



The Ann Roberts School of Dance

PROSPECTUS

Last updated 14th February, 2020

Welcome to the Ann Roberts School of Dance

Participation in classes at our school opens the doors to the world of dance, providing each student with strong technical and performance skills as well as enhancing their personal development – not forgetting the pleasure and enjoyment of friendships experienced by all during the course of the year.

The dance year at the studio consists of four terms. The school prepares students for exams, the Eisteddfod, community performances, open days and the Annual Recital at the end of the year. The main studio operates from Pirani Hall in Fletcher Street, with suburban studios operating in:

- Railway Estate
- Gulliver and
- Heatley.

Our studio observes the principles of the Ausdance Code of Practice.

History of the School

The school, founded in 1957 by Miss Ann Roberts AO, is now in the hands of daughter, Jane and her husband André Reynaud. The school evolves to reflect the changing world by offering the highest quality training in the most caring and fun filled environment for both the lover of dance and the aspiring professional.

The school is proud to say that many of its past students have pursued a career in the world of dance. Former students who have gone on to develop professional dance careers include:

- Natalie Weir - Expressions Artistic Director and choreographer
- Kurt Phelan - Professional dancer, choreographer and actor
- Tim Coleman - Singapore Ballet
- Emmanuel Reynaud - Footnote Dance Company

In addition, many of the teachers at The Ann Roberts School of Dance are former students who are now employed professionally.

Aims and Objectives

The school aims to develop a solid technical basis in dance using internationally recognised syllabi. This also provides a firm foundation on which those with the ability and desire can build a career in dance.

It offers opportunities for students to extend their artistic qualities. Participation in public performances in the community is promoted, and a high standard is always produced for the Annual Recital. Involvement in competition is catered for through the Townsville Eisteddfod.

The teachers cultivate in each student a sense of self discipline and self confidence. Students are encouraged to succeed at a level consistent with their ability and to extend themselves by hard work and dedication.

Enrolments

Enrolments are always welcome. Please check the website www.annroberts.com.au for the enrolment form. Please call the office to discuss any questions you may have including the current timetable and class availability. Spaces are offered to current students first and every effort will be made to accommodate new students. However, classes do fill, so please enrol early.

The Dance Curriculum

Classes offered at The Ann Roberts School of Dance include:

- Bops & Bubs
- Teeny Tots
- Tiny Tots
- Ballet
- Jazz
- Contemporary
- Tap
- Hip Hop
- Highland
- Song and Dance
- Stretch and Strengthening

All ages are catered for from babies through to adults. Examination syllabi are taught in classical ballet and character with the Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D.), tap and jazz through the Australasian Dance Association (A.D.A), and highland through the National Dancing Association (NDA).

Bops & Bubs

Babies and toddlers from 4 months to 2 years, along with Mum, Dad or a family member, are engaged in sensory play with instruments, puppets and sing-a-long tunes discovering the joy of music and storytelling for 30 fun minutes. Music appreciation is at the core of dance and these delightful classes help strengthen and stimulate the pathways in the children's brains, developing a stronger bond between the body and mind. We want to help build fine and gross motor skills and more importantly put a smile on their faces.

Teeny Tots

Toddlers from 2 to 3 years along with Mum, Dad or a family member to explore music and movement whilst connecting with one another for an uninterrupted 30 minutes. Themes and props introduce the children to storytelling with their bodies and develop strength and coordination. This class follows the same principals of early childhood education used in our Bops and Bubs classes to help build motor skills and creativity.

Tiny Tots

Children aged 3 and 4 years work independently with their teachers in this class encouraging musicality, co-ordination and locomotion skills, listening and recall. It gently introduces technique through imaginative sequences and offers the children an array of dance and music styles. The class is structured to keep their attention, explore their own movement patterns and have fun as they learn how to be part of a class. The Tiny Tots have their own special concert each year in early November.

Ballet

Grace, strength, agility and the suspense of disbelief are synonymous with ballet. From a very young age children learn the secrets behind this unique technique and over the years they master a discipline that offers artistry, self-esteem and the ability to work in a team. The school teaches the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) syllabus, the most renowned global system.

Jazz

The body explores the potential to move every which way it can to popular music and funky beats. Jazz works flexibility and strength, dynamics and communication skills and allows the children to have incredible fun as they keep fit. The school teaches the Australasian Dance Association (ADA) syllabus in Jazz and Tap.

Contemporary

Contemporary truly prepares the body to move in any way possible. It trains the body to express imagery and thought and to be open about the way one moves. Children must be turning 8 years of age to start and are encouraged to combine Contemporary with another style to assist with movement development and technique. The Contemporary taught at Ann Roberts is based upon Cunningham and the Horton technique.

Tap

Let your feet become a percussion instrument and delight in the rhythmic coordination and tricky foot work that is a feature of tap. This technique is suitable for all ages and is very popular with our adult classes. Style and pizzazz will spring from every beat.

Hip Hop

An introduction to dance through the very popular hip hop style. Get down and let your dance moves out. There are boys-only classes on offer as well as girls classes at Junior and Senior level.

Highland

Highland dancing is a strong yet graceful national dance form that is performed to traditional and modern Scottish music. The school teaches the NDA syllabus for Scottish, Lesser Known and Jig/Hornpipe examinations. Children are able to register to compete in recognised SOBHD competitions, which develop through a levels system, commencing with Primary level for 5-year-olds.

Song and Dance

Developing the performers of tomorrow, Song and Dance classes help students establish an effective singing technique whilst also working in different styles of choreography. They are encouraged to develop their interpretive skills to create performance-worthy creations. Teachers ensure the class is fun and stimulating by offering students a variety of musical and choreographic styles ranging from Pop to musical theatre to old-school Rock.

Stretch and Strengthening

Students enrolled in any style may also participate in stretch and strengthening, a class completely dedicated to lengthening, stretching, strengthening and improving technique, using Pilates, Yoga and specifically designed exercises.

Adult Classes

Recreational classes for adults are available in Tap, Ballet, Fitness, Contemporary and Musical Theatre. Keep those feet moving, brains ticking and limbs graceful as you keep yourself active. The classes provide technical expertise in each discipline for dance and exercise lovers who also want to have fun.

Staff

Our staff has a broad range of teaching experience in a wide variety of dance forms, and a genuine interest and concern for all students. Knowledge and experience is passed onto our students, whilst promoting a spirit of cooperation and friendliness both in the classroom and outside the studio.

Our teachers stay abreast of the developments in Dance by regularly attending seminars and performances. Our school currently has a teaching staff of eighteen and four assistants. As well, we have two office co-ordinators and a manager. The school employs specialist guest teachers regularly.

Videography / Photography

Video and photography are only allowed on open days and display days, for examinations and eisteddfod/recital costume showing. It is against privacy and copyright laws to video or photograph children, other than your own, without the consent of the parent/guardian of the children involved. Please ask other parents before you take the photo or video.

The Ann Roberts School of Dance uses photography and videography for promotional purposes on posters, website and social media. If you do not consent to your child's image being used, please speak to office staff. We will respect your privacy.

Fee Policy

Fees paid in the first two weeks of term attract 5% discount. Term fees must be paid by week 4 of the relevant term. Any fees not paid by the end of term will have a late fee of \$70 applies. Families with two children receive a 3% discount, and families with 3 or more children receive a 4.5% discount.

Students who learn more than 3 styles of dance (eg. Ballet, Jazz & Tap) will receive a 50% discount on their fourth (e.g. Contemporary). The school has EFTPOS and direct debit facilities. The office is open from 9.00am every weekday morning until 6.00pm and on Saturday from 9am to 2pm.

Our complete Fee Policy is listed below and is available from our office.

Examinations

Participation in examinations is not compulsory but the involvement is encouraged as an incentive and a goal. Parents who wish their children to take examinations, must bring their child to the required lessons each week. Regular attendance is essential, particularly in the weeks preceding the exams, even if school holidays coincide with the preparation period. Examinations are an extra cost.

Dress

Children must attend classes neatly dressed in suitable attire – leotards, socks/tights and correctly fitted shoes for Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Highland and Song and Dance.

For examinations, dress standards are set by the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD), the Australian Dance Association Ltd (ADA) and the National Dancing Association (NDA). The regulation leotard for your child's class is the same as is required for the exam. A list of requirements is available on the Timetable page of our website. First Class Dancewear, Anne Street, Aitkenvale has all of your dance wear needs. Costumes for the eisteddfod, highland competitions and recital are ordered from suppliers and are in addition to usual fees.

Hair is to be neatly done, close to the head. Long hair is to be pulled back and up off the neck and face. No jewellery is to be worn in class.

Annual Recital / Concert

Participation in the annual recital, which is held at the Civic Theatre in early December, is highly recommended but not compulsory. The students benefit greatly as well as thoroughly enjoying themselves on-stage. The school has a reputation of creating huge productions of the utmost excellence, producing performances such as Peter Pan, Mary Poppins, Alice in Wonderland, Snow White, The Nutcracker, Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty.

Eisteddfod

Our school enters group items in the Eisteddfod. Participation in groups teaches students to work as a team and builds community spirit. Not all classes participate in groups work for the Eisteddfod. Participation in solos and duets is not compulsory.

Please seek the advice of your child's teacher before entering solos and duos, to ascertain your child's suitability.

Solo items require extra lessons, therefore extra costs for tuition, costumes and music. Any child wishing to enter solo items must attend the respective class of the particular type of dance he/she wishes to perform. The Eisteddfod can be very beneficial for students, however it is important to familiarise yourself with our Eisteddfod policy before entering. This is available at the office.

Tiny Tots Concert

Our Tiny Tots concert is now an annual highlight giving our youngest dancers the opportunity to experience performing in front of an appreciative audience. The Concert is usually held in November. No costumes or extra lessons are required – just smiles!

Ulysses Dancers

Ulysses Dancers is a not-for-profit contemporary dance company, affiliated with The Ann Roberts School of Dance. Each year in June Ulysses Dancers perform in a fully developed theatre production showcasing the extraordinary talent of the senior dancers in the school. In recent years Ulysses has expanded to include some of our equally talented younger students who thrive on the challenge of working with guest choreographers, and blossom under the mentorship of the more experienced dancers.

Auditions are held in February each year for students aged 12 and over.

Other Regulations

- No smoking is allowed on the premises. This applies to the undercover area between the two studios, the waiting room and anywhere near children waiting outside.
- A high standard of behaviour and cooperation is expected from students and parents at all times.
- Chewing gum is not permitted on the premises.
- Food is not allowed in the studios.
- Water bottles are permitted and encouraged in the studios. Water coolers are provided.
- Children are only to leave the studio with parents/carers, or an organised car pool. If a child is waiting for a parent they must wait inside the waiting room or the studio, or outside the office.
- Play on the hillside or in the open drain is strictly prohibited.
- Belongings and valuables are not to be left unattended. Racks are provided to store those items during class.

Dress Policy

Children must attend classes neatly dressed in suitable attire – leotards, socks/tights and correctly fitted shoes for Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Highland and Song and Dance. Hair is to be neatly done with long hair pulled back and up off the neck and face. No jewellery is to be worn in class.

For examinations, dress standards for Ballet are set by the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD), for Jazz and Tap by the Australian Dance Association Ltd (ADA) and for Highland by the National Dancing Association (NDA). The regulation leotard for your child's class is the same as is required for the exam. In most classes it is permissible for students to wear alternate dance clothing but this must still meet the basic requirements of the relevant class – eg. Jazz – leotard with $\frac{3}{4}$ dance tights and Jazz shoes.

Uniform dance-wear requirements are listed on the Timetable page of our website. First Class Dancewear, Anne Street, Aitkenvale stocks all of our uniform requirements and can provide all of your dance-wear needs.

Costumes for the eisteddfod, highland competitions and recital are in addition to uniform dance-wear.

Complaints, Concerns and feedback

Our school is not just a dance school or a business – we are a family. As such, if a parent or student has a problem or concern we need to know about it. It can be difficult to speak with teachers before or after classes, as they are often teaching consecutive lessons and do not have the time available to have a proper conversation. We encourage our students and families to contact our friendly office staff if they have any concerns, complaints or questions. Of course, we also welcome compliments! In all cases issues will be dealt with empathically and expediently.

Contact Details

The Ann Roberts School of Dance

8-10 Fletcher Street West End Townsville Qld 4810

Tel 07 4771 3385

Email: annrobertsschool@hotmail.com

ANN ROBERTS SCHOOL OF DANCE **FEE POLICY 2020**

Payment Terms

Fee accounts are raised in advance each term and are payable by the due date specified on the invoice.

One account per family will be issued, unless previously organised with management. There are four (4) terms per year. Fees can be paid at our office, or via direct deposit. EFTPOS is available. A surcharge of 1% is payable on all credit card transactions. Fees must be paid by week 4 of each term.

Payment plans may be negotiated at the discretion of management.

DIRECT DEPOSIT DETAILS: BSB – 014730
 Account No – 498 128 983
 Account Name – Ann Roberts School of Dance

All fee prices include GST and Copyright fees.

Discounts

An Early Bird discount of 5% applies to fees paid within the first 2 weeks of each term. The discount period is specified on invoices.

A Family discount will apply to families with 2 or more children attending term classes at the following rates:

2 students = 3%; 3 or more students=4.5%. This does not apply to Bops & Bubs, Tiny Tots or Teeny Tinies.

Multi-Discipline discount: Students doing more than three (3) disciplines (eg- Ballet, Jazz, Tap) will receive a 50% discount on their fourth (4th) discipline (eg Contemporary).

Fees Terms and Conditions

One (1) Account per family. NO REFUND will apply for classes missed when paying fees by the term.

Student Withdrawal

Parents must provide written/email advance notice of a student withdrawing from classes. If notice is not provided, parents are liable to pay for any subsequent term fees. NO REFUND will apply on term fees already paid except in extreme circumstances and at the discretion of management.

Additional Costs – Over and Above Fees

Additional costs may be incurred throughout the year. These may include:

- Shoes and uniform requirements for class (purchased from First Class Dancewear or other)
- Examination fees for each discipline;
- Vacations schools and workshops;
- Eisteddfod tuition for solos, duos and trios; (No additional tuition costs for class groups)
- Costumes for Eisteddfod and annual recital.

Advance notice will be given for any additional costs.

Penalty Fees

A Late Fee of \$70 will apply to all accounts not paid by the end of each term. Further charges may be applied for fees remaining outstanding for more than two terms.

A charge of \$20 will apply to any dishonoured cheques.

Any charges levied upon the school due to the dishonour of a payment by direct debit or credit card will be recovered by invoicing the defaulting payer.

Debt Collection

In the event that a fee account remains unpaid without due cause or notice, the school may instigate collection procedures. This may include placing the debt with a debt collection agency. Any costs incurred in this action may be charged to the relevant fee account and form part of the debt to be recovered.