

March 2018

Dear Parents:

I want to let you know about a great educational opportunity for your child. Northwest Florida Ballet's downtown Fort Walton Beach facility is also the home of NFB Académie, a groundbreaking academic and artistic education program for third through eighth grades. We will hold auditions for our 2018-2019 Sixth Grade Class (currently fifth grade students), and would like to invite your child to participate.

The Académie is a free school. There is no tuition. Students auditioning for the NFB Académie Sixth Grade should have at least 3 years of formal classical ballet training. Certified Okaloosa County school teachers ensure that academic training is rigorous. In addition to their normal academic classes, students selected for the program will have concentrated daily instruction in ballet as well as weekly instruction in art, music and French. Please visit www.nfballet.org for more detailed information about the program.

It is a proven fact that training in the arts helps children learn faster, retain longer, and develop positive self-esteem. Learning and practicing the arts requires a level of commitment, discipline, and perseverance often associated with sports. So, it should come as no surprise that NFB Académie's test scores are consistently among the highest in the district. The NFB Académie has also been an A+ School since inception.

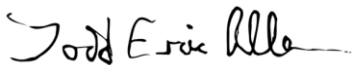
Auditions will be held on **Saturday, April 28th**, from 3:30-5:00 PM at the NFB Sybil Leberz Center for Dance Education, located at 310 Perry Avenue SE, at the intersection of Perry Avenue and Brooks Street in Fort Walton Beach. If your child would like to participate, please fill out the attached registration form to RSVP and include a photo of your child. We ask that the child arrive 30 minutes prior to the audition with a parent or responsible adult. The audition will last 1 ½ - 2 ½ hours. Parents should remain in the building throughout the process. Because of limited space, we ask that no more than two family members accompany the child. The prospective students should be prepared in the following manner:

1. Each student should have studied classical ballet for at least 3 years
2. Boys should wear ballet slippers, black tights, white socks, white t-shirt, have hair out of face and well groomed
3. Girls should wear pink ballet slippers, black leotard, pink tights, and hair in a bun
4. Each student should wear an outfit or some "cover-up" with shoes to the building and arrive in good hygiene

Attached is a registration form that we ask you to complete and either mail, email, fax, or hand deliver to our offices by April 26th to RSVP for your student. Parents will be asked to remain in the lobby area where representatives of the Northwest Florida Ballet will be available to discuss this special program. Results will be mailed to you after the completion of ALL auditions. Parents of the students selected will also be sent information for an orientation to address all questions and concerns.

Please contact Office Manager, Jeri Jo Fisher, at 850-664-7787 with any questions.

Respectfully,



Todd Eric Allen, Artistic Director/CEO