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# BALLET EXAM PREPARATORY PROGRAM

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Studying for a ballet exam presents students with an excellent opportunity to set goals and focus their efforts throughout the dance year. At the graded level, preparing for an exam offers numerous benefits. Students gain a deeper understanding of the demands of ballet training, including the importance of attention to detail and precision of technique. To foster an environment where everyone can feel successful amid the physical demands of technique, our emphasis will be on the presentation of performance aspects.

We encourage dancers to approach the exam as an opportunity to showcase their ballet class, emphasizing the performance aspect that is already integral to our teaching philosophy. This approach allows dancers to set personal goals and work towards achieving them within a supportive and encouraging environment, promoting confidence and autonomy. At FCSD, we believe that the process of preparing for an exam is just as enriching as the exam itself.

Participation in an exam or in-house assessment, which is facilitated by FCSD faculty, is mandatory for students enrolled in the Exam Prep Program. Faculty members make the final decision regarding the classification of assessment for each student, ensuring that individual needs and technical progress are taken into account. Students are evaluated by qualified examiners based on a predetermined body of work.

At FCSD, we are privileged to offer exams in both the Cecchetti Method and the American Ballet Theatre's National Training Curriculum. These internationally recognized examination bodies provide a systematic measurement of progress and attainment, motivating and encouraging students of all ages and levels of ability.

It's important to note that there are costs associated with participating in exams, including entry fees, exam uniforms, accompanist fees, and facility rental fees. Please be aware that annual exam fees are determined by the governing examination bodies and are not set by FCSD.