



ASA BALLET PROGRAM AUDITION INFORMATION
FOR ENROLLMENT IN PROGRAM

Who needs to audition? Any student applying for admission at ASA needs to audition.

Where is the audition held? On the ASA Campus. Students should meet ASA Ballet Student Ambassadors at the covered patio by ASA's main office. Ambassadors will lead you to McDowell North to show you the changing and waiting areas. While there you will complete the *Ballet Audition Registration Form*. For the audition you will receive a number, which you will wear on the front of your leotard (Ladies) or shirt (Gentlemen).

When does the audition begin? 5th grade auditions will be held immediately following the academic placement tests. For other students please plan on arriving at ASA at 9:00 AM on one of the placement testing days. Auditions will be ongoing according to how many students need to be evaluated. Groups of 20-25 students will receive their numbers and be shown into the dance studio. Parents may not attend. Once the instructor has gathered the appropriate amount of information to place the student in the program, the student will be excused. **Once you are excused, please change into street clothing and an ASA student ambassador will escort you back to the covered patio by the main office to meet your parents.**

What should you wear to the audition?

Ladies 6th -12th grade and 5th graders wanting a placement higher than beginning: Black leotard with pink tights and pink ballet slippers. Long hair needs to be secured in a neat bun prior to arrival, as there is not time to do this before the audition. **7th through 12th grade students should bring pointe shoes. If 7th & 8th grade students have not studied pointe, just let the instructor know. All female students must be on pointe for admissions into the ballet program for 9-12 grade. If you have no pointe experience, and are entering HS, you will not be considered for placement.**

Gentlemen 6th-12th grade and 5th graders wanting a placement higher than beginning: White short sleeved close fitted t-shirt with a dance belt, black tights and black or white ballet slippers. Hair should be kept neat and out of the eyes.

What if I am a beginner? ASA only accepts beginners in the ballet program in the 5th grade. Students requesting this placement must complete a ballet physical (administered by ASA) on their placement test day. Additional information regarding this required assessment can be found on the ASA website under "5th Grade Beginning Ballet Admission Information".

Please note that no food or drink (Other than bottled water) is allowed in the studios.

How do you find out your placement? Ballet placement information is shared with other arts registration information. Typically this is shared February for 5th grade students and April for 6th-12th grade students. You can contact Laura Apperson, Arts Director if you need further information.



5th Grade Beginning Ballet Admission Information

Thank you so much for your interest in the beginning ballet program at Arizona School for the Arts.

As you may know, ASA's ballet program consists of classical ballet training 4-5 days a week for all skill levels. Incoming 5th grade students can enroll in the ASA ballet program without any previous ballet training. Students entering other grade levels complete an audition on campus to be placed in the correct skill level.

Due to the rigorous demands of the ballet program, it is important to determine if your student has the physical capabilities to safely access the ballet curriculum. We need to ascertain whether your student's body has the appropriate structure/capacity to perform ballet movements (hip rotation, ankle/foot flexation, coordination, overall flexibility) without sustaining injuries. Moreover, we want to ensure your student can progress through ballet throughout her tenure at ASA. It feels unfair for students to invest two years in ballet only to learn they will never be able to go on pointe due to their particular body **type**- something they cannot control. A 5th grade beginning ballet student must attain the skill level to dance on pointe by the middle of 7th grade.

This assessment must be completed before your student can be enrolled in the ASA ballet program. Students will be asked to demonstrate coordination, muscle strength, and flexibility. We are conducting these early in order to create accurate arts schedules. **ASA's ballet faculty will conduct the assessment immediately following their skill assessment testing in January. Students should report to the bandshell to check in with the ballet department and be escorted to the studios. Parents are not allowed to attend the assessment.**

We ask students to be dressed in the following:

- short sleeve t-shirt
- shorts
- hair off the face or in a pony tail
- no jewelry
- remove their shoes/socks for the assessment

ASA will only notify those students for whom ballet is unsafe. Thanks for your support and cooperation in ensuring your student has a successful experience in the ASA ballet program.

Sincerely,

Laura Apperson
ASA Arts Director



BALLET VIDEO AUDITION TEMPLATE FOR INCOMING 5TH-7TH GRADE STUDENTS

This audition tape should be no longer than 20 minutes maximum:

Barre (Please show only 1 side for each exercise) *Combinations should be done with music*

- 1. Demi and Grand plies in first, second and fifth position with port de bras forward, side and back finishing with a balance in sus sous**
- 2. Battement tendu en croix**
- 3. Battement jete en croix**
- 4. Ronds de jambe a terre and en l'air ending with a balance in retire**
- 5. Fondu and developpe en croix**
- 6. Grand battement en croix**

Center- *combinations should be done with music*

- 1. Adagio using developpe and promenade in arabesque**
- 2. Single pirouette en de hors from 5th position- show both sides**
- 3. Changement de pied from 5th position**
- 4. Assemble dessus from 5th position- show both sides**
- 5. Sissonne fermee de cote- show both sides**
- 6. Saute (in first arabesque) temps leve in retire derriere from the corner**



BALLET VIDEO AUDITION TEMPLATE FOR INCOMING 8TH – 10TH GRADE STUDENTS

The video audition should be no longer than 20 minutes maximum.

Ladies should wear pointe shoes for the audition.

Barre: Please show only 1 side for each of the exercises. *Ladies please execute the balances on pointe. Please record/perform the exercise with music.*

1. Demi and grand plies in first, second, fourth & fifth with port de bras forward, side and back finishing with a balance in sous sus
2. Battement tendu en croix
3. Battement jete en croix
4. Rond de jambe a terre and en l'air finishing with a balance in retire
5. Battement fondu and developpe en croix (Ladies should execute this exercise on pointe)
6. Grand battement en croix- Ladies execute this exercise on pointe

Center: Please record/perform the exercises with music

1. Adagio including developpe and promenade in arabesque
2. Single or double pirouettes en de hors from 4th position using tombe pas de bourree from the corner (Ladies execute on pirouettes on pointe if possible)
3. (LADIES ONLY) Releve echappe to second and fourth positions on pointe
4. Changement de pied from 5th position
5. Glissade with assemble dessus and dessous from fifth position
6. Sissonne fermee and ouverte a la seconde and arabesque. (Ladies execute this exercise in arabesque fermee on pointe if possible)
7. Saut de chat from the corner using tombe pas de bourree.
8. (GENTLEMEN ONLY) Single or double tour en l'air from fifth position-please show both sides.