About
The Pre-Professional Division at the Joffrey Academy of Dance is designed to meet the highest artistic standards. Led by Karin Ellis-Wentz, Head of Pre-Professional Programs, the artistic staff trains dancers to develop a strong foundation in classical ballet. With the discipline and confidence cultivated at the Joffrey Academy, students can pursue careers as professional dancers or find success in other fields. As part of the Pre-Professional Division, students participate in a full schedule of evening dance classes and perform in the Joffrey Academy’s annual productions. Past productions have included *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, *Coppélia*, *Don Quixote Suite*, and *Swan Lake*.

As the official school and only training program of The Joffrey Ballet, the Academy reflects the Joffrey Company – America’s preeminent ballet company. Following Robert Joffrey’s vision for training, the Academy is rooted in the foundation of classical ballet. Taking from the English, Russian, and French techniques, amongst others, the Academy’s curriculum gives students a well-rounded and comprehensive dance education, fulling preparing them for today’s dance world. The training offered at the Academy generates technically strong, artistically creative and well-versed students who excel in their future careers. The personal attention and guidance by Joffrey Academy Faculty will help prepare each student for his/her dance future.

Performance Opportunities
Depending on level, students in the Pre-Professional Program will perform in at least two productions each year:

**Fall Program** (November 2018) – Mixed repertory performance highlighting the upper levels of the school (including Pre-Professional Levels IV-VI)

**The Joffrey Ballet Nutcracker** (December 2018) – Students in the Pre-Professional Program may be selected to perform in Christopher Wheeldon’s *Nutcracker*.

**Winter Presentation** (Feb 2019) – Mixed repertory performance featuring Pre-Professional Levels III-VI.

**Spring Production** (May 2019) – *Coppélia*

Pre-Professional Class Schedule
Dancers have class in the evenings and on Saturdays. Class schedules vary per level. Please note – all schedules are subject to change.

Faculty
The Joffrey Academy Pre-Professional Program is led by Karin Ellis-Wentz, Head of Pre-Professional Programs. Kyle Seguin, Pre-Professional Division Liaison, also instructs many of the classes within the Pre-Professional Program alongside several other esteemed Joffrey faculty members. Pre-Professional students may also have the opportunity to learn from guest instructors, including Ashley Wheater, Joffrey Ballet Artistic Director, and Raymond Rodriguez, Head of Studio Company and Trainee Programs. For a full list of Joffrey Academy Faculty, please visit our [Faculty webpage](#).
Tuition and Fees

Total Tuition and Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Registration Fee</th>
<th>Annual Tuition</th>
<th>Performance Fee</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level III</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$4,904.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$5,154.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level IV</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$6,824.00</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$7,224.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level V</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$7,328.00</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$7,728.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level VI</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$7,800.00</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$8,200.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Registration</th>
<th>September 15</th>
<th>November 15</th>
<th>January 15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level III</td>
<td>$1,476.00</td>
<td>$1,226.00</td>
<td>$1,226.00</td>
<td>$1,226.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level IV</td>
<td>$2,106.00</td>
<td>$1,706.00</td>
<td>$1,706.00</td>
<td>$1,706.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level V</td>
<td>$2,232.00</td>
<td>$1,832.00</td>
<td>$1,832.00</td>
<td>$1,832.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level VI</td>
<td>$2,350.00</td>
<td>$1,950.00</td>
<td>$1,950.00</td>
<td>$1,950.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academics

The Academy’s Pre-Professional Program is designed so that students may remain enrolled in a traditional high school in addition to their ballet training. For students interested in completing high school credits through online schooling, K12 International Academy and The Keystone School are both accredited institutions. Whether students are seeking greater academic challenges, in need of a more nurturing environment or working around budding careers, travel, and extracurricular pursuits, these institutions enable students to learn at their own pace.

K12

Joffrey Academy has a referral-based relationship with K12 International Academy. The International Academy offers a more hands on approach to online schooling with both virtual teachers and student experience coordinators to help guide students through their studies. For parents, built-in planning and progress tools let you easily schedule or view lessons online, log attendance, and monitor your child’s advancement to make sure he or she is moving at the right pace.

There is the option to register for the full academic year or one semester at a time. If interested in receiving more information on K12’s International Academy, please refer to the link below and/or contact Joffrey’s Account Manager:

Gina Harden
Office: 571.405.2022
E-mail: gharden@k12.com
Skype: ginafk12

K12 International Academy Brochure

The Keystone School

A flexible approach to online schooling, students can enroll in Keystone at any time as a full-time student on track to receive a high school diploma, or part-time to supplement a traditional home school curriculum. Keystone is self-paced and best catered to students who require little teacher supervision.

For more information visit: http://www.keystoneschoolonline.com/
Please Note: The Joffrey Academy does not take any responsibility for arranging academic needs and does not provide an accredited program for the completion of high school. All academic arrangements are the responsibility of the student.

**English Language Course**
In an effort to maximize communication and overall experience, all International students from non-English speaking countries will be required to take an English proficiency test near the beginning of the program. The results of this test will determine whether or not the student will need to participate in mandatory ESOL classes throughout the program. Classes will take place before ballet 1 day a week over the course of the Fall term. There will be a fee for those participating in the class.

**International Students**
Please visit the Joffrey Academy’s [International Student FAQ](#). If you will need a visa, please indicate that in your registration email. Visa application instructions will be sent after the registration process is complete. An additional $100 International Student Registration Fee applies to international students who require a visa.

**Seminars**
The Joffrey Academy Parents’ Association hosts educational discussions and seminars on a regular basis which are geared toward students in the Pre-Professional Division. Past sessions have included:
- Healthy habits for dancers
- Injury prevention/care
- Q&A with Winning Works choreographers
- Careers in Dance
- Meet the Company

**Living in Chicago Information**

**Housing**
The Joffrey Academy has an ongoing housing partnership with the [Infinite Chicago](#) for students in the Pre-Professional Division and Trainee Programs. Infinite Chicago is located on Wabash and Jackson, within walking distance to The Joffrey Tower and designed to fit the busy lifestyle of Joffrey students living in the downtown Loop area.

All apartments come fully furnished and include a large array of amenities including an in-unit washer and dryer, full kitchen, and cable and internet service. Please identify yourself as a Joffrey Academy participant when contacting the Infinite Chicago for the first time. If interested in having another Joffrey student as your roommate, mention at the time of booking. Infinite Chicago will make every effort to accommodate these requests, although it is not guaranteed. Housing at Infinite is unchaperoned and recommended for students 16 and older. Students 15 and under are encouraged to move to Chicago with a parent/guardian.
Below you will find:
Leasing Instructions

Rate Sheet and Joffrey Floor Plans

Shared bedrooms start at $929/month per student. There are a limited number of leases available at the rates outlined in the above link. Any leases signed after these beds are filled may be subject to Infinite’s regular rates. DO NOT sign a lease with the Chicago Infinite before your student is registered for the Pre-Professional Program.

Please contact Infinite’s Leasing and Marketing Manager, Sydney LaBoda, for more information:
Email: slaboda@chicagoinfinite.com
Phone: (312) 724-6767

Living Expenses
In all, we recommend having $1,500-2,000 available for start-up costs for general expenses such as groceries and for your first month of rent. You will incur these costs throughout your first week, so include them in your planning.

Below are estimates and represent cost per person, per month when living with roommates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Expenses</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent and Utilities</td>
<td>$1050-1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$200-400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>$115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Monthly Living Costs</td>
<td>$1365-2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students are required to have health insurance while attending The Joffrey Academy of Dance.

International Students: You can use the insurance company of your choice or you can use an approved company, ISO Student Health Insurance. Quotes can be obtained at www.isoa.org: select “International student,” enter student date of birth, select the state of Illinois, and select “Joffrey Academy of Dance.”
Athletico Physical Therapy
On-site Physical Therapy at Joffrey Tower
Students will have the option to participate in on-site physical therapy sessions offered by Athletico, Joffrey’s official physical therapy provider. Students may purchase six 15-minute physical therapy sessions with an Athletico physical therapist for $100. Sessions will be held at the Joffrey Academy of Dance and do not require students to use insurance cards. Single sessions may be available for $20.

Complimentary Injury Screening
If you are experiencing any aches or pains that are keeping you from doing what you love to do, Athletico Physical Therapy is happy to provide you with a complimentary injury screening – your chance for a licensed physical or occupational therapist or certified athletic trainer to evaluate your injury, answer questions, and recommend next options.

Athletico’s Complimentary Injury Screenings offer:
- Free assessment by a licensed medical professional
- Convenient and easy scheduling
- Personal attention to your health
- Education regarding potential injury
- Injury care plan or physician referral, if needed
- Peace of mind

Complimentary Injury Screenings are available at all Athletico clinics and are not available at Joffrey Tower.
Joffrey History

The Joffrey Ballet has been hailed as “America’s Ballet Company of Firsts.”

The Joffrey Ballet’s long list of “firsts” includes being the first dance company to perform at the White House at Jacqueline Kennedy’s invitation, the first to appear on television, the first American ballet company to visit Russia, the first classical dance company to go multi-media, the first to commission a rock ‘n roll ballet and the first and only dance company to appear on the cover of Time magazine.

For more than a half-century, The Joffrey Ballet’s commitment to taking world-class, artistically vibrant work to a broad and varied audience has created a solid foundation that continues to support the company’s unprecedented capacity for achieving important “firsts.” Today, the Joffrey, which has been hugely successful in its former residences in New York and Los Angeles, lives permanently in a brilliant new facility, the Joffrey Tower, in Chicago. The company’s commitment to accessibility is met through the most extensive touring schedule of any dance company in history, an innovative and highly effective education program and collaborations with a myriad of other visual and performing arts organizations.

Classically trained to the highest standards, The Joffrey Ballet expresses a unique, inclusive perspective on dance, proudly reflecting the diversity of America with its company, audiences, and repertoire which include major story ballets, reconstructions of masterpieces and contemporary works. Founded by visionary teacher Robert Joffrey in 1956, and guided by celebrated choreographer Gerald Arpino from 1988 until 2007, The Joffrey Ballet continues to thrive under internationally renowned Artistic Director Ashley C. Wheater, appointed to the position in 2007.

About Joffrey Academy
Located in the heart of Chicago’s theater district, the 20,000 square foot Exelon Education Center, which is home to the Academy, boasts four state-of-the-art studios in the new Joffrey Tower. The Joffrey Academy received the distinguished honor of being named Outstanding School in 2010, 2012, 2015, and 2016 by the Youth America Grand Prix, the world’s largest international student ballet competition. The Joffrey Academy also received the Boeing Game Changer Award in recognition of its efforts to make dance accessible to all.

Alumni
Biographies

Ashley Wheater
Mary B. Galvin Artistic Director of The Joffrey Ballet

Ashley Wheater has dedicated his life to dance. He was born in Scotland and trained at The Royal Ballet School in England. He worked with Frederick Ashton, Kenneth MacMillan, and Michael Somes in numerous ballets at Covent Garden, including Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, Giselle, Manon, Anastacia and The Dream. Mr. Wheater danced with Rudolf Nureyev in Nureyev and Friends at the London Coliseum.

On Mr. Nureyev's advice, Mr. Wheater joined the London Festival Ballet and danced in his Romeo and Juliet and Sleeping Beauty. He danced in Glen Tetley's Sphinx and Greening and in Festival Ballet's large repertoire of classics and new creations. Under the artistic direction of John Field, he was promoted to Principal Dancer at the age of 20.

In 1982, he joined the Australian Ballet where he continued dancing principal roles in both classical and contemporary work, especially in the John Cranko full-length ballets.

In 1985, at the invitation of Gerald Arpino, Mr. Wheater joined The Joffrey Ballet. For the next four years, he performed various works by American choreographers including William Forsythe, Gerald Arpino, Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, and Laura Dean, as well as repertoire by Ashton and Cranko.

Joining the San Francisco Ballet in 1989, he continued his creative career working under Helgi Tomasson, and with choreographers James Kudelka, David Bintley and many more. In 1997, he retired from dancing and was appointed Ballet Master and, later, Assistant to the Artistic Director at the San Francisco Ballet.

Since his appointment in 2007 as artistic director of The Joffrey Ballet, his passion and commitment to the Joffrey have been evident in the quality that he has brought to the dancing and to the repertoire. He has invited world-renowned choreographers, as well as fresh young talent, to create new work for the company. Mr. Wheater has added new full-length works to the Joffrey's repertoire, including Lar Lubovitch’s groundbreaking Othello, Ronald Hynd’s The Merry Widow and Yuri Possokhov’s Don Quixote.

In 2008, Mr. Wheater was the recipient of the Boeing Game-Changer Award in recognition of his commitment to community engagement in Chicago and to the celebration of diversity through dance. He sits on the Advisory Board for Dance Magazine, serves as the Artistic Advisor for ChiArts and is the Advisor to the Arts for the Lincoln Academy of Illinois. In 2010, Mr. Wheater, representing The Joffrey Ballet, was named Lincoln Academy Laureate, the highest honor presented by the State of Illinois, and in 2013 the Chicago Tribune named him “Chicagoan of the Year”. In 2015, Wheater received the University of Chicago Rosenberger Medal for Outstanding Achievement in the Creative and Performing Arts. He also serves as the Artistic Director of the Joffrey Academy of Dance, the Official School of The Joffrey Ballet.
Karin Ellis-Wentz  
Head of Pre-Professional Programs

Raised in Saratoga, California, Karin Ellis-Wentz trained with Elizabeth Neumann, Stephanie Wing and Georgina Coleman, as well as the San Francisco Ballet Summer Program. At age 12, she began four years of training with Maria Vegh, Ruth Petrinovic, Jocelyn Vollmar, and Norbet Vesak at the Marin Ballet School, San Rafael, CA. In the summer of 1985, she trained with Robert Joffrey at the Joffrey Workshop in San Antonio, TX. Ms. Ellis-Wentz was a two-time semifinalist in the Prix de Lausanne, and in 1986 was offered a scholarship to the Heinz Bosl Stiftung in Munich, Germany.

Ms. Ellis-Wentz began her professional career in 1987 with the Atlanta Ballet, under the direction of Robert Barnett. In 1988 she joined the Dutch National Ballet in Amsterdam where she spent seven years dancing under the directorships, respectively, of Rudi van Dantzig and Wayne Eagling. She rose to the rank of Grand Sujet. In 1995, Ms. Ellis-Wentz joined Boston Ballet, under the directorships of Bruce Marks and Anna Marie Holmes.

Ms. Ellis-Wentz joined American Ballet Theatre in 1999, where she performed for 11 years. At ABT, she danced many soloist and principal roles in ballets by Balanchine, Frederick Ashton, Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, Jiri Kylian, Twyla Tharp, and William Forsythe. Ms. Ellis-Wentz had roles created for her in world premiere ballets by Paul Taylor, Mark Morris, and director Kevin McKenzie. She also performed numerous featured roles in the full classical repertoire including Giselle, La Bayadere, Swan Lake, Don Quixote, Romeo and Juliet, Coppelia, Le Corsaire, and Raymonda. In December 2005, Ms. Ellis-Wentz had the honor of performing at the White House for President Bush, First Lady Laura Bush, and military families.

Ms. Ellis-Wentz is an ABT® Certified Teacher, having successfully completed the ABT® Teacher Training Intensive in Primary through Level 8 of the ABT® National Training Curriculum. She is also a certified Stott Pilates® instructor. While still performing, Ms. Ellis-Wentz taught ballet to children and adults in the greater New York area. After retiring from ABT, she taught at the Academy of Ballet Etudes in Norwalk, CT, in the Musical Theater Conservatory of the New York Film Academy, and at the ABT® Summer Intensive in New York City. After moving to the Chicago area in 2012, she joined the Dance Faculty at the Chicago High School for the Arts and in 2013 the Joffrey Academy Faculty.

Kyle Seguin  
Pre-Professional Division Liaison

Kyle Seguin danced with the Alabama Ballet in Birmingham, Alabama, where he performed many principal roles including, Count Albrecht in Giselle, Prince Siegfried in Swan Lake, Prince Desire in The Sleeping Beauty, Franz in Coppelia, El Capitan in George Balanchine’s Stars and Stripes, and the title roles in Dracula and Romeo and Juliet. Kyle also danced with Southern DanceWorks, where he performed works by Robert Battle and Teri Weksler. Kyle is a Stott-trained Pilates instructor, an ACE Certified Personal Trainer, holds a BS in Psychology from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, and was previously a faculty member at The Chicago High School for the Arts and Columbia College Chicago, where he taught Ballet, Anatomy, Pas de Deux, and Men’s Technique. Kyle is the founder/owner of One Hundred, a Pilates and dance studio in East Lakeview.