

# American Academy of Ballet

Mignon Furman, Director

## Summer School of Excellence 2010



**Purchase College SUNY,  
Purchase, NY  
June 27 –August 8, 2010**

# American Academy of Ballet

## Summer School of Excellence 2010

at Purchase College  
SUNY Purchase, NY

**Mignon Furman**  
Director

**Brian Loftus**  
Associate Director

### Programs

**6 weeks**

**June 27 - August 8**

**5 weeks**

**July 4 - August 8**

**3 weeks**

**July 18 - August 8**

**2 weeks**

**July 4 - July 18**

**1 week**

**Technique Intensive**

**June 27 - July 2**

## Welcome to Our Summer School

### Why our Summer Schools are so great: Progress and Enjoyment

I have organized 29 Summer Schools in the past, and each one has been a success - students improve at an unbelievable rate, and enjoy the complete experience of our Summer School.

### Great Faculty

- My Faculty is at the top of the teaching profession. Many teachers on the Faculty have been principal dancers with leading ballet companies.
- Their many years of teaching experience assures Summer School dancers of high quality instruction.

### Great Programs

- Ballet is the focus: technique, repertoire, pointe, pas de deux and variations.
- Jazz, Modern, and Character develop a flexibility of style.

### Great Performances

- Dance = performance. I have organized 7 performance opportunities over the six-week period. See General Information.
- EVERY dancer dances in the performances - not only a select few.

### Great Supervision

- No need to worry about safety. Security is provided by Purchase College.
- In addition, we have House Mothers (chaperones) and student counselors.
- Dancers are required to observe the rules of the dorm, and of the Summer School.

### Two Special Programs (See page 4)

- Technique Intensive - an excellent way to refine technique.
- Performance Awards - only available at our Summer School.

### Musicians

Ballet classes are accompanied by a roster of 7 fine musicians.

### Great Experience

- The experience of our Summer School is unforgettable.
- One-third of our students return each year. This indicates the value of our Summer School to dancers.
- There is no Summer School quite like the Summer School of the American Academy of Ballet.



### About Mignon Furman

Mignon Furman has, over a period of years, organized no less than 29 Summer Schools. She has been teaching ballet for more than 40 years. She was the Director of the University of Cape Town Ballet School with special responsibility for teachers' training. At the University she formulated the programs to be used by 80 trainee teachers and 400 students. She was nominated for the Distinguished Teacher Award from amongst the entire University faculty of 1,500. She is a choreographer and educator, and has studied or been guest teacher in New York, London (England), Tel Aviv, Paris, and Cannes. She has served on city, state, and federal arts and education committees.

*Mignon Furman*



## Two Special Programs

### #1 PERFORMANCE AWARDS

- No other Summer School has this program. It is the unique conception of Mignon Furman. The program is taught throughout the U.S. - as well as in 9 other countries.
- Students receive special instruction in the program in addition to their regular classes. This is then danced before an audience. Medals and certificates are awarded to each participant. The program is an optional extra, but benefits the participants tremendously.

### #2 ONE WEEK TECHNIQUE INTENSIVE

- Improves the fundamentals of classical ballet technique, turn-out, port de bras, footwork, placing, elevation, pointe, pirouettes, presentation, etc.
- Students are streamed into 7 levels for more focused instruction.
- Advanced students also enroll in the program to perfect their technique.



## Program

- Classical Ballet
- Pointe
- Pas de Deux
- Repertoire
- Variations
- Special Male Classes
- Character
- Modern
- Pilates
- Jazz
- Special Programs



## Fees

**Residential Students** The fee includes classes, housing, 3 meals a day, outings and other events.

6 weeks	June 27– August 8	\$ 5,200
5 weeks	July 4 – August 8	\$ 4,650
3 weeks	July 18 – August 8	\$ 3,170
2 weeks	July 4 – July 18	\$ 2,075
1 week	June 27– July 2	\$ 1,095

**Day Students** The fee includes classes, lunches, dinners, outings and other events.

6 weeks	June 27 – August 8	\$ 4,100
5 weeks	July 4 – August 8	\$ 3,550
3 weeks	July 18 – August 8	\$ 2,250
2 weeks	July 4 – July 18	\$ 1,500
1 week	June 27– July 2	\$ 750

### Notes:

- (1) Payment is due in full by May 15, 2010. If payment is received after this date, add \$50.
- (2) If payment is by a credit card, add 3%.

FOR PAYMENT DETAILS SEE PAGE 13

Improve your technique and performance beyond recognition.

You will not believe the progress that you will make.

You will return home a confident and inspired dancer, dancing with renewed energy and purpose, and with enhanced artistry.

# FACULTY

## Mignon Furman

(Repertoire & Classical Ballet) Was Director of the University of Cape Town Ballet School in charge of teacher training and Founder-Director of its Youth ballet company. Now Director of the American Academy of Ballet. Has formulated several programs for the teaching of ballet.

## John Byrne,

(Classical Ballet) International guest teacher. Now teaching and lecturing in Australia.

## Susie Cooper

(Classical Ballet, Creative Dance & Choreography) Danced in several companies in England. Head of Dance at The Urdang Academy, London.

## Olga Dvorovenko

(Classical Ballet & Repertoire) Trained in the Ukraine. Now teaches the Studio Company of American Ballet Theater.

## David Howard

(Classical Ballet) Danced with the Royal Ballet (soloist). Now teaching in New York. An international guest teacher and guest teacher for ballet companies world-wide.

## Jay Jolley

(Classical Ballet) Was principal dancer with the New York City Ballet and the Royal Ballet. Now Assistant Director of the Royal Ballet School.

## Lucia Kuimova

(Character) Was trained in Russia. Now teaching in Louisiana.

## Sean Lavery

(Classical Ballet) Was Principal Dancer with the New York City Ballet. Now assistant to Ballet Master-in-Chief, Peter Martins.

## Janet Lindup

(Repertoire and Pilates) Was principal dancer with Capab Ballet. Now teaching in Cape Town.

## Brian Loftus

(Classical Ballet and Pas de Deux) Was Director of Dance for the Arts Educational School in London. Danced with Sadlers Wells Opera Ballet, and La Grand Ballet Classique de France. An international guest teacher. A judge for the Performance Awards.

## Lonné Moretton

(Floor barre) A graduate of universities in San Jose and New York. Has taught and choreographed for many universities and ballet companies in the USA, Stockholm, Lisbon and Tokyo.

## Megan Richardson

(Physical Thereapy) Certified through Polestar Education. Currently on staff of the Harkness Center for Dance Injuries.

## Anuschka Roes

(Classical Ballet) Head of the Teacher Training Program at Canada's National Ballet School in Toronto, International guest teacher of classical ballet, folk and character dance. Benesh notation.

## 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.

## Stephanie Saland

(Classical Ballet) Was Principal Dancer with the New York City Ballet. Now teaching in Seattle.

## Galina Samsova

(Classical Ballet and Repertoire) Trained in Kiev. Was Principal Dancer with the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet and London Festival Ballet. Now an international guest teacher and répétiteur for many international companies.

## Merle Sepel

(Classical Ballet) Director of American Pacific Ballet Company and Academy of Dance California. On faculty of the California State University at Fullerton. A judge for the Performance Awards.

## Bettijane Sills

(Classical Ballet) Was a soloist with NY City Ballet. Now Professor of Dance at Purchase College. Has choreographed for several companies in America and Hong Kong.

## Marion Tonner

(Classical Ballet) Danced with the Camargo Ballet, and the Maryland Ballet, she was on the faculty of the University of the Arts, the Miami City Ballet, the Boston Ballet, and is now an international guest teacher.

## Rebecca Tsivkin

(Classical Ballet and Répétiteur) Trained in London. Now teaching in New York at Ballet Hispanico. A judge for the performance awards.

## Violette Verdy

(Classical Ballet) Was a principal dancer with The New York City Ballet and director of the Paris Opera Ballet. Now teaching at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. International guest teacher.

## Dean Vollick

(Classical Ballet) Has danced with several companies in the USA and Canada. A graduate of the Teacher Training Program of the National Ballet School (Toronto). Teaches at the Boston Ballet School.

## Heather White

(Jazz) A graduate of the University of South Florida. Teaches at her own school in Florida.

**Note:** Subject to change when necessary. Additional faculty to be announced. Not all faculty will be present for all six weeks, but at the time of going to press, dates were not finalized.





# AUDITIONS TIMES & LOCATIONS

**Sat, January 9** — Silver Spring, MD  
 5pm - 6:30pm Maryland Youth Ballet  
 926 Ellsworth Drive  
 Silver Spring, MD 20910

**Sun, January 10** — Purchase, NY  
 12pm 11-13 yrs. Purchase College SUNY  
 2:30pm 14 & up 735 Anderson Hill Road,  
 Purchase, NY 10577

**Sat, January 16** — Mahwah, NJ  
 2pm 11-13 yrs. Ramapo College  
 4pm 14 & up 505 Ramapo Valley Road  
 Mahwah, NJ 07430

**Sun, January 17** — Saratoga Springs, NY  
 2pm National Museum of Dance  
 & Hall of Fame  
 99 South Broadway  
 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**Fri, January 22** — Dallas, TX  
 7pm Texas Ballet Theater School  
 Dallas Academy  
 2379 Promenade,  
 Richardson, TX 75080

**Fri, January 29** — San Francisco, CA  
 6:30pm San Francisco Ballet  
 455 Franklin St.  
 San Francisco, CA 94102

**Sat, January 30** — Santa Monica, CA  
 1pm 11-13 yrs. Westside School of Ballet  
 3pm 14 & up 1709 Stewart Street  
 Santa Monica, CA 90404

**Sun, February 7** — New York, NY  
 2pm 11-13 yrs. School of American Ballet  
 4pm 14 & up 70 Lincoln Center Plaza  
 New York, NY 10023

**Sat, February 13** — Boston, MA  
 3:30pm 11-13 yrs. Boston Ballet School  
 5:30pm 14 & up 19 Clarendon St.  
 Boston, MA 02116

**Sat, February 20** — Long Beach, CA  
 1pm California State University  
 1250 Bellflower Blvd.  
 Long Beach, CA 90840

**Sun, February 21** — Chicago, IL  
 2:30pm Hubbard Street Dance  
 Lou Conte Dance Studio  
 1147 W. Jackson Blvd.  
 Chicago, IL 60607

**Sun, March 14** — Inverness, FL  
 12pm School of Dance Arts  
 301 North Apoka Ave.  
 Inverness, FL 34450

## Audition Requirements

### If attending an audition:

- The auditions takes the form of a class. No solo variation is required.
- Please arrive and register at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time.
- Neat ballet attire to be worn. If on pointe, bring pointe shoes.
- Please bring a small head shot. A school picture or regular camera shot will suffice.
- Please bring an audition fee of \$30.00 in cash.

- All dancers will complete the full audition class.
- Notice of acceptance will be mailed within two weeks of the audition date.

### If mailing a video or DVD:

- Videos must be VHS or DVD format.
- Print name, address and age on the label of the video or DVD
- Notice of acceptance will be mailed within two weeks of receiving the video or DVD

## Video/DVD Auditions Welcome

- Videos or DVDs must be received before April 3, 2010
- A \$30.00 audition fee should accompany the video or DVD

In the video audition, no barre work should be shown.

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. Petite allegro combination
5. Grand allegro showing moving steps.

For girls:

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

## How to Apply

1. Attend an audition, or mail your video. See “Audition Requirements.”
2. You will be advised of the results of the audition within two weeks.
3. If accepted, you will be mailed an application form.
4. Return the application form, together with your check(s) or credit card details. It is suggested that you return this as soon as possible. In past years, the applications of many students were returned as they were received after the enrollment was full.
5. You will then be given a link online to travel information and details of check-in, a list of what to bring, and forms to be filled out.

## General Information

### Housing

An entire dormitory building on the Purchase College SUNY campus is allocated to Summer School. Students are housed in double rooms. All rooms are air-conditioned. Housing, meals, laundry and outings, etc. are included in the tuition. Three meals daily are provided on campus in a dining hall exclusively for us.

### Campus Facilities

The dance building has nine air-conditioned studios and is a 5 minute walk from the dormitory. Among other facilities, there is an ATM, a general store and art gallery. The tranquil surroundings provide an ideal environment for the students.

### Supervision

House-mothers (chaperones) and student counselors will supervise the students. Mignon Furman, the Director of the American Academy of Ballet, will also be present on campus.

### Performances

There are several theaters on the campus a 5 minute walk from the dormitory. Every student has the opportunity to dance in several performances, depending on their length of stay at Summer School. There are two Demonstrations; two sessions of the Performance Awards; and three performances. Parents and

friends may attend these events. The Gala Performance in the large theater is always so exciting! It wraps up the weeks of hard work in a marvelous production. Costumes are supplied at no charge to the students. Each student receives a certificate. Scholarships and prizes are awarded to students who have excelled.

### Age and Admission

Students must be between the ages of 11 and 22. A minimum of 4 years ballet training is required. Admission is by audition or video. (See “Audition Requirements”)

### Placement

Placement classes will be assessed by several faculty teachers to place students in levels which will be most advantageous to them. This assessment is reviewed after two days. The Faculty has had many years of experience in assessing students and will not discuss placement with any parent or teachers of the students. Parents and teachers must be confident that students are given much consideration and opportunity in the placement process.

### Day Attendance

Students who live near the campus may attend Summer School without living on campus. A reduced fee is payable. See “Fees” schedule.

### Boys

Boys will have instruction in special classes in addition to joining in the technique classes.

## Payment

Payment may be made by credit card or check for the full amount or by not more than three installments by post-dated checks or credit card. 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 application. The final payment must be dated before May 15, 2010. A charge of \$50 will be made for unpaid checks. A surcharge of 3% will be made for credit cards.

### 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 before June 10, 2010. In such cases, a refund less 30%, will be made. **No refunds** will be made if the application for a refund is received after **June 10, 2010**.

### Arrival by air

Four airports serve Purchase College. **La Guardia, JFK and Newark** are about one hour by car from the college. For each pick-up and drop-off the cost is \$100 per student, each way, and will be added to the fees. **Westchester:** This is a smaller airport about 10 minutes by car from Purchase College. Students can take a taxi from the airport. The cost is about \$25 - \$30.

*All photos are by Costas Summer School 2009*

## Where Are They Now? Some of Our Alumni

Stella Abera  
ABT Soloist

Fuzuki Ishizaki  
Hong Kong Ballet

Martyn Garside  
San Francisco Ballet

Joseph Calley  
Birmingham Royal Ballet  
Soloist

Thomas Forster  
ABT Company

Sabina Westcombe  
Royal Ballet

Rie Ichikawa  
Boston Ballet Soloist

Danny Scott  
Was Boston Ballet

Kevin Emerton  
Royal Ballet

Alex Dutko  
Was Miami City Ballet

Maya Storseth  
Norwegian Ballet

Or Sagi  
Trocadero

Aviad Herman  
Gothenburg Ballet

Jordan Moser  
Austin Ballet

Ryan Carroll  
Was in "Fosse" Touring  
Company now Teaching

Kate Reigler  
Texas Ballet Theater

Alpha Ng  
Singapore Ballet Theatre

Lucas Jerkländer  
Slovenia Ballet



## Quotes From Faculty Teachers

"The whole program is absolutely irresistible. Not only is it the perfect organization, but there is a respect, care and knowledge that surrounds and acknowledges everyone involved, from the teachers to the helpers and all of the dancers. The working conditions and the lodgings are extremely good for everyone. The fact that all of the different groups perform is remarkable, but even more so is how well the choreography is adapted to make all of the students feel recognized and look their best. It is a source of delight to see the result and the tone of the program for the dancers."

**Violette Verdy, was Principal Dancer NYC Ballet and Director of the Paris Opera Ballet, now on the faculty of the University of Indiana, Bloomington**

"The best teachers can be found at The American Academy of Ballet's summer program. Mignon Furman directs the greatest program every year with a worldwide faculty. AAB will give you

the best summer experience."  
**David Howard**  
International Guest Teacher

"Working with students at the American Academy of Ballet Summer School is a highlight of the year for me. There is a great sense of camaraderie not only between the students but also the faculty. It is a great pleasure to be part of this wonderful program."

**Jay Jolley, Assistant Director of The Royal Ballet School**

"The opportunity for students to work with such renowned teachers and accomplished musicians will broaden horizons and enhance their futures. The inspiration of the director, Mignon Furman, coupled with her progressive innovative ideas make this a true Summer School of Excellence."

**Brian Loftus**  
International Guest Teacher

"Working with a faculty of such a high caliber is an inspiration both to me as well as to the students. My

admiration and thanks go to Mignon Furman for having the vision and knowledge to bring such wonderful people together."

**Merle Sepel, Director of the American Pacific Ballet Company and faculty member of Cal State University at Fullerton**

"It is a joy to teach at the AAB Summer School of Excellence. The students are wonderfully responsive and I am proud to be part of such an illustrious international faculty which Mignon Furman has gathered together. There is a great sense of artistic endeavour at the highest level and it is also a lot of fun!"

**Susie Cooper, Head of Dance at Urdang Academy, London**

"I highly recommend The American Academy of Ballet's summer school. The international faculty and the training and care each student receives makes for a summer of learning and fun."

**Sharon Wagner**  
Artist Services

"It was a truly enlightening experience for me and as each day passed I observed, even more closely, the excellence of your school. The structure of the classes is carefully put together for the benefit of the student. All of the classes are taught by great teachers but the program prepares the student for joining a company and appearing on stage."

**Michael Broderick, Associate Vice President, The London Ballet Circle**



## **For Further Information**

# **American Academy of Ballet**

250 West 90th Street, #3A

New York, NY 10024

Tel: 212-787-9500

Fax: 212-787-8636

[office@american-academy-of-ballet.com](mailto:office@american-academy-of-ballet.com)

[american-academy-of-ballet.com](http://american-academy-of-ballet.com)