

Dear Ballet Parents,

Your child is invited to participate in the 2016 **American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum Examinations** at the **Harlem School of the Arts** on **Sunday April 30, 2017**. Students will be expected to demonstrate the ballet technique that they have developed before a panel of ABT examiners. Please note that Level 1-4 is divided into two categories; **Curriculum A** (first year students) and **Curriculum B** (second year students). For example, if your child is a first year student in Ballet Level 1, s(he) would fit into Curriculum A of the program, Level 1A. Second year students would be Level 1B in the same class. **Parents are not allowed to view the examinations.**

Please note that the ABT exams are strictly for students who attend the full curriculum of the classes for which they are registered. For example, ABT Exams are for:

- PRIMARY A, B and C students who **attend class once per week;**
- LEVEL 1 students who attend class **twice per week;**
- LEVEL 2 and 3 students who attend **class three times per week.**

Participation is at the discretion of the ballet teacher and HSA Dance Director. Further, students with habitual tardiness and absenteeism may be prohibited from participating in the ABT exams.

It is crucial that **ALL** participants adhere to the proper **HSA Dance** dress code for the ABT Exams. Students who do not meet the grooming requirements and dress code on the day of exam will not be allowed to participate.

Grooming requirements:

- Hair must be pulled into a **bun** or **French twist**. Students with natural and/or shorter hair must have it **neatly styled and secured with a headband that matches the student's hair color**. Beads and barrettes are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED!**
- Please review HSA Dress Code Guidelines, which can be downloaded from the dance section of the HSA website.

The curriculum guidelines also state that each exam participant must be photographed from the **shoulders up**. Photographs will be taken at the beginning of regularly-scheduled classes starting **Tuesday, March 21, 2017**. Students **MUST** meet the **HSA Dance** dress code and grooming requirements or they will not be photographed. No accessories or makeup may be worn. If your child is not in class on the day photos are taken, it is your responsibility to take a digital photograph in dress code in front of a white wall. Photos **MUST** be emailed to [alynch@hsanyc.org](mailto:alynch@hsanyc.org) by Saturday April 1. **Students who have not submitted photographs by Tuesday, April 18, 2017 will not be allowed to participate in the exams. We will contact you if we need you to take a photo.**

We encourage your child to practice class material at home. Teachers will begin to distribute study materials including printed information regarding specific dance elements, and video clips via email links.

Confirmation of your child's participation in the **2017 ABT National Training Curriculum Examinations** is contingent upon submission of a signed copy of the **ABT Exam 2017 Participation Sheet or online form**. Electronic submissions can be emailed to [alynch@hsanyc.org](mailto:alynch@hsanyc.org). Hard copies of the document should be submitted directly to your child's teacher or placed in the mailbox on the door of the HSA Dance Director. Confirmations must be received no later than **Saturday, April 1, 2017**. Please do not hesitate to contact Aubrey Lynch, Director of HSA Dance, if you have any questions or concerns at 212.926.4100, ext.325 or [alynch@hsanyc.org](mailto:alynch@hsanyc.org).

Please keep in mind that there are specific criteria involved in selecting students to be examined. Attendance, focus and progress play a part. Official exam lists will be posted on the dance wall, the HSA website and emailed starting Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

**IF WE DO NOT HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS YOU MUST CHECK THE DANCE WALL FOR UPDATES.**

Please see below.

Sincerely,

**HSA Dance**

## **HSA DANCE DEPARTMENT BALLET DRESS CODE GUIDELINES**

### **LEVEL PRIMARY A-C:**

**GIRLS:** White cap sleeve leotard, white pull on ballet skirts and ballet sweaters only when really cold, seamless pink tights that cover the foot and pink ballet slippers with laces tied securely and tucked in.

**BOYS:** White fitted tank top or white leotard, black tights that cover the foot, dance belt, white socks, white ballet slippers. Shoes must match socks.

### **LEVEL 1**

**GIRLS:** Powder blue cap sleeve leotard, seamless pink tights that cover the foot and pink ballet slippers.

**BOYS:** White fitted tank top or white leotard, black tights that cover the foot, dance belt, white socks, and white ballet slippers. Shoes must match socks.

### **LEVEL 2**

**GIRLS:** Lavender camisole leotard, seamless pink tights and pink ballet slippers.

**BOYS:** White fitted tank top or white leotard, black tights that cover the foot, dance belt, white socks, and white ballet slippers. Shoes must match socks.

### **LEVEL 3+**

**GIRLS:** Black camisole leotard, seamless pink tights and pink ballet slippers.

**BOYS:** White fitted tank top or white leotard, black tights that cover the foot, dance belt, white socks, and white ballet slippers. Shoes must match socks.

**ABT Exam 2017 Participation Sheet**

Please return this portion to your teacher no later than **Saturday, April 1, 2017.**

**OR**

Fill out the online version which was emailed separately.  
**A Link to this online form is also on the dance page of the HSA website.**

Confirmation of your child's participation in the **2017 ABT National Training Curriculum Examinations** is contingent upon submission of a signed copy of this document. Confirmations must be received no later than **Saturday, April 1, 2017.** Electronic submissions can be submitted to [alynch@hsanyc.org](mailto:alynch@hsanyc.org). Hard copies of the document should be submitted directly to your child's teacher or placed in the mailbox on the door of the office of the HSA Dance Director.

**A link to the online form can be found on the dance page of the HSA website and will be emailed.**

Please do not hesitate to contact Aubrey Lynch, HSA Dance Director, if you have any questions or concerns at 212.926.4100, ext.325 or [alynch@hsanyc.org](mailto:alynch@hsanyc.org).

Please write the age of your child as of April 30, 2017 \_\_\_\_\_.

Please sign below to confirm your child's participation in the 2016 American Ballet Theater National Training Curriculum Examinations.

We \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent print name) (Print student name as you want it to appear on their certificate)

agree to the terms and guidelines set forth in this letter. In signing you are confirming that parent and child agree to follow the preceding guidelines and that if guidelines are not met the student will not be allowed to participate in the exam. The decision to allow students to participate in the exam is at the teacher's discretion.

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(Parent's signature)

(Date)