

Studio
en
Avant
Academy of Dance

2ND ANNUAL DANCE RECITAL

Ballet
Chinese Dance
Folk Dance



Breathe Love
Dance Joy

30 MAY, 2026 3PM

@SOLON HIGH SCHOOL
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STUDIO EN AVANT- ACADEMY OF DANCE

It's evenings like this where we get to look back and take it all in. We can trace the beginning of this studio back to 2022 to a conversation with a mom in a baby gymnastics class which led to some private ballet lessons in our basement. Through word of mouth, we grew from 1 student to 3 to a small group class. Our lives at the time were busy, chaotic with young children, a hectic teaching schedule and both of us in school full time. But these first lessons were a bright spot and a dream began to form in our minds. Would it even be possible? We approached one of our adult students for help and with her we began in earnest to build some of what you will see on stage tonight.

Tonight, you will see some of our first students on stage. We never would have thought that studio ownership could bring us so much joy, from meeting so many people, to watching them grow as artists and people. We are so immensely proud of and grateful for our home and community. We have been humbled by the generosity and trust of our students and consistently amazed by the incredible talents of our staff. We have learned so much and are truly grateful for each one of you who has been a part of our journey. We will strive every day to live up to the trust given to us.

This recital is the culmination of years of work. Some pieces on the stage tonight have been in rehearsal for over a year, and the technique required to pull them off takes many years of practice and dedication. For each minute on stage, there are hours of unseen rehearsal and hours of unseen technique classes. As Barbara reminds her students often, dance requires a couple of ingredients: effort, grit, a dash of failure, and lots of time. All of these have been poured into this show.

We now truly believe that dance can make the world a better place by bringing people of different backgrounds together to express themselves, find joy in movement and music, and create community. In a time where adults and children spend more and more time online, where the epidemic of loneliness continues to grow, we are so proud to serve our mission of bringing people physically together, for dance, for friendship, and for finding joy. Thank you for trusting us with a portion of your lives. We hope we can continue serving you for years to come.

-

Mo and Barbara Liu

Welcome &
ENJOY THE SHOW!

Special Thank You to Our Teachers!



Mo Liu

Liu Mo is one of the founders of Studio en Avant and a highly experienced dance educator and performer. He holds a BFA in Dance Pedagogy and Performance from Beijing Dance Academy, where he placed 3rd in the national Tao Li Bei Competition. He later served as an instructor for Beijing Dance Academy's secondary school and has an MFA in Dance from Hollins University. With over 10 years of professional dance experience, he teaches ballet, Chinese classical dance, Chinese folk dance, and European historical dance. He also enjoys cooking spicy food and going on adventures with his wife and two young children.



Barbara Liu

Barbara Liu is one of the founders of Studio en Avant and a dedicated dance educator with a strong background in movement, artistry, and teaching. She holds a BA in Film from Cleveland State University, where she graduated as Valedictorian of the College of Arts and Sciences. Barbara is certified in the Vaganova Method for Pre-Ballet, Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Historical Dance 1, and is also a certified GYROTONIC® and GYROKINESIS® instructor. With over six years of professional dance experience, she teaches ballet, creative movement, and historical dance. She also enjoys reading novels (silly and serious alike) and adventuring with her family.



Lienieke Matte

Lienieke Matte is a professional dancer and educator with over 10 years of experience performing with Ohio Contemporary Ballet. She holds a BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase College and a Master's in Social Work from the University of Akron. Lienieke teaches ballet and creative movement, bringing both professional performance experience and a thoughtful, student-centered approach to the studio.



Fei Zhou

Ms. Fei began her dance journey as an adult and has since trained under teachers from Beijing Dance Academy and Shanghai Theatre Academy. Through years of dedicated study and practice, she developed a strong foundation in Chinese classical and folk dance. She has been teaching both youth and adult students for over eight years.

Special Thank You to Our Teachers!



Kia Jimmy

Kia is from Saskatoon, Canada and trained under Murray Kilgour and Ashley McNeil at Alberta Ballet School. After graduating high school she was accepted into their Post Graduate program where she continued her professional ballet training as well as their Teacher Training Program. In 2021 she began dancing with Ohio Contemporary Ballet and has been dancing professionally ever since!



Devyn Etling

Devyn Etling is a ballet and contemporary dancer and educator. She is pursuing her Doctorate in Physical Therapy at Cleveland State University and is also a certified GYROTONIC® instructor. Devyn teaches ballet and creative movement to dancers of all ages, sharing her joy for artistic expression and lifelong passion for movement.



Sarah Feng

Sarah Shuohan Feng is a dance educator specializing in Chinese dance, ballet and contemporary dance. She graduated from Beijing Dance Academy Secondary School and earned her BFA in Dance from Kent State University. She also received a full scholarship to Case Western Reserve University's MFA in Dance program. Sarah brings strong technical training and a deep understanding of both Chinese dance and ballet to her teaching.



Yin Tang

Yin Tang started her dance journey as soon as she could walk, sharing the love of ballet with her mother. Her Chinese dance background is supported by studying with private tutors in the summers in Chongqing. She studied ballet at Kent State and performed in the Cleveland State Modern Dance company in 2013-2014. She freelances as a choreographer and guest teaches at schools and educational programs. Besides teaching at Studio En Avant, she runs the Blue River Dragon Dance Team and writes and illustrates books for Space Tigers Publishing.

Admin Team



Fang Wang

Honored Co-Founder of Studio en Avant

An active member and teacher of the dance community for over 15 years, with training across multiple dance styles as an adult dancer. Outside of dance, serve as a Principal Data Expert specializing in Customer Relationship Management.



Yingying(Crystal) Xiong

Studio Manager| Market Analyst| Student Success Advisor
Studio Photographer| Studio Vision Artist

Crystal holds an MA in Statistics from Cleveland State University. Crystal is dedicated to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for every family and dancer. She works closely with students and parents to help them feel connected, encouraged, and confident throughout their journey at the studio. Crystal also supports the studio's growth through photography, operations, and community engagement...



Annelies Schweitzer

Annelies Schweitzer is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Sustainability from Arizona State University. She lives with her husband, Robert; their two-year-old twins, Juniper and August; and their dog, Koya.

Annelies has a long-standing connection to dance, having danced with Barbara as a child. She joined Studio en Avant in November and has quickly become a valued member of the studio community. She especially enjoys building meaningful relationships with students and families. In addition to her work at the studio, Annelies speaks Dutch and has a talent for crafting a wide range of beverages, from specialty coffees to cocktails.

Act One

1. 踏歌 *Ta Ge*

Class: Chinese Repertoire Saturday

Instructor: Mr. Mo

**Wei Beck, Yi Diao, Yuehong Dou, Zhiwu Gui, Yingyi Huang, Feng Laughlin,
Bo Liu, Yiming Liao, Yan Sun, Yiping Wang, Alma Wang, Fang Wang,
Tingting Wu, Mei Zhang, Fei Zhou**

2. *Mayflowers*

Class: Pre-dance 2-Saturday

Instructor: Ms. Kia

**Robin Blunck, Genevieve Ergonenc, Sophie Finkelshteyn, Annie Helton,
Wren Herrick, Eason Liu, Mila Liu, Sophia Sherry, Kaylin Zheng, Vera
Ziegler**

3. *Giselee (Act 2)*

Class: Youth Academic Ballet Level 3

Instructor: Mr. Mo&Ms. Shuohan (Sarah)

**Vivian Abramowitz, Leyla Daglioglu, Eisla Dombrowsk, Fiona Jiang, Ella
Jin, Sophia Liao, Lauran Menefee, Khloe Wang, Grace Zhou**

4. *Canon in D*

Class: Adult Ballet Level 2-Tuesday/Thursday

Instructor: Ms. Shuohan (Sarah)

**Jacquelyn Elbin, Emily Herrick, Yazhen Kou, Mikaela Lancy, Tina Li, Bo
Liu, Wendy Liu, Danrong Ni, Jillian Rodgers, Gabriella Roorda, Tara
Simmons, Ha Tran, Julia Wilgus, Lina Zhang**

5. Italian Polka Dance

Class: Youth Academic Ballet Level 2-Saturday

Instructor: Ms. Barbara

**Amy Dong, Aubree Thurman, Clara Wang, Grace Wang, Courtney Wagner,
Kathryn Song, Sofia Jiang, Weiwei Yu, Zanetha Bramantyo, Zien Deng**

6. A Midsummer Fantasy

Class: Pre-dance 1-Saturday

Instructor: Ms. Devyn

**Kelley Alicia, Celinna Jiang, Autumn Johns, Ellis Liu, Ethan Moss, Audrey
Okten, Nathan Sherry, Merlin Shockey, NalaRoss Whitted**

7. 身韵组合 ShenYun Exercises

Class: Chinese Traditional Dance Level 2

Instructor: Mr. Mo

**Wei Beck, Xiaoying Coffee, Yi Diao, Yuehong Dou, Zhiwu Gui, Ying
Huang, Yingyi Huang, Feng Laughlin, Chunhua Li, Yan Wang, Renshan
Zhao, Xiaorong Zhou**

8. Laundry Friends!

Class: Youth Fundamentals Level 1 - Tuesday

Instructor: Ms. Kia

**Charlotte Abramowitz, Yunittee Benson, Ilinca Coadă, Eric Deng, Noa
Griffin, Beatrice Kennedy, Aaliyah Lewis, Raeylnn Lewis, Eason Liu,
Alizeh Qavi, Rayan Qavi, Ryleigh White**

9. Pas De Grâce

Class: Adult Ballet Level 1

Instructor: Ms. Barbara

**Aysegül Bayrak, Elizabeth Brown, Shelly Dean, Emily Herrick, Kassandra
Johnson, Katherine Johnson, Anya Kondratova, Samantha Lewis, Sarah
MacQueen, Tamitra Peavy, Denise Smith, Holly Wilgus, Julia Wilgus,
Leana Ziegler**

10. 高原之韵 *Highland Rhythm*

Class: Adult Tibet Folk Dance Level 1

Instructor: Ms. Fei

**Xiaoying Coffee, Chunhua Li, Bo Liu, Kalindi Stockton, Tingting Wu,
Renshan Zhao**

11. *Blue Bird*

Class: Pre-dance 1- Monday

Instructor: Ms. Lieneke

**Saya Bremer, Jayden Chan, Lennox Ferguson, River Larsen, Bella Liu,
Isabella Toro Lagos, Allie Xiong**

12. *Western Waltz*

Class: Youth Fundamentals Level 1 - Wednesday

Instructor: Ms. Kia

Madelyn Lapohn, Ryder Nial, Katie Tutolo, Ryleigh White

13. *Sleeping Beauty: Waltz of Flowers*

Class: Adult Ballet Level 3

Instructor: Ms. Barbara

**Xiaoying Coffee, Katie Cooperrider, Leyla Daglioglu, Anna Dai, Devyn
Etling, Xinyuan Hu, Nian Huang, Jing Li, Yazhen Kou, Tal Rothstein,
Kalindi Stockton, Yan Sun, Alma Wang, Yiping Wang, Feijing Zhang**

* * * *15 Minutes Intermission* * * *

Act Two

14. 愿 *Prayer*

Class: Adult Tibet Folk Dance Level 2

Instructor: Mr. Mo

Xiaoying Coffee, Sarah Feng, Zhiwu Gui, Yingyi Huang, Yazhen Kou, Feng Laughlin, Chunhua Li, Jing Li, Ting Li, Yiming Liao, Bo Liu, Danrong Ni, Yan Wang, Yiping Wang, Renshan Zhao, Fei Zhou

15. *Hungarian Dances*

Class: Youth Fundamentals Level 1-Saturday

Instructor: Ms. Kia

Yunitee Benson, Eric Deng, Madelyn Lapohn, Ryder Nial, Katie Tutolo

16. 格桑欢歌 *Joyful Song of Gesang*

Class: Youth Tibet Folk Dance

Instructor: Ms. Fei&Mr. Mo

Hazel Cook, Theo Cook, Annabelle Jia, Serena Jiang, Sofia Jiang, Kathryn Song, Janet Tang, Weiwei Yu

17. 旖旎娉婷 *Ethereal Grace*

Class: Chinese Traditional Dance Level 1

Instructor: Ms. Fei

Xiaoying Coffee, Anna Dai, Yuehong Dou, Xinyuan Hu, Anya Kondratova, Tina Li, Danrong Ni, Yingying Xiong, Lina Zhang

18. Hop - Bunnies - Hop!!

Class: Pre-dance 1-Tuesday

Instructor: Ms. Kia

Natalie DiBenedetto, Lillian Lapohn, Aria Martinjak, Mae Martinjak, Lila Nekoroski, Gemma Smith, Shiyi Wang, Vera Ziegler

19. Norwegian Dance No. 2

Class: Adult Ballet Level 2-Wednesday & Tuesday

Instructor: Ms. Shuohan (Sarah)

Katie Berki, Kyra Berzonsky, Dana Dombrowski, Nian Huang, Ying Huang, Alyson Kretch, Mikaela Lancy, Ting Li, Katie Needs, Marisa Swisher, Yingying Xiong, Xiaorong Zhou

20. Soaring Heros!

Class: Youth Fundamentals Level 1-Thursday

Instructor: Ms. Kia

Charlotte Abramowitz, Ilinca Coadă, Noa Griffin, Beatrice Kennedy, Aaliyah Lewis, Raeylnn Lewis, Alizeh Qavi, Rayan Qavi

21. 梁祝选段 Excerpts from The Butterfly Lovers

Class: Chinese Traditional Dance Level 3

Instructor: Mr. Mo

Wei Beck, Yi Diao, Yuehong Dou, Zhiwu Gui, Yingyi Huang, Feng Laughlin, Bo Liu, Yiming Liao, Yan Sun, Alma Wang, Fang Wang, Yiping Wang, Tingting Wu, Mei Zhang, Fei Zhou

22. Csardas - Hungarian Folk Dance from Coppelia

Class: Youth Academic Ballet Level 2-Tuesday/Thursday

Instructor: Ms. Barbara

**Amelia Chen, Hazel Cook, Theo Cook, Zien Deng, Kylie Edmondson,
Isabella Gao, Bianca Jamnicky, Sofia Jiang, Lina Johannesson, Kathryn
Song, Aubree Thurman, Courtney Wagner, Weiwei Yu**

23. The Cat Waltz

Class: Youth Fundamentals Level 2

Instructor: Ms. Lieneke&Ms. Kia

**Penelope Abramowitz, Annabelle Jia, Serena Jiang, Grace Jones, Olivia Li,
Elizabeth Liu, Rylee Liu, Janet Tang**

24. Swan Lake

Class: Ballet Repertoire combined with Adult Ballet Level 4

Instructor: Mr. Mo

**Wei Beck, Katie Cooperrider, Yi Diao, Yuehong Dou, Devyn Etling, Zhiwu
Gui, Xinyuan, Hu, Nian Huang, Yazhen Kou, Jing Li, Yiming Liao, Yan Sun,
Fang Wang, Yiping Wang, Tingting Wu, Feijing Zhang, Mei Zhang, Fei
Zhou**

Thank You!



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Congratulations, Sister!

on your many accomplishments
and for dedicating your life to
the intense physical discipline,
grace, and storytelling of
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Eisla — congratulations on an incredible season of development! You continue to grow into a beautifully expressive dancer and we are so proud of all you've accomplished. Love you, Mama Mark & Thea



We Love you Annabelle! So proud of you! – Mom and Dad

Tamitra Peavy: Best of Luck. Congratulations on your accomplishments and striving to be the best you can be. Enjoy the process.

–Rosalind Burks

Tamitra Peavy: So proud of you!!!! Keep SOARING and representing! I know you'll do extremely well!

–Frichelle A. McCoy

Tamitra Peavy: Congratulations! Excited and Proud of You! Celebrating you!!!

–Cindy Demsey!



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