

Gulfcoast Studio Company

Fact Sheet

Description

The Gulfcoast Studio Company of the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School, created by Ariel Serrano and Wilmian Hernandez, strives to develop strong and confident dancers, giving them the opportunity to expand their artistic development and performance experience. The Gulfcoast Studio Company provides an important bridge from student training to a professional dance career.

Faculty

Ariel Serrano | Co-Director
Wilmian Hernández | Co-Director
Rolando Yanes | Associate Director
Monica Isla | Ballet Mistress

Admittance

Entrance in the Gulfcoast Studio Company is determined during a dancer's participation in the Summer Intensive program—interested applicants are given a special audition. If accepted into the Company, dancers are given a letter of intent and they will have a week to accept or decline. New Gulfcoast Studio Company members will have time to make moving/living arrangements between the end of the summer and the beginning of the Company season. Gulfcoast Studio Company artistic staff reserve the right to audition and accept dancers into the Company independently of the Summer Intensive Program.

Schedule

The Gulfcoast Studio Company season runs from mid-August through May each year, with the week of Thanksgiving off as well as two weeks off after *The Nutcracker*. The workday is 9:00 am until 2:30 pm. Company members will be able to have part-time jobs or attend college part-time.

Training

Company members have a daily ballet class and rehearsal. Throughout the year, special workshops and master classes will be offered.

Performance Opportunities

The Gulfcoast Studio Company has many facets—beyond the continuation of ballet training to prepare young dancers for professional careers and education and outreach work throughout the city, performance opportunities are a major focus. The Gulfcoast Studio Company's 37-week season provides Company members expansive performance opportunities, including *The Nutcracker* and Spring Performance at professional theater venues, and the Black Box performances series in the Sarasota Cuban Ballet's auditorium.

Education and Outreach

The Gulfcoast Studio Company goal is to offer young dancers a way to become a well-rounded citizen, not only a well-trained dancer. With all the opportunities to perform, educate, and continue training, Company members learn about many aspects of the professional dance world. The Gulfcoast Studio Company members work with the artistic staff to create and participate in educational workshop for schools and other arts organization.

Other Benefits

- Company members will receive a small stipend per performance.
- Company members may take any of the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School classes for free in the afternoon.
- Company members may participate in the On Stage Gala at a professional venue.