

Founding Director

M I G N O N  
F U R M A N



# AMERICAN ACADEMY *of* BALLET SUMMER SCHOOL *of Excellence*

*New York*  
*July 2026*



# AAB

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF BALLET



**WELCOME** to our 31th Summer School. Dancers come to the AAB Summer School from across United States, and from more than 20 countries. The AAB is the premier Summer School in America. Here is why:

## Great Faculty

Our distinguished faculty is at the top of the teaching profession. Several teachers have coached famous dancers.

## Housing

In a shared double or triple room in a dormitory on campus.

## Campus Facilities

Dance studios, dormitory and dining, in one area of the campus.

## Supervision

House Mothers, nurses and counselors supervise the dancers.

## Performances

Every dancer has the opportunity to dance in several performances in a theater on campus. Parents and friends may attend these events.

The performances are always so exciting! Costumes are supplied at no charge. Each dancer receives a certificate of attendance. Scholarships are awarded to dancers who have excelled in the **Performance Awards**.

## Age and Admission

Dancers must be 11 or older. A minimum of 4 years ballet training is required. Admission is by audition or digital audition.

Dancers between the ages of 9 and 13 may attend our Junior Summer School. See our website for details. No audition is required.

## Placement

Placement classes\* will be assessed by faculty teachers to place dancers in classes which will be most advantageous to them.

For the Ballet Intensive classes, dancers are placed initially by age. The faculty will not discuss placement with parents or teachers.

**\*Not applicable to Ballet Intensive.**

## Day Dancers

Dancers who live near the campus may attend Summer School without living on campus. A reduced fee is payable. **See "Fees."**

## Hotel

There are nearby hotels where parents may stay with their dancer. A special price has been arranged. Please email your reservation requirements to our office: [aaboffice@gmail.com](mailto:aaboffice@gmail.com).

## Arrival By Air

La Guardia, JFK and Newark are about fifteen minutes to one hour to University.

**For details, see our website.**

## Payment

Payment may be made by credit card, bank transfer, or check for the full amount or by not more than three installments. In this case, at least 1/3 of the full amount must be paid **with the completed application form**.

**Post-dated checks must be included with the enrollment form. Bank transfers and credit card payments must include the dates of the future payments.**

## Refund Policy

No refunds will be made of any amounts paid unless a medical doctor's certificate evidencing the inability of the applicant to attend Summer School is submitted. **The certificate must be received by the AAB before May 31, 2026.** In such cases, a refund less 25% of the fee.

**No refunds will be made if the application for a refund is received after May 31, 2026.**

## Curriculum

- Classical Ballet • Pas de Deux
  - Pointe • Repertoire
  - Neo-Classical • Contemporary
  - Musical Theater • Spanish Dance
  - Performance Awards • Folk Dance
  - Solo Competitions
  - **The 1-week sessions are ballet only.**
- Faculty, and program are subject to change.**





# FACULTY 2026



**GILBERT MAYER**  
(Classical Ballet) Was an "etoile" (star) at the Paris Opera Ballet for many years. He coached Nureyev Baryshnikov, and other famous dancers. Now a guest teacher for ballet companies world-wide.



**DANIEL ULBRICHT**  
Principal Dancer at New York City Ballet. International guest teacher and performer.



**INDIANA WOODWARD**  
Guest Teacher and performer at AAB. Principal dancer with New York City Ballet.



**BARBARA MULLEN**  
Original from the United Kingdom. Director of the Londonderry Dance Academy and New England Dance Ensemble. AAB Performance Awards judge



**WHITNEY SPRAYBERRY**  
Performed in numerous award winning shows on Broadway. Faculty member of prestigious University and College program for Dance and Musical Theater.



**KARIN AVERTY**  
(Classical Ballet) Winner of the Grand Prix at Varna. Was a Principal Dancer with the Paris Opera Ballet. Awarded the National Merit Order by the French Prime Minister.



**KARLA PENICHE**  
Director of Ballet Concierto in Cancun. AAB Representative in Mexico. International Performance Awards Judge



**MIRIAM MAHDAVIANI**  
(Classical Ballet) Danced with the NY City Ballet. Choreographed more than 20 ballets. Now Professor of Dance at Vassar College.



**VERONICA YANEZ**  
Principal dancer in Ballet de Monterrey, taught at the University of Costa Rica, Universidad Nacional and Conservatorio El Barco. Now teachers, choreograph and coaches in Texas.



**KEVIN DURWAE**  
(Classical Ballet) A graduate of the Royal Ballet School Antwerp. Soloist with the Royal Ballet of Flanders. Artistic Director of the Royal Ballet School of Antwerp



**STEVE ROOKS**  
(Modern Dance) Was a Principal Dancer with the Martha Graham Dance Company. Now an international guest teacher and Professor of Dance at Vassar College.



**CAMILLE PERRIER**  
Director and Artistic Director of her own School in France. Award winning contemporary choreographer and international teacher.



**ANALIESE UMANA**  
Graduate from Purchase College. Performed professionally with Baltimore Ballet. Worked very closely with Mignon Furman learning her methodology and the Performance Awards. Currently a Performance Awards International judge. Presently teaching in North Carolina and New York.



**DEAN VOLLICK**  
(Classical Ballet) A graduate of the Teacher Training Program of the National Ballet School (Toronto). Now teaches at the Boston Conservatory.



**MARIANA ZACHARIAS**  
Director of On Danse School in Rio de Janeiro. AAB Representative for Brazil. International Performance Awards Judge.



**GINA CHIAVELLI**  
(Classical Ballet & Performance Awards) Was Professor of Dance at Fordham University. Now Director of Pinewood School of Dance, and a judge for Performance Awards.



**BRIAN REEDER**  
(Classical Ballet) Danced with NY City Ballet, Frankfurt Ballet, and American Ballet Tueater. Now, a guest teacher.



**IAIN MAC DONALD**  
(Classical Ballet) Was a Principal Dancer with PACT Ballet. Guested in Denmark, and Taiwan. Now Director of Joburg Ballet.



**VLADIMIR STADNIK**  
(Classical Ballet, Folk Dance) Graduate of the Vaganova Academy, and the State Conservatory Rimski-Korsakov. Danced as a soloist in Russia. Now, International guest teacher.



**ALEJANDRO PARENTE**  
Principle Dancer at Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, and performed with International Companies. Received many distinguished Awards. International guest teacher.



**MARIA JOSE CIMMINO**  
Director of FDS Ballet School, Teacher certified by AAB and Teatro Colón, International Performance Awards judge, Representative in Argentina, Uruguay, Italy.



**RICARDO SANTIAGO**  
(Spanish Dance) A graduate of Purchase College. Has danced in the USA, and other countries. Now teaches, and dances in New York.

## MUSICIANS

LILIA KHANINA  
DENIS LUKHMANOV  
ELMER JOHNSON  
ERIK KRAMER  
ANNIE LEBEAUX  
COLIN ROSE  
JAGGAR CLARK  
WADIM RUBINSKY

Pointe Shoe fittings  
at every session by

  
**GAYNOR MINDEN®**  
NEW YORK • SINCE 1991



# Audition Requirements

## If Attending an Audition:

- The audition is a regular class. No solo variation is required.
- Please arrive at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time.
- Leotard, and tights to be worn. If on pointe, bring pointeshoes.
- Please bring a photo in 1st arabesque and \$40 in cash, if not paid online.
- Notice of acceptance will be advised within 3 days.

*Audition forms may be downloaded from the website. Forms will be available at the auditions.*

## Digital Audition: See website - [aabsummer.com](http://aabsummer.com)

- Notice of acceptance will be advised within 2 days.

### YouTube or Email

- Complete online audition form in the AAB Website.
- Email your video, and application form as attachments to [aaboffice@gmail.com](mailto:aaboffice@gmail.com)

DIGITAL  
AUDITIONS  
WELCOME



## NO BARRE WORK. PLEASE SHOW:

- 1a. 1st arabesque a terre and en l'air
- 1b. A la seconde position tendu a terre and en l'air
2. An adage combination to include a balance, arabesque line, and a developpe.
3. A pirouette combination.
4. A petite allegro combination.
5. A grand allegro combination.

### FOR GIRLS:

6. A still position showing the feet en pointe a la seconde.
7. A pointe combination.



# MFB

MIGNON FURMAN BALLET



The Mignon Furman Ballet presents wonderful evenings of ballet especially for Summer School dancers in a theater on campus, by guest artists from leading American ballet companies.



## How to Apply

---

1. Attend an audition, or submit your video. *See "Audition Requirements."*
2. You will be advised of the results of the audition within two days.
3. If accepted, you will be emailed an enrollment form.
4. Return the enrollment form, together with your check(s), credit card details or bank transfer. Return this as soon as possible.  
***Every year, the enrollments of many dancers cannot be accepted, as they were received after the school was fully booked.***
5. You will then be given a link online to travel information and details of check-in, a list of what to bring, and medical forms, etc.

## Dates & Fees

---

**RESIDENTIAL DANCERS:** The fee includes all classes, meals, accommodation and events.

**DAY DANCERS\*:** The fee includes all classes, lunch, dinner and events.

**SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED AT ALL AUDITIONS!**

Weeks	Dates	Residential Dancers	Day Dancers*
1 week	June 28 - July 3	\$1760	\$1245
1 week	July 5 - July 11	\$1850	\$1295
1 week	July 12 - July 18	\$1820	\$1295
2 weeks	June 28 - July 11	\$3725	\$2490
2 weeks	July 5 - July 18	\$3725	\$2490
2 weeks	July 19 - Aug 1	\$3725	\$2490
3 weeks	June 28- July 18	\$5495	\$3825
3 weeks	July 12 - Aug 1	\$5495	\$3825
4 weeks	July 5 - Aug 1	\$7425	\$4995
5 weeks	June 28 - Aug 1	\$8995	\$5995

Registration Fee \$200 for live Summer School



# MIGNON FURMAN

## *Action pictures at Summer School*



With only her talents, courage, and determination to give definition to her vision for ballet education, Mignon Furman founded the American Academy of Ballet.

AAB is now become the premier Summer School in America.

Margot Fonteyn, with whom she was friendly, gave her invaluable advice, during several detailed discussions about the technical, and artistic aspects of the classical ballet. Mignon had the good fortune to benefit from the wisdom, and unique experience of a world-famous ballerina.

Mignon also composed Performance Awards, which are taught all over the United States, and are an international phenomenon, praised by teachers in many countries. The success of the Performance Awards is due to her choreography: She was a superb choreographer. Her many compositions have logic, harmony, content and intrinsic beauty. Mignon also composed seven instructional videos for the teaching of classical ballet. Some of these choreographies are the most performed choreographies in the world.

Before coming to New York, Mignon was the Director of the University of Cape Town Ballet School, with special responsibility for teachers-training. She formulated the program for the 80 trainee teachers, and 400 students at the Ballet School. She was nominated for the Distinguished Teacher Award from amongst the entire university's academic staff of professors, and lecturers.

All at the AAB have the honor of keeping Mignon's flags proudly flying.



# Campus Life

Dance Building



Studios



Dormitory





# AAB

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF BALLET

*Performance Awards*

---

NEW YORK