

INNA BALLET POLICY AND PROCEDURES

July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023



INTRODUCTION

At the core of Inna Ballet is Vaganova-style instruction which is known throughout the world for developing dancers with exceptional musicality, strength, pureness of classical technique and personal artistic expression.

The Director, Inna Esipova, graduated from the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in 1984, and danced professionally in Russia and on tour throughout the U.S., Japan, China, Taiwan, Germany, Spain, Italy, Norway, and England. There are over 60 parts in her performance repertoire. Her teaching and choreography experience are likewise extensive and include positions at studios in Maryland and Pennsylvania. She recently completed an advanced study in pedagogy at the prestigious Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet.

Students at Inna Ballet have an opportunity unique in the Rochester area to learn Vaganova-style ballet in its traditional form, whether it be for their own personal growth and enjoyment or for laying the foundation for a career in dance or one of the related performing arts.

GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

Success in learning Vaganova-style ballet is based upon students progressing through various skill levels. For instance, at the earliest level, students learn large motor skills, musical and spatial awareness, as well as listening skills. At the higher levels, students learn barre and center technique, muscle control, balance, and expressiveness, leading to the mastery of more complex movements and combinations and the development of performance skills. A complete description of the levels is at innaballet.com under "Classes".

Improvement requires repetition of movement which results in "muscle memory". Students need to acquire strength and flexibility. They are also encouraged to develop their own artistry. Parents can help their children succeed by having them attend all their classes, and by making time for them to do their stretches at home. It is also recommended that parents foster an appreciation of ballet by watching performances together, providing books about the history of ballet and the lives of famous dancers, and encouraging an interest in related arts such as music and theater.

Placement of students in the classes is determined by the Director based upon the student's age, skill and other factors. If you as a parent have questions or concerns about the placement of your child, please discuss them with the Director.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Students are expected to demonstrate respect for teachers, assistants, parents, and fellow students at all times.

When the teacher speaks, students are to listen and promptly follow instructions.

Students are expected to be friendly, warm, and welcoming to other dancers at the studio. They are encouraged to establish new friendships and to work together as a team.

Students understand when a teacher corrects one of them, it is intended that all of them check their own work.

Disruptive behavior may result in a student being asked to sit out a class or being sent home, and if the disruptive behavior continues, possible suspension or dismissal from Inna Ballet, with no refund.

Students will use care when posting on social media and will not post anything that could compromise the self-esteem of other students. Bullying of any kind, in any forum or venue, will not be tolerated.

Students are representatives of Inna Ballet and should always conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the studio.

ATTENDANCE

Continued progress depends upon regular attendance. A student who misses a class may make the class up on a different day so long as it is during the same month. Teacher cancellations occur only rarely, but when they do, every reasonable effort will be made to provide a makeup class.

Students who accept a role in a performance sponsored by Esipova Youth Ballet Theater (EyBT) will be required to attend a specific number of Inna Ballet lessons and EyBT rehearsals held at Inna Ballet. These requirements will be set by EyBT and provided to the student at casting time.

Classes begin promptly at the time scheduled.

Students arriving late to class must wait at the door until permitted to enter the classroom. A student arriving more than 15 minutes late may be admitted but required to sit and observe the class if the teacher determines the student is not properly warmed up.

Studio doors will open 10 minutes before the first class of the day to permit students to enter and be ready on time.

There will be a 5-minute transition time between back-to-back classes. During this transition time, the studio door will be opened to admit new students and allow access to the restrooms. Teachers are generally unavailable to return telephone calls during instruction time and instead will use this transition time to respond to urgent messages.

CLASSROOM RULES

Street shoes are not allowed on the dance floor.

Students must be dressed in the appropriate attire for the class. For a complete description, see Inna Ballet Dress Code available online at InnaBallet.com/Schedule.

Student's hair must be pulled away from the face, and if long enough, must be secured in a bun. No jewelry is permitted in the studio.

No gum, food, or drink, except water, is permitted in the studio.

COMPETITIONS

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of performance opportunities provided by Inna Ballet and EyBT because they reinforce classroom instruction and provide a more authentic performance experience than is often found in competitions.

Inna Ballet maintains a strict policy of signing up students for a competition only when at the discretion of the Director the student is ready to have a positive experience. When the Director, parent and student all agree a student is ready, Inna Ballet will prepare a contract covering all aspects of the competition, including but not limited to number of Inna Ballet classroom and rehearsal hours required, responsibility for performance, costume and where applicable choreography fees, and payment of the Director's travel, accommodation, and incidental expenses.

If a student elects to enter a dance competition on his or her own, the Director must nevertheless be informed. The student may not use for such competition any dance routine choreographed or taught in whole or in part by Inna Ballet teachers, or any music used in class or provided to the student by Inna Ballet for home practice, unless approved in writing beforehand by the Director.

HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Inna Ballet takes the well-being of its students and staff very seriously and strives to keep a healthy and safe environment for all.

Only healthy students may come to class, which means being free of any communicable disease. This includes not having symptoms which could indicate cold or flu, such as fever, runny nose, sneezing, coughing, or stomach upset. A student showing signs of illness will be asked to sit separately and his or her parent will be notified to bring the child home.

Students may return to class when they have been free of symptoms such as fever, vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours, but they must wear a mask for at least 5 days following their return if they show continuing signs of illness, such as sneezing or coughing. Masks may be removed after that time only if any lingering symptoms are minimal in nature and pose no health threat to others, such as a clear nasal discharge or an occasional cough, and the student observes all ordinary health precautions such as washing and sanitizing hands after sneezing.

All students must wash and sanitize their hands before entering and after exiting the classroom. If metal barres are used, students must wipe them down with antibacterial wipes before and after use. Students are expected to respect the health and safety of others at all times by showing ordinary courtesies such as covering coughs and sneezes and keeping social distances where warranted.

Special covid-19 considerations. It is recommended that all students regardless of age be fully vaccinated and updated with boosters appropriate for their age and health status. Masks are optional so long as the student shows no visible signs of illness.

A student becoming infected with covid-19 or coming into close contact with someone infected with covid-19 is required to notify Inna Ballet immediately and follow all Monroe County Health Department guidelines, including being properly masked upon returning to class following isolation or quarantine.

Inna Ballet reserves the right to implement different or stricter covid-19 guidelines and/or masking requirements during the year should circumstances warrant.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Inna Ballet admits students of any race, color, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin in administration of its education policies, admissions policies, scholarship or other programs.

We understand and agree to follow the above Inna Ballet Policies and Procedures. Failure to abide by them may result in suspension or dismissal from Inna Ballet without refund.

Parent

Student

Date