

**TURNING POINTE DANCE ACADEMY**  
**STUDIO INFORMATION 2025/2026**

**STUDIO SCHEDULE**

Opening Day:	September 2, 2025
Opening Day for Solo Rehearsals:	September 8, 2025
Halloween:	Closed October 31, 2025
Thanksgiving Break:	Closed Wed., November 26, 2025 – Sun., November 30, 2025
Winter Break:	Closed Wed., December 24, 2025 – Sun., January 4, 2026 (Open 1/5/26)
Spring Break:	Closed Mon., March 30, 2026 – Mon., April 6, 2026 (Open 4/7/26)
Memorial Day:	Closed Monday, May 25, 2026
Last Day of Classes:	Friday, June 5, 2026
Dress Rehearsal (Tentative):	Saturday, June 6, 2026
Spring Performances (Tentative):	Sunday, June 7, 2026

**TUITION**

Tuition is due the first of every month. Tuition payments may be made through your online Studio Director account or at the front desk using cash, check, or credit card (Visa/Mastercard). Your Studio Director account is available via the “Check Your Account” link on the home page of the TPDA website. A payment reminder will be sent via email on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. A late fee of \$45.00 will be applied to accounts with balances on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Annual registration fee: \$30.00/family

Late Tuition Fee: \$45.00

Class Fees:

30 minute class	\$36.00/ month
45 minute class	\$54.00/ month
60 minute class	\$72.00/ month
75 minute class	\$90.00/ month
90 minute class	\$108.00/ month

Discounts:

3 hours of classes/ week:	5%
4 – 5 hours of classes/week:	7%
6 hours of classes/ week:	10%
Unlimited classes:	\$450.00/ month

Full year tuition paid with check or cash by Sept. 15 <sup>th</sup> :	5%
Military Discount:	10%

## STUDIO CULTURE

TPDA establishes rigorous class expectations to create an equal opportunity for all dancers, to promote and build an inclusive community atmosphere, and to foster personal growth and an understanding of commitment to one's self and to others. **Habitual bullying, gossiping, and associated negative behavior from dancers and parents is not tolerated under any circumstances and are grounds for dismissal from the studio without a refund.** Any such negative behavior may be brought to the attention of TPDA faculty, front desk staff or Directors immediately. It is understood parents and students dismissed for such behavior forfeit any tuition, undistributed costumes, costume fees, performance fees or other fees paid prior to their dismissal.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Dancers and parents/caregivers/guardians must,

- show a supportive attitude to fellow dancers, parents and studio faculty.
- honor decisions made at the discretion of the Directors, Staff or Faculty.
- respect the studio spaces, lobby, restrooms and dressing rooms by keeping belongings tidy and disposing of food trash. No gum is permitted in the studio.
- acknowledge sound systems and their accessories, class props, mats, yoga blocks, weights, therabands, portable barres and all other property of TPDA must not be used/moved unless instructed by the TPDA Faculty, Staff or Directors.

Siblings waiting with parents in the lobby must,

- be within view of their parents at all times.
- remain in the lobby for the entirety of their time at the studio unless visiting the restrooms.
- maintain an inside voice and refrain from running and/or climbing in the lobby.
- Remain seated if having a snack and dispose of all crumbs/wrappers in bins.
- Refrain from entering studios or playing with door handles.

## CREATIVE MOVEMENT/COMBO CLASS PARENTS

Parents/caregivers/guardians of Creative Movement and Combo class students are required to stay on site while their dancers are in class. While bathroom emergencies are very rare, they do happen and young dancers appreciate their parents/caregivers/guardians being nearby. Similarly, faculty are not able to leave class to assist these young dancers should they need to use the restroom.

## COMMUNICATION/ NEWSLETTERS

Turning Pointe communicates important information and studio updates via the following channels,

- Email messages and E-Newsletters
- Website updates
- Bulletin board postings in the studio lobby
- Instagram @turningpointe
- Facebook @turningpointedanceacad

Our primary method of communication is through email. E-Newsletters are sent with reminders and important information about classes and upcoming studio events. It is the parent's responsibility to read through all studio emails. **Please note, if you opt-out of email communication in your Studio Director profile you will not receive studio emails, E-Newsletters or tuition payment reminders.**

Teachers and Directors are always willing to address parent questions, concerns, suggestions, or compliments through the appropriate channels and at the appropriate time. To ensure that our faculty can give every student their full attention and maintain the quality of instruction, parents may not approach or interrupt teachers before, during, or between classes. These times are dedicated exclusively to class preparation, teaching, and transitions. Parents wishing to communicate with Faculty or Directors may Leave a message at the front desk or Email the studio at [info@turningpointdanceacademy.org](mailto:info@turningpointdanceacademy.org). We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in respecting our teachers' time, expertise, and professional boundaries.

## CECCHETTI BALLET PROGRAM

The Cecchetti Method of ballet training is a progressive system of training dancers from pre-ballet to a professional level. Cecchetti USA has established a syllabus of carefully orchestrated exercises that build in complexity ensuring that each new movement is introduced from a fundamental approach.

The Cecchetti USA syllabus is taught at TPDA by certified Cecchetti Faculty qualified to present both teachers and students for examination. Exams are designed to give teachers and students specific goals to work toward and to maintain standards of development consistent with international standards. Dancers interested in perusing their examinations must attend class consistently, retain information learned in class from week to week, meet technical requirements and exhibit exemplary class etiquette. Students selected to examine must also attend mandatory mock exams and Cecchetti clinics which are held outside of regularly scheduled class. Participation in examinations is at the discretion of studio and incurs some extra fees. To know more about fees and participation in exams please contact the studio. Learn more about the method at [www.cecchettiusa.org](http://www.cecchettiusa.org).

## ATTENDANCE/ MAKE UP CLASSES

Students are expected to be on time for class. Arriving early ensures that students participate in the class warm-up and avoid disrupting other dancers. Students are encouraged to make-up classes missed because of illness/ injury by attending classes of a similar age/level. Dancers arriving more than 15 minutes late to class may be asked to sit and watch. Make up classes must be approved in advance by TPDA Faculty. Refunds will not be given for missed classes. Teacher substitution, although rare, may occur when a teacher is absent or ill.

## CLASS OBSERVATION

TV screens in the lobby allow parents to observe classes in real time. Recording of these lobby screens is not permitted. Parents may not open studio doors during class or enter the studios uninvited. This is disruptive to class and negatively impacts Faculty authority in the classroom. From time to time, individual Faculty may invite parents in to watch the last few minutes of class to see what they have been working on. This is at the individual Faculty members discretion.

## PERSONAL PROPERTY/ LOST AND FOUND

Students must keep all their belongings in a dance bag. They are permitted to bring their bag into the classroom with them. The lost and found basket is located in the girls dressing room. TPDA Faculty is not responsible for any lost or stolen property. **No cell phone use allowed in the dressing room or restrooms at any time. This policy is strictly enforced. Students who do not follow the cell phone policy must leave their phones at home or at the front desk upon entering the studio.**

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

TPDA does not follow any school system regarding studio closings. In the event of inclement weather, contact the studio or check the website or social media for information. Classes missed because of inclement weather are not made

up. Please do not feel obligated to come to the studio for classes if it is open and you do not feel safe driving.

## ILLNESS PROCEDURES

- Masks are optional in the studio.
- Students must have prior permission to remain in the studio between classes.
- Students should follow current CDC guidelines if they have contracted Covid. Please inform the staff if your dancer has contracted Covid.
- No student or parent should enter the studio with any sign of illness (cough, congestion, fever, malaise, upset stomach, etc)

## RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

We are always proud to support our students as they take the next step in their dance careers. Faculty may be asked to write letters of recommendation for auditions, dance companies, conservatories, or higher-level programs. Because these letters take time and thoughtful attention to highlight each dancer's unique strengths, we ask that all requests be made at least one week in advance. Requests made with less than one week's notice may not be completed on time, as our faculty are not expected to rush the process. Taking the time to craft these letters ensures each dancer is represented in the best possible light.

## SPRING PERFORMANCES & BALLET PRODUCTION

*What is it?*

Each June TPDA offers students the opportunity to showcase what they've learned in class on a real stage, in costume, for family and friends. These opportunities are a celebration of their progress and an opportunity to experience the excitement of performing. Beyond the fun of dancing, participating in the Spring Performance and/or Ballet Production helps build confidence, teamwork, and stage experience.

*When is it?*

Tentative date: Sunday, June 7, 2026

*Where is it?*

Tentative location: Laurel High School, 8000 Cherry Tree Lane, Laurel, MD 20707

*Who is in it?*

Cecchetti ballet classes participate in the Ballet Production.

Classes in genres other than Cecchetti ballet participate in the Spring Performance.

Dancers in both Cecchetti ballet and other genres participate in both.

Students must be in their assigned dressing rooms no later than 30 minutes before their showtime. When not onstage, students are expected to remain backstage with their class for the duration of the show. Younger students have backstage volunteers assigned to their class. For security reasons, only backstage volunteers and TPDA Faculty/Staff are allowed in dressing rooms during the show.

Seating is open and theater doors open approximately 20 minutes before the show. The performances are professionally recorded and a digital download of the performance is provided to each participating family. Photography and videography are prohibited.

## SPRING PERFORMANCES & BALLET PRODUCTION FEE

Students performing in **either** the Ballet Production **or** Spring Performances: \$95/student

Students performing in **both** the Ballet Production **and** Spring Performances: \$125/student

Performance fee(s) are added to each student's account May 1, 2026. This fee covers two tickets for each show in which a dancer performs, one digital download of each performance, theater rental, videographer fees and administrative costs. Additional tickets are available for purchase once the performance fee and June tuition are paid in full.

### **COSTUME FEES**

Spring Performance Costume Fee: \$85.00 + tax/costume

Ballet Production Costume Fee: \$100.00/costume (may be less depending on assigned role)

Costume fees are added to accounts in December. Ballet production costumes are billed separately and may be up to \$100.00. Once distributed, families are responsible for keeping costumes clean and protected. Please note it is customary for costumes to need minor alterations once they arrive. These alterations can usually be done at home and require little to no prior sewing experience.

**The costume fee does not cover the cost of shoes and tights.** Shoes and tights are the responsibility of the dancer/parents. Please check with your classroom teacher for specific tights/shoe color and style. Ballet shoes, tights and leotards are for sale at the front desk.

Any concerns about the fit of a costume must be brought to the attention of the studio immediately.

### **DRESS REHEARSAL**

Tentative date: Saturday, June 6, 2026

Tentative location: Laurel High School, 8000 Cherry Tree Lane, Laurel, MD 20707

Each class is assigned a specific time slot to practice their dance onstage at the venue. Please arrive in costume and sit with your class at least 15 minutes before your assigned time slot. Parents are welcome to record dress rehearsal. No flash photography allowed under any circumstances.

### **PICTURE DAY**

Each spring TPDA holds picture days at the studio. Students are expected to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to their scheduled picture time in costume with proper shoes and tights, wearing light make up (when applicable) and with hair neatly secured in a bun. Pictures will be available for preview and purchase online from Jeri Tidwell Dance Photography.

Please DO NOT enter the room where photos are being taken unless invited. Our phenomenal photographer, Jeri Tidwell, is a true professional with experience photographing dancers from the littlest creative movement tots all the way to professionals from world renowned ballet companies. Rest assured she will take beautiful shots of your dancers.

The TPDA Parent Association will have a bake sale on picture days.