



Toowoomba Ballet Theatre

2026 Season

PROSPECTUS



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WEB www.toowoombaballettheatre.com.au



SOCIALS @toowoombaballettheatre



EMAIL mia@toowoombaballettheatre.com.au



STUDIOS 9 Railway Street, Toowoomba City



Welcome to TBT

Since 2016, TBT has been uniting dancers from around Queensland to stage unique, full-scale productions at Toowoomba's iconic Empire Theatre.

In our upcoming season, TBT presents two exciting major productions:



What is TBT and how does it work?

First time to TBT? Welcome!

TBT is a non-competitive platform for regional dancers aged 8 to adult. Here, dancers audition to be part of our upcoming productions. Each year, the productions are different and staged at the incredible Empire Theatre in Toowoomba. Every year runs slightly differently, and every show is unique.

If dancers are offered a place in the production (everyone re-auditions each time), they are cast into roles (usually two, depending on the show's requirements) and attend classes and rehearsals in the months leading up to the show dates.

Dancers learn about their role in a company on a larger scale and connect with other like-minded dancers. TBT provides a wonderful opportunity to learn, grow, and be inspired by dance and performing outside of competitions, in a real-world setting.

At TBT, we believe dancers thrive where they are happy, so we focus on creating a positive environment that fosters confident and creative dancers. The productions offer roles to dancers with a range of strengths and skills. While classical ballet is an integral part of the company, all dancers are celebrated at TBT, and the shows are often shaped around the skills and strengths of the dancers in each production.

A brief glimpse into the 2026 Season at TBT

Normally, our season runs over the Summer holidays into April, with some productions in December and/or January, culminating in our major production in April.

In 2026, things will look a little different! Our 2026 Season will start with a major production in April, and culminate with a second major production in December.

Our April production, **OZ** is inspired by Wicked and The Wizard of Oz, with the 'TBT' twists and flair we always add to our major productions. This production will feature a range of characters and styles of dance, from acrobatics, contemporary, classical ballet, and more!

At Christmas, TBT presents **The Nutcracker**, a family classic tradition - this time with a contemporary and modern twist! The Nutcracker will not be a 'classical ballet' rather a reimagined and multi faceted work inspired by the Four Realms with new characters, sub plots and unexplored lands!

Program Information

TBT productions are open to dancers from all studios and backgrounds, aged 8 years and older. Age is determined as of 1st Jan 2026 and there is no upper age limit for dancers to audition.

Dancers who are just under the age cut-off may apply however this age is taken into consideration regarding readiness for the program.

TBT dancers attend rehearsals periodically in the lead up to the performance and preliminary casting for each production is determined at the Audition days. This casting is released after deposits are paid and dancer numbers are confirmed.

Dancers are permitted to miss up to three rehearsal days for prior commitments, including performances with their home studios which should be prioritised.

During the program, parents and dancers access information and communications via our private dancer's App (not available on the App store). In the case of missed rehearsals, dancers expected to find videos of missed rehearsals within the App to catch up on missed content so as not to delay the rehearsal process.

Production Fees

2026 Production Fees per dancer, per production: **\$849**

TBT's production fee is an all-inclusive fee and covers;

- All classes, rehearsals and performances,
- Costume hire,
- Administration and Insurance,
- 2 pair of tights
- 1 Production shirt
- Videography

Production fees do NOT cover;

- Dancers' personal items (makeup, shoes, additional tights etc)
- TBT Uniforms
- Travel and personal expenses
- Photography
- Show tickets and Programs

A non-refundable deposit of \$250 is payable to confirm and secure the dancers' placement in the production.

Late fees of 20% are applied to outstanding accounts.

Payment plans are available upon request.

Adult Dancers

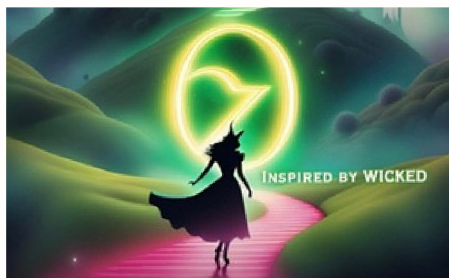
From 2026, dancers aged 18 years and older as of 1st Jan 2026 pay a reduced fee of **50% off** fees to encourage adult regional dancers to continue performing in adulthood.

Scholarships

At the end of each season (In 2026 this will be at the culmination of Nutcracker) Miss Mia awards half scholarships towards the subsequent season fees. These are chosen based on embodying the spirit of TBT.

Adult (18+) and first year TBT dancers are not eligible for TBT scholarships.

OZ Dates



2025

Sun 9th November **OZ Audition Day**

Fri 5th Dec Deposits Due

Mid Dec Casting Release

2026

Fri 6th Mar Program Fees Due

Sundays in Term 1:

8th 15th 22nd & 29th Mar Studio Rehearsals

First Week of School Holidays:

Mon 6th - Fri 10th Apr Studio Rehearsals

Sat 11th April **Photo Day**

Second Week of School Holidays:

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Apr Studio Rehearsals

Sat 18th April **Stage Rehearsal**

Sun 19th April **Matinee & Evening Performances**

Nutcracker Dates



2026

Sun 12th July **Nutcracker Audition Day**

Fri 7th Aug *Deposits Due*

Mid August *Casting Release*

Fri 18th Sep *Program Fees Due*

Second Week of School Holidays
Mon 28th Sep - Fri 2nd Oct **Studio Rehearsals**

Sat 3rd Oct **Photo Day**

Alternate Sundays in Term 4
18th Oct, 1st, 15th & 29th Nov **Studio Rehearsals**

First Week of School Holidays:
Sun 13th - Thu 17th Dec **Studio Rehearsals**

Fri 18th December **Stage Rehearsal**

Sat 19th December **Matinee & Evening Performances**

Audition Information

Option 1: In - Person Audition (Preferred)

Oz Auditions: 9th November 2025

Nutcracker Auditions: 12th July 2026

In - Person Audition fee: \$30

The dancers are divided into classes by age and will be notified of their class times via email.

The audition classes will consist of brief Classical Technique and Pointe (if appropriate), some combinations taught in the Audition, and Solos (optional).

Strong classical technique is not a requirement as each show has a range of types of roles, however the dancers are required to attend this section of the audition.

Solos are not compulsory however are strongly encouraged to all dancers to demonstrate their personal strengths. We find this section of the audition is where most dancers really shine! Please present a solo in a style you prefer and suit - if you are an acrobat - show off your skills! **Please cut solos to less than 2 minutes.** Solo music must be uploaded via the form provided. Please do not email music.

Dancers who are auditioning in person and wish to submit special skills that require special apparatus (eg. lyra) are to submit these via video before the Audition day. No additional audition fee is required for this submission. These must be submitted via the form provided. **Please do not email large files.**

What to wear: Plain Leotard and Ballet tights for classical components. Fitted shorts and short skirts/half tutus may be worn for solos where appropriate. No costumes or props please.

Option 2: Video Audition

Video submission fee: \$50

Dancers who are unable to attend the audition dates in person may submit a video audition.

Videos can include: Barre, Centre, Solos, Variations and Performance Recordings. Submissions do NOT need to be of professional quality however the dancer's face and dancing must be clearly visible.

Submissions including multiple dancers (eg group work): the auditioning dancer must be clearly identifiable.

Video submissions must be submitted using the appropriate form. **Please do not email large files.**

Video submissions due dates:

Oz: 8th November 2025

Nutcracker: 11th July 2026

No discussion regarding the casting decisions or outcome of the auditions will be entered into.

Audition Registrations can be found via
www.toowoomballettheatre.com.au/audition

Registrations close 1 week before the audition days.

For further inquiries please contact the Director:
mia@toowoomballettheatre.com.au

Get involved behind the scenes at TBT

Work experience opportunities.

Dancers and artists in the region will be given opportunities to gain incredible experience in the creative process of staging a major production.

In 2026 TBT will offer a small number of secondments for regional dancers and artists seeking real industry experience in a range of roles;

- Administration
- Marketing
- Set Design and Construction
- Costume Making and Design
- Hair and Makeup Services
- Choreography and Rehearsal Assistance
- Stage Management
- Theatre Technical Support
- Show Production
- Graphic Design
- Photography
- Sound Editing and Design

Dance backgrounds preferred. Minimum ages and working with children checks (Blue Card) mandatory to apply for a Secondment with TBT. *Minimum age: 16 years.

To inquire about secondments in TBT 2026 please inquire to; mia@toowoombaballettheatre.com.au

Level up at the College

Friday and/or Saturday coaching program in 2026 with opportunity to achieve up to Diploma in Dance (Elite Performance).

Designed specifically to give regional dancers access to elite training and vocational education, without needing to leave their home studios, "The College" offers boutique style coaching and education for dancers in Grade 5 to Adult.



Dancers attend weekly classes in Classical, Pointe (or pre pointe), Repertoire and Body Conditioning, as well as a 'Specialist' lesson which varies each week.

The dancers can then elect to 'add on' a Cert II to Diploma in Dance via Empowerdance. These can be used to reduce their schooling workload in Grade 11 and 12, attributing up to 8 QCE points out of the 20 required.

For more information visit:

www.toowoombaballettheatre.com.au/college

Toowoomba Ballet Theatre 2026 Season Policies and Procedures

PAYMENT AND FEE POLICIES

A non refundable deposit of \$250 secures the students' placement in the program, and allows the Director to order uniforms, costuming and reserve the Empire Theatre.

Where deposits have not been received by the due date, it will be assumed that the dancer is not accepting their offered position in the company and their space will be given to a shortlisted dancer.

Any outstanding amounts owing after the due dates will incur a late fee of 20% of the outstanding amount. This amount will be automatically applied to all outstanding accounts.

Any outstanding accounts 2 weeks prior to the production will result in dismissal from the production.

To arrange a payment plan, please contact Miss Mia: mia@toowoombaballettheatre.com.au

The program fees cover the following; all classes and rehearsals, administration, insurance, costuming, studio and theatre hire, staffing, events, performances and marketing, production shirts, videography, and TWO pairs of required tights per dancer.

Program fees do NOT include: uniforms, production shirt, performance tights, personal food and travel expenses, dance shoes as required, performance items (hair and make up etc), Show tickets, programs and Photography.

Deposits are non-refundable.

The balance of Program Fees may be refundable only under the following circumstances:

- The dancer sustains a significant injury before the first scheduled rehearsal date which prevents participation in.
- The student withdraws from the program before commencing the first scheduled rehearsal.
- Other special circumstances at the discretion of the Program Director, Mia Huston.

The balance of Program Fees are NOT refundable in the following circumstances:

- Withdrawal after the commencement of the first rehearsal,
- Dismissal from the program for reasons including but not limited to: unsatisfactory attendance, poor code of conduct by the dancer or their parent or guardian, gross misconduct, or failure to pay fees in full including applicable late fees.
- Withdrawal from the program based on casting or artistic decisions of the program director, Mia Huston.
- Inability for the dancer to attend rehearsals or performances due to COVID-19 quarantine, lockdowns or other covid restrictions.
- Other special circumstances at the discretion of the Program Director, Mia Huston

SCHOLARSHIPS

Each season a small number of half scholarships are awarded to dancers who displayed talent, however above all demonstrate outstanding work ethic, integrity, humility, and sportsmanship. These are awarded at the conclusion of our major production in Easter, and grant 50% off program fees for the following season (until and including the following major production).

These scholarships have no bearing on future casting decisions.

First year TBT dancers and adult dancers (aged 18+) are not eligible to receive a scholarship.

Past Scholarship Winners:

2016: Sarah Bye & Isabelle Stibbard

2017: Cooper Moller, Kinzie Campbell & Nicole Knott

2018: Lexie Campbell & Chelsea Bowden

2019: Faith Kelly, Holly Lobb & Sienna Richardson

2020: Lynette Walker & Sophia Gougoulas

2021: Ilsa Crosdale & Madeline Johnson

2022: Ava Francis & Lucinda Love

2023: Meena Sayed & Georgia Jess

2024: Mark Briscoe, Chloe George & Maya Lee

2025: Hannah Sayed & Amilee Briscoe

Scholarship recipients are expected to continue to demonstrate a high standard of conduct at TBT classes, rehearsals and events. The director reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship to dancers and/or their families who do not demonstrate appropriate behaviours and conduct.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All dancers are expected to behave in a polite, respectful and positively engaged manner. Students who are found to display or engage in the following may be dismissed from the program at the discretion of the Program Director, Mia Huston:

- Poor sportsmanship
- An inability to resolve personal conflicts without causing disruption or embarrassment to the company or associated studios
- Bullying or Discrimination of any form
- Harm, intention to harm, or disrespect towards peers, parents, patrons, staff or volunteers
- Wilful damage to, or theft of studio or personal property
- Recording or photographing of rehearsals without consent of the Director
- Slander, bullying or inappropriate conduct in person or on social media in regards to Toowoomba Ballet Theatre, or any of its associated person, events, or properties.

Parents and guardians please note that this code of conduct extends beyond the behaviour of the dancers, and that the conduct of parents and family should also follow the above. In the event of personal disputes, parents are encouraged to demonstrate positive conflict resolution, and set a positive example for their children and the other dancers in the program.

The Director reserves the right to dismiss dancers from the program as a result of the actions of their parents, friends or family.

UNIFORM

Uniform must be worn to all class and rehearsals, unless indicated otherwise (eg. free dress days).

GIRLS

- TBT Leotard, TBT Skirt and own pink tights
- Pink ballet flats and pointes as required (Ribbons on ballet flats are not required for rehearsals)
- Hair in a neat classical style (Bun, French twist etc) with minimal hair accessories only please.
- NO: shorts, jazz shoes, ponytails, dangling jewellery.

BOYS

- TBT leotard, Black, Navy or White Tights or Shorts.
- Black, White or Tan Ballet flats.
- Hair neatly off face, with facial hair neatly groomed. No dangling jewellery please.

CASTING

All casting and artistic decisions are made by the Program Director, Mia Huston. No discussion will be entered into regarding casting or artistic decisions.

Please also note that Toowoomba Ballet Theatre productions are not end of year concerts or eisteddfods. Each production has a unique casting and show structure. Some shows will see dancers in up the three roles, while some will see dancers in a single piece or role. Every role is important in creating the entire production, and each dancer is valued as a performer in the company, regardless of their roles and placement on stage.

Some dancers will be given the opportunity to shadow or understudy a role, and will be required to attend all rehearsals for which they are shadows/understudies. Please view this as a fabulous opportunity to get more studio and dancing time, and even to possibly step into a second role.

COSTUMING

Hire of Costumes is included in the Program Fees. All costuming, props and scenery remain property of Toowoomba Ballet Theatre.

Families are permitted to make minor alterations to costumes where necessary.

Major damage and/or staining to costumes will incur a cleaning fee of \$50 per costume.

Costuming decisions are entirely at the discretion of the Artistic Director and no discussion will be entered into regarding costuming choices.

Costumes must not be washed in a machine. Breakages or damages must be reported to the Director.

Garment bags containing all costume are handed out before photo days and performances. Dancers are required to check garment bags for any missing items BEFORE days which costumes are required. Dancers who misplace, damage or ruin costumes will be expected to replace these before the shows etc.

SCHEDULING AND ATTENDANCE

Dancers are required to attend ALL rehearsals and warm up classes for which they are called, unless directly exempted.

Schedules for rehearsals are sent out as soon as they are finalised, to allow families as much time as possible to create necessary arrangements.

Rehearsal schedules take a lot of time and consideration to create and as such requests to change the schedule will not be considered.

Dancers are not permitted to miss more than THREE rehearsal days for each production for vital studio commitments, such as dance concerts, exam eisteddfods etc. Students are supported to prioritise their home studio commitments where possible.

In the event of injury or non-contagious illness, students are strongly encouraged to attend and view or mark rehearsals.

During the rehearsal process, recordings of choreography are uploaded and shared in a facebook group for dancers to access. Dancers who miss a day of rehearsals are required to study these and learn off the video so as not to disrupt the rehearsals by their absence.

Rehearsal venues may vary between productions depending on studio availabilities. Locations will be advised in the rehearsal schedules. Please note that all classes and rehearsals are strictly closed, no viewing will be permitted, and that any conflicts which arise from this arrangement may result in either the dismissal of involved families or the banning of parents from waiting at the studio during rehearsals. Please behave appropriately as a representative of both the Toowoomba Ballet Theatre and your dance studio. Dancers are permitted to watch other dancers' rehearsals while on a breaks.

Students who do not make an effort to catch up on missed days may be removed from scenes which they have missed.

Students who do not meet satisfactory attendance requirements for any reason may be removed from select scenes or the entire production at the discretion of the Director.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following methods are used to convey all information to dancers and their families:

- The TBT App - a link to this is shared upon acceptance into the program.
- Facebook Group " TBT Parents Hub" - this is the primary method to connect with each other, share documents and ask questions.
- The Director can be best contacted at mia@toowoombaballettheatre.com.au

TOOWOOMBA BALLET THEATRE CHILD SAFETY POLICY

Purpose

Toowoomba Ballet Theatre is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for all children and young people participating in our programs. This policy outlines our approach to child safety and our responsibilities in protecting children from harm.

Scope:

This policy applies to all staff, teachers, volunteers, contractors, students, and families involved with Toowoomba Ballet Theatre.

Principles:

- The welfare and best interests of the child are paramount.
- All children have the right to feel safe and be safe at all times.
- Children's views are valued and taken seriously.
- Equity, diversity, and inclusion are respected and promoted.

Policy Statements:

1. Child Protection:

- All staff, teachers, and volunteers must hold a current Blue Card (or equivalent Working With Children Check).
- Any concerns or allegations of child abuse or neglect will be taken seriously, reported promptly, and handled according to legal and regulatory requirements.
- Staff and volunteers receive training in child protection and safety.

2. Code of Conduct:

- All adults must behave respectfully and appropriately towards children at all times.
- Physical contact is only permitted when necessary for teaching purposes and must always be appropriate and explained to the child.
- Bullying, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated.

3. Supervision:

- Children will be supervised at all times during classes, rehearsals, and performances.
- Parents/carers are responsible for their children before and after scheduled activities.

4. Communication:

- Open communication with parents/carers is encouraged.
- Children are encouraged to speak up if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

5. Photography and Media:

- Parental/guardian consent is required before photographing or filming children.
- Images will be used respectfully and only for approved purposes.

Reporting Concerns:

If you have any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing, contact mia@toowoombaballettheatre.com.au. All reports will be handled confidentially.

Review:

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as required.