

## Location



Baltimore Ballet is conveniently located on York Road in Cockeysville, just north of Warren Road on the left hand side. From I-83 North, take the Warren Road Exit, then turn left on York Road.

There is ample free parking, and many restaurants and shops in the neighborhood.

Our 4,500 square foot facility has three studios, all with sprung wood floors, non-slip Marley surfaces, mirrored walls, high ceilings, and observation windows. We have a large waiting room with free Wi-Fi, and two dressing rooms.



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# BALTIMORE *Ballet*

**CEM CATBAS, DIRECTOR**



Baltimore's Premier Center for Dance Education and Performance

2023-24 Baltimore Ballet Calendar	Date
Classes Begin 2024 -25	Tuesday September 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Free Fall Baltimore at the BMA 2024	TBA
Thanksgiving Holiday 2024	Wed. Nov. 27 <sup>th</sup> - Fri. Nov. 29 <sup>th</sup>
Baltimore Ballet's The Nutcracker at Goucher 2024	Sat. Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> and Sun. Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>
Winter Holiday 2024	Mon. Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Wed. Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>
Classes Resume 2025	Thursday January 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Baltimore Ballet at the Gordon Center 2024	TBA
Spring Break 2025	Mon. April 14 <sup>th</sup> - Mon. April 21 <sup>st</sup>
Picture Day 2025	Sunday May 4 <sup>th</sup>
Spring Performance and End of Session 2024-25	Sunday May 18 <sup>th</sup>
Summer Session 2024	Monday June 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Sat. July 27 <sup>th</sup>
Open House 2024	Saturday August 17 <sup>th</sup>

## Policies

Tuition is **NON-REFUNDABLE**.

The contract is for the full year September through May. Late registrations are accepted if there is space in a class.

In case of withdrawal before the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment, there is a \$50 withdrawal fee, as we often turn away students to keep the class size small for more individual attention.

Payments can be made in 3 installments (Sep. 1<sup>st</sup>, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>) or in full. The first installment should be paid at the time of registration. A \$35 registration fee without tuition will not guarantee your place in a desired class.

A monthly payment plan is available for students taking over 3 classes a week or larger than \$1,000 tuition.

Students may take make-ups only during the session for which they are currently registered. Make-ups cannot be carried over to future sessions.

Limited scholarships are available. A scholarship audition appointment must be made with the Director Mr. Catbas.

Students who do not pay the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment (**Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>**) cannot participate in The Nutcracker, as they are technically no longer students at the school.

**Non-refundable Registration Fees:** \$35 before September 1<sup>st</sup>, \$50 after September 1<sup>st</sup>, \$15 for 2nd family member.

**Performance fee:** \$120 for The Nutcracker, and **Costume fee:** \$120 for Spring Performance.

A \$15 **Late Fee** per week will be assessed for payments made after the due dates. The **Return Check Fee** is \$30.

**Discounts:** 5% Payment in Full, 10% Family Discount, 5% for second family member. Apply discount to **TUITION** only, **NOT** to the registration fee. Payment in full discount applies only to the full year, not the half year for Baby Ballerinas.

**Placement:** All students in the pre-professional division must take a placement class, and must be enrolled in at least the minimum required classes for their respective level. Students who exhibit poor attendance will be moved to a lower level. Students may be expelled who do not pay their tuition; who have a large number of unexcused absences or who are regularly tardy to class; who behave disrespectfully or unacceptably.

The Dress rehearsals are closed to both public and parents. No photography or no videography is allowed during performances without written permission to prevent copyright infringement. There is a \$2,500 fine for violators.

## 2024-25 Schedule of Classes

Baltimore Ballet 2024-25 Schedule of Classes – Subject to Change (\*cancelled)

	STUDIO A	STUDIO B	STUDIO C
<b>M</b>	10:00 – 2:00 Company  4:30 – 6:00 Level 4/5 Ballet 6:00 – 6:30 Level 4/5 Pointe 6:30 – 8:00 Level 6 Ballet 8:00 – 8:30 Level 6 Pointe	5:00 – 6:00 Level 1/2 Ballet 6:00 – 7:00 Level 3 Ballet 7:00 – 7:30 Pre-Pointe	5:30 – 6:30 Jazz/Tap
<b>T</b>	4:30 – 6:00 Level 5/6 Ballet 6:00 – 6:30 Level 5/6 Variations 6:30 – 7:45 Adult Beginner Ballet 7:45 – 8:15 Adult Beginner Pointe	3:45 – 4:30 Baby Ballerinas 4:30 – 5:30 Basic Dance 5:30 – 6:30 Pre-Ballet A/B 6:30 – 7:30 Adult/Teen Tap >11	
<b>W</b>	10:00 – 2:00 Company  4:30 – 5:30 Level 3/4 Ballet 5:30 – 6:30 Level 1/2 Ballet 6:30 – 7:45 Level 5/6 Ballet 7:45 – 8:45 Repertoire	3:45 – 4:30 Baby Ballerinas 4:30 – 5:30 Pre-Ballet A/B 5:30 – 6:30 Ballet/Tap	
<b>R</b>	4:30 – 5:30 Level 3/4 Ballet 5:30 – 6:00 Level 3/4 Pointe 6:00 – 7:30 Level 6 Ballet 7:30 – 8:30 Pas de Deux		
<b>F</b>	10:00 – 2:00 Company  4:30 – 5:45 Level 3/4 Ballet 5:45 – 6:15 Level 3/4 Pointe 6:15 – 7:30 Level 5/6 Ballet 7:30 – 8:15 5/6 Repertoire		
<b>S</b>	9:00 – 10:00 Level 1/2 Ballet 10:00 – 11:00 Level 3/4 Ballet 11:00 – 11:30 Level 4 Pointe 11:30 – 12:30 Inter. Modern 12:30 – 1:30 Inter. Jazz 1:30 – 3:00 Level 5/6 Ballet 3:00 – 3:30 Level 5/6 Pointe 3:30 – 5:00 Company	9:15 – 10:00 Baby Ballerinas 10:00 – 11:00 Basic Dance 11:00 – 12:00 Pre-Ballet A 12:00 – 1:00 Pre-Ballet B 1:30 – 2:30 Teen Beginner Jazz	1:00 – 2:00 Ballet/Tap (age 5-11)



## Company

Supported by the **MD State Arts Council**, the **Baltimore County Commission on Arts & Sciences**, **M&T Bank**, the **T Rowe Price Foundation**, **State Auto Insurance Companies**, **Sinai Hospital/Lifebridge Rubin Institute**, and the **Jim and Patty Rouse Charitable Foundation**, Baltimore Ballet continues to shine as Baltimore's Premier Ballet Company.

In addition to Baltimore Ballet's annual sold-out performances of **The Nutcracker** which features exciting guest stars each year (such as *Evgenia Obraztsova* of the **Kirov Ballet** and principal dancers of **ABT**), Baltimore Ballet has also presented the following performances:

*Discover Ballet! Outreach Performance*  
*Romeo & Juliet/ Pas de Quatre/ The Firebird*  
**The Nutcracker Suite** with the **BSO**  
*Carnival of the Animals*  
*10 Year Anniversary Gala*  
*Artscape*  
*Scheherazade*  
*Les Sylphides* and *Salome's Daughters*  
*La Bayadere*  
*Pictures at an Exhibition*  
*A Gershwin Rhapsody*  
*Swan Lake*  
*A Gershwin Rhapsody*  
*Ballet Russes*  
*Giselle*

**Baltimore Museum of Art**  
**Baltimore Museum of Art**  
**Meyerhoff Symphony Hall**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium**  
**The Lyric Opera House**  
**The Lyric Opera House**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium**  
**Baltimore Museum of Art**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium**  
**Morris A. Mechanic Theatre**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium**  
**Baltimore Museum of Art**  
**Kraushaar Auditorium and Baltimore Museum of Art**

## What the Critics Say:

*"There is a ballet company in Baltimore again! This performance's soloists were of professional caliber and approached the Fokine ideal - especially Catbas. His assets included a passionately stretched line, buoyant leaps and plush landings. The corps...was cleanly trained and apt stylistically."*

**Renowned Dance Critic George Jackson**

*"Baltimore Ballet's 10 Year Anniversary Gala...an inspiring evening of dance, rewarded with a lengthy and well-deserved standing ovation. Cem and Elysabeth Catbas assembled a wonderfully diverse cast, reflecting the scope of any ballet company. How fitting to show this journey of the artist in concert with the journey of this company."*

**Dance Critic and Blogger Heather Desaulniers**



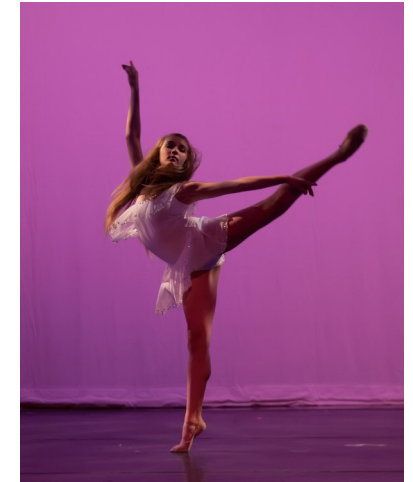
## Tuition

Hours per week	3 Installments Sept, Dec, Mar	Year Total
1.0	\$200	\$600
1.25	\$247	\$741
1.5	\$294	\$882
1.75	\$340	\$1020
2.0	\$385	\$1155
2.25	\$430	\$1290
2.5	\$474	\$1422
2.75	\$518	\$1554
3.0	\$562	\$1686
3.25	\$595	\$1785
3.5	\$627	\$1881
3.75	\$671	\$2013
4.0	\$715	\$2145
4.25	\$742	\$2226
4.5	\$776	\$2328
4.75	\$813	\$2439
5.0	\$850	\$2550
5.25	\$901	\$2703
5.5	\$951	\$2853
5.75	\$1001	\$3003
6.0	\$1051	\$3153
6.25	\$1076	\$3228
6.5	\$1101	\$3303
6.75	\$1126	\$3378
7.0	\$1150	\$3450
7.25	\$1171	\$3513
7.5	\$1192	\$3576
7.75	\$1213	\$3639
8.0	\$1234	\$3702
8.25	\$1251	\$3753
8.5	\$1267	\$3801
8.75	\$1284	\$3852
9.0	\$1300	\$3900
<b>unlimited</b>	<b>\$1333</b>	<b>\$3999</b>

**Walk/in classes: \$25**  
**Private Lessons: \$100 per hour**  
**Semi Private Lessons: \$60/person/hour**

**Baby Ballerina Classes** are split into 2 sessions:  
 Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024: \$250  
 Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> - May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025: \$300

Baby Ballerinas may perform in **The Nutcracker**, but do perform in the Spring Recital.





## Class Descriptions

### Children's Classes

**Class Attire:** Pink leotard, ballet pink footed tights (no cut-off tights), pink leather ballet slippers. Ballet/Tap students also bring black patent leather Tap shoes. Hair in a bun.

**Baby Ballerinas:** A fun, introductory 45 minute dance class for 3 - 4 year old beginners.

**Ballet/Tap 1:** A combination of ballet and tap, for students 4 - 8 year olds.

**Ballet/Tap 2:** A combination of ballet and tap for students 5 - 11 year olds.

**Jazz/Tap 2:** A beginner combination class including both jazz and tap for 7 - 11 year olds.

**Beginner Jazz 1:** An introductory jazz class for 7 - 9 year olds.

**Beginner Jazz 2:** An advanced beginner jazz class for 8 - 11 year olds.

**Basic Dance:** A 60 minute basic dance class for 4 - 5 year olds. Students will learn creative movement, stretching, and beginning ballet movements and terms.

**Pre Ballet A:** A 60 minute pre ballet class for 5 - 6 year olds. A continuation of the basic dance class, students will learn more variety of terms and movements.

**Pre Ballet B:** A 60 minute pre ballet class for 6 - 7 year olds. A continuation of Pre Ballet A, this class prepares students for formal ballet classes.

**Beginner Ballet:** A 75 minute class for older beginners.

### Jazz, Character, Modern

**Class Attire for Jazz:** Any color leotard and tights with black Jazz shoes.

**Jazz/Tap 2:** A combination class including both Jazz and Tap for 7 - 11 year olds.

**Beginner Jazz 1:** An introductory jazz class for 7 - 9 year olds.

**Beginner Jazz 2:** An advanced beginner jazz class for 8 - 11 year olds

**Intermediate Jazz:** A higher level of jazz class for 11 - 14 year olds with at least 2 - 3 years of previous experience, based on Luigi style, with emphasis on Syncopation, and individual expression of the music. Students must also be enrolled in Ballet classes.

**Class Attire for Character:** Black character skirt and black character shoes (low heel) with any color leotard and pink tights.

**Character:** (For Level 3 and 4 students) Students learn traditional folk dances such as Czardas, Flamenco, Mazurka, Tarantella, Waltz, etc.

**Class Attire for Modern:** Any color leotard, convertible tights, bare feet or foot pads.

**Intermediate Modern:** (For Level 4 and 5 Ballet students) An introduction to Modern Dance Technique based on Martha Graham style.

### Adult Ballet Classes

**Class Attire:** Any color leotard, black or pink tights, ballet slippers, hair pulled back off the face. No dangly jewelry. Wrap-around skirts are optional.

**Teen Beginner Ballet:** A beginner ballet class for young teens.

**Adult Beginner Ballet:** For beginners, or those who have taken ballet before but want a slow, easy class with mostly Barre work.

**Adult Elementary Ballet:** A more advanced class than the beginner level, a more challenging class for those with previous study.

**Adult Intermediate Ballet:** An intermediate ballet class with faster combinations, jumps, turns, Petit-allegro and Grand-allegro.

**Adult Beginner Pointe:** Must be taken in conjunction with the Wednesday Adult Intermediate Ballet Class.

**Adult Advanced Ballet:** An advanced, professional class. Minimum length, 90 minutes.

## About Baltimore Ballet

Welcome to Baltimore Ballet's 23<sup>rd</sup> season! Baltimore Ballet was founded in June of 2000 by Cem Catbas and Elysabeth Muscat.

Catbas, originally from Istanbul, is a professional dancer with a BFA in Dance with honors from the Istanbul University State Conservatory where he studied with Russian teachers. He began his career as a soloist with the Istanbul State Opera and Ballet under the direction of Cecchetti Master Richard Glasstone.

He then became a Soloist in Germany at the Theater der Stadt Koblenz, where he met Elysabeth Muscat, who was a principal singer in the Opera Company. Muscat has a BS in Psychology from Tulane University and a Masters of Music in Voice from the Mannes College of Music, and sang leading roles in major European Opera Houses.

After spending three years in Koblenz, Cem and Elysabeth moved to Pittsburgh where Cem danced with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, and Elysabeth began her teaching career. (At the time, besides managing Baltimore Ballet, she was also the Chair of the Peabody Preparatory Voice Department.)

In June of 2000 they moved to Baltimore and took over a small, existing studio in Mt. Washington.

The school quickly grew in leaps and bounds when word of mouth spread about the excellent quality of teaching and the professional performances being offered.

They quickly renamed the school Baltimore Ballet, and created the Baltimore Ballet Company, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) entity. The school outgrew the old location and relocated in 2005 to the current location on York Road in Cockeysville.



## Dance for All Ages!



## Student Success

- Professional contracts with NYC Ballet, the Rockettes, Dayton Ballet, Columbia City Ballet, City Dance
- Full Scholarships to School of American Ballet, Kirov Academy of Ballet, The Rock School, Walnut Hill, Nutmeg Conservatory, Mercyhurst College
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, and top 12, YAGP Regional Competition, Rising Star and Footloose Competitions
- 2 Winners of the MD Distinguished Scholar Award in Dance
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, USA National Youth Ballet Competition
- Winner, Washington Post Music & Arts Dance Scholarship
- American Dance Awards, Teen Dancer of the Year
- Acceptance to the following schools: American Ballet Theatre, School of American Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Boston Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, Princeton Ballet, Ballet Hispanico, Kirov Academy of Ballet, Ballet Austin, Nutmeg Conservatory, Walnut Hill School, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, BSA, Carver and more.



## Performance Opportunities

Baltimore Ballet has a Professional Company with 6 resident professional dancers. The Professional Company produces 4 productions annually and also engages in numerous outreach performances and activities.

Students of Baltimore Ballet School participate in the annual performances of “The Nutcracker” and a spring recital each May. Select students can also participate in various outreach performances with Baltimore Ballet Company.

Ballet is a performance art, therefore having the opportunity to perform on stage in a professional production is an important aspect of each student’s dance education and experience.

## Class Descriptions continued

### Pre-Professional Ballet Classes

**Class Attire:** Each level has its own leotard color uniform with Baltimore Ballet Logo; ballet pink seamless tights, ballet slippers, hair in a neat bun, no jewelry in class, no t-shirts, no shorts, or sweats.

Pre-professional classes based on the Russian Vaganova style. The first levels emphasizes proper placement, posture, turnout, strengthening the feet, balance, and flexibility. As students develop and progress into higher levels, the technical difficulty of the exercises increases to include center Adagio, Petit-allegro, turns, and Grand-allegro. Students may begin Pointe work with the permission of the Artistic Director Mr. Catbas during Level 3. At the highest level, students combine all of the technical aspects with artistry to be a more complete dancer.

**Level 1:** (Twice weekly recommended) Light blue camisole leotard. Minimum age is 7 years old with one year previous training, or 8 - 10 year old beginners.

**Level 2:** (Twice weekly minimum) Red camisole leotard. Ages 8 - 11 with two years previous training.

**Level 3:** (Twice weekly minimum) Royal blue camisole leotard, pink canvas ballet slippers with ribbons. Ages 9 - 12 with three years previous training.

**Beginner Pointe:** (Only with permission from the Director Mr. Catbas) When enrolled in 3 weekly Ballet Technique classes.

**Level 4:** (Three times weekly minimum) Purple camisole leotard, pink canvas ballet slippers with ribbons. Ages 10 - 16 with four years previous training.

**Level 4 Pointe:** Only with permission from the Director Mr. Catbas in conjunction with weekly Ballet classes.

**Level 5:** (Four times weekly minimum) Black camisole leotard, pink canvas ballet slippers with ribbons. Ages 10 - 16 with five years previous training.

**Level 5 Variations:** Students learn beginning solo Variations from famous Classical Ballets en Pointe.

**Level 5 Pointe:** In conjunction with 4 weekly ballet classes.

**Level 6:** (Only open to students taking **unlimited** classes) For advanced students 12 and older. Includes Pointe, Pas de Deux, and Variations.

### **Diploma Program**

Advanced students enrolled in Level 6 who wish to receive a Diploma must be enrolled in **unlimited** classes, and attend dance classes Monday through Saturday, including Ballet, Pointe, Pas de Deux, Repertoire, Jazz, and Modern.

Besides following a curriculum, students will also be cast in performances throughout the season (see the Calendar.) Numerous performance opportunities are essential for the full education and preparation of the dancer for a professional dance career, thus becoming an Artist.

Students are also encouraged to compete in Youth America Grand Prix, a World Class Ballet Competition for young aspiring dancers.

Upon successful completion of four years of study in the Level 6 Pre-professional Program, students will receive a Diploma.

**Cem Catbas, Artistic Director**

Cem Catbas is the Artistic Director of Baltimore Ballet School and co-founder and Director of Baltimore Ballet Company. He danced principal roles with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, the Istanbul State Opera and Ballet, the Istanbul Contemporary Ballet, and the Koblenz Ballet in Germany in addition to Baltimore Ballet. Roles he danced include the title role of Dracula in Ben Stevenson's (Houston Ballet Production) *Dracula*, the title role of Romeo in *Romeo and Juliette* with the Istanbul State Opera and Ballet, The Monk in *Carmina Burana* (Kent Stowell's production from Pacific Northwest Ballet), the title role of Peer Gynt with the Koblenz Ballet, and numerous other principal roles. Awards he has won include the 2006 and 2002 Individual Artist Award for excellence in solo dance performance from the Maryland State Arts Council, Gold Medal in the 1<sup>st</sup> International Seleznyov Ballet Competition in 1991, and the Most Promising Dancer Award from the city of Istanbul. He has a B.F.A. *egregia cum laude* from the Istanbul University State Conservatory where he studied with Ramazan Bapov, Nikolai Morozov, and Ludmilla Morkovina. He has worked with Ben Stevenson (Houston Ballet), Patricia Wilde (NYC Ballet), Marianna Tcherkassky and Terrence Orr (ABT), Richard Glasstone (Istanbul Ballet), and Kent Stowell (Pacific Northwest Ballet), among others. He has choreographed *The Nutcracker*, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, *A Gershwin Rhapsody*, *Carnival of the Animals*, excerpts from *Petrouschka*, and danced in and staged *Scheherazade*, *Les Sylphides*, the 2<sup>nd</sup> act of *Giselle*, *Swan Lake* and *La Bayadere* for Baltimore Ballet. The esteemed dance critic George Jackson praised his "*passionately stretched line, buoyant leaps and plush landings.*" He has been a judge for several competitions including the Frederick Arts Council, and a panelist for the Maryland State Art Council. His students have gone on to dance professionally, have won numerous awards including 1<sup>st</sup> Prize at the regional Youth America Grand Prix Competition, winner of the MD Distinguished Scholar Award, and have received full scholarships to the School of American Ballet and other schools. He has been interviewed on WBFF - Fox News, WMAR-TV, WJZ-TV, WBAL-TV and Comcast Local Edition. He has given Master Classes in the US, Canada, and Europe. He wrote many articles on dance which were published at [www.bourgeonline.com](http://www.bourgeonline.com), he maintains an art/philosophy web blog <http://cemcatbas.wordpress.com> and also appeared in May and June issues of Dance Magazine 2012.

**Evgenia Singur: Ballet, Variations and Character (Guest Faculty)**

Evgenia Singur was a principal dancer for the Russian State Ballet in Moscow, where she performed principal roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Giselle*, *Coppelia*, *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Spartacus*, and *Don Quixote*. She toured with the company internationally to Austria, England, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, Ireland, Italy, China, Indonesia, Mexico, North & South Korea, United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Oman), and Spain. Ms. Singur began training as a rhythmic gymnast, then a figure skater, and finally as a ballet dancer from 1993-2001 at the Bolshoi Ballet Academy and Moscow State Institute of Choreography before joining the Russian State Ballet. She won the 2004 International Dance Festival in Korea, and the Silver Award in the 2002 Dance Europe Magazine Competition. Ms. Singur appeared in the lead female role in Baltimore Ballet's recent productions.

**Kira Weaver: Ballet, and Modern/Contemporary**

Kira started her dancing at the age of 6 in Lancaster, Pa at Lancaster School of Ballet completing up to Grade VI in Cecchetti. Through her years of dancing, she has danced with Barefoot Dance Company, Lancaster Ballet Theater, Laurel Dance Company, and went to numerous East Coast Cecchetti Council Conferences at University of Maryland/College Park. With a wide range of ballet, modern, contemporary, character, tap, and jazz, Kira completed her training at Footprints Performing Arts and Morton's Dance Center. Her experience in teaching ranges from all ages including ballet, and substitute teaching other genres. She was accepted into Goucher College's Dance Program receiving the Henry and Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg 1921 Scholarships in Music, Visual Arts, and Dance. Kira's time at Goucher allowed her to dance with Karole Armitage, Adam Houghland, Nicole Haskins, and Durante Verzola. She graduated from Goucher receiving a BA in Dance with Biology minor.

**Cierra Vitek: Ballet and Tap**

Cierra began studying at Praise Ballet in Baltimore, MD when she was 7 years old. Mrs. Vitek later studied at Towson University's Children's Dance Division from 2005-2008 completing the intermediate level II and the RAD exam. She has taught danced with Baltimore Ballet in 2017-18. Mrs. Vitek has earned her 45 hour certification in infant and toddlers and early childhood education through First Connection Childcare Training. Mrs. Vitek currently enjoys Lindy Hop and Tap, and she is happy to bring her passion for dance along with 10 years of experience in childcare to Baltimore Ballet.