Welcome to the 2022 | 2023 Performance Season

Registration Information Packet

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for Princeton Youth Ballet's 2022 | 2023 performance season!
Please read the below information carefully and in its entirety.

How to Audition

Auditions for PYB's full performance season will be held on **Saturday, September 17th.** Dancers may choose to audition for *The Nutcracker*, *Cinderella*, or both.

Follow these five steps.

1. Read through this document in full. Direct questions to Audrey at ayeagerpdt@gmail.com
2. Sign up for an audition slot on SignUp Genius–audition times are designated by age/level.
3. Fill out PYB's new online *Audition Registration Response Form* via Google Forms.
4. Print and fill out PYB's *Participation Fees Form* and bring it with you to audition along with your form of payment (credit card, cash, or check made out to Princeton Youth Ballet; we appreciate cash and checks in order to help minimize our fees.)
5. Dancers must attend the audition at **Princeton Dance and Theater Studio** (116 Rockingham Row, Princeton) on Saturday, September 17th at the designated time **accompanied by a parent/guardian**. There will be a mandatory parent meeting during each group's audition.

Are dancers enrolled at any dance studio eligible to audition?

- Yes, PYB auditions are open to all young dancers (ages 8-22) actively involved in ballet training anywhere in the region.
- Dancers ages 14 and over in this category must take an advanced-level ballet assessment class on September 17th at 11:45 am.

Should dancers expect to dance during the entire designated audition time?

- No. Dancers may be asked to perform segments of choreography in small groups.
- Those dancers auditioning for the Spring production ONLY may be dismissed with minimal dancing, but are required to attend for costuming purposes.
- All dancers auditioning for the Spring production may be asked to return for a casting session in February, 2023.

Production Location and Dates

All performances will take place at **Princeton High School Performing Arts Center**.

- ***The Nutcracker*** – Saturday, December 10, 2022 (4:00 pm) and Sunday, December 11, 2022 (12:00 pm and 4:00 pm)
- ***Cinderella*** – Saturday, May 6, 2023 (4:00 pm) and Sunday, May 7, 2023 (12:00 pm and 4:00 pm) Cinderella *dates are pending confirmation from the venue.*
- A technical rehearsal will be held at the theater on the Friday evening of each performance weekend.
- In-theater dress rehearsals will be held on the Saturday morning of each performance weekend.
- In-studio dress rehearsals will be held at PDT 1-2 weeks before each performance weekend.

Registration Fees

Fees are payable by check, cash, or credit card (check preferred). Fees cover rehearsal instruction, coaching, one PYB season t-shirt per dancer, and a video download of each production.

- **Fees are only refundable if a dancer is not cast, less a $20 audition fee.**
- Dancers auditioning for the full performance season (both the Winter and Spring productions) must pay 50% of the registration fee at the time of the audition, with the balance to be paid via a **post-dated check to be deposited not before Feb 1, 2023.**
- All payments must be provided at the time of the audition.

- Scholarships: Need-based full and partial scholarships are available; please e-mail info@princetonyouthballet.org for more information.

Rehearsals

Rehearsal schedules and call times vary from week to week. Each week's schedule is created and distributed to families by **Tuesday morning** ahead of the upcoming rehearsal weekend. Rehearsal schedules will be posted at www.princetonyouthballet.org under the *Your Documents* tab. Company members will also receive a weekly e-mail with rehearsal schedules and information.

On what days and times does my dancer need to be available for rehearsals?

The days/times during which dancers must be available for ***The Nutcracker*** and/or ***Cinderella*** rehearsals are outlined below.

- **Fridays** | 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm (ONLY intermediate/advanced pointe dancers and boys age 13+ ; rehearsals for Level 4B/5A dancers will begin after class.)
- **Saturdays** | 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm (all ages and levels)
- **Sundays** | 11:00 am to 4:30 pm (all ages and levels)

IMPORTANT | Dancers must be available during ALL of the above time frames for the entire duration rehearsal period. The weekly rehearsal schedule will specify which dancers are called and the specific times for which they are called each weekend. Please check the posted schedule each Tuesday to find out the upcoming weekend's rehearsal times for your dancer's role(s).

How many hours per week will my dancer rehearse?

Approximate hours of commitment per weekend are as follows:

- **Dancers ages 11+**: 3 or more hours/weekend with up to 10 hours for the most advanced dancers
- **Most younger dancers***: 1-2 hours/weekend (until we get closer to the performances)
  *Exceptions may occur based on casting.

Rehearsal Policies

- **ALL REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY. Dancers are required to be available for and to attend every rehearsal for which they are scheduled**. Absences will only be excused in the case of the severe illness or death of an immediate family member (including grandparents) or the hospitalization of the dancer. No dancer may leave rehearsal early without prior approval by the artistic staff. **Any dancer who misses a rehearsal under this policy will be removed from the production without a refund of fees.** Dancers who are injured should attend rehearsals but "mark" or observe. Dancers should be inside the designated studio, dressed in dance attire, and ready to dance no later than the scheduled start time. Rehearsals will begin promptly as scheduled.
- **COVID-19 Rehearsal Considerations:** If a dancer is experiencing COVID-like symptoms, has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has an immediate family member who has contracted COVID-19, please contact us. PYB will follow CDC guidelines to determine health and safety practices around COVID-19. Masking policies will be determined at the start of each production period.
- If a dancer is unable to attend a studio rehearsal due to one of the aforementioned scenarios, please call (609) 583-0605 and leave a voicemail AND email talinpyb@gmail.com and ayeagerPDT@gmail.com as soon as possible. If you do not receive an immediate response, please text Talin at (310) 435-0560. Out of respect for the demands of the director's schedule, please refrain from texting Talin for non-emergent matters.
- If there is a change to the published rehearsal schedule due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstance, updates will be made on the website and an e-mail notification will be sent.

Schedules and Documents

Company forms, schedules, and documents will be posted under a password-protected tab on our website: www.princetonyouthballet.org. The e-mail address you provide on your registration form will be used to create your "PYB Company Member" account. New members will receive a temporary password to access the "Your Documents" tab.

Cast List

An email with a link to the cast list will be sent to company members at least 1 week prior to the first rehearsal. If you do not receive this email, please email ayeagerpdt@gmail.com.

Alternates

If a dancer (PDT Level 3+) is unable to commit to the no-miss policy, but would still like to attend rehearsals, he/she/they may audition for a position as an alternate. Alternates may have the opportunity to perform if an additional dancer is needed or if the dancer originally cast in a role is unable to perform. Alternates may also be eligible to learn multiple parts and assist with the production as part of the backstage crew.

***Policies and casting are subject to change at the discretion of the Artistic Director**

Family Volunteering

Theater rentals, costumes, projection designs, props, and the hiring of professional technical crew are costly. In order to ensure that PYB will be able to meet the costs of mounting high-quality productions, we require PYB families to volunteer their time before/during the production period and performance.

Families are asked to please,

- solicit local business for program ads
- contribute gift items to be sold during the performances
- donate raffle basket items
- participate in one of the activities listed on the **Parent Volunteer Form** (page 7)

While one parent/guardian per family will spend the duration of one of the weekend's performances volunteering, every parent/guardian will be able to enjoy at least one performance from the audience.

Families may choose to pay a $100 opt-out fee (per performance) in lieu of volunteering.

Technology

- PHOTO POLICY: The taking of photos or videos is **strictly prohibited** in the studios or theater dressing rooms, in the immediate backstage area, in the wings, from the audience, or onstage, except as permitted by designated PYB Staff.
- PYB video downloads are for personal use only. Reproduction or sharing of PYB videos or video clips must be approved by the Artistic Director. Allowable usage includes college or professional auditions, scholarship applications, etc.

Costume Guidelines

- Costumes are the property of PYB and must be handled with care.
- All costumes must be properly hung on designated hangers when not in use.
- Costumes and headpieces may not be left on the floor.
- Dancers must not eat or apply make-up while in costume.

COVID-19 POLICY AND WAIVER

COVID-19 POLICY: PYB follows Princeton Dance and Theater Studio's COVID-19 policies. Policies for audience members on performance days will be determined as the dates approach. In the event that mounting a live performance becomes unsafe or impossible due to worsening public health conditions or any other unforeseen circumstance, PYB will make every effort to offer another meaningful presentation of the dancers' work.

COVID-19 WAIVER: A risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and people with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable to illness**. By coming to Princeton Youth Ballet/Princeton Dance and Theater Studio, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19.**

PRINCETON YOUTH BALLET

2022 | 2023 Performance Season Calendar

The Nutcracker – Fall 2022

***Friday rehearsals will ONLY involve intermediate/advanced pointe dancers and boys age 13+ (PDT Levels 4/5 and CP)**

Saturday, September 17 | Company Auditions

(Fri) Sat/Sun, Sept (30), Oct 1 & 2	**Rehearsal #1**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, October (7), 8 & 9	**Rehearsal #2**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, October (14), 15 & 16	**Rehearsal #3**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, October (21), 22 & 23	**Rehearsal #4**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, October (28), 29 & 30	**Rehearsal #5**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, November (4), 5 & 6	**Rehearsal #6**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, November (11), 12 & 13	**Rehearsal #7 (NJTC Weekend)**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, November (18), 19 & 20	**Rehearsal #8**
Sun, November 27 (Thanksgiving wknd)	**Rehearsal #9 (In-Studio Run)**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, December (2), 3 & 4	**Rehearsal #10**
Sat, December 3	**Dress Rehearsal (In-Studio)**
Fri, December 9	**Technical rehearsal at Princeton High School (PHS)**
Sat, December 10	**Dress rehearsal & performance at PHS**
Sun, December 11	**Performances at PHS**

Additional Scheduling Notes (*The Nutcracker*):

• Rehearsals for ***The Nutcracker*** begin **Friday, September 30th**

• As noted above, there *will* be rehearsals during teacher convention weekend (November 11-13)

• Thanksgiving weekend there will be a mandatory rehearsal on Sunday, November 27th

• Dancers must commit to ALL rehearsal weekends to participate

PRINCETON YOUTH BALLET

2022|2023 Performance Season Calendar

Cinderella – Spring 2023

Note: Cinderella rehearsal weekends and performance dates are tentative and subject to change.

***Friday rehearsals will ONLY involve intermediate/advanced pointe dancers and boys age 13+ (PDT Levels 4/5 and CP)**

Saturday, February 11 | Casting Session (mandatory for dancers ages 13+; younger dancers TBD)

(Fri) Sat/Sun, February (17) 18 & 19	**Rehearsal #1**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, February (24), 25 & 26	**Rehearsal #2**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, March (3), 4 & 5	**Rehearsal #3**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, March (10), 11 & 12	**Rehearsal #4**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, March (17), 18 & 19	**Rehearsal #5**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, March (24), 25 & 26	**Rehearsal #6**
(Fri) Sat/Sun March (31), April 1 & 2	**Rehearsal #7**
Sat, April 8	**Tentative rehearsal for older dancers if needed**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, April (14), 15 & 16	**Rehearsal #8**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, April (21), 22 & 23	**Rehearsal #9 (Sat. run-through)**
(Fri) Sat/Sun, April (28), 29 & 30	**Rehearsal #10**
Sat, April 29	**Dress Rehearsal (In-studio)**
Fri, May 5	**Technical rehearsal at Princeton High School (PHS)**
Sat, May 6	**Tentative Dress rehearsal/performance at PHS**
Sun, May 7	**Tentative Performances at PHS**

Additional Scheduling Notes (*Cinderella*):

- Dancers may be called to a casting session on **Saturday, February 11**, times TBD.
- Rehearsals for ***Cinderella*** begin **Friday, February 17**
- There will be NO rehearsals on **Spring Break weekend** (April 7, 8, 9) however, some older dancers may be called on Saturday, April 8 based on need and availability

PRINCETON YOUTH BALLET

COMPANY NO-MISS POLICY

Dancers will be **REQUIRED** to be available for and to attend **every** rehearsal in person, for which their roles are scheduled, except in the case of the death of an immediate family member (including grandparents) or the hospitalization of the dancer. Any dancer who is experiencing COVID-like symptoms must contact us immediately to arrange a plan.

This policy is intended to benefit the dancers themselves, their peers, and the Artistic Director and staff. With all dancers present to learn choreography and practice staging, the rehearsal period will be condensed and dancers will have a reduced weekend commitment.

ALTERNATES: If a dancer (PDT Level 3+) cannot commit to the no-miss policy but would still like to attend rehearsals and participate in the production, they may audition for a position as an alternate at the discretion of the Artistic Director. Alternates may have the opportunity to perform if necessary (for example, if the dancer originally cast in a role is unable to perform), or may assist the artistic staff or with the production as part of the backstage crew if they are not needed for a performance.

SEASON CALENDAR REVIEW

PERFORMANCES will take place at Princeton High School Performing Arts Center

The Nutcracker | **December 10** (4:00 pm) **and December 11** (12:00 and 4:00 pm)
Cinderella *(dates subject to change)* | **May 6** (4:00 pm) **and May 7** (12:00 and 4:00 pm)

- A technical rehearsal will be held at the theater on the Friday evening of each performance weekend.
- In-theater dress rehearsals will be held on the Saturday morning of each performance weekend.
- In-studio dress rehearsals will be held at PDT 1-2 weeks before each performance weekend.

Rehearsals for ***The Nutcracker*** begin **Friday, September 30.**

- **Fridays** | 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm (ONLY intermediate/advanced pointe dancers and boys age 13+ ; rehearsals for Level 4B/5A dancers will begin after class.)
- **Saturdays** | 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm (all ages and levels)
- **Sundays** | 11:00 am to 4:30 pm (all ages and levels)

*There *will* be rehearsals over teacher convention weekend (November 11-13)
***Thanksgiving weekend**, rehearsals will be held on **Saturday (November 26, tentative) and Sunday (November 27, mandatory)**

Rehearsals for ***Cinderella*** begin **Friday, February 17**

- **Fridays** | 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm (ONLY intermediate/advanced pointe dancers and boys age 13+ ; rehearsals for Level 4B/5A dancers will begin after class.)
- **Saturdays** | 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm (all ages and levels)
- **Sundays** | 11:00 am to 4:30 pm (all ages and levels)

*No rehearsals on **Spring Break weekend** (April 7, 8, 9.) However older dancers may be called (if available) on Saturday, April 8.

Any dancer who misses a rehearsal under this policy will be removed from the production without a refund. Dancers may be reassigned as alternates at the discretion of the Artistic Director.

Parent Volunteer Information

In order to produce a production of professional quality with PYB' small staff, we require that one family member volunteer their times either before or during rehearsal/performance weekends. Families who do not wish to volunteer may pay a $100 volunteer-opt out fee. Please indicate your top three volunteer preferences on PYB's new online audition registration form.

- Volunteer preferences will be taken into consideration when volunteer assignments are made.
- Volunteers will be asked to attend an assignment-specific meeting closer to show time.
- You may be required to volunteer for the full duration of any one performance (before, during, and after), however everyone will be able to watch at least one performance from the audience.
- Everyone is asked to stay for 20 minutes following the last performance to help "strike".

We are grateful to our volunteers and appreciate your help!

Volunteer Jobs	Time requirements
Backstage Helper - Older Dancers (ages13+) • Quick changes / Props • Minor sewing skills – during the show	Availability on one full show day
Backstage Helper - Younger Dancers (ages 6-12) • Supervise Green Room • Cues (help dancers get to stage on time)	Availability on one full show day
Costume Helper • Basic sewing and alterations, steaming • Stone gluing • Organizing costumes/props backstage	Throughout the entire production period (rehearsal weekends and show days) *Note: Anyone with basic sewing skills can be of big help to our costuming team!
Load In Team **Nutcracker**: Thurs – Fri, December 8 and 9 **Cinderella**: Thurs – Fri, May 4 and 5 (tentative)	Approximately 3 pm – 7:30 pm on indicated dates to load costumes/props into the theater and help lay out the stage flooring. Task time depends on the number of volunteers. Lifting involved.
Load Out Team **Nutcracker**: Sunday, December 11 **Secret Garden**: Sunday, May 7	Availability after the last Sunday show to move costumes/props/flooring out of the theater and back to the studio/storage. Task time depends on the number of volunteers. Lifting involved. Approx. 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm.
Raffle Baskets Set-up/Coordinator Coordinate and assemble donated items into attractive raffle baskets	Main work occurs during the final week before the performance
Boutique/Concessions Sales Set up the display of various items for sale Conduct sales Replenish displays as sales are made	Before show and during intermission
Hall Monitor Sign dancers in and out Monitor front hallway	Before, during, and after show
Usher Checking tickets, directly patrons to their seats. Must be comfortable respectfully enforcing theater policies (no photographing, masking if required, etc.)	Before, during, and after show

Release and Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement
(Read Carefully Before E-Signing on the Audition Registration Online Form)

In consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in the Dance Program indicated below and/or being permitted to enter for any purpose any restricted area (herein defined as any area where in admittance to the general public is prohibited), the parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) of the minor participant named below agree(s):

1. The parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) will instruct the minor participant that prior to participating in the below dance activity or event, he or she should inspect the facilities and equipment to be used, and if he or she believes anything is unsafe, the parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) of the minor participant should immediately advise the instructor/PYB parent volunteer of such condition and refuse to participate. The participant (dancer) understands and agrees that, if at any time, the participant feels anything to be unsafe; the participant dancer will immediately take all precautions to avoid the unsafe area and refuse to participate further until the issue is resolved by a PYB staff person.
2. I/WE fully understand and acknowledge that:
   a) There are risks and dangers associated with participating in dance events and activities, which could result in bodily injury, partial and/or total disability, paralysis and death.
   b) The social and economic losses and/or damages, which could result from these risks and dangers described above, could be severe.
   c) These risks and dangers may be caused by the action, inaction or negligence of the participant or the action, inaction or negligence of others, including, but not limited to, the Releases named below.
   d) There may be other risks not known to us or that are not reasonably foreseeable at this time.
3. I/WE accept and assume such risks and responsibility for the losses and/or damages following such injury, disability, paralysis or death, however caused and whether caused in whole or part by the negligence of the Releasees named below.
4. I/WE HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE either PYB or the dance facility used by the participant, including its owners, managers, directors, board members, promoters, lessees of the premises used to conduct the dance events or program, premises and event inspectors, underwriters, consultants and others who gave recommendations, directions, or instructions to engage in risk evaluation or loss control activities regarding the dance facility or events held at such a facility and each of them, their directors, officers, agents, employees, all for the purposes herein referred to as "Releasee,"FROM ALL LIABILITY TO THE UNDERSIGNED, my/our personal representatives, assigns, executors, heirs and next to kin for ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES OR DAMAGES AND ANY CLAIMS OR DEMANDS THEREFORE ON ACCOUNT OF ANY INJURY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE DEATH OF THE PARTICIPANT OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THE EVENT(S) CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEE OR OTHERWISE.
5. I/WE HEREBY acknowledge that THE ACTIVITIES OF THE EVENT(S) ARE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS and involve the risk of serious injury and/or death and/or property damage. Each of THE UNDERSIGNED also expressly acknowledges that INJURIES RECEIVED MAY BE COMPOUNDED OR INCREASED BY NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS OR PROCEDURES OF THE RELEASEES.
6. EACH OF THE UNDERSIGNED further expressly agrees that the foregoing release, waiver, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the NJ law and that if any portion is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.
7. On behalf of the participant and individually, the undersigned partner(s) and/or legal guardian(s) for the minor participant executes this Waiver and Release. If, despite this release, the participant makes a claim against any of the Releasees, the parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) will reimburse the Releasee for any money, which they have paid to the participant, or on his/her behalf and hold them harmless.
8. The undersigned permits PYB the unrestricted right to utilize the participant's video and/or photograph from both rehearsals and performances.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND IDEMNITY AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT, ASSURANCE, OR GUARANTEE BEING MADE AND INTEND MY SIGNATURE TO BE COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.