

May 2021

Dear Junior Division Parents and Students,

I hope this message finds you well. With gratitude and excitement, we are pleased to offer your child the opportunity to enroll in The Ailey School Junior Division Program for the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

We know you will have plenty of questions and need information to make an informed decision about returning to The Ailey School this fall. The information below highlights key points for your consideration. Please read this letter in its entirety and save it for future reference. This communication includes the following:

- I. Junior Division 2021-22 Program Offering**
- II. Program Structure: Levels and Cohorts**
- III. Junior Division Scholarship Program**
- IV. Ailey Forward Plan – COVID-19 Safety**
- V. Enrollment Timeline**
- VI. Where to Direct Questions**

I. Junior Division 2021-22 Program Offering

The Junior Division Pre-Professional Program will offer pre-professional training to students in Levels III (2nd yr. only), Level IV, Level V and Level VI/VII.

To our older students in 2nd yr. Level IV and up, you may be pleased to learn that all of your classes will be offered in person. To our Level III and 1st yr. Level IV students, know that we have missed you and anxiously await your return. Your class schedule will be a hybrid schedule of virtual and in-studio classes.

Students will need to have access to a computer, reliable internet access, a cell phone (for contact tracing app. & building entry), and the ability to log in and out of Google Classrooms and Zoom independently. We currently anticipate offering the following techniques: Ballet, Horton, Limón, West African, Jazz and Contemporary (subject to change). Schedule information will be forwarded within the coming weeks.

Updated program information, including schedule and tuition information for parents, will be available on [The Junior Division Virtual Training Program webpage](#) by May 28th. Once the term commences, online class information and cohort announcements will be posted for students in Google Classrooms. Online classes are accessed through Google Classrooms and hosted via Zoom.

II. Program Structure: Levels and Cohorts

In addition to a class level assignment, students will receive a cohort assignment for in-studio classes (ex. Level 4-1/Cohort 4A). As per safety guidelines, in-studio cohorts will consist of no more than 12 students. Please be aware tuition adjustments cannot be made for students who

opt out of attending any portion of the online or in-studio class schedule for their level and cohort. Level placement is determined based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, proficiency in ballet and modern, instructor recommendations, and informal observation prior to Ailey School closure in March 2020. Previous evaluations and attendance records were also reviewed to determine level placement. We are unable to accommodate requests for class schedule, level placement or cohort changes. Level and cohort placement have been finalized in compliance with policy regarding enrollment capacity and Ailey School safety protocol.

III. The Junior Division Scholarship Program

Junior Division scholarships are awarded based on merit. Scholarships are awarded to students ages 15 and up.

A limited number of merit scholarships have been renewed for the 2021-2022 Academic Year. Scholarship offerings for Level I, II and III scholarships have yet to be determined. Please be sure to read all registration information emails thoroughly.

Need-based tuition assistance is not available this semester. For more information, after June 2nd, parents of current scholarship recipients (including Van Lier Fellows, Ailey Athletic Boys and AileyCamp scholarship recipients) may contact Dawn Tricarico directly at dtricarico@alvinailey.org.

IV. Ailey Forward Plan – COVID-19 Safety

As the end of the 2020-2021 Academic Year quickly approaches, the COVID-19 outbreak is still here. Even as vaccination rates increase and New York opens under state and local guidelines, leadership within the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation has given careful consideration as to how the organization can safely, effectively, and efficiently continue to offer quality educational programming.

Now, under advisement from medical and regulatory counsel throughout the 2021-2022 Academic Year, The Ailey School will continue to operate at limited capacity. As unforeseen challenges may arise, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schedule and program information provided throughout the enrollment process is subject to change. For more information about Ailey's safety plan and protocol go to:

[Ailey Forward | Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](#)
[FAQ | Frequently Asked Questions about The Ailey School](#)

V. Enrollment Timeline

We understand the decision to return to the Ailey building for in-person classes is extremely personal for students and their families. With regard for each family's unique questions and concerns, **the Junior Division staff will host an enrollment information session for parents and students on Wednesday, June 2nd at 5:30 pm.**

For your reference, a re-enrollment timeline is listed below:

**Junior Division
Academic Year 2021-2022
Re-enrollment Timeline
(subject to change)**

DATE:	EVENT:
During the week of May 24 th -28 th	PLACEMENT AND PAYMENT INFORMATION WILL BE SENT via E-MAIL
Wednesday, June 2 nd	Parent and Student Information Session at 5:30pm (Zoom invite will be sent)
Monday, June 14 th	Registration for returning families begins at 12pm (Students will be enrolled according to a first come-first served basis)
Wednesday, June 17 th	Registration for returning families ends at 5pm
Monday, August 2 nd	Late registration begins (Pending space availability)
Friday, September 10 th	Late registration ends
Thursday, September 16 th & Friday, Sept. 17 th	Student Tech Check-in September 16 th - Level III and Level IV September 17 th - Level V and Level VI/VII
Saturday, September 18 th	Mandatory Parent & Student Orientation Meeting at 11am (Zoom invite will be sent)
Monday, September 20 th	Junior Division Classes begin

VI. Where to Direct Questions

As we are focused on closing the current academic year and completing system updates throughout the month of May, **Junior Division staff will not be available until June 2nd to answer questions regarding Fall 2021 Re-Enrollment.** Your patience and consideration are appreciated in advance. After June 2nd, we will happily be of assistance.

[The Junior Division Virtual Training Program webpage](#) will be updated with registration information and answers to frequently asked questions by May 28th.

We hope you find this information helpful. Thank you again, for your continued support of The Ailey School. We will be excited to have you back in the fall and look forward to seeing you on June 2nd at the Parent and Student Information Session.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Barnes
Director, Junior Division
The Ailey School