



PACIFIC BALLROOM DANCE

# OVERVIEW OF ACADEMY PROGRAM & ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS

## ACADEMY OVERVIEW

At Pacific Ballroom Dance, our Academy follows a set syllabus in both International and American styles. These syllabi are recognized by the National Dance Council of America (NDCA), which is the official governing council of dance and dancesport in the USA. When a student has achieved a “medal” or certain level of certification by an NDCA examiner, this achievement is recognized nationwide.

We have been working over time to build an increasingly robust Academy program at Pacific Ballroom Dance. The technique learned in our academy classes is the foundation for all ballroom dancing that our students will do now and in the future.

## PROGRAM LEVELS

Our Academy is comprised of 3 levels: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. Within the Bronze level we offer three subcategories: Pre-bronze, Bronze I, and Bronze II. It generally takes about 2 years to complete each medal level. A student can accelerate this timeline with individual practice, coaching, and study. Advancement could also take longer if a student chooses not to practice outside of class (students may stay at any particular level as long as they wish). It is rare that a student would advance any faster than 18 months per level. It is not simply knowing the step that matters, but also the body control and technique, which takes time, experience, and discipline to master.

## ADVANCEMENT

Advancement is based on an individual's mastery of the required material (regardless of the level of their competitive partner). Students must know all figures of their current level and be able to provide a solo demonstration of each figure. Students must be able to dance each routine at the current level with all required figures.

To pass, one must have (at a minimum): Correct posture, footwork, and timing with some working knowledge of alignments. Students will be asked to provide a dance demonstration to music, as well as be able to answer related questions when posed verbally.

## PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress Reports will be given out twice during the year. These reports will give you recommendations on whether your child should remain at the same level or be preparing for advancement. An advancement invitation form will go home with students when they have been recommended for a level change. This form will include testing days as well as fees for the appropriate age and level.

## MEDALS EXAMS + FEES

When a student has been recommended and wishes to take their medals exams, there are fees required to take this test. There is a charge from the United States Terpsichore Organization (an NDCA affiliate) for each dance tested—the scores are then recorded and officially recognized. Terpsichore charges more to test youth age dancers than junior age dancers, and that is why there is a price discrepancy based on age. Additionally, students will pay for the examiners' time to administer the test. Currently, there are only 10 examiners in the entire country who are certified to administer medals exams. We are extremely lucky that our Academy Director, Monique Hrouda, is one of these distinguished examiners.

### JUNIOR (UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE)

Bronze I:	\$110 (W/Q/CC/R)
Bronze II:	\$110 (T/FT/S/J)
Silver:	\$220 (W/T/FT/QS), (CC/S/R/J)
Gold:	\$280 (10 dances)

### YOUTH (16 PLUS)

Bronze I:	\$130 (W/Q/CC/R)
Bronze II:	\$130 (T/FT/S/J)
Silver:	\$260 (W/T/FT/QS), (CC/S/R/J)
Gold:	\$350 (10 dances)

*\*Pre-bronze is a non-testing level and students will advance based on recommendation only.*

Medals Exams will be held in March, June, and September. Dates and times will change according to the number of students testing and Studio availability.



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## ACADEMY ADVANCEMENT RECOMMENDATION FORM

**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Pacific Ballroom Dance Academy is proud to recommend you to advance to the next level in your syllabus training. Our next exam date is \_\_\_\_\_. If you would like to take your medals exam on this date, please schedule with the front desk to reserve your exam time.

- PRE-TEEN TO BRONZE 1** - *(No Exam - Progress Check)*  
Fees \$0
  
- BRONZE 1 TO BRONZE 2** - *Exam Required (W/QS/CC/R)*  
Junior Fees \$110  
Youth Fees \$130
  
- BRONZE 2 TO SILVER** - *Exam Required (T/FT/S/J)*  
Junior Fees \$110  
Youth Fees \$130
  
- SILVER TO GOLD** - *Exam Required (W/T/FT/QS), (CC/R/S/J)*  
Junior Fees \$220  
Youth Fees \$260
  
- GOLD** - *Exam Required (W/T/FT/QS/VW), (CC/R/S/J/PD)*  
Junior Fees \$280  
Youth Fees \$350

\* JUNIOR: *Under 16 years of age*

\* YOUTH: *16 years of age + above*