



YGP International Summer Workshop at Ravenna Festival

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION



Dear Dancers, Parents and Teachers,

We are so excited to share with you that our 6th annual YGP International Summer Workshop will be in collaboration with the Ravenna Festival this year!

Founded in 1990 by Cristina Mazzavillani Muti, wife of renowned conductor Riccardo Muti, the Ravenna Festival is one of the premier music festivals in Italy, characterized by a robust artistic program - with opera, symphonic music, dance, and theatre. Each summer, the entire city of Ravenna becomes a stage for two months, with staggering gilded basilicas, ancient mosaics and cloisters, and elegant historical theaters - along with close proximity to beaches and stunning nature.

Home to 8 unique UNESCO World Heritage sights and stunning 5th and 6th-century Byzantine mosaics, Ravenna also features historical treasures such as the Basilica di San Vitale and even the tomb and final resting place of Dante Alighieri. In short, the region is filled with a richness of cultural and historical wonder - an art history lover's dream - that makes the Ravenna Festival itself a unique and significant tradition of the charming city which blends both people and cultures.

YGP is thrilled to have our signature Gala included in the prestigious Ravenna Festival this year at the **Palazzo Mauro de Andre** on June 25, 2026!

In this guide, you will find some important information about the event. Please read on for further information.

YGP Company Life Experience

The YGP experience at Ravenna Festival is carefully designed to give young dancers a unique chance to experience a week in the life of a professional dance artist working in a professional dance company. Daily classes and rehearsals will take place at the **Alighieri Theatre** and the **IDA Dance School**.

There is a special schedule of rehearsals so that dancers would learn to pace themselves through the day. And there is, of course, a chance to work with some of the most respected ballet masters and rehearsal directors from around the world.

Casting is part of everyday life in every professional dance company, and the participants in this Festival program will get to experience it, as well – with costume fittings, first and second casts, and understudying various parts of different repertoire – which means learning the repertoire and being prepared to perform it on a moment's notice, but not necessarily getting to perform it on stage.

All dancers will perform in the Gala as part of the Grand Defilé. Some dancers will be invited to perform in one, two, or three pieces, depending on the final choice of the choreographers and ballet masters. But every single dancer will go through an unforgettable learning experience – a gift that will stay with them for a lifetime, whether or not they choose to make dance their profession.

Schedule Overview

Classes and rehearsals will begin on **Saturday, June 20**, and continue daily through **Thursday, June 25**. Most classes will take place at the **Alighieri Theatre in Ravenna**, and the **IDA School**, a short 5 minute walk away.

- **Wednesday, June 24**, will be the tech rehearsal day at the Palazzo Mauro de Andre Stage, about a 15-minute drive from central Ravenna. That evening will be the first performance - **the "Future of Dance" Gala - at Palazzo Mauro de Andre**. This show is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes, without intermission.

- **Thursday, June 25**, will be the closing **"Stars of Today Meet the Stars of Tomorrow" Gala** at **Palazzo de Mauro Andre**.

- While detailed daily schedules will be forthcoming, please note that students will be occupied most of the day, including evening time, with appropriate meal breaks built into their schedules. This is truly a pre-professional summer INTENSIVE, so please be prepared for a very busy schedule.

- Parents and family members will have ample time to sight-see and enjoy the area during the day while their dancers are in class/rehearsal. If you are planning to do additional sightseeing or any day trips with your dancer, we strongly recommend staying for additional time either before or after the program is finished to enjoy all the area has to offer.

- Parents, teachers, and family members may observe any classical technique classes that will be held on the Stage of the Alighieri Theater. Rehearsals and all other classes are not open for observation.

Meal Breaks

- Dancers will have breaks built into their schedules for meals, however please note that an official "lunch break" will not necessarily be indicated on the schedule documents - as each group's schedule is different.

- We strongly recommend that parents and/or teachers communicate ahead of time as to their individual plans for the day, and whether you will pick up your dancer for lunch offsite if time permits - or alternatively, if you will bring food to them to have during breaks. There is also limited cellular service inside the theater, so please be sure to plan your days with your dancer in advance!

- The days are long, so please ensure your dancer is staying fueled and well hydrated in the Italian summer heat!

Additional Gala Opportunities

YGP GALA IN COMO, ITALY

This additional Gala will be held at the **Teatro Sociale located in Como, Italy, on Tuesday, July 7th**.

More information will be coming out in the coming months.

Class Dress Code

- Please note that for classes, ladies may wear any color leotard of their choice and pink tights; gentlemen in standard class attire — keeping in mind that many classes will be filmed and/or live-streamed.

Travel Information

- We recommend flying into the Bologna airport (BLQ), which is just a 1 hour drive from central Ravenna.

- Of course, there are also numerous options to get to Ravenna if you prefer to fly into Florence, including popular and easy-to-use public transportation (trains and buses), car rentals if you prefer, or taxi services.

- If you are comfortable driving and are coming with more than one dancer in your family or group, **we do suggest renting a car for the week, for convenience.**