

next  
generation  
**BALLET**®

Directed by  
**PHILIP NEAL**



**2025**  
Summer Intensive

STRAZ CENTER  
**PATEL** ★ ★ ★  
CONSERVATORY



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## Next Generation Ballet (NGB)

is a stepping stone for great dance talent and is a part of the [Straz Center for the Performing Arts](#). Under the direction of [Philip Neal](#), former New York City Ballet Principal dancer, NGB prepares dancers for professional employment through instruction, coaching and performance opportunities. The company is committed to the artistic, personal and professional development of outstanding young dancers. Performers in NGB have been awarded scholarship opportunities at leading ballet schools worldwide including [The Royal Ballet School of England](#) and [The School of American Ballet](#). Students have also received employment with ballet companies including [Boston Ballet](#), [Stuttgart Ballet](#) and [New York City Ballet](#) and have placed first in competitions including [Youth America Grand Prix](#) and the [World Ballet Competition](#).



Ballet West Academy will join Next Generation Ballet as a special affiliate for their 2025 Summer Intensive, held at the Straz center in Tampa, Fla. By coordinating, these two organizations bring together the best in American dance from the east to the west. Ballet West faculty members will be onsite in Florida throughout the program, including Academy Director Evelyn Cisneros-Legate (pictured left) for the final week of the program.



# A DAY IN THE LIFE

## FEMALE STUDENT

8:00-9:00AM	Breakfast in Straz Center's Maestro's Restaurant
9:30-11:00AM	Ballet technique
11:00AM-12:00PM	Pointe
12:00-1:00PM	Lunch in Straz Center's Maestro's Restaurant
1:00-2:30PM	Ballet technique
2:30-3:30PM	Variations/repertoire
3:30-4:30PM	Partnering/contemporary/stretch
4:30-5:00PM	Straz Center's SteamHeat Café for a snack
5:00-6:00PM	Pool time at the hotel
6:00-7:30PM	Dinner in Straz Center's Maestro's Restaurant
8:00PM	Students need to check in with RA at the hotel
9:00-10:00PM	Room checks



## MALE STUDENT

8:00-9:00AM	Breakfast in Straz Center's Maestro's Restaurant
9:30-11:00AM	Ballet technique
11:00AM-12:00PM	Men's class
12:00-1:00PM	Lunch in Straz Center's Maestro's Restaurant
1:00-2:30PM	Ballet technique
2:30-3:30PM	Repertoire/conditioning
3:30-4:30PM	Partnering/contemporary/stretch
4:30-5:00PM	Straz Center's SteamHeat Café for a snack
5:00-6:00PM	Pool time at the hotel
6:00-7:30PM	Dinner in Straz Center's Maestro's Restaurant
8:00PM	Students need to check in with RA at the hotel
9:00-10:00PM	Room checks





## Claire Florio and Jennifer Howard answer commonly asked questions about the summer intensive



### HOW ARE STUDENTS PLACED IN LEVELS?

The technique taught at NGB imparts an American speed and lightness in the lower limbs while maintaining a classical port de bras in preparation for today's dance marketplace. Each level is carefully designed to meet the developmental and technical needs of students as they train to be serious ballet dancers.

All students are placed by ability, not age. We take our responsibility seriously to provide a sound and structured course of study for aspiring dancers. Our priority is to assure that study with us is safe. If our faculty feels a dancer is ready for the next level we will adjust accordingly. We have promoted students to a higher level in the middle of the program when we have determined it will ensure they are getting the most out of their experience.

Our policy is to not discuss level placement during the summer months. Please do not contact us asking us to adjust your child's level placement. We find that students begin to understand the challenges of focusing on perfecting technique after a few days. During the first few days, classes generally go a little slower to allow for students to adjust to the intensity of classes and reduce the risk of injury.

### DO STUDENTS GET PARTNERING EXPERIENCE?

Partnering classes are scheduled at various times during the program. Most young men will take partnering. Young women will be selected on the basis of advanced training, strength and flexibility in addition to significant prior pointe training. Young dancers can get hurt if their partner is out of proportion in strength or height. Dancers will be selected with consideration to the number, strength and technical capabilities of the available partners.

### WHO PERFORMS IN THE SUMMER SHOWCASE?

All students who are attending the three-week and five-week programs will perform in the Summer Showcase on the final Friday of the program in the Straz Center's Ferguson Hall.

# CURRICULUM

Featuring 30 to 35 hours of instruction weekly, the **NGB Summer Intensive program** offers the perfect mix of a **daily intense dance schedule**, a **structured and safe environment** and a **professional performance opportunity** on a world-class stage.



## BALLET TECHNIQUE

Students age 11 through college will be placed in a level to best help them progress. All accepted students must have an intermediate to advanced background. Emphasis is placed on discipline, musicality and technique. Girls must have prior experience on pointe.



## POINTE/ MEN'S CLASS

Pointe class builds foot articulation and strength and also incorporates classical variations for the students to learn. Men's class builds strength necessary for bravura dancing.



## PARTNERING

Partnering class is offered for advanced students only. All boys will take partnering. Girls must have advanced training, strength and flexibility in addition to significant prior pointe training.



NGB alumni are currently dancing in prestigious companies and schools including:  
New York City Ballet, Boston Ballet, Ballet West,  
The Royal Ballet School, San Francisco Ballet School  
and The School of American Ballet.



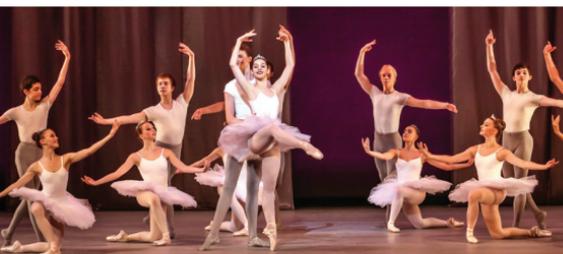
## CONTEMPORARY/JAZZ

Contemporary and jazz classes make a more well-rounded dancer and allow students to feel greater confidence and expansion in their dancing.



## STRETCH/CONDITIONING

Specially trained stretch teachers help students to lengthen tendons and muscles and build necessary strength for professional ballet.



## REPERTOIRE

Each class learns a classic or original work that is performed at the program's conclusion. The showcase will be held at the Straz Center.

NGB was awarded "Outstanding School"  
at Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP), Tampa, 2011-2024.

# DANCE FACULTY



- Philip Neal . . . . . Artistic Director of Next Generation Ballet  
Ivonne Lemus . . . . . NGB Principal Rehearsal Director  
Claire Florio . . . . . Managing Director  
Jennifer Howard . . . . . Dance Department Manager  
Hannah Box . . . . . Multi-Disciplinary Dance Teacher

Extraordinary guest faculty have included:

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Edward Vilella  | Andrea Long      |
| Kyra Nichols    | Maria Konrad     |
| Wilhelm Burmann | Peter Stark      |
| Maria Kowroski  | Gennadi Saveliev |
| Olga Kostritzky | Kelly King       |

# SUMMER SHOWCASE



The **five-week summer intensive** will culminate in the **annual performance** of the **Summer Showcase**. Students who train with Next Generation Ballet throughout the year also have **multiple performance opportunities**, including *Nutcracker* in the 2,600-seat Morsani Hall.

## AFTER-CLASS ACTIVITIES



- Weekly planned excursions to Disney, Busch Gardens, the beach, etc.
- After dinner on Tuesday and Thursday nights it is either movie night or guest teacher symposium.
- Students have the opportunity to attend touring Broadway Shows at the Straz Center.

# INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



## DORM OPTIONS

- Next Generation Ballet students will be residing at the Barrymore Hotel Tampa Riverwalk located at 111 West Fortune Street, Tampa, FL 33602. The hotel is conveniently located directly across the street from the Patel Conservatory.
- Each student will room with one other student. Laundry facilities are located at the Barrymore Hotel. Students are responsible for providing

their own quarters, laundry soap and fabric softener. Laundry soap and fabric softener can be purchased at CVS, located downtown within walking distance from the hotel.

- Ballet West will be managing the housing aspect of the program.

## NEIGHBORHOOD

- The Straz Center is in downtown Tampa within walking distance to CVS, Curtis Hixon Park, Tampa's Riverwalk and many restaurants.

## MEAL PLANS

- Students are served dinner on arrival day, and breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts. Meals will be catered, buffet-style by the Straz Center's onsite restaurant Maestro's.

# DRESS CODE

## FEMALE

- Pink or skintone ballet shoes (canvas or leather)
- Pointe shoes (Please bring the appropriate amount for number of weeks attending.)
- Black camisole leotards (solid-colored leotards may be worn only on Saturday)
- Black split-sole jazz shoes
- Black character shoes
- NGB leotards are also allowed.
- Pink or skintone tights for ballet and pointe (Feet must be covered.)
- Black convertible tights for jazz and contemporary
- Three-week and five-week students will need the following for the Showcase:
  - White camisole leotard, white chiffon skirt and black chiffon skirt
  - Rhinestone earrings



## MALE

- Black tights with black ballet shoes or with white socks and white ballet shoes (Feet must be covered.)
- Form fitting white t-shirts (no writing); t-shirt must be tucked into black tights for class
- NGB leotards are also allowed.
- Black jazz shoes (no boots or sneakers please)
- Black jazz pants or black sweat pants without elastic around the ankle



Next Generation Ballet partners with a local dance store, Dance Tampa, who provides all of our embroidered leotards. These are not required for the summer,

# BEYOND THE SUMMER INTENSIVE



## TRAINEE PROGRAM INFORMATION

- The NGB Trainee Program offers two to four years of advanced training in classical ballet for students in grades 8-12 who have the desire, commitment, aptitude and ability to pursue a career in classical ballet. Acceptance is by audition only.

## ACADEMIC OPTIONS

- Past students have utilized early release programs at public and private schools, home school and virtual school.
  - Howard W. Blake High School
  - Tampa Preparatory School
  - Allendale Academy - for homeschool students
  - Virtual Schools
- The Patel Conservatory is an accredited institution. What does that mean to you? Students can receive high school credit for attending classes at the Patel Conservatory.

## HOUSING OPTIONS

- There is no dorm option at the Patel Conservatory.
- We currently have a list of students interested in host families. To be added to this list please email [danceprogram@strazcenter.org](mailto:danceprogram@strazcenter.org).

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- The Patel Conservatory is a SEVIS approved school. What does that mean to you? International Students can receive an I-20 form to apply for a F-Visa classification to study with NGB during the school year.

## FINANCIAL AID

- To ensure access to high-quality arts education experiences for everyone, the Patel Conservatory provides scholarships to students and families who might otherwise be unable to participate. Scholarships are awarded through a scholarship system and typically cover a percentage of tuition. Registration and recital fees are not included. To apply for a scholarship, call the Admissions Office at 813.222.1040.

## MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

- Merit scholarships are awarded to students by the dance department's artistic staff based on students' technical ability and aptitude to pursue and succeed in a career in classical ballet.



# BEYOND THE SUMMER INTENSIVE

## PERFORMANCES

- Nutcracker
- On the Edge
- Spring ballet (Full-length classic or mixed-repertory program)

## PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIONS

- Youth American Grand Prix (YAGP)
- Young Arts
- American Dance Competition and International Ballet Competition (ADC/IBC)

## TRAINING

Being the resident ballet company of the Straz Center, Next Generation Ballet has access to many guest artist workshops and master classes throughout the year. Our dancers have had the opportunity to train with artists from many backgrounds, including touring Broadway productions and acclaimed dancers such as Savion Glover and those from the Scottish Ballet, Habana Compas Dance, Alonso King and Shaping Sound.





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