

ROBERT MILLS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

OKLAHOMA  
CITY  
BALLET

# THE LITTLE MERMAID



**SAILORS CAST**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 17

# OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET ARTISTS

## *Artistic Director*

Robert Mills

## *Rehearsal Directors*

Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye, Miki Kawamura Khalfan

## *Manager of Professional Training Programs*

Amanda Herd-Popejoy

## *Principal Dancers*

Jonathan Batista, Courtney Connor Jones,  
DaYoung Jung, Amy Potter

## *Soloist Dancers*

Autumn Klein, Walker Martin, Mayu Odaka

## *Corps de Ballet Dancers*

Mickayla Carr, Molly Cook, Daniel Cooke, Randolph Fernandez,  
Alejandro González, Joseph Hetzer, Sam Jones, Nicholas Keeperman,  
Natalie Matsuura, Gabrielle Mengden, Wojciech Ogloza,  
Alexandra Schooling, Mayim Stiller, Erik Thordal-Christensen,  
Kara Troester, Carrie Ruth Trumbo, Zane Winders

## *Apprentices*

Micah Bullard, Kaileah Long, Alison Ramoran,  
Paige Russell, Lucas Tischler, Daniel Tran

## *Studio Company*

Chloe Beckinsale, Alison Cervantes, Elena Damiani, Abby Fleming, Laurel Horwath,  
Morgan Horwath, Noah Klarck, Savannah Lee, Grace Manuel, Annie Medich,  
Sammi Michael, Henrique Neumann, Carlie Preskitt, Madeleine Purcell, Olivia Rick,  
Caitlin Rogers, Olivia Scott, Alexandra Smith, Anna Tateda, Caroline Young

## *Trainees*

Amelia Aroneo, Lillebeth Backes, Nicole Bak, Brier Bracken, Carly Brink, Elizabeth Brooks,  
Gemma Campbell, Eva Chronert, Ariel Collins, Gavin DeYoung-Daniels, Morgan Dunham,  
Samantha Dunham, Gabriela Faber, Jacy Fletcher, Stephanie Frase, Dietrich Klawonn,  
James Klump, Dain Lim, Gwendolyn Nguyen, Savannah Payne, Neider Riano Poveda,  
Cheyanne Rowland, Alexandra Veronese-Milin, Mackenzie Westmoreland

# OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET

## *John Kirkpatrick Executive Director*

Jo Lynne Jones

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Racheal Nye

### *Artistic Operations Manager*

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### *Technical Director*

Emily Murphy

### *Stage Manager*

Courtney DiBello

### *Resident*

### *Lighting Designer*

Aaron Mooney

### *Costume Manager*

Dayna Brown

### *School Administrator*

Macaيرا Pinto

### *School Registrar*

Anna Jans

### *Company Pianists*

Karen Bentley

Miho Fisher

John Fry

### *Community Engagement*

### *Teaching Artists*

Macaيرا Pinto

Erica Portell

Amber Robinson

Jeremy Shapel

Megan Simpson

Laura Ward

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Morgan Dunham

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Dr. Megan Meier

### *Company Physical Therapist*

Dr. Emily Love

### *Company Chiropractor*

Dr. Allison Lees

### *Assistant Technical Director*

Monica Tran

### *Photography*

Jana Carson

Kate Luber

Shevaun Williams

### *Performance Photography*

Michael Anderson

Diana Bittle

Jana Carson

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Liquid Media

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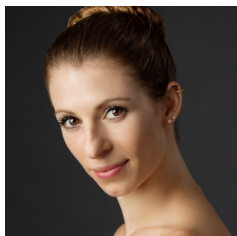
For exclusive up-to-date information on upcoming performances and special events, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, Instagram, and our YouTube channel (@okcballet)

## PRINCIPAL DANCERS



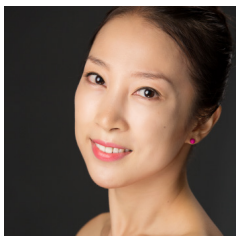
**Jonathan Batista**

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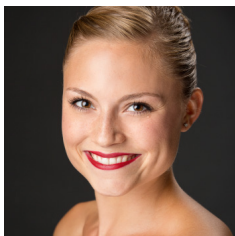
**Courtney C. Jones**

Sponsored by:  
Mari Cook Medley



**DaYoung Jung**

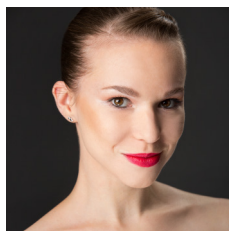
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**Amy Potter**

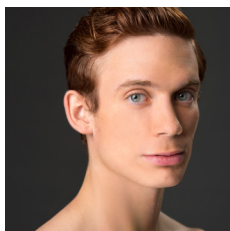
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## SOLOISTS

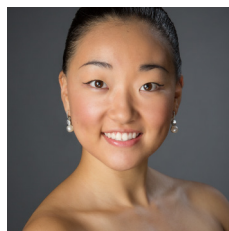


**Autumn Klein**

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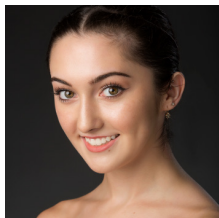


**Walker Martin**



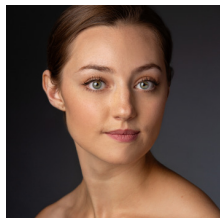
**Mayu Odaka**

## CORPS DE BALLET

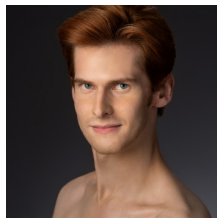


**Mickayla Carr**

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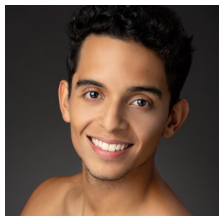
**Molly Cook**



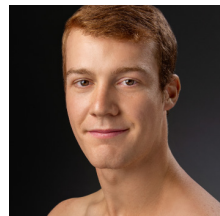
**Daniel Cooke**



**Randolph Fernandez**

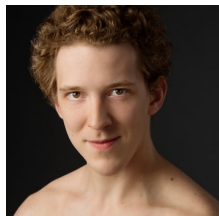


**Alejandro González**

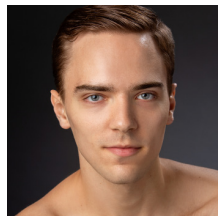


**Joseph Hetzer**

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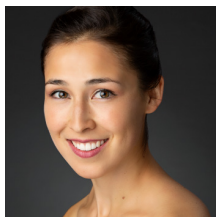


**Sam Jones**

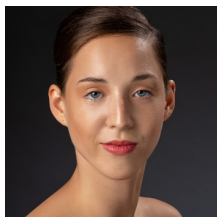


**Nicholas Keeperman**

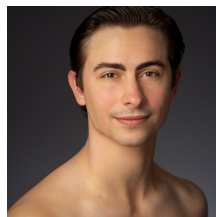
## CORPS DE BALLET



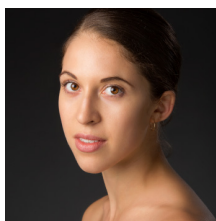
Natalie Matsuura



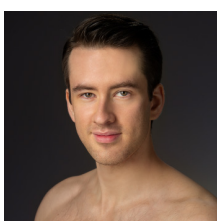
Gabrielle Mengden  
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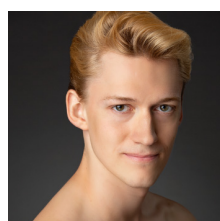
Wojciech Ogloza



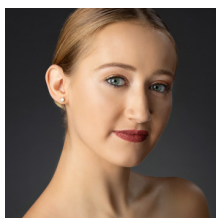
Alexandra Schooling



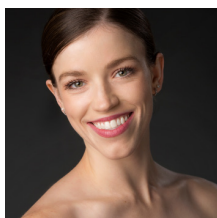
Mayim Stiller



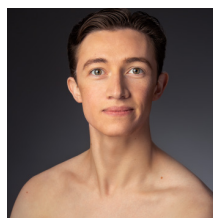
Erik Thordal-Christensen



Kara Troester  
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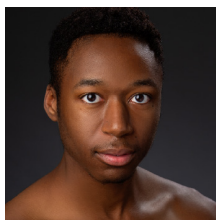


Carrie Ruth Trumbo

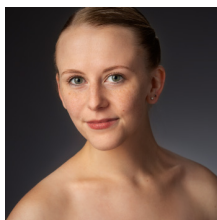


Zane Winders

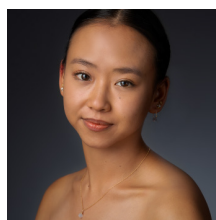
## APPRENTICE



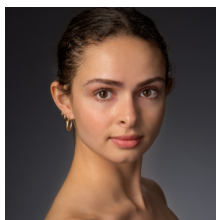
Micah Bullard



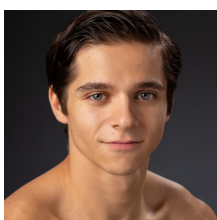
Kaileah Long



Alison Ramoran



Paige Russell



Lucas Tischler



Daniel Tran



# THE LITTLE MERMAID

Out in the ocean, where the water is as blue as the prettiest cornflower and as clear as crystal, dwells the Sea King and a Sea Witch. The Sea King rules the underwater world. The Sea Witch revels in finding mischief for herself and is feared by most underwater creatures.

Ariel, a beautiful young mermaid, is one of the Sea King's daughters. Ariel is a strange child. Her four older sisters are delighted with their life in the ocean, but Ariel cares very little about living under the sea. Ariel longs for the day when she will turn fifteen, as that is the age in which Mermaids are finally allowed to rise above the surface.

Ariel begs the Sea King to grant her passage above the water, but he reminds her that she has four older sisters that will turn fifteen before her. Nothing gives Ariel more pleasure than hearing about the world above the sea from her older sisters. Ariel is fascinated when her oldest sister first tells her of the people that live on the land and how they walk on two legs, dance, and play on sandy beaches with their children.

When Ariel turns fifteen she cannot wait to get to the surface. She rises above water and is amazed at the sight of a handsome young man on a boat. Soon heavy clouds darken the sky and a dreadful storm is overhead. The young man loses control of his vessel and is thrown into the icy, deep water. Ariel swims to him and takes him to a distant shore where she ensures he is safe. He barely awakens before a huge undertow pulls Ariel back underwater and far out to sea. A mysterious woman appears as if from nowhere and is at the side of the young man when he awakens fully. The young man does not know that it was indeed Ariel that saved him.

Ariel swims sadly in the days to follow with the thought that she might never see the young man again and that she must dwell underwater for the rest of her life. Ariel encounters the Sea Witch who offers her a potion that will transform her Mermaid's tail into two legs. Ariel drinks the potion, swims to the surface, and crawls onto the nearby beach. A group of young naval officers are getting their exercise running along the beach when Ariel again comes face to face with the young man she saved, a naval captain named Eric. Their reunion is interrupted.

The next morning, after spending the night alone on the beach, Ariel climbs a hill overlooking the ocean and finds a place to rest. She happens onto some young naval officers attempting to picnic with their fiancés. Eric arrives with the mysterious woman he thinks saved him from drowning. Eric sees that this mysterious woman is much more than she appears.

Years pass, and we find a celebration in honor of Ariel and Eric's wedding day. Everyone is happy and excited for the young couple's future together. But Ariel still does not feel completely comfortable in this new world. Eric shows her that she is as beautiful as all the other ladies in attendance. The celebration ends on a joyous note.

Later that evening, Ariel asks Eric to take her to the beach where she says goodbye to the sea, and her former self, one last time.

# THE LITTLE MERMAID

## **Choreography and Direction**

Robert Mills

## **Concept and Libretto**

Robert Mills

## **Music Arrangement**

Robert Mills

## **Scenery**

Howard Jones

## **Master Electrician**

Robert Romanishin

## **Music**

Alexander Von Zemlinsky  
*Der Seejungfrau* &  
Reinhold Gliere  
*The Red Poppy*

## **Costume Design**

Aimee Coleman  
Dayna Brown

## **Crew**

Larry Huffman  
Ben Conley  
Jennifer Barrett  
Kortney McQuade  
Monica Tran  
Star Dewolf  
IATSE Local 112

## **Rehearsal Assistants**

Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye  
Miki Kawamura Khalfan

## **Lighting Design**

Aaron Mooney

Sea King: Dietrich Klawonn

Ariel: Mayu Odaka

Ariel's Sisters: Kaileah Long, Natalie Matsuura,  
Paige Russell, Carrie Ruth Trumbo

Ariel's Swimmers: Micah Bullard, Daniel Cooke,  
Joseph Hetzer, Daniel Tran

Sea Witch: Autumn Klein

The Witch's Eels: Sammi Michael, Carlie Preskitt,  
Caitlin Rogers, Olivia Scott

Eric (A Naval Captain): Walker Martin

A Couple on the Beach: Anna Tateda, Henrique Neuman

Flower Sellers: Amelia Aroneo, Carly Brink

Boys on the Beach: Randy Fernandez, Zane Winders

Sea Turtle: Ariel Collins

Starfish: Savannah Payne

Anemone: Elizabeth Brooks

Seahorses: Gabriela Faber, Eva Chronert

Hermit Crab: Julien DeJear

Fish: Amelia Aroneo, Brier Brackern, Carly Brink,  
Sharon Collins, Stephanie Frase, Kathryn Muscarella

Jellyfish: Gwendolyn Nguyen, Cheyanne Rowland

Eric's Friends: Kaileah Long, Natalie Matsuura,  
Paige Russell, Carrie Ruth Trumbo  
Daniel Cooke, Randy Fernandez,  
Henrique Neumann, Zane Winders

Sailors: Micah Bullard, Daniel Cooke, Joseph Hetzer  
Henrique Neumann, Daniel Tran

Ladies: Kaileah Long, Natalie Matsuura, Sammi Micheal,  
Carlie Preskitt, Paige Russell, Olivia Scott,  
Anna Tateda, Carrie Ruth Trumbo

Flower Girls: Amelia Aroneo, Carly Brink, Brier Bracken,  
Elizabeth Brooks, Eva Chronert, Ariel Collins,  
Sharon Collins, Gabriela Faber, Stephanie Frase,  
Gwendolyn Nguyen, Savannah Payne,  
Cheyenne Rowland

SEPT. 10, 2021

*Ballet Under the Stars*

OCT. 22-24, 2021

SEPTIME WEBRE'S

*ALICE (in wonderland)*

DEC. 11-19, 2021

*The Nutcracker*

PRESENTED BY DEVON ENERGY

FEB. 18-20, 2022

*Made in the U.S.A.*

MAR. 17-20, 2022

*Future Voices*

A CHOREOGRAPHIC SHOWCASE

MAY 6-8, 2022

*The Sleeping Beauty*

50 OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET  
ANNIVERSARY SEASON





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Oklahoma City Ballet thanks our Board of Trustees and leadership team whose time, energy, and generosity enhances our organization and makes our performances and community programs possible.

## 2020/21 COMPANY



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AS OF APRIL 8, 2021

Oklahoma City Ballet gratefully acknowledges the individuals, businesses, and foundations whose generous support makes Oklahoma City Ballet performances and educational programs possible. Listed below are Oklahoma City Ballet's supporters as of April 8, 2021.

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of Lisa Slater  
Dallas Gwin in memory of  
Yvonne Chouteau and  
Miguel Terekhov

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Oklahoma City Ballet is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and we need your support this year. Now is a great time to take advantage of a new Charitable Giving Incentive as part of the CARE stimulus package for total charitable contributions of up to \$300.

**Contribute today at  
[okcballet.org/donate](http://okcballet.org/donate)**

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Thank you to our major gift donors to The Turning Pointe Campaign  
for Oklahoma City Ballet as of April 8, 2021

These donors, who gave \$5,000 or more, will be included on the permanent donor wall at the Susan E. Brackett Dancer Center. It's not too late to add your name to the list. To donate or with more questions, please email [whitney@okcballet.org](mailto:whitney@okcballet.org).

Susan E. Brackett and  
Gregg Wadley

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