



 Training  
Division   
Turning Pointe Dance

# HANDBOOK



### **Turning Pointe Mission Statement**

Our mission is to fully develop artistic skills and talents in an atmosphere that is glorifying to God, and to encourage our students to use their gifts to bless others in our community and beyond

### **Turning Pointe Vision**

Our vision is to be a faith-based center for the arts in our community that empowers students with grit, grace, and gratitude or the arts and for His Kingdom. Our long-term goal is to see TP students flourish in their gifts and be equipped to go into every man's world by training the whole person body, mind, and spirit.

### **Turning Pointe Core Values**

Family First

Encouraging and Uplifting Atmosphere

Excellence

Age-Appropriate Costumes and Choreography

All Children Have Worth

Encourage Creativity

Exceed Expectations

Dance and Artistic Lessons Teach Life Lessons

Give Back to our Community and the World



# THE WHY AND THE HOW

---

## 1. TRAINING MISSION

It is the mission of the Training Division to bring high quality, technically focused, faith centered ballet instruction to students that are passionate about dance. We believe all dancers have the ability to increase their physical, emotional and intellectual well-being through the Training Division.

## 2. FOUNDATION

With our structured program, students gain an appreciation for art, preparation to pursue dance in college, and the ability to springboard into additional training for a professional career. With experienced teachers, cohesive programing and mentorship, students are inspired to become their best self. For their family, community and for God.

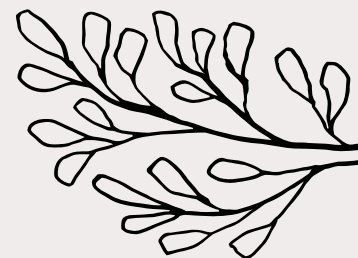
## 3. GOALS

- \*Train students in a high quality, technically focused environment and to encourage students growth body, mind, and spirit
- \*Prepare students for collegiate dancing and beyond
- \*Connect- for our students to grow closer to God and closer to each other



## Training Division Classes

For students ages 10-22 who have had 2 or more consecutive years of ballet. Studying ballet takes repetition, drive, and commitment. At Turning Pointe we provide unique pre-collegiate Classical Ballet training for students in a Christian environment and encourage students to train their bodies and spirits for the glory of God. In this division, dancers are required to come to ballet technique 3 times a week and choose a non-ballet elective (contemporary jazz, worship, modern, etc). Moving up to the next level is based on ability, not age. An audition class and an essay are required to apply for this program.



# Who is Training For?

## For those that LOVE dance!

What better way to fulfill your desire for all things dance than to be involved in a program that stresses a well-rounded dance education and class at least three days a week!

## For those that want to focus on being the best dancer that they can be.

What better way to find out how far you can go than with a program that focuses on technical ballet training? Not only is ballet the basis of dance (yes, even hip hop and tap!!), but focusing on the how's and why's of movement will carry over into refining ALL your dance class favorites!

## For those that are interested in a bigger experience through dance.

What better way to see how dance can change the world than through a program that invests in community outreach, teamwork and building deep relationships with your fellow dancers!

## For those interested in pursuing dance in college (whether taking classes or pursuing a major or minor).

What better way to prepare yourself for the next level in dance than through a program specifically designed to bring you to a collegiate dance level! Training's core is ballet, but you are also cross trained in at least one other genre. We always encourage more- the more "languages" you have, the more versatile you are, the better you are able to find the right collegiate fit for your future endeavors!

## For those interested in a career in, or related to, dance.

Even if you choose not to pursue dance in college, we are your "springboard", your "home base" into more training for a professional career as a dancer. If you pursue a dance related field, the experience and lessons you learn through this program will give you lasting tools that will make an impact and help you pursue your purpose!

# Training Protocols



## Make Ups

\*Training Students are strongly encouraged to take make-up classes for classes that are missed. They may take any same level or lower ballet class. For example; Training 1 can take Training 1, Ballet 4 or lower, Training 3 can take Training 1, 2, 3, Ballet 5 or lower. Elective classes should be made up in the closest level and style to their enrolled class.

\*Non-Training students may NOT use Training to take a make-up, with the following exception: If a FORMER training student has exhausted ALL possibilities and is completely incapable of taking a non-training class within a month of the missed class(es) then they may be allowed to take a training class that is level appropriate. If this exception is abused, the student will no longer be allowed to take Training as a make-up.



## Last Friday of the Month

\*The last Friday of each month all levels will combine and take class together. They are allowed to wear any color leotard they wish at this time. This is also sometimes used as a time to learn about dance history, watch a dance video, body conditioning, worship time, team building or to learn different variations.



## Ballet Blessings

\*In September, November, January and March each student draws the name of their “Ballet Blessing”. TWICE MONTHLY this is the person to whom they leave anonymous notes of encouragement, bible verses, uplifting quotes and questions designed to get to know each other. Some students give small gifts, but this is neither the intent nor required. “Ballet Blessing”s are revealed during combined Friday class at the end of October, December, February and April.



## Choreography

\*One class a week will be designated for choreography for each level. Students are required to attend this class. This class will not only be where the students learn their recital pieces, but also rehearse their Christmas pieces. Their other two classes each week will be for technical training. If a student misses choreography, they are responsible for asking a friend, getting a video or learning on the side the next time they are in class. They are also responsible for speaking to the instructor prior to class starting.

# Additional Protocols



## **Recital:**

\*Training Students will perform in two pieces during recital. One worship based and one classical ballet. Of these two dances, one will be all Training levels combined and one will be for each level.

\*Training Students are required to attend all recitals that their pieces are performing in.

## **Recital for “bridging” students:**

\*If a student is “bridging” (taking two different levels at the same time) they will perform the combined dance with the level they are transitioning out of and perform the individual piece with the level they are transitioning into. For example: Lovely Dancer is split between T2 and T3. She will perform the combined piece with T2 and perform the individual piece with T3. This means when a student is signing up for their classes, they need to be aware of the required choreography day and sign up for the upper level they are transitioning into. In this class they will learn both the individual upper level piece as well as the choreography for the level they are transitioning out of. A conversation with your teacher is always encouraged to help keep everyone on the same page!

## **Summer:**

\*Training students are required to take the Ignite Intensive (where they will learn their fall outreach pieces and Christmas choreography) and either June or July (twice weekly) Training level appropriate class. If this does not work due to vacations or outside the studio dance intensives, please see the Training Division Director. If enrolled in pointe, they must take the ballet class prior to the pointe class.

## **Pointe:**

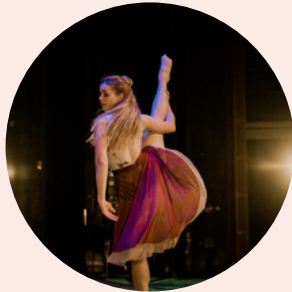
\*Pointe is not a ballet class and does not count towards one of the training classes.

\*If you are in Training you are required to take the Training class beforehand.

\*We strongly recommend that non-training students enrolled in pointe classes attend the ballet class beforehand to be properly warmed up. This means that non-training students may be taking a training class prior to their pointe class. They are not in Training, will not be performing with Training and are still required to take their Ballet 4 or 5 classes during the week. We feel that it is such an important part of proper pointe work to have a ballet class beforehand, that we have allowed this minor exception for non-training students.



# DANCERS



**Dance-** It's what we are all about! It heals hearts, sings in souls, and our passion gets to praise.

**Attention-** Every moment is filled with our best attention. Attention to our teachers, our bodies, each other; each step, each note is a life in the making.

**Numbers-** We can count; up to 8. We will count; to those we meet. We DO count; in God's eyes!

**Compassion-** We have lasting compassion, understanding and grace for those around us. We understand that each person has their own journey and needs us to stand with them in support.

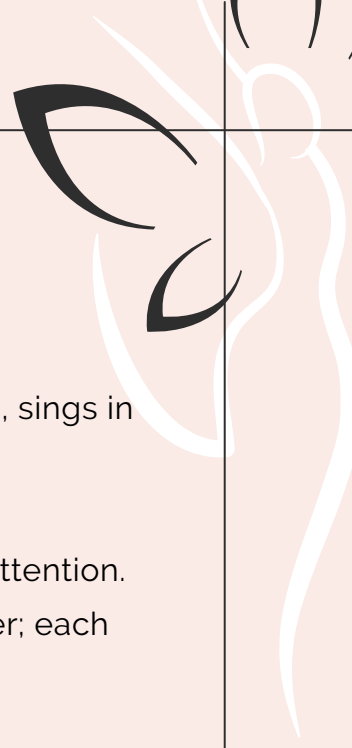


**Experience-** Not always what we want, not always easy, not always full of glitter and tutus, but always an experience.

**Respect-** We understand that this is a lifestyle! Just as dance infuses every moment of our lives, so does respect- for our bodies, equipment, teachers, parents and each other. It's a lifestyle we choose to live!

**Sonshine-** We know that while the Son shines for us, we are to shine for him. God gave us this great gift; we are filled to overflowing with it and will praise his generosity to the ends of our toes and nose!

We reflect his love.





# Training Contract and Expectations

Mission- To provide dancers a worship-filled, ballet based, and excellence driven program centered on strong technical and personal standards.

## **Expectations:**

1. Worship the Lord with your entire body, mind, heart and soul ALWAYS!
2. Arrive to class on time with hair done and proper attire on. If coming straight from school, we ask that you be no more than 10 minutes late (even if this means you put your hair up in the car!).
3. Be prepared for your entire day. This includes clean leotard, tights, and all necessary shoes. You should always be equipped with food, water, extra deodorant, bobby pins, and all other essentials (please avoid putting on perfume right before class). This will help us provide a pleasant atmosphere for everyone as we work hard to glorify the Lord through our movement.
4. Life happens! If you miss a class due to illness, homework, family emergency, etc., you are responsible for making them up in an equivalent class. Please inform your teachers why you missed and give the make-up class instructor an email that you are asking to make up in their class.
5. Give your best effort 100% of the time. We know some days are hard, but give yourself and the Lord the best you have that day.
6. Give the utmost respect to your teachers, your fellow classmates and yourself. Listen first, think long, speak last.
7. If any personal issues arise, speak directly to the person with which the issue has developed. If unresolved, bring it up with a teacher. If it continues to be unresolved, the teacher will bring in the team of instructors/Miss Tina/parents as needed.
8. All additional rehearsals and performances are part of the Training Division experience and responsibilities. Unless an illness or emergency occurs, you are expected to attend. Please inform us in writing ahead of time if you will not be present.
9. Worship the Lord with your entire body, mind, heart and soul ALWAYS!

## Acknowledgement Statement:

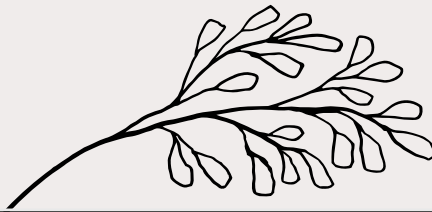
Both dancer and parent have read and understood all that is expected as a member of the Training Division. We understand that these points of behavior are created to ensure the absolute best training and most positive and rewarding experience for all. Both dancer and parent understand that failure to meet the conditions set forth in this contract could result in the dancer's dismissal from the Training Division.

Student Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Training body, mind, and spirit!

"Whatever you do, work at it wholeheartedly as though you were doing it for the Lord and not merely for people. You know that it is from the Lord that you will receive the inheritance as a reward.

It is the Lord Messiah whom you are serving!"

**COLOSSIANS 3:23-24**