

# Georgia Dance Conservatory

~Founded in 1956~

~Located on the Marietta Square~

Home of the

## Ruth Mitchell Dance Theatre

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*Georgia Dance Conservatory exists to encourage and foster the development of confidence, poise, discipline and positive self-expression in its students through the proper and traditional instruction of the art of dance.*



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The Legacy of RUTH MITCHELL'S<sup>SM</sup>

# Georgia Dance Conservatory



## RUTH MITCHELL'S GEORGIA DANCE CONSERVATORY

is a name that has been synonymous with dance excellence in Metro Atlanta for almost fifty years. Since 1956, the studio has consistently produced some of the region's best-trained dancers. Former students now dance or have danced with The Boston Ballet, The Louisville Ballet, The Houston Ballet, The North Carolina Dance Theatre, The Martha Graham Dance Company, The Atlanta Ballet, various Broadway productions and in other professional environments. Most, however, have gone on to be doctors, lawyers, teachers and engineers — productive and responsible adults. And that may be Georgia Dance Conservatory's greatest legacy. For many years, it has trained young people to be disciplined, focused and committed.

Our staff and faculty are proud to be recognized as a leading dance institution in the Atlanta area and vow to always strive for the highest quality in all endeavors associated with our name.

## Studio & Theatre

Georgia Dance Conservatory offers proper and traditional dance instruction taught by *exceptionally* qualified teachers. As the foundation of all dance, Classical Ballet is the Studio's primary emphasis. We also offer classes in Pointe, Contemporary, Jazz, Tap and Pilates.



Georgia Dance Conservatory is the home of the RUTH MITCHELL DANCE THEATRE. Originally founded in 1956, RMDT is a separate, non-profit organization, with the primary purpose of sponsoring performances for its members. Each year, the Theatre produces a *Fall Performance*, *The Nutcracker*, a *Spring Performance* and various other productions. Cast members for these productions are chosen from the Theatre, Apprentice Theatre and Pre-Theatre levels.

[www.georgiadance.com](http://www.georgiadance.com)

# GENERAL

**Classes** Georgia Dance Conservatory offers classes in Classical Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Contemporary, Tap and Pilates. Summer programs include Camps, for ages 4 thru 12, as well as Intensives and Master Classes for ages 10 through professional.

**Closed Circuit Television** For the parents' enjoyment, all of our studio classrooms are equipped with Closed Circuit Television. Parents are welcome to watch their children's classes from the comfort of our waiting areas.

**Adult Classes** in Ballet and Pilates are offered to beginning, intermediate and advanced adults. Check our website at [www.georgiadance.com](http://www.georgiadance.com) for class times and other details.

**Pilates** is a dance-based regimen designed for conditioning, injury prevention and remediation. It focuses on the core principles of flexibility, balance, strength and coordination. Pilates builds strength, tones muscles, improves posture, rejuvenates energy levels, relieves stress and may reduce chronic pain. Whether your objective is finding a casual exercise regimen, remediation of an injury or strengthening for injury prevention, Pilates is an appropriate class.

**Special Ability & Wheel Chair Classes** offer students of varying levels of physical abilities access to dance, the creative ability to work as a team and body/chair movement discovery.

**Open House** Prospective students and parents are invited to tour our facilities at any time. Please call the office to arrange a visit.

**Studio Calendar** The studio calendar is patterned after the calendars of Cobb County and Marietta City School systems. See our Studio Calendar at [www.georgiadance.com](http://www.georgiadance.com) for class days, holidays, etc.

**Theatre Calendar** Theatre performance and rehearsal calendars are published in advance and can be accessed on our web site at [www.ruthmitchelldance.com](http://www.ruthmitchelldance.com).

**Class Times** Classes range from 45 minutes to 2 hours in length and instructors must begin and end their classes on schedule. Please bring your child to class no earlier than 15 minutes before class begins and pick them up immediately after class. We are not responsible for students before or after classes.

**Teacher Conferences** Communication between teachers and parents is encouraged. Should you wish to talk to your child's teacher, please call the office to schedule a conference.



**Class Observation** Parents are invited to attend their child's classes each December during Class Observation Week. Those attending are asked to bring a canned good or dry food item for admission. All food collected is donated to a local charity.

**Teacher Training Program** Each year, selected students are offered the opportunity to participate in our teacher training program. Students must commit to assist in at least one class each week and participate in a training course held each summer. There is no charge to students who are selected for participation in the Teachers Training Program.

**Weather Emergencies** In the event of inclement weather, the Studio will follow the Marietta City School schedule. If the Marietta City Schools cancel classes because of weather, Studio classes will also be cancelled. If the Marietta City Schools release their students early because of weather, the Studio will also release its students and cancel its classes for the rest of the day.

If the weather condition worsens after school hours or on Saturday, the Studio will decide whether to cancel classes, based on discussions with local public safety officials. Parents may call the studio for a recorded phone message on the status of classes. Make-ups for canceled classes may be available within 30 days of the cancelled class. Request information on make-up classes from the office.

**www.georgiadance.com** Access calendars, policies and email links on our website.



## REGISTRATION

**Registration** All students are asked to complete or update a registration form with current information every year. A \$30 Registration Fee per family is required for all new students or returning students who do not re-register during the Early Registration Period.

**New Students** New students are placed according to age and ability. Studio staff may request an audition to insure proper class placement. Upon receipt of a completed Registration Form and the Registration Fee, a student's place in class will be reserved.

**Returning Students** Returning students are given the opportunity to re-register during the Early Registration Period. Returning students who re-register during the Early Registration Period do not pay a Registration Fee. Returning students are asked to update their Registration Form each year.

**Notice of Class Assignments** Prior to the beginning of fall classes, each student is sent a confirmation of their class schedule. The information included will be the class days, times, studio and tuition.

[www.georgiadance.com](http://www.georgiadance.com)

# DRESS CODE

Georgia Dance Conservatory requires its students to adhere to a studio dress code.

## BALLET

**3 & 4 year olds** Pink leotard (tank, short sleeve or long sleeve), Pink tights, Pink ballet slippers, No attached skirts.

**5 & 6 year olds** Mulberry leotard (tank, short sleeve or long sleeve), Pink tights, Pink ballet slippers, No attached skirts.

**7 year olds and up** Black leotard (tank, short sleeve or long sleeve), Pink tights, Pink ballet slippers, No attached skirts.

## Jazz

Black leotard (tank, short sleeve or long sleeve), Black tights or Black jazz pants (long or Capri), black split sole jazz shoes. Jazz Pants must be basic cotton, not shiny or flashy.

## Tap

Add black tap shoes with buttons to attire

## Pointe

Add Pointe shoes to ballet attire

## Pilates

Comfortable work-out clothes; bare feet, socks or sport shoes

**Cover-Up** All students are required to wear a cover-up when traveling to and from class and are not allowed outside of the studio in dance attire.

# RECITAL

**Recital** Most Studio classes perform in the end-of-the-year recital and students are strongly encouraged to participate. Recital rehearsals and performances are scheduled for late May or early June of each year and exact dates are included in the school calendar.

**Recital Fees** A Recital Fee is charged for each child participating in Recital. Recital Fees include Costume and Performance Fees, which are billed and due in the Fall.

*Recital fee for 2007/2008: Performance Fee:\$60, Costume Fee (per class) \$70, Combination class costume fee: \$90*

**Refund of Recital Fees** To obtain a refund of Costume Fees, requests must be made before November 15th. To obtain a refund of Performance Fees, requests must be made before February 1st. All refund requests must be submitted to the office.



[www.georgiadance.com](http://www.georgiadance.com)

# TUITION

**Tuition** Student tuition is an annual amount charged for the classes offered throughout the year. For your convenience, the annual tuition can be paid in one, three or nine payments. A 4% discount is offered to those paying in one annual payment and a 2% discount is offered to those electing to pay in three installments. Ask the office for details.

Tuition payments are due on the first of the month. If tuition is

not paid by the 15th. of the month, a \$10 late fee will be charged.

To assure your child's place in the Recital, please pay your account, in full, prior to the recital date.

**Billing** Tuition bills are sent *only* when a payment is late and a Late Fee is charged. Please mark your calendars for payments.

**Maximum Family Rate** The Maximum Family Rate is the most a family is charged for tuition for all children of the same household who are 18 years of age and under. Ask the office for details.

**Returned Checks** All returned checks will be assessed a \$25 service fee.



# OTHER

**Studio Etiquette** Respect for instructors, staff, students, parents and all studio property is required of everyone entering the studio. Please read and follow the etiquette guidelines that are posted in the lobby.

**Siblings** Please remember that excessive noise from the lobbies will disrupt a class. Consequently, if a student's parents are waiting in the lobby, it is absolutely necessary that they remain quiet. Parents are required to keep all children in the lobby quiet and well behaved.

**Food** Besides bottled water, **ABSOLUTELY NO** food nor drink is allowed in the studio.

**Withdrawal** If a student wishes to withdraw, *advanced written* notice must be provided to the office of withdrawal. Parents are responsible for the yearly tuition amount and will be billed until notice is received. NO REFUNDS are granted for classes not attended or for the month during which a student withdraws.