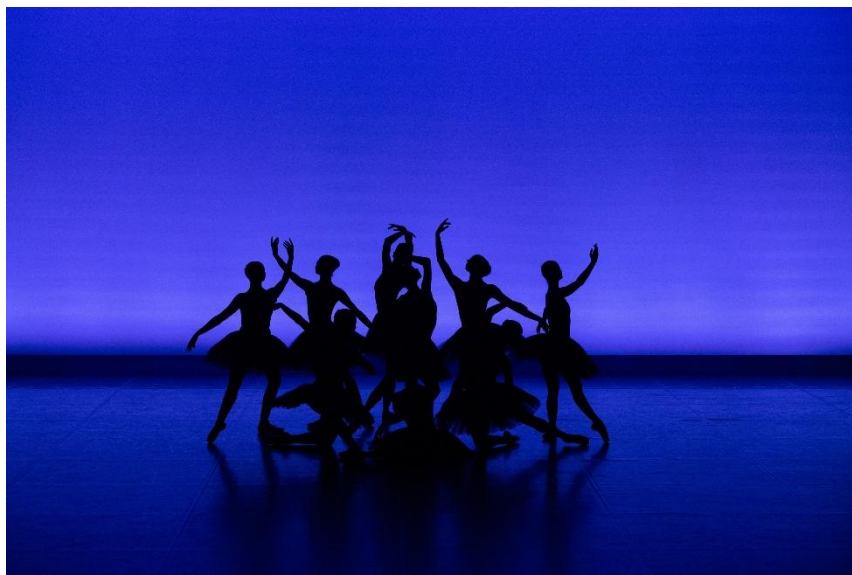


Gala

Academy of Queensland Ballet

“You cannot hold their hands forever. But if you have taught them well, they will know how to fly” –
Maurice Béjart



Brisbane, 16 October, 2025; Marking the culmination of years of dedicated training, the Academy of Queensland Ballet's Gala is an annual highlight featuring two special performances that celebrate the talent, passion and perseverance of our emerging artists. A vibrant mix of classical, neo-classical and contemporary works, the Gala also includes the Academy Défilé, bringing the entire Academy together onto the Talbot Theatre stage from the 6 – 8 August, 2026.

Featuring students from the Academy's Upper School, Lower School and Pre-Professional Program, the Gala is a defining milestone for the students and their families, as the young dancers represent the next generation of talent aspiring to careers in professional dance companies. Academy graduates typically progress to enjoy successful professional careers, securing contracts with leading companies in Australia and abroad, including the Paris Opera Ballet, English National Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, and Sydney Dance Company. Currently more than 50% of Queensland Ballet's ensemble trained with the Academy prior to securing a contract with the Company.

Director, Academy of Queensland Ballet, Christian Tatchev, said the evening is a celebration of movement, mastery of technique and memory.

“At the Gala, the dancers will showcase not only their classical and contemporary technique, but also their disciplined artistry - their ability to convey emotion, character, and story through movement. These skills are of great importance as they reflect the repertoire of all the major dance companies across the globe,” Tatchev said.

“The Academy provides a comprehensive, multidisciplinary dance education that honours classical traditions while preparing students for the opportunities of the 21st century. Through our partnership with Kelvin Grove State College, students receive a well-rounded academic education alongside their dance training, often graduating with strong ATAR results that support future tertiary study.”

“At the Gala, we invite everyone to admire the graduating students – young artists who are just beginning to spread their wings,” Tatchev added

Offering a detailed and thorough education across dance and the Queensland school curriculum, the Academy stands as a pillar of Brisbane's higher education for the arts. Initially founded in 1953 as the Lisner Ballet Academy, by French born Charles Lisner, the Academy of Queensland Ballet became a fully integrated educational facility in 1982 under the Queensland Dance School of Excellence, in partnership with Queensland Ballet and the Queensland Government's Department of Education and Training. In 2026, the Academy celebrates its 43rd anniversary, and is committed to nurturing the next generation of dance artists,

ENDS

Event Details

Gala

Dates: 6 – 8 August, 2026

Time: 1hr, 30mins

Venue: Talbot Theatre, Thomas Dixon Centre

End of Year Demonstration

Dates: 11 – 12 December

Venue: Talbot Theatre, Thomas Dixon Centre

Editors' Note:

Interviews and photos: Claire Vince, PR and Communications Manager

cvince@queenslandballet.com.au / 0468 726 910.

Image [here](#)

[About Queensland Ballet](#) Queensland Ballet's mission is to contribute to Australia's cultural landscape by being an integral part of the national and international ballet ecology - striving for artistic excellence, pathways for emerging artists, and impact through our community outreach, education, and Dance Health programs. We aim to enrich lives and contribute to wellness across society through the magic of ballet.

[About Queensland Ballet Academy](#)

Queensland Ballet provides industry-informed ballet and dance training pathways through our world-class Academy, developing dancers towards professional careers in Australia and overseas. Together, we are nurturing the dancers of the future. Under the direction of Academy Director, Christian Tatchev, Queensland Ballet Academy provides comprehensive professional ballet and dance training programs and events for students from age 6 through to career employment.