



2022-2023 Handbook



Dear Parents/Guardians/Students,

“SLK Ballet School is an exclusive training facility to prepare the serious ballet student for a professional career in both classical and contemporary dance”

Every student at SLK Ballet School will receive individual attention and personal training from myself and my faculty and guest teachers.

In order for SLK Ballet School to provide a positive and safe training experience for students during the 2022-2023 year, **please read this manual prior to the beginning of the Term and sign and return the waiver at the end of the document.**

If you have any questions or concerns not addressed in the Handbook, please contact me directly at SaraKnight@slkballetschool.com.

Kind regards,

Sara Knight
Artistic Director
SLK Ballet School

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SLK Ballet School Calendar 2022/2023

September 28, 2022: Term Begins

October 10: Indigenous Peoples' Day (No Classes)

November 23–25: Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)

November 25: Long Island Ballet Theatre Nutcracker rehearsal (for those participating)

November 26: Long Island Ballet Theatre Nutcracker (for those participating)

December 4: Optional Performance with Chevalier Ballet at MMAC

December 16: Last Day of Classes before Term Ends

December 17-January 8: Winter Break (No Classes)

January 9, 2023: Term Begins

January 16: Martin Luther King Day (No Classes)

February 20–26: February Break (No Classes)

March 31: Assessment

April 11–16: Spring Break (No Classes)

May 20: End-of-Year Performance at MMAC & End of Semester

Please note: All dates are subject to change at the discretion of the Director

SLK BALLET TERM SCHEDULE

The Schedule to the right is subject to change at discretion of the Director at any time:

The After-School Program runs Monday to Friday. SLK Ballet faculty includes visiting master dance teachers to offer excellent training in all types of dance.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00AM					
8:15AM					
8:30AM					
8:45AM					
9:00AM					
9:15AM					
9:30AM					
9:45AM					
10:00AM			Chevalier Company Class 10:00-11:30am		
10:15AM					
10:30AM					
10:45AM					
11:00AM	Chevalier Company Class 11:00am-12:30pm	Chevalier Company Class 11:00am-12:30pm		Chevalier Company Class 11:00am-12:30pm	Chevalier Company Class 11:00am-12:30pm
11:15AM					
11:30AM					
11:45AM					
12:00PM					
12:15PM					
12:30PM					
12:45PM					
1:00PM					
1:15PM					
1:30PM					
1:45PM					
2:00PM					
2:15PM					
2:30PM					
2:45PM					
3:00PM	SLK Pilates 3:00-4:00pm	SLK Acting 3:00-4:00pm	SLK Ballet 3:00-5:00pm	SLK Ballet 3:00-5:00pm	SLK Floorbarre/ Contemporary 3:00-4:00pm
3:15PM					
3:30PM					
3:45PM					
4:00PM	SLK Ballet 4:00-6:00pm	SLK Ballet 4:00-6:00pm			SLK Ballet 4:00-6:00pm
4:15PM					
4:30PM					
4:45PM					
5:00PM			SLK Character 5:00-6:00pm		
5:15PM					
5:30PM					
5:45PM					
6:00PM					

BALLET TRAINING

Curriculum

The curriculum for the 2022-2023 school year includes, but is not limited to:

- Classical Technique (Vaganova based, incorporating European styles of the French, Danish and English schools.)
- Pointe & Variations
- Partnering
- Repertoire
- Character
- Contemporary
- Choreography
- Floor barre
- Acting

Private Coaching

Private or semi-private coaching sessions with Ms. Knight (one-on-one/two) before and after regular class hours are available for those who need, or wish to enhance the training they receive at SLK Ballet School. Fees for private lessons are in addition to the student's regular tuition fees. Private coaching sessions are not mandatory and do not enhance a student's standing or guarantee performance opportunities.

Summer Intensives

The Summer intensives are an excellent opportunity to continue training with both Ms. Knight and internationally renowned guest teachers. **In order to attend any SLK Ballet Program, a student must attend at least two weeks of an SLK Ballet summer intensive, unless otherwise approved by Ms. Knight.**

School Exchanges

SLK Ballet School offers exchange programs with the Central School of Ballet and the Masters of Ballet, both based in London, UK. These opportunities are at the discretion of Ms. Knight and not guaranteed.

Performance Opportunities

Outreach is an important aspect of SLK Ballet's mission and students have previously had the privilege to serve Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital, Mount Sinai, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and Ronald McDonald House with dance. In addition, students participate in the end-of-year performance—A Summer Soirée—at a to-be-announced venue. The Soirée has previously taken place at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Manhattan Movement and Arts Centre and The Theatre at St. Jean.

SLK Ballet students have been invited as guests to dance with the Sedona Chamber Ballet (Arizona), Alabama Ballet, Long Island Ballet, Staten Island Ballet, and for various occasions in NYC and area. Students performing with other organizations are expected to represent SLK Ballet in a respectful, responsible, and professional manner.

Students may receive the opportunity to perform with SLK Ballet's affiliated company, Chevalier Ballet. These opportunities are not guaranteed and are provided at the discretion of the Director.

TUITION AND FEES

A \$35 registration fee and \$200 non refundable deposit is due by **September 28, 2022**.

Full tuition is due **by October 3, 2022** and please note: If payment is received after this date, a late fee will be applied. Additional optional fees may occur for opportunities such as professional photoshoot or audition videos.

5-day/week After-School Program: \$9,000

Tuition will be prorated for students with individualized schedules, at the discretion of the Director.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURE

Class Attendance

Students in the After-School Program are required to take ALL classes for their agreed-upon, individualized schedule. These custom class schedules may be arranged on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Director. Classes are not transferable and there are no refunds for classes missed for any reason. In the case of absence, please email saraknight@slkballetschool.com **prior to class time**.

Important school notifications, such as inclement weather updates, will be sent via email using the address used for a student's registration. Cancellations will also be posted on social media (@SLKBallet) at least two hours prior to classes.

Uniform Policy

The dress code allows for a disciplined and professional appearance of our students. All SLK Ballet students are expected to adhere to the dress code. Please read carefully the uniform during every class. Any student not in uniform will be asked to observe rather than participate.

Female-identifying students:

Lilac Leotard found at <https://www.dancer.nyc/slk-ballet-boutique> — Password: SLKBallet!

White leotard, any brand/style

Pink or flesh-colored tights (any brand; no seams and without runs or holes)

Pink or flesh-colored ballet slippers (any brand; with sewn ribbons)

Pointe shoes (brand in discussion with Director/School Faculty)

Black character shoes (any brand/style)

White or lilac wrap chiffon skirt (any brand/style)

Skin-colored thong (worn under costumes)

Male-identifying students:

White t-shirt or leotard (any brand; no logos or colored markings)

Gray or black full-length ballet tights (any brand)

Black or white ballet slippers (any brand/style)

Black character shoes (any brand/style)

No warm-up clothing will be permitted during ballet technique classes. In the event of extreme coldness, KD Dance warms ups or equivalent are permitted. No plastic shorts or pants are allowed in class. Longer hair must be in a bun or French twist with all bangs and hair secure with hairnet and hairpins. **No jewelry** may be worn except small earrings. SLK Ballet is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Ballet Etiquette

Cell phones should be placed in the silent mode or turned off and kept in bags. If parents/guardians need to contact students with an emergency, please contact the Director directly.

Food and drinks aside from water are not permitted in the studios. Please bring non-messy snacks or lunches for breaks. All water bottles must be plastic and have secure lids. Chewing gum is not allowed in the studios.

Each student will be given an assigned container in a secured locker. A key will be given to the student on the first day of term for a \$5.00 fee.

In the case a student is running late, they must wait in the doorway until an instructor gives permission for them to join the class. Students more than 20 minutes late (without previously arranged permission from the Director) may be asked to observe class rather than participate.

Costumes

All costumes are owned by SLK Ballet School. They will be loaned to students for each performance. No food/drink may be used near the costumes. If a student damages a costume, the financial responsibility to dry clean or repair the costume is the student's. It is not permitted to sit, especially on the floor, in costumes. All costumes must be hung with name on them when not in use.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The rules outlined below are to ensure a healthy atmosphere for training and personal growth for all students. SLK Ballet also exists in a larger society and community, and therefore, local and federal laws will be upheld. SLK Ballet's faculty may inform the appropriate authorities if they learn of, or observe violations of the rules and regulations. SLK Ballet expects each student and parent/guardian to read, understand, and uphold the standards of conduct outlined in this and other official SLK Ballet communication to protect the rights of others.

Applicability

The rules in this section apply to all students enrolled in SLK Ballet School and their parents/guardians. SLK Ballet strives to be a respectable and responsible part of the community and understands the importance of amicable relations with neighbors and local businesses. Students, parents, and guardians should therefore be aware that the jurisdiction of SLK Ballet extends beyond the studios. Activities that harm the reputation of SLK Ballet or cause problems for members of the greater community will result in action.

Respect for the Individual and Others

SLK Ballet School expects that students and their families conduct themselves in a manner that respects each and every member of the community, and that they conduct themselves with the respect required of an artistic and educational organization.

SLK Ballet promotes an environment free of all forms of harassment. Harassment on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military or veteran status undermines our basic principles. It is not acceptable behavior at SLK Ballet and will not be tolerated.

SLK Ballet's policy is to exercise freedom of speech with responsibility. Should concerns or complaints arise, SLK Ballet's staff or Director may look up profiles on social networking sites and may use the information in informal or formal proceedings. However, SLK Ballet has no control over how other employers, organizations, or individuals may use information they find on social networking websites.

To keep SLK Ballet School a healthy, safe, and productive learning environment for all, SLK Ballet strongly encourages responsible decision-making regarding the use of legal drugs, tobacco/smoke-products, and alcohol, and prohibits the use of illegal drugs. The studios are a smoke- and alcohol-free facility. Students, faculty, and staff are responsible for observing and abiding by federal, city, and SLK Ballet regulations regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco/vape, and other drugs whether they are in the studios or participating in SLK Ballet events or performances.

Some examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Disruption/obstruction of class, rehearsal, administration, or other SLK events or performance.
- Failure to comply with the direction of the SLK Ballet Director, faculty, or staff.
- Creating a fire hazard and/or engaging in behavior that inhibits/impedes those responding to a fire hazard.
- Unauthorized use of candles or open flames in studios or at performance venues.
- Tampering with, misusing, or damaging fire or safety equipment.
- Blocking the use of a (fire) exit.
- Failing to immediately exit studios or a performance venue when a fire alarm has been activated, or hindering/impairing the orderly evacuation of such.

Any violation of a local, state, or federal civil or criminal law is a violation, even if specific conduct is not listed within this Rules and Regulations section or the offense is not prosecuted in a court of law.

LOCATION AND CONTACT

SLK Ballet is located at Battery Dance, at **380 Broadway, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10013-3518**. The studios are walking distance from various subway stations:

- The Canal Street N/Q/R/W/J/Z/6/A/B/C
- The Franklin Street 1

Please contact info@slkballetschool.com for any tuition, school calendar, or general inquiries, and SaraKnight@slkballetschool.com with training-specific questions.



**SLK BALLET SCHOOL 2022-2023
Safety, Health, and Liability Waiver**

I hereby certify that my child is in good health and capable of participating in SLK Ballet School's classes, rehearsals, and performances. I hereby release and forever discharge SLK Ballet of and from any and all claims, demands, rights or cause of action of whatsoever kind or nature, arising from, or by reason of, any and all known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen bodily or personal injuries and illnesses and the consequences thereof.

I understand that SLK Ballet School will continue to follow all State and Federal CDC Guidance related to COVID-19 and that due to the evolving nature of public health guidelines, SLK Ballet's recommendations and requirements are subject to change. Updates to policies will be communicated via email.

I agree to the following:

- My child will not come to class if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive, or are a presumed positive case.
- If my child has any COVID-19 symptoms, I will follow State and Federal Guidelines as to whether and when they can return to SLK classes. Guidelines may include presenting a negative COVID-19 test, a doctor's note, and/or a self-quarantine.
- My child may be subject to additional requirements (such as COVID-19 testing, showing proof of vaccination) in order to perform in SLK Ballet events or performances.

By signing below, I attest that I and my child have read and understand all the policies, rules, and regulations laid out in the 2022-2023 Handbook.

Student Name (printed)

Signature (Parent/Guardian if student is under 18)

Date