

The Melbourne Institute of Classical Arts (MICA) is a joint collaboration between Coburg High Schools and Melbourne City Ballet (MCB Incorporated) to provide new opportunities for young elite upcoming ballet artists to access both high quality education and classical training. Partners within MICA are focused on creating positive learning experiences for youth in Victoria to encourage the completion of their secondary education while training to become a professional artist.

### **Location**

The MICA program takes place at two venues in Coburg, with a walking distance of 650m between the venues. Both venues are close to public transport including bus, train and tram.

The academic portion occurs at Coburg Senior/Junior High Schools, located at Alva Grove, Coburg VIC 3058.

The classical ballet portion at the Melbourne City Ballet Centre, located at Shop 5, 19 Pentridge Boulevard, Coburg VIC 3058.

### **Academic Campus**

Coburg Senior/Junior High School is a modern academic institution, providing a multifaceted learning environment to Victorian youth for years 7 - 12.

### **Classical Ballet Campus**

Melbourne City Ballet Centre is home to Melbourne City Ballet Company and elite training programs offering high level classical training to Victorian artists.

### **Course Breakdown and Structure**

Academic - Students commence their studies at Coburg Senior/Junior High School at approximately 8am, completing their studies at 1.15 pm each day. Available education units would be limited compared with general offerings but incorporate areas required to progress academically. An example of such offerings would be as follows:

- English
- VCE Dance
- VCE Drama
- Biology/Anatomy - Mathematics

Classical Dance - Following completion of their academic studies for the day, students would then travel to Melbourne City Ballet Centre to commence their training for a 2pm start and cease at 7pm each evening. Students in years 11 and 12 would slowly complete a Diploma in Elite Performance (at half pace) to ensure their academic work is not interrupted. Core units will include but not be limited to the following:

- Classical Dance Technique - Repertoire
- Contemporary
- Composition
  
- Back to Basics
- Character (Folk Dance)
  
- Diploma in Elite Performance (Dance) - Pas De Deux
- Pointe
- Male Technique
  
- Body Conditioning - Pilates & Yoga
- Personal & Professional Development

Students within the program will be placed into classes according to their age (though very rare movement may occur due to skill level):

**Level One** - Years 7 & 8 **Level Two** - Years 9 & 10 **Level Three** - Years 11 & 12

In 2017, Melbourne City Ballet's Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses are auspiced through the Australian Teachers Of Dance (ATOD RTO #31624).

Melbourne Institute of Classical Arts accept a maximum of 8 students per year level. The acceptance rate for students may be increased in the future following appropriate assessment of space and resources. In cases where students are required to leave the program, places will be available within the next audition period for replacement of this student to ensure ongoing student numbers.

### **Attendance**

Students will be required to maintain the standard of a classical ballet or contemporary artist to be eligible to continue throughout the classical ballet training within the program. MICA Course will have a minimum attendance rate of 90% for all students participating for the classical ballet portion

### **Coburg Senior/Junior High School Staff**

MICA participants will report to Coburg Senior/Junior High School staff members (teaching and operational) as per standard student processes. This further includes all educational parent- teacher requirements.

## **Melbourne City Ballet's Key Staff**

Artistic Director - Michael Pappalardo (Classical, Contemporary, Repertoire, Pas De Deux)

Executive Director - Sean Memery (General Operations)

Senior Dance Coordinator/Head of Dance - Brendan Bradshaw (Classical, Repertoire)

Youth Director - Yuiko Masukawa (Pointe, Classical, Contemporary, Repertoire)

## **Fees**

Participants within MICA will need to pay tuition fees for this program to two separate entities each term.

Academic Component - Payable directly to Coburg Senior/Junior High Schools in line with standard fee requirements. This includes the need to purchase an apple laptop for academic purposes.

Classical Component - Payable directly to Melbourne City Ballet (MCB INCORPORATED). Fees associated with program are \$2300 per term for placement within the program. No hidden costs for young artists with the only other expense being dance uniforms, shoes and equipment.

## **Future Options Following Graduation from Course**

Those within the MICA program will be training towards a career as a professional classical or contemporary artist. Students graduating from the program will have the ability to compete for positions within pre-professional programs in classical ballet (including Melbourne City Ballet's Finishing Year program) against other artists from across the world. Artists within this course will be trained for careers as classical ballet artists, contemporary artists, independent artists, choreographers and classical/contemporary instructors. Those with strong grade scores will be eligible to apply for tertiary education. Students who have completed their Diploma of Elite Performance (Dance) will be eligible to apply to complete an Advanced Diploma of Elite Performance (Dance).

