



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Is NFB Académie a charter school or a private institution?**

No, NFB Académie is a public school that is a joint venture between the Northwest Florida Ballet and the Okaloosa County School District.

### **What are the tryouts for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade like?**

Tryouts are designed to be low-stress. The children audition in groups and no previous dance training is required. Basic flexibility, rhythm and coordination are evaluated. Enthusiasm and a genuine interest in dance is a major factor in the tryout process.

### **How much does it cost to attend the NFB Académie?**

As in all public schools, there is no tuition or charge for the NFB Académie program. General costs for the parents include school uniforms, ballet clothing, field trips and basic classroom supplies.

### **Do you have to be an Okaloosa public school student to be considered for enrollment?**

No, NFB Académie draws its enrollment from home-educated students, private school students, neighboring counties, as well as the Okaloosa County School System.

### **Why start with third graders?**

Eight year olds are physically prepared to begin formal dance training in ballet. The curriculum is based on a ten-year syllabus that would conclude in the twelfth grade.

### **Does my child audition every year to come back to the NFB Académie?**

Continuation in the program will be based on the student's progress in classical ballet. Focus, physical ability, attendance, and/or behavior will be evaluated through the ballet progress and report cards. NFB Académie students must re-audition for the middle school in the spring of their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### **What are tryouts for middle school 6<sup>th</sup> grade like?**

All current 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in our community can audition for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade middle school, but they are required to have at least 3 years of classical ballet training. Also, all current Académie 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to audition for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. For auditions, female students should wear a black leotard, pink tights, and pink ballet slipper and should wear their hair in the bun. Male students should wear black tights, white fitted t-shirt and either black ballet slippers or white socks and white ballet slipper. Also, their hair should be well groomed. The audition class will be taught by the current Académie 5<sup>th</sup> grade ballet teacher and evaluated by the NFB artistic staff and will last 1 1/2 hours.

### **Who teaches the academic classes?**

Highly qualified, certified teachers from the Okaloosa County School District instruct the six homerooms in all core subjects based on Sunshine State Standards which are evaluated through yearly FSA testing.

### **Besides daily ballet instruction what other special classes are offered at NFB Académie?**

Weekly classes are provided in Music, Art, and French by qualified specialists. We also work cooperatively with Emerald Coast Science Center to enhance Science instruction.

### **What are the school's hours?**

Third graders' school days begin between 7:45 and 8:00 a.m. The day concludes at 2:45 p.m. Middle school begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m.

### **What about transportation to and from school?**

Parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from the NFB Académie. Many Académie parents carpool and share this responsibility.

### **What about lunches at the NFB Académie?**

NFB Académie students can receive free, reduced or full paid school breakfasts and lunches that are served daily by staff from the Okaloosa school district. Students are also welcome to bring their own lunches from home.

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