretion or recommendation of School & Academy Director Kristin Dimmer.

Graduates of our program go on to secure jobs within the dance field through a variety of pathways. Most recently, five Milwaukee Ballet Second Company (MBII) artists are PPP alums, and more than half of current Milwaukee Ballet Company Dancers are former MBII members. Other PPP graduates have chosen to study dance at the collegiate level, found success dancing in other professional companies, or have pursued careers in the commercial dance or musical theater worlds. Students are supported in their endeavors to find job placements within the dance community and networks.

Photos: Rachel Malehorn.



WHAT TO EXPECT

Our program curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive, well-rounded experience for pre-professional students.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Daily classes (Monday - Friday) in ballet and pointe or men's work
- Inspiring live musical accompaniment
- Weekly classes in variations, pas de deux, Pilates, character, and repertoire
- Small class sizes to provide focused, individual attention
- Outstanding international faculty
- Three annual showcase performances
- Guest teachers in various dance styles, including African, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Musical Theater, Dance History, Flamenco, and Contemporary
- Audition opportunities for Milwaukee Ballet Company and MBII productions
- Mental health and nutrition seminars provide support to students throughout the program.
- New, state-of-the-art studios at Baumgartner Center for Dance

Each day's schedule is built to offer balanced training while exposing students to the type of structure to be expected during the course of a professional career.

A TYPICAL DAY IN THE PROGRAM:

STANDARD SCHEDULE	
8:15-9:15 AM	Pilates (select days)
9:30-11:00 AM	Ballet
11:15-12:15 PM	Pointe/Pas de Deux
12:15-1:00 PM	Lunch Break
1:00-2:00 PM	Repertoire
2:15-3:15 PM	Style Class**



***Style classes include Variations, Hip-Hop, African, Contemporary, Musical Theatre, Jazz, Character, Dance History, Career Seminar, etc.*

Schedule subject to change.

ACADEMICS

Current high school students must plan to secure their own alternative academic courses. We are happy to make recommendations on programs our graduates have used successfully. All PPP students must provide a record of current academic enrollment or completion of secondary education.



COMMUNITY

Our Pre-Professional Program provides a supportive community of staff and faculty. Our team is available to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about the program and life in Milwaukee. We are happy to guide you with recommendations on housing, academics, and other essentials.

Students who complete their registration for the 2026/27 program will be added to a contact list that will be shared before the program begins, allowing students and families to connect with each other in advance of the start of the program. Returning students are often another useful, firsthand resource to first-year students.

HOUSING

Students secure their own housing accommodations for the duration of the program. We recommend the Historic Third Ward and East Town neighborhoods, both closely located to our studio facilities, which have bountiful leasing options and easy access to public transportation. The Historic Third Ward is home to a large population of young professionals, while East Town offers more affordable apartments and housing for students and families.



LIFE IN MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee Ballet's state-of-the-art studios at Baumgartner Center for Dance are located in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward neighborhood. The Historic Third Ward is block after block of former industrial warehouses, many of which are now home to the city's creative hubs and home to art galleries, the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, performing arts venues, trendy and upscale restaurants with patio dining, and boutique shops.

To the west, the public access Riverwalk stretches nearly four miles into downtown along the Milwaukee River. To the east, along Lake Michigan, sits the Henry W. Maier Festival Park, home to Summerfest, the world's largest music festival, as well as many of Milwaukee's ethnic festivals.

Just north of the Historic Third Ward lies the East Town neighborhood, offering beaches, restaurants, and a plethora of enriching arts and culture experiences, including Jazz in the Park, Milwaukee Art Museum, the newly renovated Marcus Performing Arts Center, and the famous Pabst Theater.

Learn more about our great city at [visitmilwaukee.org](https://www.visitmilwaukee.org).



Photo: Eric Olson/Saturn Lounge.