

**TASMANIAN
YOUTH**

**CLASSICAL
BALLET
COMPANY**

Company and Audition Information

About Us



Welcome to the Tasmanian Youth Classical Ballet Company (TYCBC).

The TYCBC was established in 2015 to provide young dancers aged 10-18 years with unique performance opportunities, intensive ballet training and individual coaching.

The Company will present both traditional classical repertoire as well as new, innovative works to captivate audiences.

The TYCBC is for aspiring, dedicated ballet students across Tasmania.

Our Vision



The TYCBC will foster and help guide the aspirations of dedicated and talented students of ballet in Tasmania.

We will assist young dancers to develop an appreciation and understanding of the ballet journey through collaborative and creative opportunities.

Message from Our Patron

Justine Summers-Edgley



I trained with Avril Binzer in Melbourne and Barbara Todd in Hobart before being accepted into The Victorian College of the Arts and then The Australian Ballet School. I danced with The Australian Ballet from 1988 – 2000, 2003, 2012, promoted to Soloist in 1992, Senior Artist in 1994 and Principal Artist in 1996, performing the lead roles in most of the Company's Classical and Neo Classical repertoire.

I particularly enjoyed performing the roles of Tatiana in 'Onegin' and Manon in 'Manon', for which my name became synonymous following the simulcast performance through the ABC, Juliet in 'Romeo & Juliet' and Cio Cio San in 'Madame Butterfly'. Also contemporary works by internationally renowned choreographers Jiri Kylian, Glen Tetley, Twyla Tharp, Graeme Murphy, Stephen Baynes and Stanton Welch, whose 'Divergence' received rave reviews in New York.

I received several nominations for Green Room and MO Awards for these and other roles, winning for 'Divergence' in 1994 and a Helpmann Award in 2004 for 'Unspoken Dialogues'.

I feel blessed to have had a diverse and rewarding career, performing throughout Australia, internationally, and with overseas Guest Artists. I am now honoured to be invited to support the next generation of Tasmanian dancers in pursuit of their dreams.

The Tasmanian Youth Classical Ballet Company will bring wonderful opportunities to Tasmanian youth and encourage students to pursue their love of ballet, helping to strengthen the culture of ballet in Tasmania and create a richly creative environment for all.

I look forward to sharing this journey with you.

Our People

Artistic Director, Shayne Davies



Shayne brings to the Company a wealth of knowledge and creativity in ballet and she is passionate about creating opportunities for Tasmanian students. Shayne is a registered teacher of the Royal Academy of Dance and has been teaching ballet for over 20 years. During this time Shayne has choreographed extensively for stage including the Tasmanian productions of *The Phantom of the Opera* (2013) and *Iolanthe* (2015) along with full length ballet productions for the House of Dance. Shayne has also guided students to success with awards, scholarships, Royal Academy of Dance examinations and obtaining positions with leading classical ballet and dance institutions across Australia.

Executive Producer Michelle Williams



Michelle is a well known and respected name in Tasmanian musical theatre and dance circles. Michelle was a highly successful stage performer before opening her own school in the year 2000. Michelle has built a name for herself as a passionate, creative and innovative dance teacher, choreographer and business woman who guides her students from tiny tots to adults. House of Dance alumni are working all around the world in professional dance careers.

Dream, Strive and Achieve



There are many benefits for Company Members of the TYCBC.

- Train alongside talented and motivated peers
- Participate in at least two annual performance opportunities
- Workshops with leading teachers and choreographers
- Opportunities to dance alongside professional dancers
- Perform with live music
- Exposure to the dance community on a national level

Joining the Company



Entry to the TYCBC is by audition only.

Auditions are open to all students who currently take a minimum of two ballet classes per week and are aged approximately 9 -18 years..

It is very important to remember that the TYCBC is designed for the serious and committed dancer.

Participation in the TYCBC is one day per week, from late January through to December, with two weeks leave during the July school holidays and one week during the October school holidays.

Performances and associated rehearsals may require an additional time requirement.

We do recognise that children and families have pre-existing commitments and all dates of conflict will be considered and accommodated where possible prior to Company offers being made.

Auditions



Auditions take the form of a ballet class. No special preparation is required.

Attire for girls is a leotard, pink stockings and flat ballet shoes. Pointe shoes will be required for girls over 13 who are currently working on pointe.

Boys should wear fitted t-shirt or leotard, tights and ballet shoes.

The audition is designed to be an experience in itself. TYCBC is about performance and this starts with the audition. We are looking for young dancers who love their dancing and who would benefit from classes, rehearsals and TYCBC performances.

All dancers must submit an Audition Registration form by the closing date.

Dancers are to arrive 15-30 minutes prior to the scheduled audition time and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. At the Registration Desk numbers will be placed on the auditionees.

Shortlisted applicants may be required to attend an interview with the Artistic Director on an alternative date.

Notification of the final audition outcome will be sent in mid December.

What is the Commitment?



TYCBC rehearsals are held outside of regular class time at 69 Liverpool Street, Hobart or alternatively at 36 Mertonvale Circuit, Kingston. Once each term the Company will hold rehearsal in Launceston.

The TYCBC Season begins late January and concludes in December. The Company has three weeks annual leave scheduled during the main school holidays (two weeks in July and one week in October).

Rehearsals are held on a Sunday between 10.00am and 2.30pm. Company members are to attend all of the rehearsals and performances outlined in the TYCBC calendar unless agreed to in advance.

Rehearsal days consist of ballet technique class; conditioning/limbering; specialised and focused training and performance choreography.

A detailed calendar, including performance dates, will be provided to successful auditionees.

While every effort is made to maintain the schedule, Company members must be prepared to be flexible to accommodate any unavoidable changes.

Other Requirements



We would expect TYCBC members to attend a minimum of two ballet classes at their respective dance schools every week during school terms.

All TYCBC members are encouraged to regularly attend jazz, lyrical, contemporary, tap or hip hop classes as a dancer must be versatile to meet the demands of today's dance industry.

It is also expected that TYCBC members will continue with an abridged training schedule during term holidays, to maintain their technique, good physical condition and to avoid the risk of injury when returning to dance classes.

All TYCBC members are expected to have a strong work ethic and a mature approach to their technical and artistic development.

Casting Procedures



Casting is based on artistic ability and technical skill.

Casting is at the sole discretion of the Artistic Director and/or Choreographer.

No communication will be entered into regarding casting decisions.

Absentee Policy



Dancers and parents/guardians who are aware of a potential date of conflict are given the opportunity to raise this on the Audition Registration form.

Both the dancer and their parent/guardian will be informed if this date of conflict is declined or accepted as an excused absence. If declined, the dancer must then decide if they will be able to participate in the TYCBC season.

Dancers may be replaced if absence from rehearsal due to illness or other emergency is viewed as hindering them from participating in a given production.

Absences from a rehearsal or costume fitting, continually leaving early or arriving late are all grounds for dismissal from the TYCBC.

Costs



All TYCBC company members are responsible for:

- Membership fee
- Purchase of the TYCBC uniform - leotard and tracksuit (these items are compulsory to purchase).

In 2017 the Company Membership fee is \$175 per term (four terms) and may be paid in installments. The 2018 Company Membership fee will be advised to successful auditionees.

The fee is inclusive of class, rehearsal and production costs. Performance costuming may incur a small additional fee.

The fee does not include costs to attend rehearsals and performances.

A sibling discount of twenty per cent is offered to the second sibling accepted into the Company.

Scholarships

The TYCBC offers one full scholarship and one half scholarship each year, awarded on merit and achievement. Applications should be submitted with the Audition Registration form. Acceptance of a Scholarship requires a commitment on the part of the recipient to complete the full TYCBC annual program.

Contact



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Facebook: Tasmanian Youth Classical Ballet Company

Instagram: tasycbc

All TYCBC staff have current Working With Children Registration (TAS) and first aid training.

TYCBC reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any event without the expressed written permission of those included within the photograph/video. TYCBC may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used or contracted by TYCBC.

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