



What is the Training Division?

This is a program for students ages 10 and up who have had 2 or more consecutive years of ballet, and at least one year of pre-training (or have achieved Int Teen/Adult Ballet level) who are interested in studying Classical Ballet. Studying ballet takes repetition, drive, and commitment. At Turning Pointe we provide unique pre-collegiate Classical Ballet training for students in a Christian environment and encourage students to train their bodies and spirits for the glory of God. In this division we focus on readying students for dancing at the college level. Training dancers are required to come to ballet technique 3 times a week and choose a non-ballet elective (contemporary jazz, worship, modern, etc). Moving up to the next level is based on ability, not age. An audition, essay and pre-training (or Int T/A) is required for entrance into this program. For Pre-Training class, students must be Ballet level 2B and receive a teacher invitation to attend. Students will take this class in addition to their regular ballet class (totaling 2 ballet classes a week).

Training Program vs. Recreational?

The main difference between the training program and recreational dance is the intensity level and its focus on prepping students for collegiate dance. The Training Program is a bigger time and financial commitment and is really geared towards girls who know that dance is their “thing”! The recreational program has professional teachers and students still receive great training as well. Most recreational students have other activities that they want to be involved in as well and don’t want to commit as much time, but they love to dance and want to keep learning and growing.

There are a lot of studios in town that you can send your dancer to where they can train seriously in ballet...the difference at Turning Pointe is that we not only want the girls to train and challenge their physical bodies, but every part of their body, soul, and spirit. We offer a healthy environment for studying dance where the teachers are encouraging and the environment is uplifting, but the dancers will still be challenged.

Class Requirements for Training?

Ballet technique (training class) 3x a week and one non-ballet elective (jazz, worship, modern, musical theater, etc.). More electives can be added, but at least one is required. Summer classes/intensives are required; a minimum of 1 mini-mester Training class (meets twice weekly) and 1 intensive. Additional classes are strongly recommended. At the upper levels, loss of strength, flexibility and fine motor control begins to be lost within 2 weeks. If a student absolutely cannot find the time to attend summer classes, speak to the Training Division Director.

How do students get into the Training Program?

Students are required to have attended pre-training or achieved Int Teen/Adult Ballet level. They must attend an audition for Training as well as write an essay describing why they want to be a part of Training. We will have multiple audition classes each year; dates are posted in the newsletter and on the website. Please come in a solid color leotard, pink tights, hair in a bun, and ballet shoes (no skirts please). You will be notified before the fall session starts what level, if the student is ready, they are to be enrolled in.

What about Recital/Costumes/Extra Costs?

For recital, the Training students will do 2 recital dances...one classical and one worship dance. They will buy one costume and if they are new to training they will buy a required leotard and skirt (we’ll order this for you and can be used in class and year after year).