

Important Dates

May 14th: Character Class at 7:30pm

May 18th: Tech Rehearsal at the Theatre

May 19th: Performance Day! Spring Showcase at 2pm & 6pm

May 21st: State of the School Meeting at 6pm and last class for Juniors

May 28th: No Classes on Memorial Day

June 2nd: Final Day of Classes for School Year

Ballet Term of the Month



Photo Credit: Kat Steinnon
Dancer: Ella, Pre-Pro Division

Attitude Devant

Attitude devant is a classical and well-known position done in almost every ballet. The dancer has one leg straight and connected to the floor, while the other leg is bent at about a 145 degree angle in air and in front of the dancer's body.



Photo Credit: Kat Steinnon

Lillian's Memo

The Spring Showcase promises to be the best yet. The variety of different dances reflects the mixture of pieces being performed, the well-rounded education, and the passion of students and teachers.

-Lillian

Spring Showcase

Preparations for our annual Spring Showcase are underway. With pieces ranging from classical ballet to classical jazz, our show is packed with moments that are sure to make you smile, laugh, adore each and every dancer, and of course...clap! Each level is showing off what they've been working on since January, and every dancer has been challenged in some way, shape, or form. Read on to see an overview of each of the pieces, and the story behind them.

Junior 1

Both of our Junior levels have their choreography done by Maelanie Kuzma. Junior 1 dancers will be performing to the music of Les Patineurs, which means "the skaters" in French, and they'll be dressed like little skaters with cute hats and scarves. I watched one of their rehearsals, and it looked like everyone was having so much fun and they were really enjoying themselves. Along with them, our Standard 2 boy, Ben, is doing a solo to Les Patineurs as well.

Junior 2

Junior 2 does the same piece every year called "Barre & Center" to Pachelbel's Canon. This piece takes a traditional ballet class, and turns it into a performance. Every year I watch this piece; I can't help but smile because it looks like such a fun piece and it's such a great way to show what we do every day when our parents drop us off for hours! Since they do this piece every year, it has become almost like a rite of passage to be able to perform it.



Meet the Editor

Cindy is a sophomore at Middleton High School and dances in the Pre-Pro Division

Date: May 19th

Time: 2pm and 6pm

Place: Lathrop Hall, UW, 1002 University Ave.

Tickets: \$18

<https://ticketpeak.com/SpringShowcase2018>



Standard 1

This year, Standard 1 is performing 2 pieces: "Merveille," ballet piece, and a character piece.

Ballet: In French, Merveille means "marvel," and this fits the Standard 1 ballet piece perfectly. It has a lot of jumps, it's super energetic, and it takes a lot of strength to be able to finish. It truly is a marvel!

This ballet piece is choreographed by one of our resident instructors, Juliana Lehman.

Xopa: The character piece is set by our character teacher, Anneke De Jong, however it is already a piece. This piece originates from Russia, and you'll only find 3 companies performing it. This piece is actually the piece that the Bolshoi Ballet does for their end-of-year character exam. Inspired by flowers and flower girls, the piece has a lot of footwork, upper body, style, and attitude.

Standard 3

This year Standard 3 joined the Pre-Pros in the ballet Paquita. Paquita is a full length, 25 minute classical ballet. It begins with an Opening, then a Pas De Deux, then Corps Variation. After that, variations are performed by the soloists and leads, and then the Finale. The Corps Variation is specifically the Standard 3 dancers, and focuses on formations, footwork, personality, and moving together as a line, which is much more difficult than it sounds! I really enjoy Paquita, and it's great to be able to dance alongside all my friends in Standard 3, and to see them improve each time we rehearse.



Photo
Credit:
Kat
Steinnon

Choreography being cleaned, fabric everywhere, costumes being made, and more. All will be done and finished by May 19th, performance day! So,

bring your friends and family, invite your co-workers, and come join the repertory showing of everything that we've been working on! Tickets:

ticketpeak.com/SpringShowcase2018

Spring Showcase Continued

Standard 2

This level is also performing a ballet piece, as well as a classical jazz piece.

Ballet: Named "Juene Energie," meaning "Young Energy" in French, this piece was choreographed specifically for this level, and focuses on formations, timing, and canons. Dancing to Baroque music, this piece is also difficult because the dancers have to learn how to do all of formations and choreography en pointe.

Jazz: "Vogue" is choreographed by our resident jazz instructor, Michael Knight, and it focuses on the basics of jazz such as isolations, jazz runs, and jazz pirouettes. Jazz pirouettes are much different than ballet pirouettes because the working knee is turned in instead of out. This is such a fun and exciting piece, and I can't wait for everyone to go out there and have a great time!

Pre-Pro

Along with Paquita, the Pre-Pros are performing three other pieces. We have a second classical piece called "Effervescence," choreographed by Lillian Wilner to the music of Bach. There are two movements, an adagio and allegro. It definitely keeps us on our feet with counting, formations, and spacing. One of our contemporary pieces is named "Obrigado!" which means "thank you" in Portuguese.

Choreographed by our resident instructor Jacob Brooks, it gets us out of our comfort zones, and has a lot of running patterns. Our other contemporary piece, choreographed by Michael Knight, called "A Memory." It has two casts of four people, and is a story between two friends and their journey of how they meet and how they eventually must say goodbye.

I'm super excited for all of our pieces, and if someone were to ask me which my favorite is, I would be unable to answer because all of them are so great in their own way, and there is no way for me to choose one favorite!