

Academy^{OF} Queensland Ballet

Prospectus



The official school of Queensland Ballet

PROUD PARTNER OF


P R I X
D E
L A U S A N N E

Alumni Success

Our graduates enjoy successful professional careers beyond their time at the Academy.

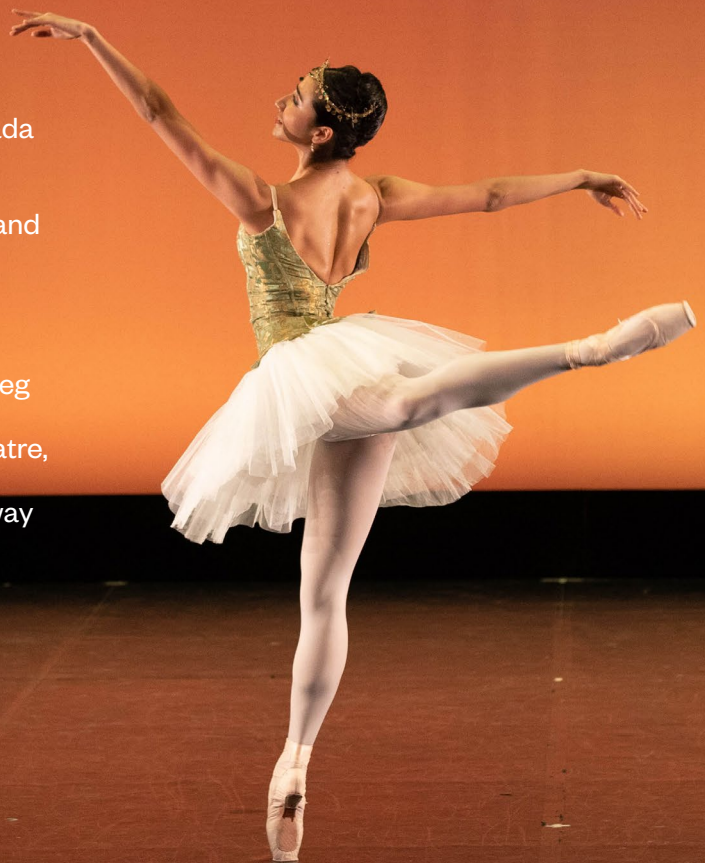
In addition to a large proportion of our graduates securing professional contracts with Queensland Ballet, our graduates have worked with the following companies:

Australian Companies

- Australasian Dance Collective, Australia
- Australian Ballet, Australia
- Bangarra Dance Theatre, Australia
- Queensland Ballet, Australia
- West Australian Ballet, Australia

International Companies

- Aalto Ballett Essen, Germany
- Alberta Ballet, Canada
- Ballet am Rhein Düsseldorf Duisburg, Germany
- Ballet Avignon, France
- Ballet Cymru, UK
- Ballett Dortmund, Germany
- Ballet Ireland, Republic of Ireland
- Ballet Koblenz, Germany
- Ballet Landestheater Eisenach, Germany
- Ballet Theater Basel, Switzerland
- Ballet Vlaanderen, Belgium
- Ballett Zürich, Switzerland
- Dutch National Ballet, Netherlands
- English National Ballet, UK
- Hong Kong Ballet, Hong Kong
- Leipzig Ballet, Germany
- Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Canada
- Munich Ballet, Germany
- Paris Opera Ballet, France
- Royal New Zealand Ballet, New Zealand
- Scottish Ballet, UK
- Staatsballett Berlin, Germany
- Staatsballett Hannover, Germany
- Sydney Dance Company, Australia
- Teatrul Național de Operă și Balet Oleg Danovski, Romania
- The National Moravian-Silesian Theatre, Czech Republic
- The Norwegian National Ballet, Norway
- Vanemuine Theatre Ballet, Estonia



Welcome

For generations Queensland has been a place where young dancers dare to dream.

The Academy of Queensland Ballet stands proudly at the centre of this tradition. Founded in 1960 by Charles Lisner, the Academy has long been a beacon of excellence in ballet training, nurturing talent in this state for decades.

Today, the Academy continues that legacy from within our shared home at the award-winning Thomas Dixon Centre. Alongside the Company, our students are immersed daily in a professional ballet environment, learning not only technique, but the discipline, artistry and resilience required for a career in dance.

We are committed to developing versatile, well-rounded dancers – young artists who are technically accomplished, musically aware, physically and mentally prepared to pursue opportunities with Queensland Ballet or on stages around the world. Our world-class facilities, holistic approach to dancer wellbeing, and status as an official Partner School of the prestigious Prix de Lausanne reflect the calibre of training offered here.

Our training is aligned with international industry best practice and delivered by an exceptional faculty, with deep professional experience, overseen by the AD.

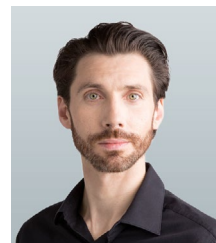
Our teaching faculty have backgrounds as professional dancers, choreographers, and coaches in companies across the globe. They are amongst the best in the industry, with extensive experience across all aspects of dance training.

Above all, the Academy is a place of possibility, where passion is met with care, ambition with guidance, and young dancers are supported to realise their fullest potential.

We look forward to welcoming you into the Academy, where young dancers are inspired, challenged and supported to pursue their dreams with confidence.



Ivan Gil-Ortega
*Artistic Director,
Queensland Ballet*



Christian Tatchev
*Director,
Academy of Queensland Ballet*



Who We Are

The Academy of Queensland Ballet offers a comprehensive, world-class training pathway - uniting artistic excellence, student wellbeing, and a clear progression to professional practice.

Students train within a professional environment shaped by a single artistic vision, where learning is immersive, purposeful, and aligned with the expectations of the industry.

The Academy develops not only exceptional dancers, but confident, resilient individuals equipped for long and sustainable careers.

Queensland Ballet is one of only three full-time professional ballet companies in Australia, and the only one in Queensland. All training is delivered within a centralised environment, bringing students into close connection with the Company and its artistic leadership.

Students experience a seamless journey - one that reflects the realities of a professional dance career from the earliest stages of training, through to professional practice.

This unified model provides:

- Consistency in training and artistic direction
- A clearly defined progression from early training to professional readiness
- Daily immersion to professional practice and standards
- A strong sense of identity and belonging
- Training delivered by industry leaders with significant stage and teaching experience

**One Vision.
One Home.
One Unified Pathway.**

Training Philosophy

The Academy's training approach is grounded in international best practice and designed to support long-term development. A Partner School of the prestigious Prix de Lausanne, the Academy is an established and respected member of the international dance community, offering training that aligns with international best practice.

Age-Appropriate Progression

Training is carefully structured to reflect each stage of physical and artistic development. Students build strong technical foundations before progressing to more intensive training.

Safe Dancer Load

Programs are designed to balance intensity, recovery, and performance outcomes designed to support physical health and reduce the risk of injury. Students in the upper levels are supervised and guided by our experienced, globally recognised performance health team.

Whole-Dancer Wellbeing

Students are supported physically, mentally, and emotionally through integrated wellbeing services, fostering resilience, confidence, and self-awareness. This approach ensures that dancers are prepared not only for their first professional opportunity, but for a sustainable career.





Our Home

Training takes place in the award-winning home of Queensland Ballet, the Thomas Dixon Centre, in the vibrant city-fringe suburb of West End, Brisbane.

Facilities include:

- Multiple professional dance studios
- Dedicated gym, strength and conditioning spaces
- Onsite Pilates, physiotherapy and performance health services
- Student breakout and recovery spaces, including change rooms and a kitchenette
- Onsite café
- Home of the Talbot Theatre

This environment enables students to train, study, and recover within a single, integrated setting.

This connection provides:

- Access to and visibility of the Company's Artistic Team and global industry guests from the moment enrolment commences
- Inspiration and mentorship from professional dancers
- A deeper understanding of Company life
- A clear and tangible pathway to employment

The Academy experience reflects the expectations of the profession, preparing students for the transition into company life.

Connection to Company

Students train within close proximity to the professional Company, gaining insight into the standards, discipline, and artistry required in the industry.



Location and Transport Links

Located in the desirable city fringe suburb of West End, the Thomas Dixon Centre is a landmark destination with excellent transport links to the City and Cultural Precinct, and adjacent to local amenities within the Montague Market precinct.

Bus

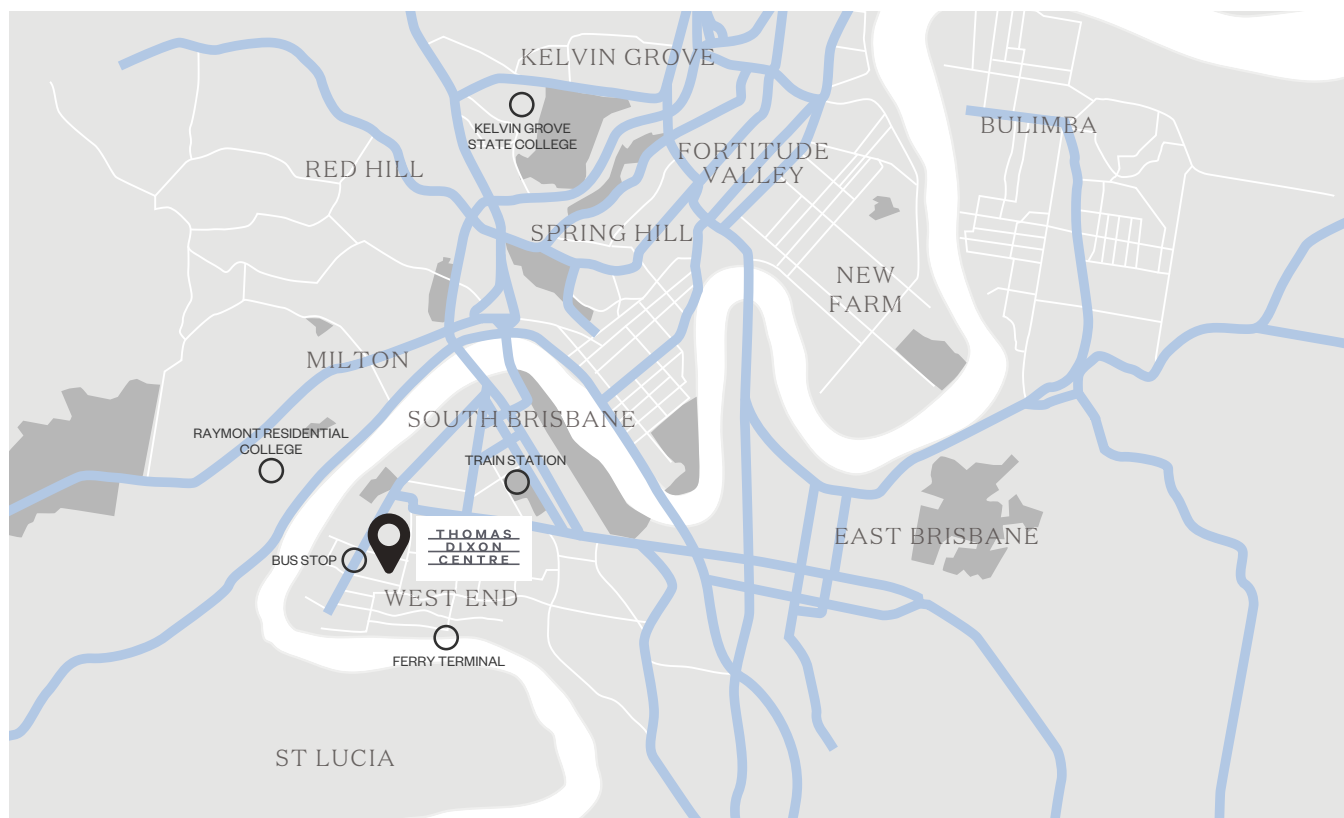
The Bus CityGlider route travels from West End to South Brisbane, via Montague Road, stopping right outside the Thomas Dixon Centre (Raven St stop). This route operates every five minutes during peak times, and 10-15 minutes off-peak, 18 hours/day from Sunday to Thursday, and 24 hours a day on Friday and Saturday.

Ferry

The CityCat stops at the West End Ferry Terminal, located at the end of Hoogley Street – less than 10 minutes' walk to the Thomas Dixon Centre.

Rail

The South Brisbane Train Station is the closest station, located adjacent to the Cultural Centre, which is serviced by the bus route listed above.



Training Programs

The Academy offers a structured pathway across four stages, supporting dancers from their first engagement through to professional employment.

Training

Associate Program
Levels 9 - 4
Prep - Years 8/9

Academy Program
Levels 3 - 1
Years 9/10 - 12

Clark Graduate
Program
Post-secondary

ACADEMY OF QUEENSLAND BALLET

Associate Program +
Levels 7 - 1
Years 5/6 - 12

Employment

Jette Parker
Young Artist Program
Queensland Ballet apprenticeship

Salaried professional employment
12-month Company contract

Queensland Ballet
Professional Dancer

QUEENSLAND BALLET

Other Australian and
international dance
companies
Professional Dancer

Career development and
other pathways

The ability to train and study full-time with Academy of Queensland Ballet means our alumni have the opportunity to pursue other academic careers. We have seen our alumni successfully follow alternative industry-based roles.

FURTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

“Everyone is so kind and the training is amazing. I can tell that the schedules have been organised with the students’ physical health and wellbeing in mind.”

CURRENT ACADEMY STUDENT

Training Programs

Associate Program Levels 9 - 7

A nurturing introduction to ballet, focused on developing coordination, musicality and a love of movement. Students will be placed in the appropriate level for their skills, not their academic year level.

- Age-appropriate technical foundations
- After-school program structure
- Emphasis on creativity and enjoyment
- Preparation for further training pathways

Associate Program Levels 6 - 4

Designed to supplement the training young dancers receive through engagement with community dance institutions. Students can maintain connection to their local dance studio, and continue with syllabus-aligned training and participation in external dance events.

- Progressive technical development aligned with professional best practice
- After-school program structure
- Structured training aligned with safe dancer load principles
- First consideration when child performers are required in productions by Queensland Ballet.
- Students develop discipline and technical clarity within a supportive, professionally aligned environment.

Academy Program Levels 3 - 1

An advanced stage preparing students for the demands of professional training and performance. In these upper levels, students refine their technique and artistry while building independence and professional readiness.

- Intensive classical and contemporary dance training
- Performance and repertoire opportunities
- Students split their day with roughly half a day dance training, 6 days per week
- Flexible academic arrangements to align with individual needs
- Ongoing wellbeing and health support
- Unparalleled connection with the professional industry, Queensland Ballet's Artistic Team, visiting artists, choreographers and staggers
- First consideration when student performers are required in productions by Queensland Ballet

Associate Program + Levels 7 - 1

This training opportunity is aimed to engage with students living outside Brisbane metropolitan area, who cannot commit to year-round Academy training and instead attend short-term, intensive training.

- Week-long intensives per school term
- Exposure to Academy faculty and methodology
- The opportunity to observe Company Classes and rehearsals

Students within Brisbane, who are enrolled in the Associate Programs Levels 6 - 4 can also register for these intensives.

Clark Graduate Program (Post-Secondary)

A full-time program bridging the gap between training and employment.

- Advanced technique and repertoire development
- Immersion in a professional company environment, including weekly training, and performances with Queensland Ballet
- Career preparation and audition readiness
- Direct alignment with industry expectations

Graduates are equipped with the technical, artistic, and industry knowledge required for a professional career.

Education Options

For students undertaking the Academy Programs in Level 3 - 1, we are pleased to accommodate flexible education pathways.

The Academy maintains a long-standing partnership with Kelvin Grove State College, providing students with a guaranteed pathway to enrol should they wish to undertake their academic studies there.

For those who prefer alternative academic pathways, students are equally supported in exploring other options, whether that involves attending a different secondary school or pursuing distance learning arrangements. Information regarding home education can be found on the Queensland Government website at qld.gov.au search 'home education'.

For links to specific distance education providers, go to **education.qld.gov.au**

International Students

We welcome students from across the world into our training programs. In recent years, we have proudly trained students from Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, and the United Kingdom. Enrolment with Kelvin Grove State College satisfies VISA requirements.

Student Support

The Academy has a dedicated Education Support and Student Wellbeing Manager to tailor support to individual student's needs.

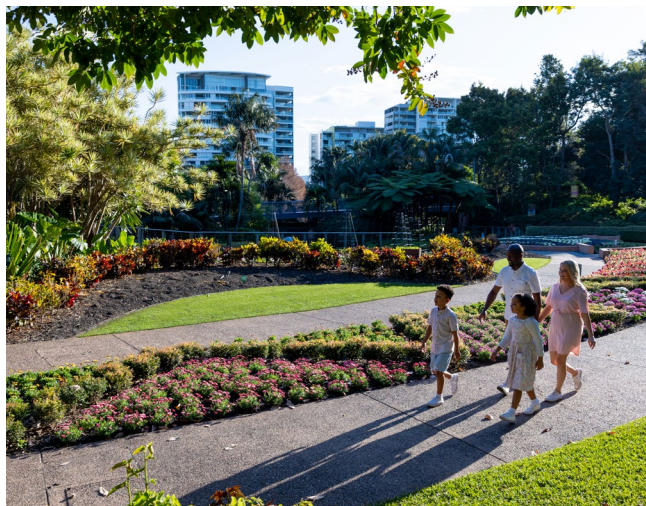
"I love that the teachers care deeply about our progression and push us to be the best we can. I also love how we are able to continue to attend school, and that the College caters for our training hours."

CURRENT STUDENT



Living and Training in Brisbane

Voted the best city in the world to raise a family (Compare the Market Global Family-Friendly Cities Index 2026), Brisbane offers an ideal environment for young dancers to live, study, and train. Not to mention, being the host city for the 2032 Olympic Games.



A Connected and Vibrant City

- Subtropical climate supporting year-round activity
- Accessible, safe, and welcoming community
- Strong arts and cultural sector
- Excellent transport and infrastructure



Support for Relocating Students

Students from regional and interstate areas are supported through:

- Homestay opportunities
- Pastoral care and wellbeing support
- A connected and inclusive student community



Balance Beyond the Studio

Brisbane provides opportunities for rest, recreation, and personal growth, all supporting a balanced and sustainable training experience.



A Place to Belong

The Academy is more than a training institution. It is a community defined by shared purpose, artistic ambition, and mutual respect. Students are challenged, supported, and inspired to develop the skills, mindset, and resilience required to succeed in the professional dance world.



Raymont Residential College

Raymont is a close-knit student accommodation community located within easy reach of Brisbane's major tertiary education providers and within walking distance of public transport. Home to up to 130 students, the College provides a structured yet friendly environment that supports young people as they transition to independent living while pursuing high-performance training.

Residents benefit from a strong focus on academic and personal support, along with opportunities for professional and career development. A vibrant social program encourages connection, balance and wellbeing, helping students build lifelong friendships and feel at home in a new city.



Raymont's community-focused approach makes it an excellent choice for Academy dancers seeking a safe, supportive and enriching living environment while training in Brisbane.

Find out more: <https://raymont.com.au>

“Sending our daughter away from home for the first time was a big step, but Raymont made the transition seamless. The staff are incredibly supportive and flexible, ensuring students get to training, rehearsals and school without stress. The academic support has been outstanding, helping her balance a demanding dance schedule with her studies. With excellent facilities, comfortable private rooms and healthy, varied meals, Raymont provides a safe, nurturing environment where students truly thrive. We couldn't recommend it more highly.”

PARENTS OF A CURRENT ACADEMY STUDENT LIVING AT RAYMONT RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

Fees, Scholarships and Support

Fees

Tuition fees apply to all Academy training programs and are reviewed annually. Fees vary depending on the program and level of study. The Academy has partnered with Edstart, who manage all fee payments and offer families flexible payment options.

Scholarships and bursaries are available to Academy Program Levels 3 - 1 students only. Families enrolling in these programs should also consider additional costs associated with training and education. These may include:

- Academic schooling-related expenses
- Health and wellbeing support
- Dancewear and uniforms
- Excursions and performance costs
- Living and accommodation expenses
- Other incidental costs

These expenses are separate from tuition fees and are the responsibility of each student's family. Fees also apply to short-term opportunities such as workshops, masterclasses and holiday programs.

Scholarships and Bursaries

The Academy is committed to supporting talented students, regardless of financial circumstances.

A range of named scholarships, bursaries and awards are offered each year through the support of donors and partners. These may recognise:

- Talent and artistic potential
- Financial need
- Academic and personal achievement
- Regional or diverse backgrounds

Support may cover partial or full tuition. Applications for Scholarships and Bursaries open in November for the following year, and full details are provided as part of the enrolment process.

Student Support

The Academy provides a supportive environment to help students succeed both artistically and academically.

Support includes:

- Access to wellbeing and support staff
- Integration of academic studies with professional training
- Opportunities for performance and practical experience
- Assistance for students relocating through homestay programs

The Academy is committed to enabling students from diverse backgrounds, including regional, interstate and international students, to access world-class training.

Commitment to Access and Equity

Through scholarships, bursaries and tailored support, the Academy works to remove barriers to participation. Financial assistance considers factors such as:

- Financial hardship
- Geographic location
- Cultural background
- Family circumstances

This ensures a fair and inclusive pathway for aspiring dancers to pursue professional training.

Learn More

For full fee schedules and application details, visit the Academy website or contact the Academy team.



Auditions

The Academy of Queensland Ballet welcomes applications from passionate and dedicated dancers ready to take the next step in their training. To ensure you have the most up-to-date information, including audition dates, venues and requirements, please visit the Academy website.

Audition Overview

Entry into all Academy programs is by audition or invitation.

Auditions are designed to assess each student's potential, technique and artistry in a supportive environment.

- Most auditions take the form of an open ballet class
- Some levels may also include a contemporary class
- Selected applicants may be invited to a call-back or interview
- No prepared solo or material is required

Audition Formats

Auditions may be conducted in different ways depending on the program:

- In-person auditions are held in Brisbane
- Video auditions are available for:
 - International applicants
 - Specific programs such as the Associate Program +
- Some programs include a group-based class or activity session for younger students

Application Requirements

As part of the audition process, applicants are typically required to:

- Complete an online application form
- Submit a recent headshot and full-length photo
- Attend an audition class or submit a video audition (if eligible)

Detailed requirements (including attire, video guidelines and eligibility) are available online and may vary by program.

Key Dates

- Annual auditions are generally held between August and November
- Applications open mid-year
- Registration deadlines and specific dates vary by program and location

Stay Up to Date

Audition details, requirements and dates are updated regularly.

For the latest information and to apply, visit: academy.queenslandballet.com.au/auditions



Alumni Reflections

Graduates of the Academy have progressed to careers with Queensland Ballet, and beyond including leading companies in Australia and internationally.

These outcomes reflect the Academy's commitment to developing adaptable, career-ready dancers.



“I learned so much during my time training in the Academy, and it truly shaped the dancer I am today. The constant support, combined with the incredible performance opportunities at such a young age, played such a big role in my development. It not only helped me grow artistically and professionally, but also gave me my first real connection to the company I’m now so proud to call home.”

CHIARA GONZALEZ
QUEENSLAND BALLET SENIOR SOLOIST
AUSTRALIA

50%

OF THE DANCERS OF
QUEENSLAND BALLET ARE
ALUMNI OF QUEENSLAND
BALLET'S TRAINING PROGRAMS

“I was there every single day for three years. I got to practice with such consistency under amazing teachers... They taught me everything I know... There’s been a lot of different things that I’ve been able to do because of the Academy.”

JENSON BLIGHT
PRIX DE LAUSANNE AWARD 2024
CURRENTLY WITH DUTCH NATIONAL BALLET
NETHERLANDS



Prospectus version April 2026.