



Mark Lanham & Stephanie Parker Lanham, Directors

+++++ **Mission Statement** +++++

The mission of LanDance Conservatory is to train and to educate young dance students in the most professional methods possible, thereby producing the best-prepared dancers in our community.

We strive to instill in our students a love of strong character, a feeling of solid confidence, and a healthy attitude, to help fortify them against the many challenges of life. The atmosphere surrounding our community today is saturated with media images and peer pressures, which appear to compel both adults and children alike to desire instantaneous results. Nowhere is this condition more prevalent than in the perceptions of classical ballet training.

Although serious ballet training closely imitates serious music performance in intensity, there is no similar comparison in any other physical performing art. The correct placement of the body and the perfect execution of the basic movements of classical ballet take extensive time and patience to master. It is only after this accomplishment that they excel. The statement, "It takes ten years to make a dancer," is true; therefore ten years of daily ballet class, in addition to music and repertory training, are necessary to produce a finished dancer.

We realize that many students are not able to make this rigorous a commitment, nevertheless, we feel a responsibility to give young dancers as professional an experience as possible, which always includes a disciplined class, no matter how often they attend. Often our chief concern is communicating this truth. When this view is understood by both parents and students, our mutual experience can be both enlightening and joyous.

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