



Celebrating 47 years of excellence  
in dance education

## Happy Holidays!

We hope that this newsletter finds you well. We have enjoyed our time with your children over the last couple of months.

We are already planning our 47th recital. The theme for this year will be "Dancing Through the Decades."

The Macomb Ballet Company is hard at work preparing for their performance of The Nutcracker on December 2-4, 2022. The dancers would love to have your support as the company celebrates their 40th anniversary.

Our APSD staff is wishing your family a safe and happy holiday season. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email me at [info@annparsleyschoolofdance.com](mailto:info@annparsleyschoolofdance.com).

Thank you for choosing to dance with us!

Sincerely,  
Amber Megna Michalik, Owner

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## Studio Boutique

**Our boutique is fully stocked and ready for all your dancewear needs!**

Families are able to purchase all of their dancewear supplies through one of our boutique or our two web stores.

**We are excited to be offering NEW just in time for the holidays including:**

- Capezio Hanami ballet slippers
- Full attire, including shoes, for all beginner classes
- Legwarmers
- Water Bottle Stickers
- Bracelets and Wristlets
- Hair Accessories
- New Leotards
- ...and so much more!

### **Nimbly Store**

You are able to purchase all of your favorite dance supplies via our online Nimbly site including shoes, tights, leotards and more! We continue to stock most tights and ballet shoes in the studio, but prefer that you purchase online at this time.

### **Corps Dancewear**

Cecchetti uniforms are available from Corps Dancewear. Uniforms were required starting in October. Please be sure to read the instructions on how to order using the APSD discount code prior to placing your order. A full set of leotards will be available at the front desk for sizing.

## Dress Code

Students are to abide by the dress code listed on our website. Hair should be secured neatly off the faces unless otherwise noted. Please note that APSD does not allow crop tops or sports bras. Additionally, dancers must wear tights when wearing dance shorts. You can view the full dress code at <https://www.annparsleyschoolofdance.com/dress-code>.

## Uniforms

Uniforms are required for all Cecchetti classes (Primary I-Grade VII) starting in October.

Each level has a required uniform style and color from Corps Dancewear. If a dancer is in more than one Cecchetti level, they will need more than one leotard. Girls need Revolution Prima Pink footed tights with clean pink ballet shoes. Boys should wear black dance tights, black ballet shoes, a dance belt, and the a white shirt from Corps Dancewear.

## What's New-At a Glance

- Uniforms are now required for all CCA classes.
- Sick Policy: Please do not send your child to dance if they have been or are ill.
- Make-up Policy: There are no refunds, credits or transfers of tuition for missed classes. Students may make-up classes during the year with any other class of the same level or lower-even if it is not the same type of dance.
- The studio will be closed for Thanksgiving November 23-26 and Christmas December 21-January 3.

# Recital Information

THEME: "Dancing Through the Decades"

PICTURES: May, exact date TBD

TICKETS: Tickets go on sale April 1, 2023 at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts box office. Tickets will also be available online at [www.macombcenter.com](http://www.macombcenter.com). There is no ticket limit. Students cannot perform in the spring recital until all balances have been paid.

STUDIO REHEARSALS: Tuesday, June 13 & Wednesday, June 14  
Students are required to attend all scheduled rehearsals (no costumes)

DRESS REHEARSAL: Thursday, June 15, 2023 (Times to be announced)  
at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts

PERFORMANCES: Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 12pm and 6pm

LOCATION: Macomb Center for the Performing Arts (Hall Road at Garfield)

## 2022/2023 Calendar

September 12, 2021: Fall classes begin  
October 22-30, 2022: Halloween week  
October 31, 2022: No classes  
November 23-26, 2022: Thanksgiving break  
December 21-January 3, 2023: Christmas break  
April 3-9, 2023: Spring break  
May 29, 2023: Memorial Day, no class  
June 12, 2023: Last day of regular classes  
June 13-14, 2023: Studio Rehearsals  
June 15, 2023: Dress Rehearsal  
June 17, 2023: Recital

# Cecchetti Ballet Exams

Ann Parsley School of Dance uses the Cecchetti method of ballet as a teaching tool for serious students. This method consists of Primaries I, II, III and Grades I-Diploma. Please note that Primary students do not examine.

Students are often recommended for an exam class after several years of study. In graded classes, most students become eligible to take a ballet exam when they have been in the class twice a week for two or more years. In an exam class, students master and perfect the syllabus of the grade. Often students think that they are ready to take an exam when they "know the combinations, the terminology, or have been in the grade for one or more years." In reality, that is only the beginning.

**In an effort to provide the student with the greatest opportunity to succeed in the exam, we ask that those students interested in examining in Grade I or above attend at least two classes per week in the level they wish to examine in.** This gives the students a chance to master and perfect the syllabus of the grade. The students should have excellent attendance, and practice and study regularly at home. A student should not attempt to take an exam unless he or she is willing to make this commitment.

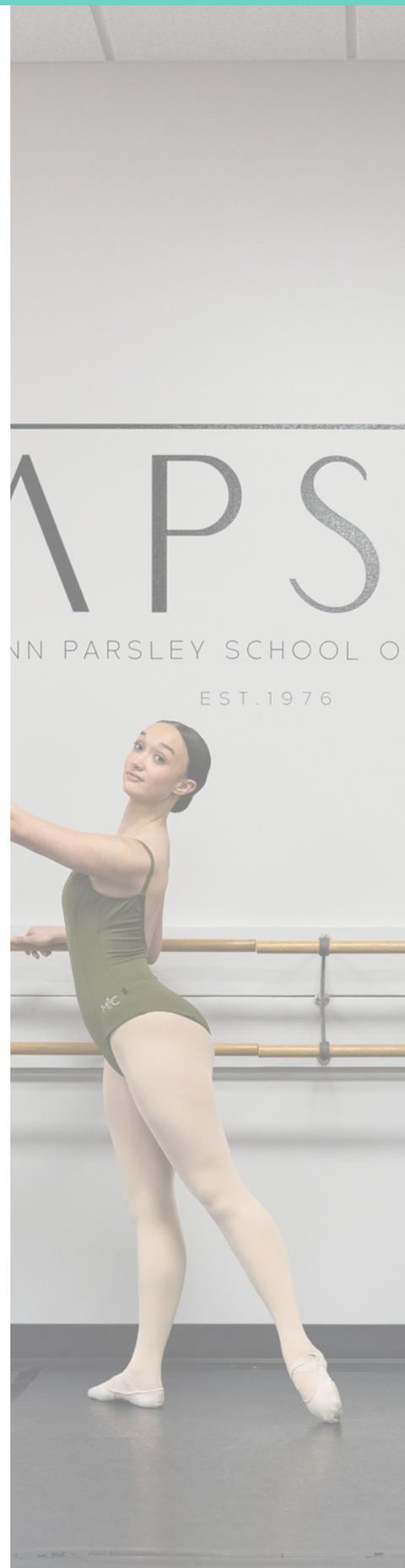
The Cecchetti method is used to ensure the systematic development of a dancer on an individual basis. Some students start out slowly and speed up. Some students start out quickly and slow down. Individuals mature and grasp concepts at different times.

No student is required to take a ballet exam. Some dancers elect not to test and study for years without taking exams. It is possible to progress to the next level without taking an exam if the student has mastered all of the necessary technique to advance to the next level. However, a student may not advance without the teacher's permission. If a student is interested in testing, they should: notify their teacher of their desire to test, begin attending two classes a week of the level in which they would like to test and purchase a grade book with steps and terminology from the front desk. The student must get the approval of their teacher before they are eligible to take an exam. Please respect the judgment of your teacher and accept her decision.

Students that are interested in testing work diligently on the grade for months while they are observed by the teacher. Usually, a few weeks before the exam, the Cecchetti teachers meet and decide who is prepared to test, based on their understanding of the material and ability to execute the steps properly with the required technique and quality of movement.

There are several benefits of taking an exam. Exams offer students an opportunity to demonstrate their technical ability and understanding of the material. Each level provides attainable goals that build self-confidence in their developmental progress and successful achievements. They receive beneficial comments and corrections from CCA examiners. Most importantly, exam preparation motivates the dancer as they are driven by the desire to master the syllabus. As a result, they develop a higher level of discipline and their technique is greatly improved. For these reasons, it is recommended that students try to take an exam. In the end, if they have not yet mastered the required technique, they still will have improved significantly.

Please remember that the Cecchetti method is used to ensure the systematic development of a dancer on an individual basis. No two students are alike! It is our goal to provide all of our dancers with a solid foundation through the focus of proper technique. Once we secure a date for exams, we will send more information. Thank you for choosing to dance with us!



# Macomb Ballet Company

## The Nutcracker

Celebrate the spirit of the holiday season with the Macomb Ballet Company, as Artistic Director Amber Megna Michalik, and Assistant Directors Hannah Carden, Brandon Koepsell, and Mary Sherman bring you the traditional holiday favorite, The Nutcracker at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts. Travel with Clara on a magical adventure to a land reined by a Snow Queen, and be led by Snowflakes, through an enchanted forest to a Kingdom of Sweets, filled with colorful characters and pure festive delight. The Nutcracker will captivate audiences, both young and old, and is sure to keep hearts warm and spirited all season long!

### Performances:

Friday, December 2, 2022 at 7pm

Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 1pm and 7pm

Sunday, December 4, 2022 at 12pm and 5pm

### Ticket pricing:

Tickets \$25.00

## The Nutcracker Tea-SOLD OUT!

This holiday season, join us for a magical VIP experience: The Nutcracker Sweet Tea! In addition to delivering delectable treats from the Land of Sweets, a scrumptious lunch, story time, and a craft, this ultimate tea party offers photo and autograph opportunities with Clara, the Sugar Plum Fairy and more!

Saturday, December 18th at 11:00am

Lorenzo Cultural Center at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts

Call 586.286.2222 or visit [www.macombcenter.com](http://www.macombcenter.com)

## MBC 2022/2023 Performances

December 2-4, 2022: MBC performs The Nutcracker

December 11, 2022: MBC performs with Macomb Symphony Orchestra

April 28-30, 2023: MBC performs The Little Mermaid