



**CONTACT:**

Nicole Doll

Vice President of Marketing + Brand Strategy

513-562-1127

[ndoll@cballet.org](mailto:ndoll@cballet.org)

**CALLING ALL SECOND AND THIRD GRADERS FOR OPEN AUDITION MAY 15**

*Free summer classes will introduce children to ballet and other dance styles*

Link to photos and graphics: <https://bit.ly/3aladw4>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**(Cincinnati, OH, April 25, 2021)** -- Join Cincinnati Ballet for a FREE summer dance experience connecting your second or third grader to the joy and discipline of dance! Any second or third grader in the tri-state area is invited to audition Saturday, May 15 at Cincinnati Ballet. To accommodate as many students as possible, there will be two audition times at 4 pm and 5 pm. (All details below) Following the audition, select dancers will be chosen to join CincyDance's Ballet Foundations class, a nine-week program this summer that will teach children ballet fundamentals in a safe, structured, and supportive environment. Classes are 2 hours with a 20-minute snack and water break provided by Cincinnati Ballet. The first hour of class will focus on a warm-up and ballet technique and the second half of class will include a guest teacher to introduce the students to dance styles including street, modern, and musical theater.

CincyDance! is a fully scholarshiped program designed to remove barriers and encourage racial, gender and economic diversity within the Otto M. Budig Academy. After the Ballet Foundations experience, five to six students will be given the opportunity to receive full, lifetime tuition scholarships to Cincinnati Ballet's Otto M. Budig Academy. The Academy's pre-professional training program provides students with a world-class dance education as well as performance opportunities with the Academy and Cincinnati Ballet's professional company. Students may go on to pursue dance as a career pathway or as a personal passion. The May 15th audition is the beginning to a student's exciting journey with Cincinnati Ballet and high-quality dance training.

**DATE:** May 15, 2021

**CHECK-IN:** 3:30-4 PM or 4:30-5 PM

**AUDITION:** 4 PM or 5 PM

**WHERE:** 1555 Central Parkway, Cincinnati

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE:** Any second and third grader in the tri-state area

**WHAT TO WEAR:** Comfortable clothes you can dance in. Dancers will audition in bare feet.

**HOW TO PREPARE:** Show up and bring your best self! No previous dance training or audition materials are required.

**HOW TO REGISTER:** Register [here](#) or by call us at 513-562-1124. Due to the limited capacity, we encourage all participants to pre-register online or by phone. Limited registration will be available on day of audition.

**SAFETY:** Anyone who enters the Ballet Center must wear a mask, maintain a safe distance, answer health questions, and respect all health and safety protocols as stated by Cincinnati Ballet. Class space is limited.

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#### **About Cincinnati Ballet**

Since 1963, Cincinnati Ballet has been the cornerstone professional ballet company of the region, presenting a bold and adventurous array of classical, full-length ballets and contemporary works, regularly with live orchestral accompaniment. Under the artistic direction of Victoria Morgan, Cincinnati Ballet has become a creative force within the larger dance community, commissioning world premiere works and exploring unique collaborations with artists as diverse as Grammy winning guitarist Peter Frampton and popular, Ohio-based band Over the Rhine. With a mission to enrich, expand, and excel in the art of dance through performance, a high-caliber academy, and impactful education and engagement in local to global communities, Cincinnati Ballet reaches beyond the stage in programs that allow every person in the region to be part of the continued evolution of dance. To that end, Cincinnati Ballet presents exhilarating performances, provides extensive education and community engagement programs, and offers top-level professional ballet training at Cincinnati Ballet Otto M. Budig Academy.

**Cincinnati Ballet 2020-2021 Season Sponsors:** Rhonda & Larry A. Sheakley, Margaret and Michael Valentine, ArtsWave, Mercy Health, Louise Dieterle Nippert Musical Arts Fund, Ohio Arts Council, Frisch's, The Austin E. Knowlton Foundation