ORLANDO BALLET

JORDEN MORRIS | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

The NUTCRACKER

December 2-18, 2022





FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS
THE ANGEL OF THE BALLET

Harriett Lake



ORLANDO BALLET

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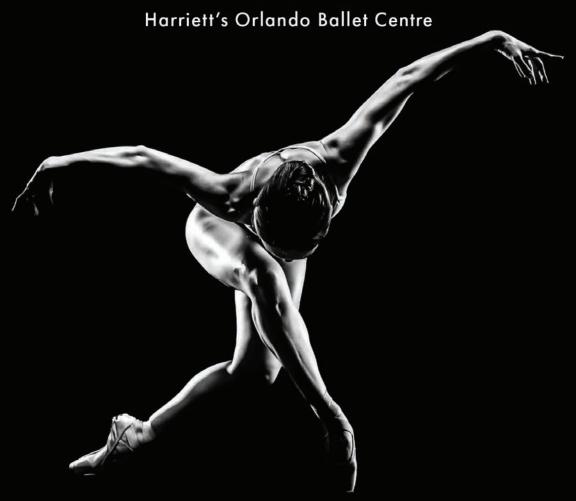
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ORLANDO BALLET

JORDEN MORRIS | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

NCORKED

January 10, 2023



OrlandoBallet.org



JORDEN MORRIS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



DR. PHILLIPS CENTER - STEINMETZ HALL

MOULIN ROUGE® THE BALLET

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

HARRIETT'S ORLANDO BALLET CENTRE

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JANUARY 2023

ORLANDO BALLET

JORDEN MORRIS | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS FUNDERS

THE NUTCRACKER

ORLANDO HEALTH®







Orlando Ballet is funded in part by United Arts of Central Florida, home of OrlandoAtPlay.com and UAArtsEd.com. This project is funded in part by Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Program, and the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture (Section 286.25, Florida Statutes).

Please contact Ashley Samuels for more information about sponsorship opportunities at Orlando Ballet 407.418.9812 | asamuels@orlandoballet.org

A LETTER FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Happy Holidays and welcome to Orlando Ballet's Nutcracker!

The Nutcracker is as much a holiday tradition for us as it is for you and your loved ones. For our dancers, these performances give us the opportunity to share our love of dance with you – our audience and theatre family.

Another of our favorite Nutcracker traditions is the collaboration with our ballet school. which provides a magical adventure for the young dancers who get the chance to join the OB cast of professional dancers. Sharing the stage with our students is a gift to all of us in the company, artistic staff and especially for the youngsters' families. Many of our Orlando Ballet dancers began their careers as children performing in the Nutcracker, so it's wonderful to watch the next generation of artists shine. Along with lots of hard work, the many rehearsals we have together for this special production are full of fun and laughter for everyone – as they should be.

In keeping with the joy of the holidays, it is my great pleasure to announce that next year marks Orlando Ballet's 50th season, and in celebration of this significant milestone, I will be unwrapping a brand new production of The Nutcracker, created especially for our community. After selecting a team of internationally recognized, award-winning creative experts, I have spent the year developing an entirely new production complete with brand new sets, costumes, lighting and fresh choreography. Rest assured, the tradition of Clara, her beloved Nutcracker Prince and, of course, Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's iconic music will all be there when you return next season for this bright new production. So enjoy visions of sugar plum fairies and a beautiful new Nutcracker for next season.

I wish you all a peaceful holiday season filled with family and friends, and we look forward to seeing you back here in the new year.

JORDEN MORRIS

Jorden Morris Artistic Director, Orlando Ballet

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



How will you celebrate the holidays this year?

After a period of such separation, social distance and confusion, the anticipation of memories to be made with family and friends looms large.

All of us at Orlando Ballet want to extend our deepest appreciation to each and every guest – from the youngest to the young at heart – for making our production of *The Nutcracker* the incredible tradition it has become. It is also a very significant milestone in that this will be the final show run of the ballet you have supported for so long – nearly 30 years, in fact.

We will all cherish seeing Drosselmeyer perform his magic on the Nutcracker gifted to Clara, the laughter of the children celebrating with their friends Clara and Fritz, the wonder that comes to life in Clara's dream and so much more. We have heard so many heartwarming stories from those who danced in this

production years ago who now proudly bring their own children to continue this beloved family tradition.

For all these reasons, we are extremely proud to be planning a very special gift for Central Florida when we reach our 50th Anniversary season for 2023-24 — a fully reimagined *Nutcracker* will be presented for the first time in December 2023. We truly hope that you will fall in love with this production and join us in creating new traditions for many years to come.

Happy Holidays,

Cheryl Collins
Executive Director, Orlando Ballet

The Cahi

ORLANDO BALLET

TORDEN MORRIS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Moulin Rouge

THE BALLET

IN THE SPIRIT OF THE MOULIN ROUGE OF PARIS

MOULIN ROUGE

MOULIN ROUGE

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LIVE MUSIC PERFORMED BY



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FEBRUARY 9-12, 2023 | OrlandoBallet.com



SYNOPSIS

Act I

It is Christmas Eve in a small town in Germany, and the Silberhaus family is hosting a grand Christmas party. Young Clara and her brother Fritz wait excitedly for the guests to arrive.

Once the festivities begin, the party is interrupted by Clara's adored godfather, Uncle Drosselmeyer, a mysterious magician. He entertains the guests with his magic and presents three life-sized dancing dolls. Uncle Drosselmeyer then gives Clara a very special gift., a magical Nutcracker. She dances lovingly with the Nutcracker until jealous Fritz steals and breaks her new toy. Uncle Drosselmeyer waves his hand, repairing the broken Nutcracker and returns it to Clara. With a final dance, the party is over and the quests bid their farewells. The family retires for the evening, and Clara is tucked into bed.

Later that night, Clara steals into the living room to find her Nutcracker where she left him under the Christmas tree. Suddenly, the room is invaded by giant mice. Uncle Drosselmeyer appears and magically brings the Nutcracker to life. He bravely leads a band of toy soldiers in battle against the mice and their leader, the Mouse King. With Clara's help, the Nutcracker defeats the Mouse King and is transformed into a handsome prince.

In gratitude for his life, the Nutcracker Prince takes Clara through a wintery wonderland of dancing snowflakes to the Palace of Sweets.

20 minute intermission

Act 2

Clara and the Nutcracker Prince arrive at the Palace of Sweets and are welcomed by the beautiful Sugar Plum Fairy. The land is filled with exotic treats and impressive dances from foreign lands. From Spain comes the dance of hot chocolate. From Arabia comes the dance of coffee, From China, the dance of tea, and from Russia come leaping Cossacks and dancing candy canes. From France comes Mother Ginger and her little bon-bons and polchinelles. Flowers come to life and waltz around the glittering Dew Drop Fairy. Finally, the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier perform a magnificent dance in honor of Clara.

Slowly, everyone begins to fade back into the dream. Clara awakens in her house and finds her Nutcracker restored to his normal size, knowing that her Uncle Drosselmeyer had created the dream with her enchanted toy.

NUTCRACKER

PRINCIPAL CHOREOGRAPHY Robert Hill

ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY

Jorden Morris & Lisa Thorn Vinzant

COMPOSER

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

REHEARSAL DIRECTORS

Jorden Morris, Lisa Thorn Vinzant, Phillip Broomhead, Gonzalo Espinoza, Anamarie McGinn

CHILDREN'S REHEARSAL DIRECTORS

Kim Marsh, Gonzalo Espinoza, Natasha Glos, Amyia Burrell

COSTUME DESIGN

Eddy Frank Fernandez

LIGHTING DESIGN

Joseph R. Walls

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION

John Beaulieu

STAGE MANAGER

Helen Moreau

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Kevin "KP" Paulsen

COSTUME DIRECTOR

Eddy Frank Fernandez

WARDROBE SUPERVISOR

Norelis Dean

WIG & MAKEUP ARTIST

Gina Makarova

PYROTECHNICIAN

Brian Artman

IATSE LOCAL 631

HEAD CARPENTER

Lonnie Moench

HEAD ELECTRICIAN

Lizz Pittsley

HEAD AUDIO

Randy Piveral

HEAD FLYMAN

Gary Simpson

HEAD PROPS

Miguel DeJesus

HEAD WARDROBE

Virginia McKinney

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Uncle Drosselmeyer:

*Daniel Benavides

**Francis Mihmn

***Daniel Benavides

Nephew/Prince: Rafe King (A, B, C, E, F, G, J, L, N, M), Giovanni Trabels (D, H, I, K, O)

Mrs. Silberhaus: Kenna Gold (B, C, F, H, J, M), Jillian Price (A, D, E, G, I, K, L, N)

Mr. Silberhaus: Cameron Bailey (E,F,G,H,I,), Francis Mihm (A,B,C, D, J, K, L,M,N,O),

Clara:

*Lauren Chin (B), Kaylie Hagberg (A, C, D)

**Lauren Chin (I), Ella Eaton (G), Julia Pack (E, F, H)

***Noe Leilani (J, K, M, N, O), Lilly Lopane (L)

Fritz:

*Hunter Moreland

**Hunter Moreland (F, G, H, I) Cameron Powers (E)

***Hunter Moreland (K, L, M), Cameron Powers (J, N, O)

Grandmother: Anamarie McGinn (A, E, H, I, L, N, O), Olivia McAlpine (D, K), McKenzie Thomas (B, C, F, G, J, M)

Grandfather: Cameron Bailey (B, C, J), Francis Mihm (M), Nathan Rowell (A, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, N, O)

Maid: Hazuki Kishisa (A, E, G, I, L, N), Aria Smith (B, D, H, K, O), Elena Victoria (C, F, J, M)

Butler: Rafe King (B, D, H, I, K, O), Charlie Mellor (A, D, E, F, G, J, L, M, N)

Harlequin: Amir Dodarkhojayev (F, J, M), Thomas Gerhardt (A, E, G, H, I, K, L, N, O), Charlie Mellor (D), Nathan Rowell (B, C)

Doll: Ashley Baszto (A, E, I, N), Dahlia Denicore (C, F, J, M), Rachele Eusebione (D, H, K, O), Kate Gardinier (L), Anamarie McGinn (B, G)

Soldier: Matthew Cunningham (B, C, F, J, M), Amir Dodarkhojayev (D, H, K, O), Israel Zavaleta Escobedo (A, E, G, I, L, N)

Parents: Cameron Bailey, Mariana Ballesteros, Tess Browning, Caleb Cope, Matthew Cunningham, Amir Dodarkhjayev, Rachele Eusebione, Isabel Falcus, Kellie Fulton, Kate Gardinier, Thomas Gerhardt, Pieter Gunning, Julianna Hanch, Ellie Iannotti, Maria Cielo Ibarrola Leon, Olivia McAlpine, Sebastian Marriott-Smith, Charlie Mellor, Hayley Miller, Lillian Munson, Alina Novikova, Saki Ogawa, Darien Santos, Aria Smith, Jaysan Stinnett, Hana Takeda, Roberto Tarantino, Giovanni Trabels, McKenzie Thomas, Elena Victoria, Sofia Volkov, David West

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Clara's Friends:

*Evie Beach, Lauren Chin, Zella Diener, Ella Eaton, Lilly Lopane, Samantha Miller, Julia Pack, Keira Perez, Claire Rutland, Olivia Sachetillo

Victoria Baudino, Evie Beach, Lauren Chin, Mia Fagan, Charlotte Haase, Lauren Hartman, Alyssa Logsdon, Lilly Lopane, Mackenzie Marin, Kiera Perez, Xiomara Rodriguez, Caitlyn Walsh *Victoria Baudino, Lauren Chin, Zella Diener, Kaylie Hagberg, Lauren Hartman, Kohane Matsuno, Samantha Miller, Claire Rutland, Olivia Sacchetillo, Caitlyn Walsh

Fritz's Friends:

- * Romeo Abba (A, C, D), Cameron Powers (A, C, D)
- ** Romeo Abba (E, F, H, I), Hunter Moreland (E), Cameron Powers (F, H, I)
- *** Jesse LeGreca (M, N, O), Hunter Moreland (J), Cameron Powers (K)

Party Children:

*Harlo Abba, Romeo Abba, Zury Ambroise, Khloe DiSisto, Cece Goldsberry, Samantha Gacia-Visbal, Isabelle Lee, Morgan Marin, Emma Ortegon, Ava Page, Rowan Walker

Marielle Chactoura, Guzel Duffus, Julia Espiritu, Eden Freiburger, Isabella Goldstein, Emerson Hogancamp, Samantha Klein, Lourdes Laura, Morgan Marin, Madeline Nort, Myla Pisane, Aspen Poleos, Elliot Rapp, Kinsley Sprowl, Megan Squires, Camille Sawyer, June Sykes, Harper Updike, Giuliana Vargas, Katie Wong *Marielle Chactoura, Guzel Duffus, Julia Espiritu, Eden Freiburger, Cece Goldsberry, Lyla Gomez, Jesse LaGreca, Emerson Hogancamp, Katherine Lynch, Morgan Marin, Jayla Moore, Aspen Poleos, Elliot Rapp, Megan Squires, Harper Updike, Giuliana Vargas, Elly Vinton, Rowan Walker, Eleonora Zamora

Nutcracker Prince: Amir Dodarkhojayev (A, E, I, N), Israel Zavaleta Escobedo (B, C, F, G, J, M), Jaysan Stinnett (D, H, K, L)

Mouse King: Cameron Bailey (B), Matthew Cunningham (A, E, G, I, K, N), Nathan Rowell (C, D, F, H, J, L, M, O)

Large Mice: *Betsy Barber, Abigail Bevil, Sydney-Kate Constant, Rafe King, Kaitlyn McFall, Kendall Norris, Darien Santos, Roberto Tarantino, Giovanni Trabels, Alice Van Dyke **Betsy Barber, Zachary Belanger, Rhiannon Harris, Rafe King, Kendall Norris, Alexis Santana, Darien Santos, Maria Smirnova, Roberto Tarantino, Giovanni Trabels, Alice Van Dyke ***Betsy Barber, Zachary Belanger, Abigail Bevil, Sydney-Kate Constant, Rhiannon Harris, Myzel Hatchette, Rafe King, Kaitlyn McFall, Kendall Norris, Alexis Santana, Darien Santos, Maria Smirnova, Roberto Tarantino, Giovanni Trabels, Alice Van Dyke

Small Mice:

*Laura Bell, Elizabeth Fabian, Adelyn Ginzinger, Daisy Lemos, Madeline Phillips, Henley Poole **Lainely Abbott, Leila Clifton, Cara Donovan, Olivia Espiritu, Gabriella Garrote, Adalyn Hall, Landry Johnson, Payton Lora, Sora Pak, Clara Pellarin, Helena Schmidt, Vivienne Ton ***Berkeley Barksdale, Ella Cabrera, Marina Crisostomo, Emma Delgado, Elizabeth Fabian, Camielle Gervais, Karma Heisohn, Samantha Nakat, Henly Poole, Evenlyn Ramirez, Marianna Rodriguez, Paloma Santana

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Soldiers

- *Victoria Baudino, Valentina Carlini, Mia Fagan, Lauren Hartman, Mackenzie Marin, Izabella Plesko, Xiomara Rodriguez, Caitlyn Walsh
- **Lauren Chin, Zella Diener, Kaylie Hagberg, Kohane Matsuno, Samantha Miller, Julia Pack, Keira Perez, Izabella Plesko, Ava Thomas
- ***Victoria Baudino, Evie Beach, Ella Eaton, Mia Fagan, Charlotte Hayne, Alyssa Logsdon, Lilly Lopane, Mackenzie Marin, Julia Pack, Izabella Plesko, Claire Rutland

Cadets:

- *Catherine Bayarena, Christina Deutsch, Tessa Hilleren, Quinn Rapp
- **Cali Abbott, Catherine Bayarena, Neriah Gray, Gabriela Janequine, Addison Lindquist
- ***Cali Abbott, Catherine Bayarena, Christina Deutsch, Neriah Gray, Tessa Hilleren, Gabriela Janequine, Addison Lindquist, Quinn Rapp

Snow Queen: Ashley Baszto (D, H, K, O), Kellie Fulton (B, G, L), Hitomi Nakamura (C, F, J, M), Kate-Lynn Robichaux (A, E, I, N)

Snow King: John Abenanty (C, F, J, M), Matthew Cunningham (D, H, K, O), Jaysan Stinnett (A,B, E, G, I, L, N)

Snowflakes: Ashley Baszto, Dahlia Denicore, Kenna Gold, Rachele Eusebione, Kellie Fulton, Kate Gardinier, Ellie Iannotti, Hazuki Kishida, Maria Cielo Ibarrola Leon, Anri Matsuda, Olivia McAlpine, Anamarie McGinn, Hayler Miller, Saki Ogawa, Jillian Price, Aria Smith, McKenzie Thomas, Elena Victoria

Angels:

- *Mary Grace Armineous, Shenley Bertram, Rachel Borek, Annabelle Brown, Penelope Bruno, Sofia Castillo, Michaela Cook, Kadie DiSisto, Elizabth Lyons, Meila Moe, Gianna Roman, Makena Iane Venzon
- **Sameenah Allen, Samarah Allen, Brooke Donovan, Juliet Downs, Vada Hussey, Mackenzie Johnson, Olivia Lindquist, Charlotte Luna, Phoenix O'Brien, Cassie Ou, Ava Santana, Stella Yonfa
- ***Rachel Borek, Annabelle Brown, Penelope Bruno, Michaela Cook, Kadie DiSisto, Mackenzie Johnson, Charlotte Luna, Elizabeth Lyons, Meila Moe, Gianna Roman, Mekena Jane Venzon, Stella Yonfa

Arc Angels:

- *Liang-Cheng Chiu, Miri Mochizuki, Ellarie Price, Chantal Pringle
- **Ana Smith, Aria Sullivan, Miu Tokubuchi, Sydnie Zvolenski
- ***Liang-Cheng Chiu, Ellarie Price, Chantal Pringle, Miri Mochizuki, Ana Smith, Aria Sullivan, Miu Tokubuchi, Sydnie Zvolenski

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Spanish: Matthew Cunningham (B, C, F, J, M), Amir Dodarkhojayev (A, E, I, N), Israel Zavaleta Escobedo (D, H, K, O), Kellie Fulton (C, F, H, J, M), Ellie Iannotti (B, G), Jillian Price (A, D, E, I, K, L, N, O), David West (G, L)

WITH

*Amy Gillespie, Ava Horvath, Esther Jurado, Noe Leilani, Olivia Sacchetillo, Aria Sullivan, Miu Tokubuchi, Sydnie Zvolenski

**Clara Astinger, Valentina Carlini, Liang-Cheng Chiu, Cyan Love, Miri Mochizuki, Sarah Pahl, Ellarie Price, Chantal Pringle

***Clara Astinger, Valentina Carlini, Liang-Cheng Chiu, Amy Gillespie, Ava Horvath, Esther Jurado, Noe Leilani, Cyan Love, Miri Mochizuki, Sarah Pahl, Ellarie Price, Chantal Pringle, Olivia Sacchetillo, Ana Smith, Aria Sullivan, Miu Tokubuchi, Sydnie Zvolenski

Arabian: Rachele Eusebione (D, H, K, O), Anamarie McGinn (C, F, G, J, M), Kate-Lynn Robichaux (A, E, I, N), McKenzie Thomas (B, L)

Chinese: John Abenanty (B, G, L), Amir Dodarkhojayev (C, D, F, H, J, K, M, O), Israel Zavaleta Escobedo (A, B, E, I, L, N), Thomas Gerhart (A, E, H, I, K, N, O), Charlie Mellor (C, D, F, J, M), Nathan Rowell (G) WITH:

*Sophie Chacatoura, Zella Diener, Lauren Hartman, Charlotte Hayne, Alyssa Logsdon, Mackenzie Marin, Taliah Thornton, Caitlyn Walsh

**Victoria Baudino, Charlotte Haase, Alyssa Logsdon, Lilly Lopane, Keira Perez, Claire Rutland, Isabella Swanson, Ava Thomas

***Victoria Baudino, Sophie Chacatoura, Zella Diener, Charlotte Haase, Lauren Hartman, Charlotte Hayne, Alyssa Logsdon, Lilly Lopane, Keira Perez, Mackenzie Marin, Isabella Swanson, Ava Thomas, Taliah Thornton, Caitlyn Walsh

Russian: Cameron Bailey (D, G, H, K, L, O), Matthew Cunningham (G), Thomas Gerhardt (B, C, D, F, G, J, L, M), Sebastian Marriott-Smith (B, G, I), Charlie Mellor (A, E, H, I, K, N, O), Francis Mihm (A, C, D, E, F, H, J, K, L, M, N, O), Nathan Rowell (A, B, C, D, E, F, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O), David West (A, B, C, E, F, I, J, M, N)

Lead Candy Cane: Matthew Cunningham (A, D, E, H, I, K, L, N, O), Israel Zavaleta Escobedo (C, F, G, J, M), Charlie Mellor (B)

Candy Canes: Ashley Baszto (C, F, J, M), Dahlia Denicore (D, H, K, O), Rachele Eusebione (A, C, E, F, I, J, M, N), Kellie Fulton (A, N), Kate Gardinier (C, F, J, M), Ellie Iannotti (C, F, J, L, M), Hazuki Kishida (D, G, H, K, L, O), Maria Cielo Ibarrola Leon (B), Anri Matsuda (B, G), Olivia McAlpine (B, D, G, H, K, L, O), Anamarie McGinn (A, E, I, N), Saki Ogawa (B, E, G, I, L), McKenzie Thomas (A, C, D, E, H, I, K, N, O)

Mother Ginger: Pieter Gunning (A, D, E, H, I, K, N, O), Michael Maniaci (C, F, J, M), Darien Santos (B,G,L)

Polichinelles

- *Ella Eaton, Kaylie Hagberg, Kohane Matsuno, Samantha Miller, Julia Pack, Keira Perez, Isabella Plesko, Xiomara Rodriguez
- **Zella Diener, Ella Eaton, Kaylie Hagberg, Lauren Hartman, Kohane Matsuno, Xiomara Rodriguez, Mackenzie Marin
- ***Evie Beach, Grace Cheyne, Charlotte Hayne, Alyssa Logsdon, Claire Rutland, Caitlyn Walsh

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Bon-Bons:

- *Claire Atwell, Delilah Cuprill, Ashlyn Kow, Hinata Ohno
- **Ansley Baber, Rebecca Mullin, Razaina Robertson, Carolyn Thomas
- ***Maleena Anderson, Karla Aviles, Reese Cravens, Annabella Moreau, Calla Warner

Dew Drop Fairy: Kenna Gold (A, E, N), Ellie Iannotti (C, D, H, I, K, O), Jillian Price (F, J, M)

Flowers: Mariana Ballesteros, Tess Browning, Isabel Falcus, Julianna Hanch, Hazuki Kishida, Ellie Iannotti, Maria Cielo Ibarrola Leon, Anri Matsuda, Hayley Miller, Mackenzie Murphree, Aria Smith, Elena Victoria, Sofia Volkov

W/ITH.

*Liang-Cheng Chiu, Noe Leilani, Miri Mochizuki, Julia Pack, Olivia Sacchetillo, Miu Tokubuchi **Clara Atsinger, Kaylie Hagberg, Esther Jurado, Noe Leilani, Olivia Sacchetillo, Miu Tokubuchi ***Clara Atsinger, Lauren Chin, Liang-Cheng Chiu, Kaylie Hagberg, Esther Jurado, Noe Leilani, Miri Mochizuki, Julia Pack, Olivia Sacchetillo, Ana Smith, Miu Tokubuchi

Sugar Plum Fairy: Ashley Baszto (B, G, L), Kenna Gold (D, H, K, O), Hitomi Nakamura (A, D, E, H, I, K, N, O), Kate-Lynn Robichaux (C, F, J, M)

Cavalier: John Abenanty (A, D, E, H, I, K, N, O), Amir Dodarkhojayev (B, G, L), Jaysan Stinnett (C, F, J, M)

ORLANDO BALLET MISSION STATEMENT

Orlando Ballet entertains, educates, and enriches through the highest quality of dance.

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David Withee JP Morgan Private Bank

Photography by Michael Cairns

* Non-Voting

** Board Emerita

Dancer: David West

JORDEN MORRIS

Artistic Director, Orlando Ballet



Jorden Morris was born in Canada and began his dance training at the Banff School of Fine Arts at the age of nine. Jorden went on to continue his training under scholarship with Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet School. Jorden joined the company in 1987 and finished his career as Principal Artist, performing lead roles in the major classical and contemporary repertoire.

After his stage career, Jorden began to study teaching and choreography. He attended New York University, studied with Russian masters Tatiana Terekhova and Sergei Berejnoi, and with Paris Opera School Director Claude Bessey, and Serge Golovine.

Jorden worked as artistic staff and teacher for Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet before moving to work with Boston Ballet in 1999. Jorden rose to the rank of Chief Ballet Master and interim Director for the 2000-2001 season. Jorden then returned to Canada to take the role of Associate School Director for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet until 2012.

Jorden took the position of Artistic Director at Citie Ballet in Edmonton, Canada from 2015-18. During this time, he was also the Senior Creative Director for Shumka Ukrainian Dance Company in Edmonton. At this time, Jorden also became a guest teacher and curriculum advisor for the Victoria Academy of Ballet in Victoria, British Columbia. Jorden left Edmonton to work with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre on the creation of his latest full length work "The Great Gatsby" in 2018/2019.

Jorden's first work was "The Three Musketeers" for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School in 1999. In 2006, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet premiered Jorden's classic telling of the J.M. Barrie novel, "Peter Pan," followed by his well known and one-of-a-kind production of "Moulin Rouge" in 2009. His popular short works are "The Doorway, Songs of Leonard Cohen," the Celtic themed "Deverell," and the classical "Back to Bach."

Jorden's productions have been performed by several companies in North America and taken on tour throughout Europe and Asia.

THE SOUTENU SOCIETY

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ARTISTIC STAFF

LISA THORN VINZANT | Associate Artistic Director



As Associate Artistic Director at Orlando Ballet, Lisa Thorn Vinzant brings extensive professional experience as a former principal dancer, choreographer, and educator, contributing to the success of the professional Company. As the former Ballet Master, a role she held since joining Orlando Ballet in 2015, she is actively involved in the Company's artistic development. Much of her 20-year dance career was as a member of the Kansas City Ballet, where she performed numerous principal roles by some of the world's greatest choreographers including Alvin Ailey, George

Balanchine, Todd Bolender, August Bournonville, Merce Cunningham, Agnes DeMille, Nacho Duato, and Twyla Tharp. She also served as Kansas City Ballet's Associate Ballet Mistress and, ultimately, Ballet Mistress in Residence. Other career highlights include performing professionally with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, Albany/Berkshire Ballet, Owen/Cox Dance Group, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Starlight Theatre of Kansas City, and Wylliams Henry Contemporary Dance.

In addition to dancing professionally, Lisa has also choreographed for numerous organizations including the Kansas City Ballet, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Actors Theatre of Kansas City, and the Kansas City Youth Ballet. Lisa's skill and success in choreography led to her being named 2005's Emerging Choreographer at the Craft of Choreography Conference. Lisa holds the prestigious American Ballet Theater* Certified Teacher credential, has a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts in Dance, and graduated summa cum laude from the University of Missouri where she also served as an adjunct professor at the Conservatory of Music and Dance. Lisa also served as guest instructor for the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Lisa is originally from Dryden, New York. She began her training with the Ithaca Ballet in Ithaca, NY, and received the majority of her training at the North Carolina School of the Arts. She also trained at the Pittsburgh Ballet School and the School of American Ballet.

PHILLIP BROOMHEAD | School Director



Phillip Broomhead has been the School Director of the Orlando Ballet Since 2018. He was born in London, England, and received his ballet training at the Royal Ballet School where he joined the company in 1981. He was promoted to soloist in 1983 and to principal dancer in 1986. While dancing with the Royal Ballet, Mr. Broomhead's classical repertoire included several leading roles, including Prince Siegfried in Swan Lake, the Prince and the Bluebird in The Sleeping Beauty, Albrecht in Giselle, Solor in Natalia Makarova's production of La Bayadere, and Benvolio in

Kenneth MacMillan's Romeo and Juliet. Mr. Broomhead's contemporary repertoire included principal roles such as the Rubies Pas de Deux in George Balanchine's Jewels, Richard P. Arnold in Ashton's Enigma Variations, the White Couple in Ashton's Les Patineurs, and many more. He has performed in Ashton's A Birthday Offering in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen; Sir Frederick Ashton's Daphnis and Chloe to celebrate the Queen Mother's 90th Birthday; and many other royal galas.

Phillip joined the Houston Ballet as a principal dancer in January 1991. In 2003, Mr. Broomhead was also appointed to the position of Ballet Master for the Houston Ballet in addition to his performance responsibilities as a principal dancer. In 2004, he retired from the stage and assumed his position of Ballet Master for the Houston Ballet on a full-time basis. In March 1991, while on vacation in Washington, D.C., Mr. Broomhead attended a Royal Ballet performance of Anthony Dowell's Swan Lake. The Royal Ballet's principal dancer sustained an injury during Act I, and Mr. Broomhead finished the performance, partnering Darcey Bussell as his Swan Queen. This performance won him worldwide critical acclaim. Mr. Broomhead has appeared as a guest artist with some of the world's leading companies, including the Royal Swedish Ballet, the Scottish Ballet, and the Yugoslav Ballet. He has also appeared as a guest artist with many regional ballet companies in the United States.

JOHN ABENANTY | Brooklyn, New York



If someone had randomly asked John Abenanty as a child where he wanted to go to school, his answer might have come as a surprise. "When I was little, I wanted to study in the Bolshoi Theatre school." Real life lived up to the young dancer's expectations – he has performed several times at the Bolshoi Theatre, something he never thought would actually happen.

John's introduction to ballet came early from the Brooklyn Ballet Company's public school outreach/scholarship program that placed ballet teachers in schools. He was selected for the program. John's career has included performing as a soloist with South Carolina's Columbia Classical Ballet as well as with the State Ballet of Georgia in Tbilisi, the country's

capital city. He has performed Swan Lake's Pas de Trois; Symphony in C 1st and 3rd movements choreographed by George Balanchine; the iconic Basilio from Don Quixote for the theatre's opening gala event; Sarabande, Leah-3 Elders, choregraphed by Alexei Ratmanski; and the Pas de Six from Giselle.

After joining the Sofia National Ballet company in Bulgaria under the direction of Sara-Nora Krysteva, he performed the roles of Conrad in Le Corsaire; Don Quixote's Basilio; Tsuniga in Carmen, and the Peasant Pas De Deux in Giselle.

"Dance is such an important creative outlet. I dance because I love giving the audience an array of emotions in their experience," he shared.

This is John Abenanty's second season with Orlando Ballet.

ERIN ATKINSON | Amherst, Nova Scotia Canada



Striving to be a strong and muscular dancer while presenting delicate and controlled movement is what Erin Atkinson says she will continue to do throughout her career. As she begins her first season with Orlando Ballet, she says her role models – ABT's Polina Semionova and the Royal Ballet's Marienela Nunez – inspire her work ethic and discipline. "It's mesmerizing to watch them."

Erin, who is from Amherst, Nova Scotia, graduated in 2016 from the Professional Division Program at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School (RWP), where she began her training in 2011. In her three years with RWP, she toured nationally and internationally working with choreographers such as Jera Wolfe, Mark Godden, Mauricio Wainrot, Peter Quanz and

Septime Webre.

In 2019, she moved to Wales and danced with Ballet Cymru. She later returned to her native Canada as a soloist with the Atlantic Ballet of Canada and also performed in London with the English National Ballet.

Her commitment is unwavering. "Whether it's a certain step, an injury, difficult choreography or that voice in your head – to work on it and not give up and then finally reach your goal is the most rewarding experience. That's important to me

in my career."

This is Erin's first season with Orlando Ballet.

ASHLEY BASZTO | Venice, Florida



Orlando Ballet's Ashley Baszto says emotionally impacting an audience through dance – especially when they need it most – is "priceless."

Ashley started ballet at age three with the Sarasota Ballet Academy, a journey filled with classes, summer intensive programs, and huge support from her family. She also trained at the Rock School for Dance Education and the Miami City Ballet School. In 2010, Ashley was a finalist in Youth American Grand Prix New York and Jackson International Ballet Competition. She later placed second for her Pas de Deux at American Dance Competition and performed at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Ballet Dance competition.

She is American Ballet Theatre* certified to teach ballet to students from age two to adult at Orlando Ballet School. Now in her tenth season with Orlando Ballet, Ashley cherishes the opportunities to perform in a variety of challenging productions and working with the organization's artistic team that includes dancers from around the world.

This is Ashley's tenth season with Orlando Ballet.

MATTHEW CUNNINGHAM | Pleasant View, Utah



As the youngest child in his family, Matthew Cunningham mastered the art of negotiation early on. At age three, he saw The Nutcracker for the first time and immediately began campaigning his mother to let him take ballet lessons. He didn't take no for an answer, and by age five, he had started lessons in a small studio in Brigham City, Utah. "Ballet is in my soul," he says.

Matthew's training continued at Ballet West Academy and Boston Ballet. He also participated in summer intensive programs at Houston Ballet, American Ballet Theatre," and the prestigious Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts. He placed first in the Classical Division at the Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) and was an Encouragement Prize Winner in the

International Ballet Competition in Helsinki, Finland.

He joined Orlando Ballet's Second Company in 2015 and has performed in a variety of challenging roles, including an evil stepsister in Cinderella; Mathieu in Jorden Morris' Moulin Rouge, The Ballet and Peter Pan in Morris' production of Peter Pan. Matthew teaches Absolute Beginner Adult Ballet Class at Orlando Ballet School.

This is Matthew's seventh season with Orlando Ballet.

AMIR DODARKHOJAYEV | Almaty, Kazakhstan



Choosing a career path was simple for Amir – he just followed in his mother's footsteps – literally. "I was very little and saw my mother dancing on stage for the first time and said, "This is what I want to do."

Amir began studying ballet in his native country of Kazakhstan at the Seleznev School and spent four years before his advance training in Astana, his country's capital city. He has competed in the Youth American Grand Prix (YAGP) in New York and received a scholarship from the Harid Conservatory where he trained for three years. He was also in the top 15 YAGP New York finals and in 2021, he earned First Place in YAGP in Dallas.

Amir joined the OBII company for its 2020-2021 season, and this marks his first season as a company member with Orlando Ballet. Amir, who speaks Russian, Kazakh and English, says he is grateful for his success in working in a professional ballet company. He credits his mother for his career. "She was my first ballet teacher."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '20. This is Amir's second season with Orlando Ballet.

ISRAEL ZAVALETA ESCOBEDO | Mexico City, Mexico



When the family business is dance, you're probably going to become a dancer. Just ask Israel Zavaleta Escobedo, who trained at his father's Ballet Folklórico Texcoco de Noe for Mexican Folklore dancing. At age 10, he asked his family if he could take a ballet class, and the answer was yes. "That's when everything started."

Israel danced his first principal role last season as Mowgli in Toni Pimble's Jungle Book along with the character Nick Carraway in Jorden Morris' The Great Gatsby. Israel said seeing his coworkers applauding for him off stage was "a beautiful moment."

In addition to his family's studio, Israel trained at Academy de la Danza Mexicana, participated in summer intensive programs with Joffrey Ballet and Idyllwild Arts Academy. He placed second in International Dance Competition; Second Place at Concurso Nacional de Ballet Infantil y Juvenil de Mexico and first place in Tampa at the Young America Grand Prix. And he has competed at International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi, and International Ballet and Choreography in China. Israel is American Ballet Theatre (ABT) certified and teaches the Men's Ballet Class for OBII, trainees and academy at Orlando Ballet School.

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '18. This is Israel's fifth season with Orlando Ballet.

RACHELE EUSEBIONE | Vercelli, Italy



Ballet was all young Rachele Eusebione could talk about after her grandmother took her to see her first live performance as a child in Vercelli, Italy. At age three, she began taking ballet lessons. By age 11, she joined La Scala Ballet School directed by the renowned artist Frederic Olivieri. It's there she worked with Patricia Neary, Sergei Vikharev, Vladimir Derevianko, Piotr Nardelly and Monique Lourdieres. Rachele went on to join the La Scala Ballet Company where she performed in the Ratmanky's production of Swan Lake.

Rachele says her opportunities at Orlando Ballet have been vast and remarkable, including performing the role in Paquita in OB's summer intensive program. But one of her most "unforgettable" experiences was performing the role of Wendy in Artistic Director Jorden

Morris' production of Peter Pan. "Most people believe there's a lot of competition inside each company. For me, in this company we all care for, cherish and support each other. We are each other's biggest fans."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '20. This is Rachele's fourth season with Orlando Ballet.

KELLIE FULTON | Ocean City, New Jersey



Sometimes mothers really do know best. Kellie Fulton just wanted to take Hip Hop dance lessons. However, her mother insisted she take ballet to focus on good technique. "I ended up loving that and sticking with it," Kellie says.

The Ocean City, New Jersey, native did take jazz and hip hop, but by age twelve, she loved ballet and knew it would become her future. She attended the School of Pennsylvania Ballet before joining the second company. She was later accepted into the Butler Fellowship Program at Ballet Austin where she spent a year. Her career path also includes participating in summer programs at Boston Ballet School as well as at San Francisco Ballet School. Some of her favorite experiences include George Balanchine's Jewels and Western Symphony;

Angel Corella's Don Quixote, Swan Lake and The Sleeping Beauty. Kellie says she is lucky to be surrounded by a group of hard-working people who support each other. "It is also rewarding to perform something you've put so much time, effort and hard work into. I believe that the arts are such an important and beautiful part of life and I'm so grateful to be able to bring that to our community in Orlando."

This is Kellie's fourth season with Orlando Ballet.

KATE GARDINIER | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA



Kate Gardinier could have just as easily ended up on a professional soccer field rather than a dance stage as she pursued her interests. As a child, she began ballet because her soccer coach was constantly telling at her to stop tap dancing on the field.

The Pennsylvania native started training as a child with Wexford Dance Academy and participated in summer intensive programs at Boston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Canada's National Ballet School. She also trained at the School of American Ballet at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

At age 16, Kate began studying in the Professional Training Program at the Washington School of Ballet, where as a trainee under the direction of Julie Kent, she had the

opportunity to rehearse and perform in the company's productions. Not only has Kate placed in the Top 12 at Youth America Grand Prix competitions in both Classical and Contemporary categories, she has also earned invitations to the finals. She was also a finalist in the Master Class Series at The Kennedy Center. Like her colleagues, Kate lives a disciplined life and works hard. "I love that dance pushes me outside my comfort zone every day," Gardinier says. "Dance makes me happy."

THOMAS GERHARDT | Weymouth, Dorset England



As a self-described "reserved" personality, Thomas says ballet offers a positive way to express his thoughts and emotions, which in turn contribute to his feeling physically and mentally positive.

He began dancing at age two, training at a local dance school in his native England before joining the Royal Ballet School's Junior Associate Program. He joined the Royal Ballet School at age 11 and performed in The Nutcracker and The Sleeping Beauty. He soon graduated into the Royal Ballet Upper School and worked with British choreographer Ashley Page and later with Carlos Acosta and the Birmingham Royal Ballet. Thomas says he is most grateful for his years with the Royal Ballet because of the knowledge and relationships he acquired as he

moves forward as a professional ballet dancer.

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '22. This is Thomas' first season with Orlando Ballet.

KENNA GOLD | Misson Viejo, California



Kenna Gold likes to move – it's why she's a ballet dancer as well as a personal trainer in her spare time. "I love the combination of beauty and athleticism that is required to be a dancer."

At age 15, the California native moved to Philadelphia to train at The Rock School for Dance Education on a full scholarship. She performed lead roles in The Nutcracker and contemporary ballets. As a trainee with Orlando Ballet, she danced the role of Swanilda, an excerpt from Coppelia, and in Robert Hill's Requiem. She has competed and placed in Youth America Grand Prix regionals, including earning First Place in Ensemble at the New York City finals. She has also participated in summer programs at American Ballet Theatre,*

Miami City Ballet, Houston Ballet, Joffrey Chicago and Bolshoi Ballet in Russia.

Kenna says she fell in love with ballet when she began dancing at age three. Since then, she says her career has been rewarding and includes performing in the role of Myrtha in Giselle and playing Daisy in Jorden Morris'The Great Gatsby, both here in Orlando. "I love challenging myself and seeing hard work payoff on stage."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '20. This is Kenna's second season as a company member with Orlando Ballet.

OLIVIA MCALPINE | Toronto, Ontario



Olivia McAlpine describes dance as an exercise in creative analysis and a rush of adrenaline. "I dance because it requires every part of me, just like everyday life." Born and raised In Toronto, Ontario, Olivia began training professionally at age 11 at Canada's National Ballet School. That's where she "found her home."

After graduating, Olivia joined Sarasota Ballet as a member of the Studio Company and within two years was promoted to Apprentice. There she performed In George Balanchine's Diamonds, Stars and Stripes, Western Symphony and Serenade as well as Sir Kenneth MacMillan's Las Hermanas and Elite Syncopations. Additionally, she has danced Sir Peter Wright's Giselle, Martha Graham's Appalachian Spring, and Mark Morris'The Letter V.

Oliva's training also includes participating in summer exchange programs in England as well as American Ballet Theatre's Summer Intensive program. Despite the demands of her dancing career, Olivia is also studying remotely at Ontario College of Art and Design to earn her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree.

This is Olivia's first season with Orlando Ballet.

ANAMARIE McGINN | Marathon Key, Florida



Love strikes when you least expect it. Fully intending to dance on Broadway, Anamarie McGinn fell in love with ballet at age 17 after taking a class with renowned teacher David Howard.

"I was completely hooked."

She quickly began classical ballet training at Ballet Florida in West Palm Beach and later became a trainee at Orlando Ballet School under the direction of Fernando Bujones who promoted her to company member just one year later. She has also participated in summer programs with American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet and the Joffrey Ballet School. "I truly just fell in love with the art form and automatically changed my path to strictly ballet."

Anamarie earned a Gold Medal at the American Dance Competition as well as a Silver Medal in contemporary. She also received the Fernando Bujones Excellence Award. In addition to earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts, she is American Ballet Theatre certified to teach and instructs ballet and jazz at Orlando Ballet School. She also serves as the Company Rehearsal Assistant and Shoe Manager.

This is Anamarie's 18th season with Orlando Ballet.

FRANCIS MIHM | Dubuque, Iowa



For Francis Mihm, ballet is about brotherhood. Growing up in the lowa heartland, he was introduced to dance after accepting an invitation to try ballet with a friend whose older brothers were already studying dance. He has been dancing ever since. Francis' younger brother followed in his footsteps. Francis says he and his brother continue to support each other and their respective careers.

Francis began his training at the Heartland Academy under Marina O'Rourke and Megan MacLeod and participated in numerous summer intensive programs at American Ballet Theater* and Milwaukee Ballet. He also attended Butler College where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Dance Arts Administration. The academic program included

performing in several lead roles including Swan Lake, Giselle, Sleeping Beauty along with contemporary works by Paul Taylor and Gerald Arpino. While dancing with OBII, Francis performed in Artistic Director Jorden Morris' wildly popular productions of Moulin Rouge, The Ballet and Peter Pan. Francis said dancers' discipline and athleticism are often not recognized when ballet is done well. "Good ballet should look effortless; the ease of movement is what makes it so special."

HITOMI NAKAMURA | Tokyo, Japan



For some, the thought of performing live is terrifying, but for the admittedly shy Hitomi Nakamura, dancing on stage is the perfect place for her to express herself. "I have no hesitation dancing in front of an audience. For me, dance is the most comfortable way to speak."

A native of Japan, Hitomi has competed around the world. including placing first in the Senior Category at Ballet Competition in Tokyo in 2011. She also earned First Place in the Ensemble Category at Youth America Grand Prix NYC final. Hitomi trained at Kaneta Kouno Ballet Academy in Japan and Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy. Some of her favorite roles include Cinderella in Victoria Morgan's Cinderella, the Russian Girl in

George Balanchine's Serenade and Giselle in Giselle. Last season, she danced the principal role of Daisy Buchanan in Jorden Morris' The Great Gatsby. Hitomi says that at the height of the pandemic, dancing was difficult due to contact challenges, especially when partnering. "It seemed impossible to do the job in that situation at first, but the whole organization worked together to bring the arts back.

SAKI OGAWA | Chiba, Japan



The wonder of dance is how it allows a performer to speak without words, which is one of the reasons Saki Ogawa loves the art. If people watching dance understand the message, it's proof that dance takes them beyond words, she says.

Saki began her training at age three at Kayo Mafune Classic Ballet School in her native Japan. She later came to Orlando Ballet School's Summer Intensive program through a full scholarship and remained to become a trainee at Orlando Ballet Academy. She performed in a variety of productions, including Robert Hill's Vampire's Ball, The Nutcracker, Cinderella, and Hill's Requiem. She also performed in The First One choreographed by Stefano Napp. Two years ago, she was promoted to Orlando Ballet's Second Company, and last year marked

her first season as Apprentice with the main company. Saki placed in the top 12 in senior category at Youth America Grand Prix in Tampa and took First Place at Educational Ballet Competition in Japan in 2019. She wants audiences to know that ballet has something for everyone from classical productions to telling of familiar stories such as Jorden Morris'The Great Gatsby and Moulin Rouge, the Ballet. In hope more people who haven't ever seen ballet will come to our shows and realize that there is so much more to ballet."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '22. This is Saki's first season with Orlando Ballet.

ALBERTO PEÑALVER | Murica, Spain



Alberto Peñalver began formal ballet training when he was eight years old in Spain, but even before that, he had "always been dancing around the house," until his mother asked him if would be interested in auditioning for dance school. "I said yes, and I went in shorts and sneakers and almost didn't pass."

After studying with the Conservatorio Profesional de Danza of Murcia, he continued his training with the John Cranko Schule in Germany. He then attended the School of America Ballet at Lincoln Center. Alberto joined the Pacific Northwest Ballet Professional Division program and later Tulsa Ballet II where he danced with the main company several times. Before joining Orlando Ballet, Alberto was a company member with Ballet Arizona where he

performed in several world premieres. Over his career, he has danced ballets choreographed by George Balanchine, August Bournoville, Justin Peck, Frederick Ashton, Ib Andersen, Edwaard Liang and Peter Boal to name a few. Alberto enjoys other artistic interests including painting and photography. Ballet, and dance in general, remains at the core of his being. "I dance because I love performing and creating art with movement."

This is Alberto's first year with Orlando Ballet.

JILLIAN PRICE | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Jillian Price loves being in the sun, and she shines in the spotlight when dancing. "I dance because I love to perform. Performing in front of an audience is such a vulnerable yet rewarding feeling." Her rewards are plenty.

Jillian spent eight years with The Rock School for Dance Education in Philadelphia and participated in two intensive programs with Orlando Ballet before joining OBII. It didn't take long for her to be promoted to Apprentice and soon after to full company member in the 2019-2022 season. She has competed and placed several times in Youth American Grand Prix semi-finals and at the New York City finals.

She notes that ballet dancers are mistaken for being thin and fragile; far from it. "Ballet requires so much strength – both physical and mental." She relies on her strength for some of her favorite roles, including performing Myrtha in Giselle. Describing it as the "hardest, most rewarding role" she's performed so far, she adds, "It's a very physically demanding role, but there was no better feeling than stepping out on stage for Myrtha's first entrance."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '19. This is Jillian's fourth season with Orlando Ballet.

KATE-LYNN ROBICHAUX | Palm Harbor, Florida



Like many in Orlando, Kate-Lynn Robichaux remembers the Bob Carr Auditorium; it's where she attended Orlando Ballet's 30th Anniversary Gala with her mother. And it's where she "fell in love" with dancing. "I just wanted to be like the ballerina I saw on stage that night." And today she is living her dream.

After taking her first summer training program at age 12 at Orlando Ballet, she decided to pursue ballet as her career. She has trained at Florida Ballet School with Paula Núñez and Osmany Montano; has earned a Gold Medal at the 2010 Youth American Grand Prix Regionals; and was Senior Division winner at ADC in 2011.

In addition to dancing in Orlando Ballet's regular seasons, Kate-Lynn has danced with Cirque de Soleil and performed the iconic Dying Swan in Beautiful Together, a community tribute to the victims of the Pulse Nightclub tragedy. Two of her favorite roles include Juliet in Robert Hill's Romeo & Juliet and Nancy in Val Caniparoli's A Cinderella Story performed with a live jazz band. Her most rewarding dance experience, she notes, is being asked to perform Twyla Tharp's Sinatra Suite with Marcelo Gomes at the London Colosseum for Ivan Putrov's gala performance.

Kate-Lynn says the person who inspires her most is her mother. "She sacrificed the world for me to dance and believes in me more than anyone. She has the most generous heart, and I hope to be half the woman she is one day."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '12. This is Kate-Lynn's eleventh season with Orlando Ballet.

NATHAN ROWELL | Eugene, Oregon



For Nathan Rowell, ballet is about respect – respect for the art form, the discipline and the people who pioneered it so very long ago. After beginning his training at age seven when he took a free boys' class in his hometown of Eugene, Oregon, he became more intrigued with the artistry of ballet. "I love how dance builds a community wherever it goes and has the potential to touch people deeply."

Nathan joined the Houston Ballet Academy at age 17 where he worked for two years in the professional division under Claudio Muñoz and Melissa Bowman. He later trained with Texas Ballet Theatre's Studio Training Company before joining Orlando Ballet II last season. And last season proved to be a busy one; Nathan danced the role of George B. Wilson

in Jorden Morris'The Great Gatsby and in "Confronting Genius" created by guest choreographer Heath Gill. Nathan's artistic interests include playing piano. "I find it helps my musicality in ballet movement while also allowing me to venture outside my comfort zone."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '21. This is Nathan's second season with Orlando Ballet.

TREVOR STALCUP | Culpeper, Virginia



Ballet isn't a hobby; it's a profession that motivates dancers to explore their creativity and their physical limits as athletes. That's how dancer Trevor Stalcup explains what he does for living. Trevor began his ballet training at age 16 after being encouraged by a friend to try a class. Dance stuck with him.

A native of Virginia, he trained with Amber Rose Ballet before joining the Richmond Ballet where, as a trainee, he performed and toured with the company for two years. He went on to join Texas Ballet Theatre's Corps de Ballet working under Ben Stevenson, Tim O'Keefe and Li Anlin. Last season, at Orlando Ballet, he performed the role of Tom Buchanan in Jorden Morris'The Great Gatsby. He is currently studying for his bachelor's degree in business. Trevor

appreciates the hard work associated with dance and says he enjoys all that is required for a successful ballet career, including cross training regularly at the gym.

This is Trevor's third season with Orlando Ballet.

JAYSAN STINNETT | Miami, Florida



As you watch Jaysan Stinnett on stage, know that as he is performing, he is also falling in love with the art of dance. He says it happens every time he performs. "The exhilaration of performing in front of an audience makes me fall in love with the art form even more, each time."

This son of retired professional ballet dancers didn't start training until around age 13 after he asked to take lessons. He began training at the Thomas Armor Youth Ballet in Miami and later became a student at Harid Conservatory, studying there until he joined Orlando Ballet's company three years ago. Over the course of his training, Jaysan has received several full scholarships to summer programs at American Ballet School, Ellison Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet Academy, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet and Houston Ballet.

So far, the high point of his career has been dancing the role of Albrecht in Orlando Ballet's Giselle. "Albrect is a role that I have dreamt of performing with a professional company ever since I fell in love with ballet," adding that he feels lucky having the opportunity to dance the role so early in his professional career.

This is Jaysan's fourth season with Orlando Ballet.

McKENZIE THOMAS | Monument, Colorado



Not even her beloved early dance training in contemporary, jazz and tap could stop McKenzie Thomas from choosing ballet as a career. After a summer intensive program she took at age 15, McKenzie says, "I knew from that moment that's what I wanted to do."

The Colorado native's ballet training began at Zamuel Ballet School and continued at Master Ballet Academy in Scottsdale, AZ, under the direction of Slawomir and Irena Wozniak. She was a company member of Colorado Ballet from 2018-2021 where one of her favorite performances was Balanchine's Serenade at Vail Dance Festival.

Her competitive successes include earning a Bronze Medal at 2021 World Ballet Competition, Top 12 finalist at American Dance Competition, Interntional Ballet Competition, First Place Pas de Deux at Youth American Grand Prix (YAGP) in Phoenix, YAGP Denver Top 12 and YAGP NYC finalist.

This is McKenzie's second season with Orlando Ballet.

APPRENTICE

DAHLIA DENICORE | Leesburg, Virginia



"Driven" describes Dahlia Denicore's focus on living her dream of becoming a ballerina. Despite beginning professional training later than most, Dahlia was intent on developing her artistic and technical skills in order to join a professional dance company.

Dahlia's professional training began just two years ago at the San Francisco Ballet School. Dahlia danced through high school at the Loudoun School of Ballet in her native Virginia and completed a summer intensive with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. Dahlia packed in any and all training opportunities, including competitions that supported her goals. Between 2017 and 2020, Dahlia placed first in Junior Classical and third in Junior Contemporary at Youth America Grand Prix regionals; placed second in Senior Contemporary and Top 12

Senior Classical; and, in 2020, placed in Top 12 Senior Classical and Third in Senior Contemporary. Dahlia was also a finalist in the 2020 New York City Dance Alliance National Dance Discovery Showcase and received a judge's invitation to help with ballet choreography in a Broadway show. Shortly after being accepted in Orlando Ballet's second company, Dahlia was promoted to Apprentice in the main company. "I am living a dream!" says Dahlia, who hopes to inspire others to "never give up on their goals, whatever the odds."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '22. This is Dahlia's first season with Orlando Ballet.

APPRENTICE

CHARLIE MELLOR | Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, England



It's hard to dismiss the influence of television when Charlie Mellor reveals that at age three, he started dancing in front of the TV, which led to him begging his parents to take him to dance class. His persistence paid off; he began training at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts in his native England. During his time there, he won First Place in the Cecchitte Children's Award at Sadler Wells and was runner up for the Mabel Ryan Junior Award one year later.

Beyond his schooling Charlie was invited to perform for Dance Power in support of the British Red Cross at Theatre Royal, Drury Lane and later in Mathew Bourne's production of Romeo and Juliet at the Marlow Theatre. In 2019, his TV experience came full circle

when he performed a pas de deux from La Fille Mal Gardee in the BBC Young Dancer of the Year final which was broadcast on BBC4.

Charlie notes that ballet is physically and mentally tough. "We need to remember a lot of choreography and often need to learn multiple spots; it requires a lot of focus and discipline." He adds, "After the show, when you feel like you've put on the best performance possible, you know that all the rehearsals and hard work has paid off."

DAVID WEST | Waldwick, New Jersey



Sports and ballet have much in common, including discipline and athleticism – two elements that lured David West from sports to ballet. At age 10, David began classical ballet training at the Petrov Valley School in New Jersey under the direction of Eugene Petrov. "He took me under his wing and always had my best interests in mind."

David's career took him to competitions at Youth American Grand Prix semi-finals where he placed in the junior and senior categories and ultimately in the finals. In 2019, he was offered a full scholarship to Boston Ballet's training program where he performed with the main company in Giselle and The Nutcracker. After just one year, he was offered a spot in their new postgraduate program. David has also participated in a dance film project

entitled Ballet Unleashed, a collaboration of eight dancers from schools around the world.

David says that at this point, his most rewarding experience is performing the role of "DJ" in Val Caniparoli's "Lambarena," with Orlando Ballet last season. "This was my first major role in a professional company, and being able to perform it for the original choreographer made the whole experience even more magical."

Orlando Ballet School Alumni '22. This is David's first season with Orlando Ballet.





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PRODUCTION

JOHN BEAULIEU | Director of Production



John Beaulieu has been working in ballet production for the better part of the last 25 years, working on José Mateo Ballet Theatre's production of The Nutcracker as a student at Emerson College in Boston, to a 20-year stay with artistic directors John McFall and Gennadi Nedvigin at Atlanta Ballet. John has worked at every level from Assistant Carpenter up to Production Manager & Technical Director. He is proud to be a part of the team at Orlando Ballet, lending his expertise and talents to an exciting new chapter in the Ballet's future.

EDDY FRANK FERNANDEZ | Costume Director



Eddy Frank Fernandez is a graduate of The University of Arts of Cuba/Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA). He has been in charge of Orlando Ballet wardrobe's department since 2005. He has done costume designs for several of Robert Hill's productions such as Carmina Burana, Battle of the Sexes, Firebird, Vampire's Ball, Swan Lake, and Giselle, which includes set design. His most recent creations include costumes for Arcadian Broad's Beauty & the Beast and Wonderland: Mad Tales of the Hatter, as well as Best of Broadway for choreographers Robert Hill, Arcadian Broad, Chiaki Yasukawa, and Telmo Moreira.

NORELIS DEAN





Norelis Arroyo Dean was born and raised in Puerto Rico. In 2009, she moved to Orlando to pursue a BFA in Fashion Design and Merchandising at the International Academy of Design & Technology. Norelis was featured in the Photoshop World Expo, where she showcased a Photoshop-inspired design made with unconventional materials. She's a winner of the Design Challenge for IMAGINE Fashion Show 2011 and was selected as a debuting designer for her Spring 2012 collection at the Mall at Millenia Fashion Week 2011 Competition.

Norelis works at Orlando Ballet as the Wardrobe Supervisor, helping in costume production, fittings, alterations, and everything in between.

HELEN MOREAU | Stage Manager



Helen Moreau is a recent Orlando transplant, originally hailing from Northern Virginia. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design and Production with a concentration in Stage Management from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. While in school, she had the wonderful opportunity to work with companies such as American Ballet Theatre, Helen Simoneau Danse, and the Old Globe (San Diego) as well as numerous UNCSA productions. She is thrilled to be starting her first season with Orlando Ballet.

KEVIN "KP" PAULSEN | Assistant Stage Manager



KP spent the past decade as a Stage Manager and part of numerous install teams with Disney Cruise Line, including the opening team of the Disney Fantasy. Prior to his sea trials, he worked on AEA Shows for Penn State Centre Stage, a season in Ogunquit Playhouse, and "Revenge of a King" in South Africa. A proud Penn State Alumni with a BFA in Theatre emphasis in Stage Management, KP is honored to begin his first season with the Orlando Ballet.

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Director of Production

Helen Moreau

Stage Manager

Kevin Paulsen

Assistant Stage Manager

Eddy Frank Fernandez

Costume Director

Norelis Dean

Wardrobe Supervisor

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Amyia Burrell

Head of Young Dancer Program

Natasha Glos

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Logan Faulkner

School Admin & Summer Intensive Coordinator

Aless Ramnarine

Front Desk & Rental Assistant

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Catherine Linder

Community Enrichment Administrative Coordinator

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The Amigos del Orlando Ballet are an affinity group created with the purpose of promoting awareness and appreciation of Orlando Ballet in Central Florida's Latinx community, contributing to its financial strength, and providing volunteer support.

There are three different ways you can join the Amigos:

- 1. Become an Orlando Ballet Season Subscriber
- 2. Purchase a two-ticket voucher for the 2022-23 Season
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Tiffany Cratit, Philanthropy Manager | Tcratit@orlandoballet.org or Patrick Ingram, Patron Services & Group Sales Coordinator | Pingram@orlandoballet.org

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Photo: Orlando Ballet Ambassadors BeMoved® Class. Photography by Izzy Mendez

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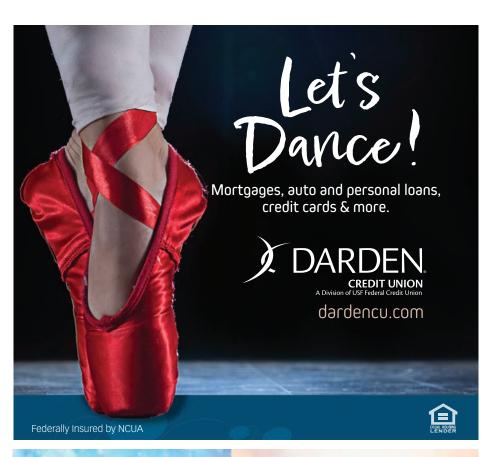
To learn more, please contact: Abigail Ford, Philanthropy Events Specialist | aford@orlandoballet.org

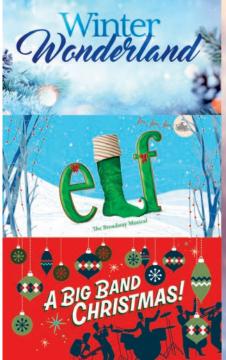
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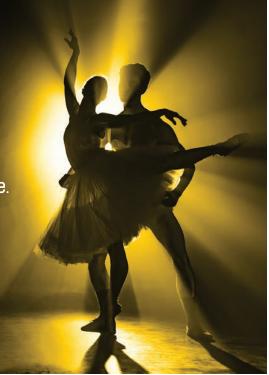
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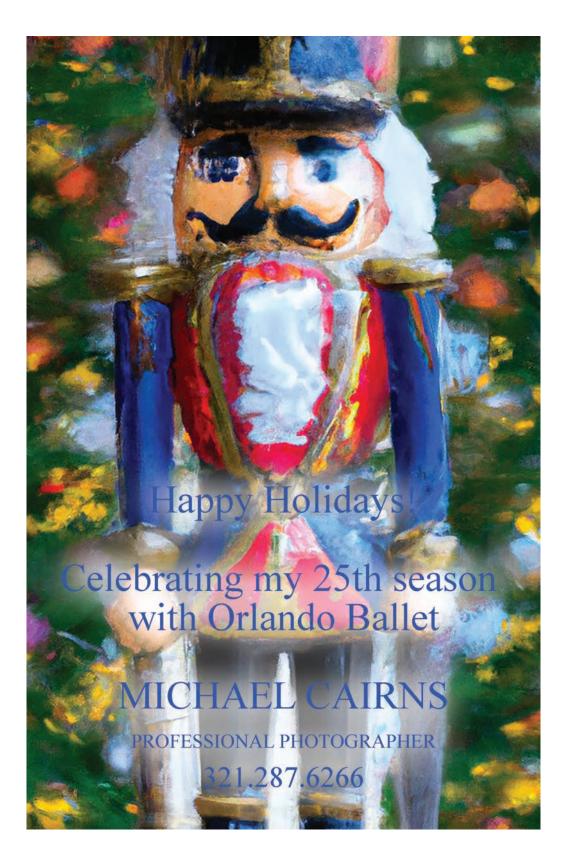


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INTRO TO BALLET: USING THE MAGIC OF THE NUTCRACKER TO BUILD FUTURE AUDIENCES

Orlando Ballet believes that every child should have access to attend a professional ballet production. Over the last two decades, Orlando Ballet has provided just such an opportunity for every second-grade student in Orange County Public Schools through the Intro to Ballet program. Each year, in collaboration with Orange County Public Schools, up to 15,000 students attend an Orlando Ballet mainstage production at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. More than 290,000 students have participated in this impactful program to date.

Every December, thousands of excited 7- and 8-year-olds travel by bus to the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

to enjoy the classic holiday tale of *The Nutcracker*. For many of these second graders, not only is this their first primer to ballet in a formal theatre setting, but also their very first live performance. There is nothing more magical to see than when a child's face lights up upon seeing the brash and pugnacious Mouse King, elegant and ethereal Sugar Plum Fairy, or larger-than-life dancing dolls for the very first time.

According to a study by Americans for the Arts, early contact with and participation in the performing arts as a child is crucial in building future audiences. By introducing a ballet as enchanting as *The Nutcracker* to primary school students,

ORLANDO BALLET IN THE COMMUNITY



Orlando Ballet is helping to ensure the continuing love for this piece, and other ballets, for generations to come.

Over the last two years, due to COVID-19 precautions, *The Nutcracker* has been brought to students, instead of bringing students to *The Nutcracker*. Orlando Ballet worked closely with OCPS to virtually deliver *The Nutcracker* to every secondgrade classroom while ensuring that students had the most enriching and immersive experience possible. This year, Intro to Ballet returns to its in-person

format. In addition to the live performance, Orlando Ballet also provides lesson plan packets to teachers and parents as well as five supplemental educational videos shown in the weeks leading up to the performance demonstrating how a production like *The Nutcracker* is made, detailing the importance of everything from costumes and makeup to stage direction, sound, and lighting.

Orlando Ballet continues to be committed to delivering quality Community Enrichment programs at no cost to participants. Thank you to our exceptional partners, funders, and teachers for keeping our students dancing!

Intro to Ballet would not be possible without generous support from:

The Martin Andersen-Gracia Andersen Foundation
The Chesley G. Magruder Foundation
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LEARN MORE ABOUT ORLANDO BALLET'S ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

ORLANDOBALLET.ORG

Contact Director of Community Enrichment Charmaine Hunter chunter@orlandoballet.org

For information about how to sponsor or support Orlando Ballet Community Enrichment programs, contact Director of Philanthropy Ashley Samuels asamuels@orlandoballet.org

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT BY THE NUMBERS: 2021-22 SEASON



Programs 12 Residencies 131



Pairs of Ballet Shoes Provided 1,099



Miles Traveled 38,781



People Served 17,003



Counties Served



Youngest Participant
3

Oldest Participant 89



Number of Plies **620,450**



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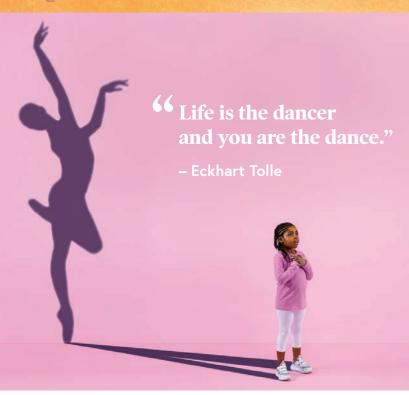
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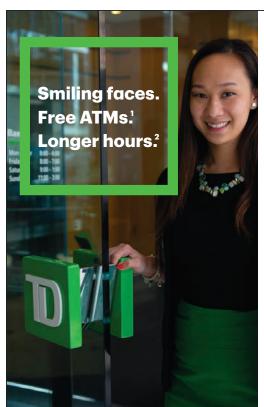




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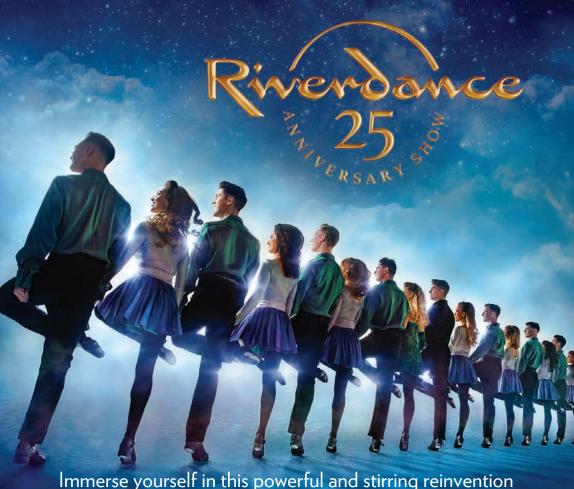


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Dancer: John Abenaty | Photography: Zavesco Photography

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ORLANDO BALLET

Thanks to a momentous \$1 million gift from board members Krista and Jonathan Ledden, bringing their total contributions to \$2 million overall, Orlando Ballet is thrilled to offer this multi-year sustained giving campaign.

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The Artists, Board of Directors, students, families, and staff at Orlando Ballet Company and School extend heartfelt thanks to the generous individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies whose support continues to allow us to fulfill our mission to entertain, educate, and enrich through the highest quality of dance.

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This list includes individual, foundation, corporate, and government agencies giving a cumulative total of \$25,000 and above for the period of October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022 (including Orlando Ballet designated gifts through United Arts of Central Florida and funds from multi-year pledges that are available within the current fiscal year).

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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SPONSORSHIP OF OUR PERFORMANCES OR PROGRAMS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Orlando Ballet, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization regulated by the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services pursuant to the Florida Solicitation of Charitable Contributions Act. Our Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Registration Number is

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The Artists, Board of Directors, students, families, and staff at Orlando Ballet Company and School extend heartfelt thanks to the generous individuals and organizations who have made gifts in honor or memory of loved ones. Your support continues to allow us to fulfill our mission to entertain, educate, and enrich through the highest quality of dance.

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