

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Sam Houston State Summer Dance Intensive with guests from the Paul Taylor Dance Company, Francisco Graciano and Constance Dinapoli July 13 - 20, 2025

The Intensive classes run from **9:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday** through **Saturday** and from **9:30 AM to 1:00 PM Sunday**. It concludes with a final intensive showing on **Sunday, July 20, at noon** in the Montague Dance Theater. All SDI classes are held in the Gaertner Performing Arts Center, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

Ages 13 and up

Single room and board w/tuition: \$1125

Double room and board w/tuition: \$1055

Tuition only: \$700

Physical Address:

Gaertner Performing Arts Center

College of Arts and Media

815 17th Street

Huntsville, TX 77340

Dance office local phone: 936-294-1875

Email questions to Constance Dinapoli, Associate Director of Taylor Intensive: dinapoliconstance@gmail.com

- 1) **How is the day structured?** The day begins with ballet, yoga, or GYROKINESIS followed by a modern class in the Taylor style. After the students have lunch and an opportunity to chat with faculty, they explore contact improvisation or somatic study to re-warm up. The rest of the afternoon is spent learning Taylor's repertory from distinguished Taylor alums and an element of the creative process connected to Taylor. The day ends with a cool down and stretch.
- 2) **What are the hours of the Intensive?** The Intensive classes run 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday Saturday, and Sunday 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM.
- 3) **What kinds of activities are there?** We will screen videos of Taylor's repertory and relevant documentaries, plus provide the dancers with creative process prompts to find their artistic voice as they engage with the work of a master choreographer. This year, we offer contact improvisation, composition, and somatic study.
- 4) **Are there classes daily, or will we have days off?** Classes will meet everyday Monday through Saturday, July 14 through 19, and Sunday, July 20, from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM (showing begins at noon).
- 5) **What should I bring?** Please come prepared to dance with plenty of clothes, a yoga mat, a water bottle, kneepads, sneakers, an open mind, and a positive attitude.
- 6) **Are room and board provided, or must I find my housing?** Yes, SHSU room and board options. Single room and board w/tuition: \$1125; Double room and board w/tuition: \$1055. The meal plan is Sunday night dinner, July 13 through Sunday morning breakfast, July 20.
- 7) **Is the dorm housing option supervised?** Yes. There will be RAs.
- 8) **Should I bring lunch every day, or can I leave and buy food nearby?** During our lunch break, students will have time to purchase food or use boarding meal cards at the dining hall. Or could

you pack a lunch and beverage, but limited refrigerator space is available, so pack food accordingly.

- 9) **How old do you have to be, and how old is too old?** Dancers must be 13 years old through the professional level for the intensive. To attend, students must be 13 years old by July 13, 2025.
- 10) **For making travel arrangements, what time does the SHSU Intensive begin on the first day, and does it end on the last?** The Intensive registration check-in for the dorm will be at 3:00- 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 13, and 9:00-9:30 AM on Monday, July 14, followed by introductions and an audition at 9:30 AM. The Intensive will end at 1:00 PM on the final day, Sunday, July 20, after the showing.
- 11) **Do I have to make travel arrangements to and from the local airports?** I want you to know that you are responsible for making travel arrangements to and from the Intensive. George Bush Intercontinental Airport is an hour away by car. Let us know if you need a shuttle from the airport, and we will try and coordinate an option for you.
- 12) **Is there a dress code?** There is no dress code. Please wear clothes you will feel comfortable moving in that are appropriate for class (i.e., fitted clothes so that teachers can see your body alignment).
- 13) **Are there showings? How many? When are they? Can I invite my friends?** There is a showing at the end of the week on Sunday, July 20, from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. We will also have a special feedback discussion with Michael Novak, Artistic Director of the Paul Taylor Dance Company.
- 14) **What kinds of clothes should I bring for showings?** Please bring a variety of colored and black leotards and tights or unitards and kneepads.
- 15) **How many different works will we learn?** You will learn a different selection of repertoires each week.
- 16) **How many students are in each class?** Class sizes may be 15-25, but repertoire groups will be smaller, with 8-12 dancers.
- 17) **Are there different levels? How are levels determined?** Yes, there will be an audition/placement class on the first day to determine levels based on age, technical ability, and experience in the Taylor style.
- 18) **Can I request to be at the same level as my friend?** No.
- 19) **Are there any breaks in the day? If so, how long will they be?** There is an hour break for lunch, in addition to 5 minutes between classes.
- 20) **If I cannot attend the full intensive, may I still apply?** We are only accepting full-time applications.
- 21) **Do I need to audition to attend the Intensive?** No, complete the application online, including uploading a resume, video, and simple headshot, and have a teacher submit a Teacher Evaluation online on the SHSU Department of Dance webpage.
- 22) **How long does it take to hear if I have been accepted?** You will receive an email 1-2 weeks after we receive all of the required application documents.
- 23) **What happens if I get sick?** Please call the SHSU Department of Dance office at 936-294 -1875 or Connie's cellphone to notify us if you cannot make it to class or are running late. Remember, this is a commitment, and the rehearsal process runs smoothly when everyone is present. If you get sick during the day and need to go to the hospital, we will ensure you get the help you need.