

Turning Pointe Dance Academy

Studio Policies and Procedures 2026-2027

STUDIO SCHEDULE

Opening Day:	September 8, 2026
Opening Day for Solo Rehearsals:	September 14, 2026
Halloween:	Open for Daytime Classes.
Thanksgiving Break:	Closed Wed., November 25, 2026 – Sunday, November 29, 2026
Winter Break:	Closed Thursday, December 24, 2026 – Sunday, January 3, 2027 (Open 1/4/27)
Spring Break:	Closed Wednesday, March 24, 2027 – Tuesday, March 30, 2027 (Open 3/31/2027)
Memorial Day:	Closed Monday, May 31, 2027
Last Day of Classes:	Friday, June 11, 2027
Dress Rehearsal (Tentative):	Saturday, June 12, 2027
Spring Performances (Tentative):	Sunday, June 13, 2027

TUITION/ FEES

Tuition is due the first of every month. Payment methods accepted are cash, check, or credit card. Payments may be made online through the Turning Pointe Dance Academy (TPDA) website or in person at the studio. Account balances may be viewed at any time via the “Check Your Account” tab on the home page of the TPDA website. A late fee of \$45.00 will be applied to accounts with balances on the 15th of each month. A payment reminder will be sent via email on the 10th of each month.

Annual registration fee: \$30.00

Recital/ Ballet Fee: \$95.00/ student (Includes dress rehearsal, recital, digital recording of performances). Students in both the ballet and the recital will have an additional \$30.00 fee.

Class Fees:

30 minute class	\$48.00/ month
45 minute class	\$64.00/ month
60 minute class	\$80.00/ month
75 minute class	\$100.00/ month
90 minute class	\$120.00/ month

Discounts:

3 hours of classes/ week:	5%
4 – 5 hours of classes/week:	7%
6 hours of classes/ week:	10%
Unlimited classes:	\$475.00/ month

Full year tuition paid with check or cash in September: 5%
Military Discount: 10%

Questions? Email us at info@turningpointdanceacademy.org or call 410.799.1333

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ATTENDANCE/ MAKE UP CLASSES

Students are expected to be on time for each 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.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

We do not follow any school system regarding studio closings. In the event of inclement weather, contact the studio or check the website or Instagram for information. Classes missed because of inclement weather will not be made up. Please do not feel obligated to come to the studio for classes if the studio is open and you do not feel safe driving.

PERSONAL PROPERTY/ LOST AND FOUND

Students are encouraged to keep all of their belongings in a small 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 is permitted in the dressing room or restrooms. This policy is strictly enforced. Students who do not follow the cell phone policy will be asked to leave their phones at home or at the front desk upon entering the studio.

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. Dancers/renters who damage equipment may be responsible for replacement costs.
- Dancers must have prior permission to remain in the studio between classes.

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.

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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.

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@turningpointedanceacademy.org. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in respecting our teachers' time, expertise, and professional boundaries.

ILLNESS/INJURY PROCEDURES

Students should follow current CDC guidelines if they have contracted Covid, flu or other highly transmissible viruses. Please inform the staff if your dancer has contracted a contagious illness. Highly contagious students are encouraged to stay home and rest. Injuries incurred in class must be brought to the teacher's attention immediately.

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

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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.

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 pursuing 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 the studio and incurs some extra fees. While not always the case, in some instances exams may be scheduled during school hours. To know more about fees and participation in exams please contact the studio. Learn more about the method at www.cecchettiusa.org.

SPRING PERFORMANCES & BALLET PRODUCTION

Date: Sunday, June 13, 2027

Location: Laurel High School, 8000 Cherry Tree Lane, Laurel, MD 20707

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.

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.

When does my dancer need to be there?

Students must be in their assigned dressing rooms no later than 30 minutes before their assigned show.

Does my dancer have to stay until the end of the show after they perform?

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.

Do I need a ticket?

Yes. Seating is open (i.e. no assigned seating) and theater doors open approximately 20 minutes before the show. Tickets are available for purchase in the Spring once June tuition and performance fees have been paid.

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Is it recorded?

The performances are professionally recorded and a digital download of the performance is provided to each participating family. Photography and videography are prohibited.

DRESS REHEARSAL

Date: Saturday, June 12, 2027

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.

PARTICIPATION FEE(S)

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, 2027. 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. Any concerns about the fit of a costume must be brought to the attention of the studio immediately.

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. Alternately, they may be purchased from a dance supply store or online dance retailer. Please ask the front desk for recommendations.

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. Parents will receive a link to an online gallery where they may preview and purchase images from Jeri Tidwell Dance Photography.

Parents, please **DO NOT** enter the room where photos are being taken or loiter in the dressing room/student areas 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.

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