

# **LaBelle Academy of the Arts**

## **Mission Statement**

LaBelle Academy of the Arts was created to fulfill the ever-growing needs of young artists. Each student will be pushed to maintain the highest levels of academic and artistic training while encouraging creativity, personal growth, professionalism, and goal achievement. We believe that through the combination of God-given talents, focus, and a strong foundation, all students can accomplish anything they desire. LaBelle Academy of the Arts' primary focus is to give each student the training, education, opportunity, and experience to be successful.

### **Opportunities:**

- Performances, including stage, modeling, parades and film.
- Synergy classes with instructors from all over the country.
- A variety of audition opportunities.
- Extensive training in their art.
- A variety of enrichment classes to complement their art training
- Facilitating advanced training in NYC, LA and other large cities (cost of training and travel is not included in tuition).
- Outreach programs for personal development and community service hours.
- The flexibility to complete their academics while focusing on their art.

By the time our students graduate they will have the experience and training to transition from high school to a professional career or further their education in the arts. We will also assist students in preparing the materials needed for a professional career, such as resumes, interview skills, and audition reels.

## **Performing Arts Program**

### **Requirements**

- Ages 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up.
- Must apply and be accepted.
- A letter of recommendation from a not a family member.
- Must have a strong work ethic.
- Have a high level of retention, and able to process and take correction.
- Must have discipline and focus.
- Must work well with others and be a team player / encourager.
- Must be dependable and consistent.
- Have the drive and passion for their art

## **Classes**

- Core classes: ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, hip-hop, lyrical, and ballroom.
- Self-care: Yoga, Pilates, nutrition, conditioning, mental stability and positivity, skin care
- Theatrical Training: acting, musical theater, sewing and costume design, theatrical makeup, set and prop design, lighting design, basic theater terminology
- Teaching and choreography: music editing, choreography, and staging
- Performance training: stage, film, parade, modeling (print and runway)
- Audition classes: resume writing and audition preparation
- Music introduction: Voice, Music Fundamentals
- Dance History: choreographers, Broadway shows, Ballets, etc.

## **Performing Arts Schedule**

- Doors open and students arrive at 7:45 am. The academics will begin at 8:00 am sharp.
- Students will receive a “Daily Sheet” developed for their individual needs and levels. They will be assigned a laptop and space where they will complete their assignments. Our instructors as well as the instructors online will guide the students through their assignments.
- We may take small breaks for stretching or mental breaks, but the focus will be on their academics. Some students may be pulled from their academics (if it is scheduled and approved with the Director of Education) for their art training or performances.
- They will complete their academic day by 12:00 noon.
- They will break for lunch 12:00-12:30 pm
- Their Art training will begin at 12:30 pm. Their classes will vary depending on their Art focus and what classes are offered that day of the week.
- All students will be in class at all times.
- If a student needs to be pulled from one of the arts classes to complete academic work, then the Director of Education may do that with approval from the Director of the Arts program.
- The student will be scheduled for the Academy classes until the afternoon classes begin at LPA.
- The Academy day will end at 3 pm or 4 pm depending on the day and schedule, which will be handed out ahead of time so students and parents will know the exact schedule.
- Students will then transition to the afternoon program and their chosen schedule.

## **Ballet Program**

### **Requirements**

- Ages 10 (by August) and up.
- Must have strong determination to become a professional ballet dancer.
- Must audition or be invited by the Ballet Director.
- High level of retention.
- High level of attention to detail and self-correction.
- Must have physical attributes appropriate to ballet (turnout, feet, flexibility, strength, body proportions).
- Good record of work ethic and attendance, where applicable.
- Interview.

### **Core Classes**

- Ballet Technique
- Pointe/Variations
- Body Conditioning

### **Revolving Supplemental Classes**

- Jazz/Contemporary/Character or Social dance
- Dance history/Choreography/Improvisation
- Music Fundamentals/Improvisation/Theatre

Students will have the opportunity to be physically evaluated by professional sports therapists, as well as working closely with nutritionists to learn proper and healthy dietary habits. Students will be required to participate in all Pensacola Youth Ballet productions, as well as auditions, and master classes. From time to time, students may be invited to travel to see performances, or to attend auditions. The additional cost of each of these opportunities will be determined on a case by case basis.

## **Academics**

### **Virtual Learning Lab (VLL)**

- Our Academic Team's main focus is to ensure our students successfully finish their required courses each semester.
- VLL is offered through the Florida Virtual School (FLVS) program and was created for programs just like LaBelle Academy of the Arts. It allows the group the flexibility to grow in their field—such as dance—while still getting the education they need. It removes the red tape of trying to work around a school schedule.
- In our program, your child will become a registered homeschooler and then they will choose the FLVS as their chosen curriculum. The LaBelle Academy VLL team will come in this summer and help our program get everyone registered correctly.
- Each child will be led by a certified teacher in each of their subjects through the FLVS. These teachers will communicate with the student and the academic director and staff as needed for assignments, progress, and direction of their course.

- The academic team will work alongside the students to help with any questions they have and give lesson help as needed.
- We will establish a daily routine that the students can depend on when they are in the academic portion of the day.
- Each student will have a daily assignment checklist, call the “The Daily Sheet.” This will help the student see what short term goals need to be met (daily), as well as some longer-term goals (weekly/monthly).
- Each student will have a planner that will be filled out at the end of their academic block. This will be used to help each student see what lessons they have completed and what lessons they will need to complete either later that day at home or the next day, depending on the set deadline. This will also serve as a way the Lab staff can communicate with parents on what their child needs to be working on in their studies.
- The Academic team will also teach students how to rework their schedules for absences due to travel, sickness, or practices so they do not get behind in their studies.
- Students will begin each morning at 8:00 am and finish at 12:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. Students need to be at the school by 7:45 so they set up they learning area and be ready to work right at 8:00.
- If a student does not complete their work during the four-day week, Friday will be a makeup day.
- Ballet dancers will have a different academic schedule because of their hours of classes.
- We plan to meet with each family in July to get each child registered in the program and set up their schedule for the 2020/2021 school year. We will contact you when the dates are more concrete.
- There will be no extra enrichment classes, such as music, art, gifted programs, etc. unless it is offered through the FLVS program and is for the purpose of fulfilling your child’s requirements for graduation. The extra enrichment in this program is the performing arts/ballet patch your child will be training for each day. The goal is to educate the students equally in both the academics and the arts.
- EXTRA QUESTIONS I HAVE HAD
- All grades will be calculated online and parents will be able to log in and see their child grades-just like in the public school system.
- Reports cards will be generated through FLVS. I am not sure if it is printable, but I will find out in May.
- They will do assessments online through the FLVS with the proctoring of the LaBelle Academy VLL staff.
- They will only have projects and/or presentations if assigned by their FLVS teacher.
- Discipline will be handled on a case by case scenario. Class rules and guidelines will be laid out from day one. We will run a tally system. Tallies will be given to students with unfinished assignments and poor conduct. An excess of these tallies will result in loss of privileges, possible parent meeting, not being able to

participate in extra activities or performances, and ultimately being asked to leave the program if they can't work cohesively within the school system.

- Zero violence and bullying policy.

### **Mother's Morning Out**

- For ages 3-5.
- This program will introduce young students to a variety of arts such as theater, music, dance, and art.
- We will also introduce color recognition, letters, numbers, sounds, and shapes while using fun creative ways to keep each student engaged and excited about learning.
- This program will run from 9 am-12pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Families can choose to participate on the program one or two days a week.
- Students must be toilet trained.

### **Afternoon Program vs Academy**

The afternoon program will still have the highest quality of training with the understanding that not all students who choose to pursue a career in the arts will be able to attend the Academy. We understand that RCAS, LPAC and PYB will have both afternoon students and Academy students. Students and parents can be assured that these programs will still be accessible to afternoon students as well as Academy students. The Academy scheduling, however, will open up opportunities for performances and travel that are not possible for a student in a public school setting. With that being said, we will still train both afternoon and morning students to their highest level with their goals and dreams in mind. The afternoon program will not take a back seat to what is being offered in the morning.

### **Safety**

We are looking into a key card or key pad system for entry into the school. The building will be locked down during the school hours and access into the building will be only by card entry. Cameras are throughout the building and recording in every room. Visitors will be prohibited during school hours except on invitation days.