



April 22, 2020

CINCINNATI BALLET: ACADEMY PROGRAMS UPDATE

Dear Academy Families,

These past few weeks, we've been exceedingly grateful to live in an era where we can remain so connected to each of you. Seeing your faces and reading your comments online have been an overwhelming source of joy for us during such an unusual time, and we're so proud of the remarkable job you've done in translating your love of dance to new spaces through technology. You've done the exceptional when it's been most challenging, and we couldn't be more proud to support you.

As we look to the month ahead and the precautions that remain in place to secure our collective safety, we've determined it to be in the best interest of our students to finish the Academy Year through CB Academy virtual learning. Our regular weekly classes through Facebook Live and Zoom will continue with additional offerings beginning the week of May 4th. We'll maintain this schedule of activity through our extended school year ending May 31st.

While classes will continue through distance learning, due to the continued government mandated limitations on the number of persons able to gather publicly, we must regrettably cancel Spring Production 2020. We've been intensely optimistic that our celebratory year-end performances would go on, but forces beyond our control require we prioritize the health and safety of our students and families. To say we are heartbroken would be a considerable understatement, and we have no doubt you feel the same. The effort you have put in and the achievements you've made warrant grand occasion. While we must celebrate you in new ways, rest assured you will perform once again, and we are here to continue supporting your many accomplishments as young artists.

Please click [HERE](#) for a special message from Academy Director Sarah Hairston.

We have no doubt this news may evoke a number of questions, and we hope to address some of them in the FAQ document found [HERE](#). For questions that remain, we stand ready to support you. If we're not able to respond as quickly as usual, we appreciate your patience, but please know our families are our highest priority.

This news is undoubtedly disappointing, but we urge you not to be discouraged. Throughout time, dancers have always defied circumstance – they walk on air, fly in the face of gravity and train their bodies to do the impossible. You are already in the business of the impossible, and we're here by your side to see you through these unprecedented times. These past few weeks, we've been witnesses to your continued success, and the next few will be no different. Your discipline and passion set you apart in considerable ways, and we'll be cheering you on each step of the way.

With thanks,

Ginger Johnson, Vice President of Academy + Education
Sarah Hairston, Academy Director