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# Cinderella

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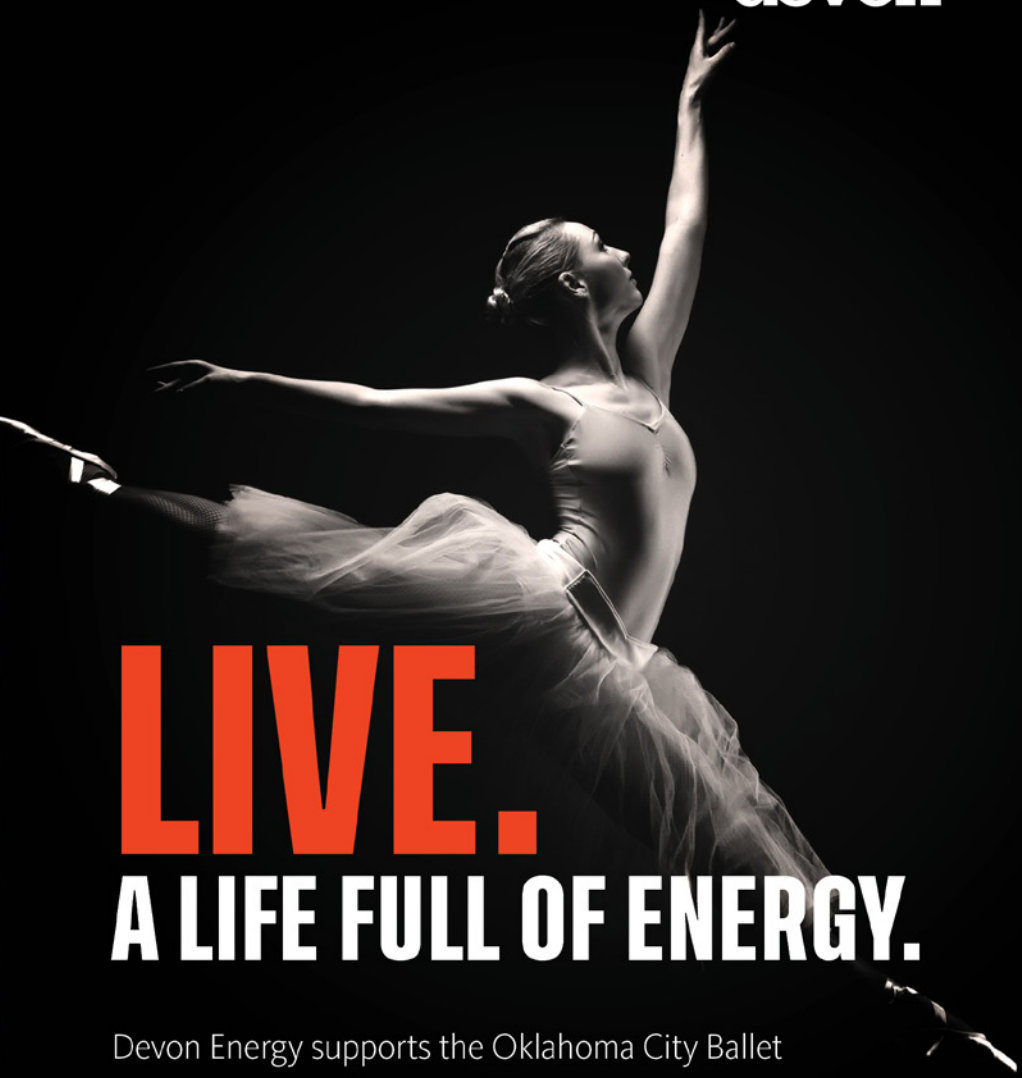
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# OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET

## **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye

## ***Rehearsal Director***

DaYoung Jung

## ***Associate Rehearsal Director &***

## ***Principal Character Artist***

Benjamin Tucker

## ***Principal Artists***

Courtney Connor Jones

Roylan Ramos Hechavarria Autumn Klein

## ***Soloists***

Alejandro González Mayu Odaka

Erik Thordal-Christensen

## ***Corps de Ballet***

Ryland Acree III, Kara Troester Blythe, Mickayla Carr,  
Daniel Cooke, Randolph Fernandez, Joseph Hetzer,  
Jameson Keating, Nicholas Keeperman, Gabrielle Mengden,  
Paige Russell, Alexandra Schooling, Mayim Stiller,  
Anna Tateda, Zane Winders

## ***Apprentices***

Oslaniel Castillo, Elena Damiani, James Klump, Grace Manuel,  
Henrique Neumann, Carlie Preskitt, Flannery Werner

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Mikaela Guidice, Rachel Kundzins, Darcey Lynn, Jessica Lynn,  
Maura Moody, Leah Reiter, Kira Robinson, Savannah Payne, Ana Vega

## ***Trainees***

Madisen Acevedo, Carson Berry, Freestone Dopp, Grace Duhan,  
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# OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET

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Jo Lynne Jones

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---

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**Marketing Manager & Graphic Artist** Lestari Kusumawardani

**Box Office Manager** Justin Seal

**Development Manager** Charlie Ludden

**Digital Content Coordinator & Photographer** Jana Carson

**Development Associate** Rurie Dobson

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**HR Manager** Krystle Kaye, SPHR

**Operations Manager** John Kimbrell

**Executive Assistant & Board Liaison** Kallie Olson

**Receptionist** Sarah Klump

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---

**Community Engagement Manager** Erica Portell

**Teaching Artists** Quincy Allen, Briana Sayles, James Williams, Marissa McCurtain,  
Madeleine Purcell, Macaira Pinto

### COMPANY & PRODUCTION

---

**Director of Artistic Operations** Stephanie Aaron

**Technical Director** Emily Murphy

**Stage Manager** Courtney DiBello

**Costume Manager** Claire Kroeger

**Resident Lighting Designer** Aaron Mooney

**Company Teacher** Victoria Bearden

**Company Pianists** Karen Bentley, Miho Fisher

**Company Physician** Dr. Megan Meier, McBride Orthopedic Hospital

**Company Physical Therapist** Dr. Emily Love, Turning Pointe Physical Therapy

**Company Psychologist** Dr. Cody Commander, Commander Counseling & Wellness

**Company Chiropractor** Dr. Mila Mohsenzadeh, Fit Spa

**Photography** Jana Carson, Kate Luber, Shevaun Williams

**Performance Photography** Diana Bittle, Jana Carson, Bill Crouch, Kate Luber

**Videographers** Liquid Media, Flight Agency



# THE OKLAHOMA CITY BALLET YVONNE CHOUTEAU SCHOOL

## SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Racheal Nye

## STAFF

---

**School Administrator** Macaira Pinto

**Men's Program/Rehearsal Director** Olivier Muñoz

**Evening Program Principal** Kaitlin Alter

**School Coordinator** Emma Capen

**School Receptionists** Quincy Allen, Celeste Boullion

## INSTRUCTORS

---

Ryland Acree III, Kaitlin Alter, Victoria Bearden, Celeste Boullion, Natasha Brooksher, Emma Capen, Daniel Cooke, Morgan Dunham, Alejandro González, Joseph Hetzer, Chloe Jenson, DaYoung Jung, Sarah Klump, Olivier Muñoz, Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye, Racheal Nye, Macaira Pinto, Erica Portell, Madeleine Purcell, Jacob Sparso, Bruce Steivel, Evelina Sushko, Benjamin Tucker, James Williams

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PHOTO BY KATE LUBER

# ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



## RYAN JOLICOEUR-NYE

Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye is a choreographer, arts advocate, teacher, and Oklahoma City Ballet's seventh Artistic Director since its founding in 1963. Originally from central Maine, Jolicoeur-Nye began his ballet training with Andrei Bossov at the age of 16, and after graduating from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, he danced professionally for Eugene Ballet, Ballet Idaho, Kansas City Ballet, plus many guest roles throughout North America before retiring from the stage in 2016.

In 2018, Jolicoeur-Nye was named Artistic Director of Northwest Arkansas Ballet Theatre based in Bentonville. Under his tenure, the company experienced exponential growth, creating more than 80 performances and reaching over 28,000 area residents.

As a choreographer, he has created ballets for Northwest Arkansas Ballet Theatre, Ballet Idaho, Chicago Repertory Ballet, Kansas City Ballet, Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, Moving Arts Dance Festival, Ballet Des Moines, Oklahoma City Ballet, among others. Jolicoeur-Nye was named "Outstanding Choreographer" at the 2017 Youth American Grand Prix as well as "Best Choreographer" at the World Ballet Art Competition (WBAC) Grand Prix 2019.

Jolicoeur-Nye joined Oklahoma City Ballet in August 2020 as a Rehearsal Director, working closely with company dancers. Since 2020, he has choreographed crowd favorite short pieces such as *Chan Chan*, *Abbey Road*, *Playlist*, and feature-length ballets *The Sleeping Beauty* and a fresh version of *The Nutcracker* which debuted in 2022.

Jolicoeur-Nye took on the role of acting artistic director in January 2022 and was officially named Artistic Director of Oklahoma City Ballet in October 2022 following an international search. Jolicoeur-Nye is married to Racheal Nye, School Director for the Oklahoma City Ballet Yvonne Chouteau School and together they have two children. In his free time, Ryan enjoys playing music, painting, cooking, and family time.



# DONORS TO THE TURNING POINTE CAMPAIGN

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



## JO LYNNE JONES

As the John Kirkpatrick Executive Director of the Oklahoma City Ballet, Jo Lynne Jones inspires teams and drives operational results using her 30+ years' experience in communications, leadership, and development.

Jo plays an integral role in the Ballet's external affairs, such as fundraising, resource development, communications, marketing, leadership positioning, and driving strategic partnerships. She is a fierce advocate for the Ballet, its economic impact, and the Oklahoma City arts community as a whole.

Internally, Jo works closely with the Ballet's Artistic Director, Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye, in a shared leadership capacity to manage staff in executing the Ballet's mission. She oversees the operational management of the Ballet's facilities and finances, including developing the annual budget and any special project or capital budgets. She also acts as a liaison to the organization's various committees and Board of Trustees, as well as overseeing Board engagement in fundraising, marketing, public relations, community relations, and advocacy efforts.

A seasoned professional communicator, Jo got her professional start as a news anchor and reporter at stations in Oklahoma City; Lawton, Oklahoma; and Wichita Falls, Texas. She was a familiar face on OETA from 1991 to 2007, where she reported nightly on business and legislative issues and KWTW where she served as a weekend news anchor. No stranger to hard work, in 1994 Jo embraced her entrepreneurial spirit and opened an upscale children's clothing store, The Beanstalk, while still anchoring the news.

In 2001, she joined the team at Infant Crisis Services as the Director of Communications. She spent 10 years in this role before moving to Director of Development and Communications, in which she grew the agency's budget and visibility.

Jo attended Oklahoma State University and the University of Central Oklahoma and earned a bachelor's degree in communications. An Edmond native, she currently lives in Oklahoma City with her husband, Tom Mullen, an attorney. The couple enjoy traveling and have two sons.

The John Kirkpatrick Executive Directorship is a recently endowed position, with the endowment gift coming from the Kirkpatrick Family Fund. The position was named for John E. Kirkpatrick, who was an integral part of the founding of Oklahoma City Ballet with Yvonne Chouteau and Miguel Terekhov.

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Photo by Jana Carson

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# Cinderella

## ACT I

In the kitchen of Cinderella's house, Cinderella's stepsisters are violently sleeping on a bench while being warmed by the fire. Cinderella sits alone scrubbing the floor. The two sisters begin to fight over a scarf given to them by their mother. They are so agitated that the only way Cinderella can resolve the fight is by tearing the scarf in two. This pleases them for the moment until they realize Cinderella has not completed the laundry. They toss the dirty garments at her and leave in a huff.

Cinderella is left alone with her duties and her thoughts of her family that once was. She is visited by her mouse friends that live behind the fireplace and she shows them a picture of her dear mother that she keeps stored in a trunk. Suddenly, the stepsisters return to demand soup from Cinderella who quickly sends away the mice and prepares their food. Their dinner is interrupted when a beggar enters the home asking for bread. The sisters are cruel to the beggar and one hands her the cherished picture that Cinderella mistakenly left on the table. Cinderella takes pity and offers her the only piece of bread that she was saving for herself. Noticing the resemblance, the beggar takes the bread and hands Cinderella the picture so she can put it safely back in its place.

The beggar woman disappears and shortly after, messengers arrive with an invitation from the Prince to the grand ball. The Prince is expected to choose a wife, it reads. Panic sets in as the stepmother and sisters try to imagine what they should wear. Cinderella can only dream of attending the ball and meeting the handsome Prince.

The mood abruptly changes when the wardrobe master, jeweler, and dance master arrive to prepare the sisters and stepmother for the grand ball. There is much frolicking and excitement as the sisters and mother depart for this grand event. Alone again in her tattered clothes, Cinderella sadly realizes that she will never be able to attend such an event. Her father, preparing to leave for a business trip, sees Cinderella crying on the floor and tries to cheer her up with a dance. For a brief moment she is carried away with the thought of meeting and dancing with a Prince.

Shortly after Cinderella's father departs, her mouse friends, who have been observing the commotion, offer Cinderella scraps of ribbon to create a dress for the ball. While this is very endearing, she is overcome by her fading dream of escaping her sad life. The beggar woman unexpectedly appears and is transformed into a beautiful Fairy Godmother. She, along with four fairies and their cavaliers, representing each of the seasons, offer Cinderella special gifts to prepare her for the ball: a beautiful gown with a train, shimmering glass slippers, and a crown. Cinderella is enchanting and ready for the magical evening. Before Cinderella can leave for the castle, clock gnomes appear and the Fairy Godmother warns her that she must return exactly at midnight, or she will turn back into her original state forever, stuck in her torturous life. A beautiful carriage appears, pulled by two white horses, and they whisk Cinderella away to the night of her dreams.

• INTERMISSION •

## ACT II

The curtain opens to the ball at the Prince's castle, an elegant room filled with elegantly dressed courtiers dancing in a stately manner. The stepmother and her two daughters arrive

and pathetically try to imitate the courtiers, attracting considerable attention. Two of the Prince's friends reluctantly dance with them.

The Prince appears, greets his guests, and takes a seat on his throne. As the ball continues, the lights dim and the Fairy Godmother appears with all of the season fairies. A lovely girl in a beautiful ball gown enters and the Prince cannot take his eyes off of her. All in the court are wondering who she is. No one, not even her family, recognizes her. The Prince and Cinderella dance with each other, twirling in and out of the castle rooms. Once the two have clearly fallen in love, the Prince offers her fresh oranges, a delicacy in Europe at that time. The step-sisters, in their usual state of jealousy, see the oranges and demand them for themselves. The Prince and Cinderella find themselves alone where they share the most magical dance and the Prince announces that he will marry Cinderella.

The court reenters and the festivities continue. As the clock strikes midnight, Cinderella is quickly reminded of the Fairy Godmother's warning. Gnomes appear waving their clocks and the entire court is sent into hysteria. Cinderella, in desperation, rushes from the ball dropping one of her glass slippers. The Prince, in an attempt to stop her, discovers it and is comforted by the thought that if he can find the woman whose foot fits this glass slipper, he will find his true love.

#### • INTERMISSION •

### ACT III

A chase ensues as the Prince sets out to find his lost love. Followed by his two friends and the jester, they begin their search. The Prince looks to the cobblers for the matching shoe, to no avail. He hastily moves on and resolves to search every house, and try the shoe on every foot in the kingdom, with hopes that there will be a perfect fit and he will have Cinderella back in his arms.

As hope is seemingly lost, the Prince stumbles into a beautiful woman resembling Cinderella. Unsure of her true identity, he begins to reminisce about the night at the ball and quickly decides that this temptress must be his lost love. Just as he is about to swear his devotion to her, the Fairy Godmother intervenes and shows the Prince a vision of the real Cinderella crying alone in her house. At first glance the Prince knows immediately that she is his love, and he dashes away to find her.

The next morning, Cinderella is going about her usual duties as her stepsisters emerge, aching from the excitement of the night before. The two begin to fight over an orange that was stolen from the ball. Cinderella attempts to resolve the quarrel by offering the largest orange that was gifted to her by the Prince. The chaos is interrupted by the Prince's messengers who announce his arrival to their home.

As the Prince and his party arrive at the house, they quickly realize they had made a mistake. None of them could forget the awful presence of the stepsisters at the castle's event. Nonetheless, they try the shoe on each of the members of the family. A fight breaks out and Cinderella, lost in the Prince's eyes, drops the other glass slipper. The Prince knows he has found Cinderella and embraces her gently with love in his heart. The Fairy Godmother appears one last time, with all of the fairies in the land, and the two celebrate their union of love before being carried away into the sunset on Cinderella's magical carriage.

• • • • •

# Cinderella

## CHOREOGRAPHY

Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye

## MUSIC

Sergei Prokofiev

## SCENERY & COSTUMES

Courtesy of BalletMet

## SCENIC DESIGN

James Kronzer

## COSTUME DESIGN

Judanna Lynn

## ADDITIONAL COSTUME DESIGN

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## ADDITIONAL COSTUMES

Jeffrey Meek, Lyric Theatre

## TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Emily Murphy

## REHEARSAL DIRECTORS

DaYoung Jung, Benjamin Tucker

## STUDENT REHEARSAL ASSISTANTS

Racheal Nye, Macaira Pinto

## STUDENT PRODUCTION MANAGER

Macaira Pinto

## LIGHTING DESIGN

Aaron Mooney

## PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Courtney DiBello

## COSTUME MANAGER

Claire Kroeger

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Andrew Wilding

## ASSISTANT

## STAGE MANAGERS

Keegan Johnson, Grace Neil

## STUDENT STAGE MANAGER

Audrey Mantia

## COSTUME ASSISTANTS

Alyssa Couturier-Herndon

Elizabeth Rescinto

## LIGHTING ASSISTANT

Kennedy Nichols

## CREW

Robert Romanishin,

Rob Brodersen, Liz Boyles,

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## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Alexander Mickelthwate

## CONDUCTOR

Jayce Ogren

This performance is made possible by Devon Energy  
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## ACT I

### CINDERELLA

Autumn Klein (Feb. 10),

Courtney Connor Jones (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### FATHER

Jameson Keating (Feb. 10),

Daniel Cooke (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### STEPMOTHER

Kara Troester Blythe (Feb. 10),

Alexandra Schooling (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### SKINNY STEPSISTER

Paige Russell (Feb. 10), Mickayla Carr (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### DUMPY STEPSISTER

Mayim Stiller (Feb. 10),

Jameson Keating (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### MESSENGERS

Henry Bryne, Heloha Tate

### DRESSING ATTENDANT

Nico Goodwin (Feb. 10),

Georgianne Growingthunder (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),

Eloise McCoy, Olivia McCoy (Feb. 10),

Jillian Rindler, Lillian Wall (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### WIG MASTER

Rayan Dridi (Feb. 10),

Kesler Colton (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)



## DANCING MASTER

Joseph Hetzer (Feb. 10),  
Henrique Neumann (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## VIOLINIST

Freestone Dopp

## SPRITES

Raven Bighorn (Feb. 10),  
Maya Bryant (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Evelyn DeGreve (Feb. 10), Sloane Henry,  
Zoe Johnson, Alyssa Lamb,  
Julia Lifset (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12), Olivia Nguyen,  
Lily Quinton, Emma Thornhill (Feb. 10),  
Kalen Wright (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## JEWELER

Mikaela Guidice (Feb. 10),  
Morgan Dunham (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## DRESS MAKER

Tristan Thompson (Feb. 10),  
Michael O'Neill (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## FAIRY GODMOTHER

Gabrielle Mengden (Feb. 10),  
Mayu Odaka (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## MICE

Addison Churchwell (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Piper Hubbard (Feb. 10), Perrin Jones,  
Amélie Nye, Ava Old Crow (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Brittyn Roberdes, Sophia Sorrocco (Feb. 10),  
Nicole Voynov, Harper Wackenheim,  
Alice Zhang

## HORSES

Julien DeJear, Keiran Laverentz

## PRINCE'S PAGES

Henry Bryne, Heloha Tate

## SPRING FAIRY & CAVALIER

Anna Tateda & Ryland Acree III (Feb. 10),  
Anna Tateda & Zane Winders (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## SUMMER FAIRY & CAVALIER

Mickayla Carr & Daniel Cooke (Feb. 10),  
Paige Russell & Nicholas Keeperman  
(Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## FALL FAIRY & CAVALIER

Mayu Odaka & Randolph Fernandez (Feb. 10),  
Gabrielle Mengden & Joseph Hetzer  
(Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## WINTER FAIRY & CAVALIER

Alexandra Schooling &  
Erik Thordal-Christensen (Feb. 10),  
Kara Troester Blythe & Mayim Stiller  
(Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

## FAIRY ATTENDANTS

Katama Gover, Elliott Novey,  
Ava Old Crow, Mila Pratin,  
Emily Streetman

## FAIRIES

Madisen Acevedo, Carson Berry,  
Grace Duhan (Feb. 10), Aylani Guajardo,  
Katie Kelley, Olivia McFadden (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Isabella Sacolo, Moira Kate Werner,  
Sarah Beth Wriston

## GNOMES

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Nurah Hurrey, Savannah Kazenske (Feb. 10),  
Adelyn Kobyluk, Isabella Lamar,  
Rylee Ramsey, Noah Rindler,  
London Roberdes,  
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## ACT II

### PRINCE CHARMING

Alejandro González (Feb. 10),  
Roylan Ramos Hechavarria (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### CINDERELLA'S DOUBLE

Carson Berry (Feb. 10),  
Sarah Beth Wriston (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### PRINCE'S FRIENDS

Daniel Cooke, Joseph Hetzer (Feb. 10),  
Mayim Stiller,  
Erik Thordal-Christensen (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

### GIRLFRIENDS

Elena Damiani, Flannery Werner (Feb. 10),  
Grace Manuel, Carlie Preskitt (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

# JESTER

Randolph Fernandez (Feb. 10),  
Alejandro González (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

# PRINCE'S ATTENDANTS

Piper Hubbard (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Perrin Jones (Feb. 10),  
Amélie Nye (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Brittyn Roberdes (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Nicole Voynov, Harper Wackenheim (Feb. 10),  
Alice Zhang (Feb. 10)

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Jameson Keating (Feb. 10)  
Michael O'Neill (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

# COURT LADIES

Amelia Aroneo, Elena Damiani (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Morgan Dunham (Feb. 10),  
Mikaela Guidice (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Rachel Kundzins, Grace Manuel,  
Maura Moody, Savannah Payne,  
Carlie Preskitt (Feb. 10), Leah Reiter,  
Flannery Werner (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

# COURT MEN

Ryland Acree III, Oslaniel Castillo,  
Daniel Cooke (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Randolph Fernandez (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Kesler Colton (Feb. 10), Nicholas Keeperman,  
James Klump, Henrique Neumann,  
Erik Thordal-Christensen (Feb. 10), Zane Winders

# CASTLE MAIDS

Adelyn Booher (Feb. 10),  
Grace Brown (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Ainsley Clynch, Hillary Haag (Feb. 10),  
Chaeli Herd (Feb. 10),  
Mariah Kepfer (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Ava Spradling (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

# ACT III

# TEMPTRESS

Mayu Odaka (Feb. 10),  
Autumn Klein (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

# COBBLERS

Talitha Barrington (Feb. 10),  
Alexandra Booms (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Celeste Boullion (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Julien DeJear, Madison Dominick (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Hannah Dridi (Feb. 10),  
Shyanne Durrenberger (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Ashley Freeze (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Brittan Geddes (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),  
Emma Kowalchuck, Keiran Laverentz,  
Lexi Montgomery, Skylar Moreira (Feb. 10),  
Bailey Portell (Feb. 10), Megan Rhoads (Feb. 10),  
Caroline Smith (Feb. 10),  
Tabitha Tabor (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12), Briar Vold (Feb. 10),  
Tallulah Wallace (Feb. 10),  
Ashleigh Wells (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12),

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Anna Tateda

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Mickayla Carr (Feb. 10),  
Paige Russell (Feb. 11 & Feb. 12)

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# GUEST ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

## **JUDANNA LYNN**, *Costume Designer*

Judanna Lynn has designed costumes for most of the major dance companies in the United States including New York City Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and the Philadelphia Ballet. Other credits include the costumes for Ballet de Santiago, *Festival of the Lion King* for the opening of Disney's Theme Park in Hong Kong; Houston Ballet's highly acclaimed productions of *Don Quixote*, *Dracula*, and *Cleopatra*; the musical *Lyle* for Charles Strouse; The Hartford Stage/Old Globe Theatre's production of *Tintypes*; the musicals *Once On This Island* for the Children's Theatre Company of Minneapolis, *Hats!*, and *Tin Pan Alley Rag* for the Cleveland Playhouse.

Judanna formerly danced with San Francisco Opera Ballet and was a resident costume designer of The Juilliard School. She is also a painter whose work has been seen at the Rizzoli and Miniatura Galleries in New York City, the Philadelphia Museum of Fine Art, and in private collections.

## **JAMES KRONZER**, *Scenic Designer*

James Kronzer calls Washington, D.C. and northern Italy home. He has designed scenery for The Washington Ballet and Hong Kong Ballet. His theater credits include Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional productions of: *Sweeney Todd* at the Denver Center; *All The Way* at St. Louis Rep and several shows for the Cincinnati Playhouse. He also designed scenery for Disney Cruise Lines *Twice Charmed* and has shows running on twelve ships on the Norwegian Cruise Line fleet. TV credits include over 300 stand up comedy specials for HBO, Comedy Central, Showtime and Netflix. He has worked with comedians such as Louis CK, Ali Wong, Mo Amer, Marc Maron, Bo Burnham and Jim Gaffigan. He was nominated last year for the prestigious Art Director's Guild Award for his work on Jim Gaffigan's latest special *Comedy Monster*. Mr. Kronzer has been nominated 32 times for the Helen Hayes Award (DC) and has received the award eight times. His work can be seen at [www.JamesKronzer.com](http://www.JamesKronzer.com).

## **AARON MOONEY**, *Lighting Designer*

Aaron Mooney is delighted to be joining OKC Ballet for another season as Resident Lighting Designer. Mooney is also the Resident Lighting Designer and Professor of Lighting Design at Oklahoma City University, where he joined the faculty in 2012. Aaron holds an MFA in Theatre Design from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and a BA in Theatre Education from The University of Tulsa. Aaron has lit events in spaces as large as Radio City Music Hall (NYC), the Western Heritage Museum (OKC), and The Joint at the Hard Rock Casino (Tulsa) as well as spaces so small that they barely deserve to be called theatres. Recent design credits include: *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Of Dreams and Dice*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Firebird*, *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, *La Sylphide*, *Our Private Rooms*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Nutcracker*, *Exurgency* (Oklahoma City Ballet); *An American in Paris* (Music Theatre Wichita); *Noises Off*, *Death of a Salesman* (Montana Shakespeare in the Parks); *Pageant* (Lyric OK); and *King Lear* (Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park). Previous Lighting Designs for OCU include *She Loves Me*, *Spamalot*, *The Music Man*, *Crazy for You*, *Susannah*, *Side Show*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Sister Act*, *Three Sisters*, *Hairspray*, *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, *As You Like It*, *RENT*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Street Scene*, *9 to 5: The Musical*, *Bernstein's MASS*, and *The Dialogues of the Carmelites*. In addition to all of his theatrical design work, Mooney has worked on exhibition lighting at the S.R. Guggenheim Museum, the National Academy of Design, the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, the National Museum of the Native American (NYC), and the Morgan Museum & Library. Fashion lighting in New York City includes: Barneys New York, Prada, Armani, and Dolce + Gabbana.

# OKLAHOMA CITY PHILHARMONIC

## *Music Director & Conductor*

Alexander Mickelthwate

## *Founder & Music Director Emeritus*

Joel Levine

## *Guest Conductor*

Jayce Ogren

### ***First Violin***

Gregory Lee,  
Concertmaster,  
Gertrude Kennedy  
Chair

Marat Gabdullin,  
Associate  
Concertmaster  
Densi Rushing,  
Assistant

Concertmaster  
Hong Zhu  
Beth Sievers  
Chandler Fadero  
Min Jung Kim  
Deborah McDonald

### ***Second Violin***

Catherine Reaves,  
Principal  
Sophia Ro,  
Assistant Principal  
Corbin Mace  
Angélica Pereira  
Yajing (Cindy) Zhang  
Lok-Hin Cheng

### ***Viola***

Royce McLarry,  
Principal  
Joseph Guevara,  
Assistant Principal  
Kelli Ingels  
Steve Waddell  
Donna Cain

### ***Cello***

Jonathan Ruck,  
Principal,  
Orchestra League Chair  
Meredith Blecha-Wells,  
Assistant Principal  
Valorie Tatge  
Emily Stoops  
Jim Shelley

### ***Bass***

Anthony Stoops,  
Principal  
Larry Moore,  
Assistant Principal  
Parvin Smith

### ***Flute***

Valerie Watts,  
Principal  
Parthena Owens  
Nancy Stizza-Ortega

### ***Oboe***

Lisa Harvey-Reed,  
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Rachel Maczko  
Katherine McLemore

### ***English Horn***

Rachel Maczko

### ***Clarinet***

Tara Heitz,  
Principal  
Jared Davis  
James Meiller

### ***Basoon***

James Brewer,  
Principal  
Lori Wooden  
Barre Griffith

### ***Horn***

Kate Pritchett,  
Principal,  
G. Rainey Williams chair  
James Rester  
Mirella Gable  
Joe Charlton

### ***Trumpet***

Karl Sievers,  
Principal  
Jay Wilkinson  
Michael Anderson

### ***Trombone***

Adam Hanna,  
Principal  
Philip Martinson  
John Allen,  
Bass Trombone

### ***Tuba***

Ted Cox,  
Principal

### ***Timpani***

Jamie Whitmarsh,  
Principal

### ***Percussion***

Patrick Womack,  
Principal  
Stephanie Krichena  
Roger Owens  
Sarah Neely

### ***Harp***

Gaye LeBlanc,  
Principal

### ***Piano***

Jake Johnson,  
Principal

# GUEST CONDUCTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



## JAYCE OGREN

Jayce Ogren has established himself as one of the most innovative and versatile conductors of his generation. From symphonic concerts to revolutionary community service programs to operatic world premieres, Mr. Ogren is a leader in breaking down barriers between audiences and great music.

Mr. Ogren began his career as Assistant Conductor of The Cleveland Orchestra and Music Director of the Cleveland Youth Orchestra, a concurrent appointment he held from 2006-2009. In the years since, he has conducted many of the world's most prominent orchestras, including the BBC Symphony, Boston Symphony, Ensemble Intercontemporain, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, the Dallas and San Francisco Symphonies, and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, in programs ranging from Mozart to Beethoven through Sibelius and Bernstein, to presenting U.S. and world premieres of works by Steve Mackey and Nico Muhly.

Among the numerous progressive projects Mr. Ogren has conducted are the New York premieres of Leonard Bernstein's only opera, *A Quiet Place*, and puppeteer Basil Twist's *The Rite of Spring*, both at Lincoln Center; the world premiere of David Lang's *symphony for a broken orchestra*, bringing together 400 student, amateur and professional musicians in Philadelphia; and the world premiere of Jack Perla's *Shalimar the Clown* at Opera Theatre of St. Louis.

A longtime collaborator of singer/songwriter/composer Rufus Wainwright, Mr. Ogren conducted the 2012 U.S. premiere of his opera *Prima Donna* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and led its recording with the BBC Symphony on Deutsche Grammophon in 2016. Mr. Ogren and Mr. Wainwright have since appeared together throughout the world, with ensembles such as the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, the Orchestre national d'Île-de-France in Paris and the Toronto Symphony.

A devoted educator, Mr. Ogren was invited by renowned poet Paul Muldoon to create an interdisciplinary studio class at Princeton University for the 2017-2018 academic year. He has worked with students at the Brevard Music Center, the Juilliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Music Academy of the West and Verbier Festival. In 2016, he presented a unique workshop in orchestral rehearsal techniques for music teachers at Carnegie Hall in collaboration with the Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute and the Juilliard School Pre-College. For his own part, Mr. Ogren earned his Masters in conducting at the New England Conservatory and studied as a Fulbright Scholar with Jorma Panula.

A native of Hoquiam, Washington, Jayce Ogren lives in Brooklyn, New York with his wife Carly, an architect, and their son, Alistair. An avid athlete, he has run the Big Sur, Boston and New York City marathons, the JFK 50 Miler trail run, and the Ironman Lake Placid triathlon. As an individual member of 1% for the Planet, Mr. Ogren is proud to connect his artistic work with his deep love of nature and concern for the environment.

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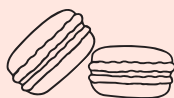
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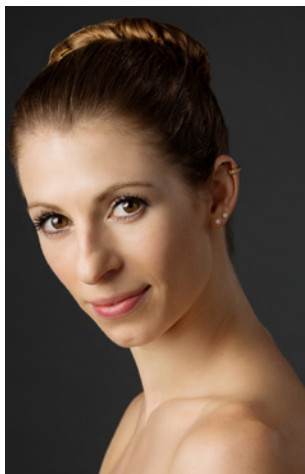
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## PRINCIPAL ARTISTS



### COURTNEY CONNOR JONES

Hometown: Charlotte, NC  
Joined the Company in 2017

Courtney Connor Jones was born in Huntington Beach, California, but grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina. She began her training at the young age of three at Southland Ballet Academy. After moving to North Carolina at age five, she began training at the North Carolina Dance Theatre and Charlotte City Ballet before graduating from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Connor Jones began her professional career at the Cincinnati Ballet where she danced for 11 seasons. During that time, she spent a summer in Russia where she performed in *Giselle*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Carmen*, and *Swan Lake*. She joined Oklahoma City Ballet as a principal in 2017.

Throughout her career, she has performed feature roles in many ballets, and some of her most treasured are Aurora in Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Juliet in Robert Mills' *Romeo & Juliet*, Mina Harker in Michael Pink's *Dracula*, The Sylph in *La Sylphide*, The Chosen One in Adam Houghland's *Rite of Spring*, The Eaglet in Septime Webre's *ALICE (in wonderland)*, and Jumping Girl in George Balanchine's *Who Cares?* Her repertoire also includes works by Jiri Kylian, Jessica Lang, George Balanchine, Val Caniparoli, Cayetano Soto, Helen Pickett, Robert Bondara, Ihsan Rustem, James Kudelka, and more.

Connor Jones and her husband, former dancer Sam Jones, have a young son and daughter; two of her all-time favorite roles! In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, creating custom jewelry, and educating others on healthy eating and lifestyle habits.



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## PRINCIPAL ARTISTS



### ROYLAN RAMOS HECHAVARRIA

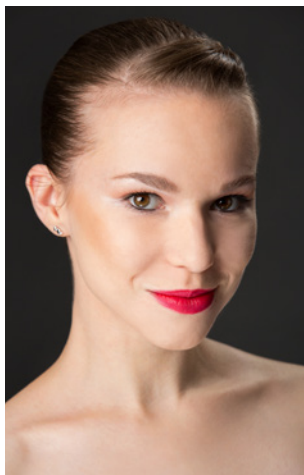
Hometown: Camagüey, Cuba

Joined the Company in 2022

Roylan Ramos Hechavarria, from Camagüey, Cuba trained at the National School of Camagüey from 1995-2000, Cuban National Ballet School (La Habana) from 2000-2002, and graduated from the National Ballet School Vicentina de la Torres Camagüey, Cuba in 2006.

Hechavarria danced with Ballet of Camagüey as a soloist dancer for five seasons. He joined Ballet of Cairo Opera House in 2011 and in 2012 worked for Tanz Company Innsbruck in Austria. Most recently Hechavarria danced for Ballet Opera of Lyon from 2014-2022 and joins Oklahoma City Ballet as a principal dancer for the 2022/23 season.

Hechavarria has performed *Diana* and *Acteon*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Paquita*, *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake*, and Enrique Gaze Valga's *Faust*. Other repertoire includes works by Jiří Kylián, Johan Inger, Lucinda Childs, Trisha Brown, Pina Bausch, Roland Petit, and William Forsythe.



### AUTUMN KLEIN

Hometown: Lincoln, NE | Joined the Company in 2012

**Sponsored by: Curtis Teague and Loretta Simonet**

Autumn Klein, originally from Lincoln, Nebraska, trained at Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy and was a member of Houston Ballet II before joining Texas Ballet Theatre. During this time, she won several awards, including first place at the Youth America Grand Prix in Denver, Colorado.

Klein joined Oklahoma City Ballet in 2012 and was promoted to soloist in 2016. In 2022, she was promoted to principal as she enters her tenth season with Oklahoma City Ballet.

Her repertoire with Oklahoma City Ballet includes featured roles in Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort*, Helen Pickett's *Petal*, Margo Sappington's *Cobras in the Moonlight*, Amy Seiwert's *Dear Miss Cline*, Twyla Tharp's *Nine Sinatra Songs*, Nacho Duato's *Without Words*, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, and *The Four Temperaments*, Jessica Lang's *To Familiar Spaces in Dream*, Bryan Pitts' *Variations for Six*, and Jerome Robbins' *2 & 3 Part Inventions*. She has also created roles in works by Matthew Neenan, Brian Enos, Sarah Tallman, DaYoung Jung, Carrie Ruth Trumbo, Ryan Jolicœur-Nye, Robert Mills, and Penny Saunders.

She has performed many lead roles including the Cowgirl in Agnes de Mille's *Rodeo*, Wendy in Paul Vasterling's *Peter Pan*, *Le Corsaire* Grand Pas, Sugar Plum Fairy in Robert Mills' *The Nutcracker*, Mills' *Romeo & Juliet* Balcony Pas de Deux, Queen of Hearts in Septime Webre's *ALICE (in wonderland)*, Carabosse and Lilac Fairy in Ryan Jolicœur-Nye's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Lucy in Michael Pink's *Dracula*.

Outside her dance experience, she double majored in biochemistry and genetics at Texas A&M University and received presidential and congressional medals for volunteer service. Additionally, she created a style of pointe dance-painting which has been featured by BuzzFeed and her artwork has sold internationally. She would like to thank her husband, family, and four kitties for their continual support.



## SOLOISTS



### ALEJANDRO GONZÁLEZ

Hometown: Caracas, Venezuela | Joined the Company in 2017

Sponsored by: Susan E. Brackett and Gregg Wadley

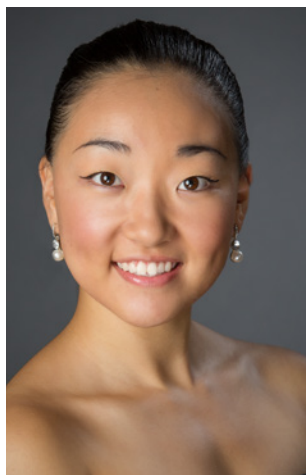
Alejandro González, originally from Caracas, Miranda, Venezuela, trained with Isabel Franklin and Gloriant Herrera at the Gustavo Franklin School. He later trained for two years with the Houston Ballet Academy under Shelly Power, School Director. González joined Oklahoma City Ballet as a Studio Company dancer in 2017 and was offered an apprenticeship in 2018. He was promoted to corps de ballet in 2019, and was named soloist in 2021.

His repertoire includes works by Stanton Welch, Ben Stevenson, August Bournonville, Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye, Jerome Robbins, Jiří Kylián, Helen Pickett, Septime Webre, Robert Mills, Cayetano Soto, Nicolo Fonte, Jessica Lang, and Michael Pink.

González's favorite roles include Bell Boy in Michael Pink's *Dracula*, Nutcracker Prince and Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*, and Conrad in *Le Corsaire pas de deux*.

González was awarded Gold Medalist in 2016 at CIBC (Concurso Internacional de Ballet Clasico), Gold Medalist in 2020 at MIBC (Miami International Ballet Competition), featured in Pointe Magazine's "2020 Stars of the Corps," and was nominated "Next Generation Under 30" in 2020.

In addition to his career as a dancer, González is part of the faculty of the Oklahoma City Ballet Yvonne Chouteau School.



### MAYU ODAKA

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA

Joined the Company in 2015

Mayu Odaoka, from Los Angeles, trained at the Lauridsen Ballet Center in Torrance, California, where she danced in the pre-professional company Ballet California. She was offered an apprenticeship with Oklahoma City Ballet after participating in the 2015 Summer Intensive and was promoted to corps de ballet in 2017, then later to soloist in 2019.

Since joining Oklahoma City Ballet, her repertoire includes works by Helen Pickett, Septime Webre, Paul Vasterling, Agnes de Mille, Dennis Spaight, Robyn Pasternack, Ryan Jolicoeur-Nye, and DaYoung Jung. Favorite roles include Lucy in Michael Pink's *Dracula*, Lucille Grahn in Robert Joffrey's *Pas des Déesses*, Clara and Sugarplum Fairy in Robert Mills' *The Nutcracker* and Ariel in Robert Mills' *The Little Mermaid*. She has also performed feature roles that include Firebird in Robert Mills' *The Firebird*, The White Cat in Robert Mills' *The Sleeping Beauty* and demi-soloist roles in both George Balanchine's *Serenade* and *The Four Temperaments*.

In 2022, Odaoka was one of only two American ballerinas to be selected for the 2022 Helsinki International Ballet Competition in the senior division.

## SOLOISTS



### ERIK THORDAL-CHRISTENSEN

Hometown: Copenhagen, Denmark

Joined the Company in 2018

**Sponsored by: Drs. Lola and Dean Sicking**

Erik Thordal-Christensen, from Denmark, moved to California at age seven and trained at the Los Angeles Ballet School with Colleen Neary and Thordal Christensen. He has danced as a member of the corps de ballet with the Los Angeles Ballet, Boston Ballet, and Sarasota Ballet, and performed feature roles such as Espada in *Don Quixote*, Ali in *Le Corsaire*, Romeo and Paris in *Romeo & Juliet*, Iago in José Limón's *The Moor's Pavan*, and Lysander in Frederick Ashton's *The Dream*.

Thordal-Christensen joined Oklahoma City Ballet in the 2018/19 season as a corps de ballet dancer, and performed principal and soloist roles such as Cavalier and Arabian in *The Nutcracker*, Sangunic in George Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments*, Arthur in Michael Pink's *Dracula*, Paris in Robert Mills' *Romeo & Juliet*, and Ali in *Le Corsaire pas de deux*. Thordal-Christensen was promoted to soloist in 2021.

Thordal-Christensen has also performed in George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*, *Stravinsky Violin Concerto*, *Stars and Stripes*, *La Sonnambula*, *La Valse*, and *Serenade*. Additionally, his repertoire includes Ashton's *Illuminations*, William Forsythe's *Artifact*, Jiří Kylián's *Sechs Tänze*, Sonya Tayeh's *Beneath One's Dignity*, along with *Le Corsaire*, *Swan Lake*, and *Giselle*.

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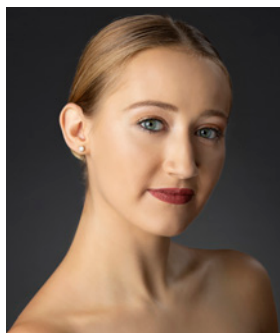
Lauren Warkentine | [lauren@williamandlauren.com](mailto:lauren@williamandlauren.com) 701 North Hudson Avenue, Suite 100, OKC, OK 73102  
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# CORPS DE BALLET



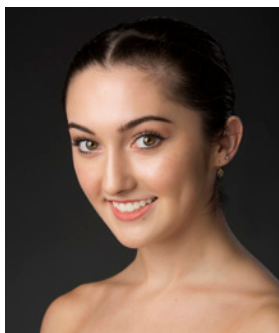
**RYLAND ACREE III**

Hometown: Floyd, VA  
Joined the Company in 2021



**KARA TROESTER BLYTHE**

Hometown: Oklahoma City, OK  
Joined the Company in 2017  
Sponsored by:  
Michelle and Gary Brooks



**MICKAYLA CARR**

Hometown: Arlington, TX  
Joined the Company in 2016  
Sponsored by:  
AUE/John Hryshchuk



**DANIEL COOKE**

Hometown: Washington, D.C.  
Joined the Company in 2020



**RANDOLPH FERNANDEZ**

Hometown: Boston, MA  
Joined the Company in 2017  
Sponsored by:  
Susan E. Brackett and Gregg Wadley



**JOSEPH HETZER**

Hometown: Palos Verdes, CA  
Joined the Company in 2019  
Sponsored by:  
Julia Carrington Hall



**JAMESON KEATING**

Hometown: Santa Barbara, CA  
Joined the Company in 2021



**NICHOLAS KEEPERMAN**

Hometown: Wilmington, IL  
Joined the Company in 2019

# CORPS DE BALLET

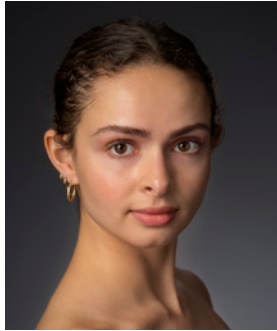


**GABRIELLE MENGDEN**

Hometown: Houston, TX  
Joined the Company in 2019

**Sponsored by:**

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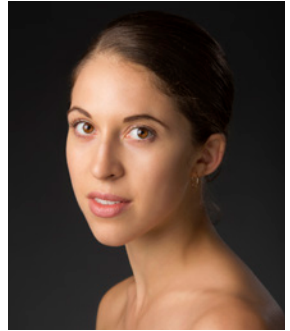


**PAIGE RUSSELL**

Hometown: Silver Spring, MD  
Joined the Company in 2020

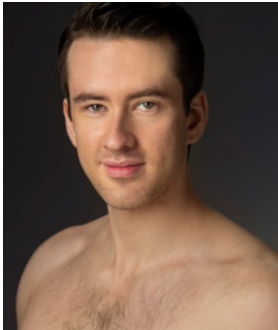
**Sponsored by:**

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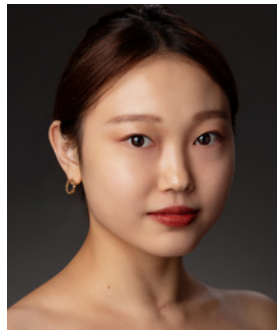
**ALEXANDRA SCHOOLING**

Hometown: Lancaster, PA  
Joined the Company in 2016



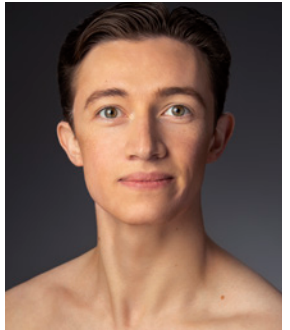
**MAYIM STILLER**

Hometown: Seattle, WA  
Joined the Company in 2020



**ANNA TATEDA**

Hometown: Tokyo, Japan  
Joined the Company in 2022



**ZANE WINDERS**

Hometown: Levelland, TX  
Joined the Company in 2020

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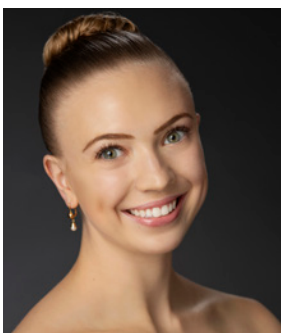
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# APPRENTICES



**OSLANIEL CASTILLO**

Hometown: Havana, Cuba  
Joined the Company in 2021



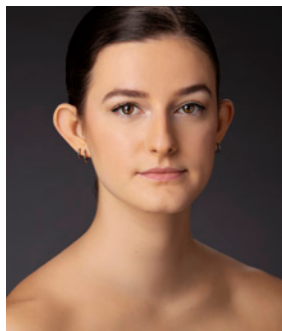
**ELENA DAMIANI**

Hometown: Westfield, IN  
Joined the Company in 2021



**JAMES KLUMP**

Hometown: Lake Charles, LA  
Joined the Company in 2021



**GRACE MANUEL**

Hometown: New Orleans, LA  
Joined the Company in 2021



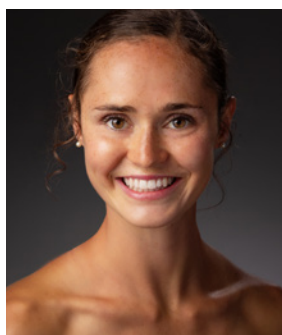
**HENRIQUE NEUMANN**

Hometown: Santo Ângelo, Brazil  
Joined the Company in 2021



**CARLIE PRESKITT**

Hometown: Denver, CO  
Joined the Company in 2021



**FLANNERY WERNER**

Hometown: Denver, CO  
Joined the Company in 2022

## Oklahoma City Ballet

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# STUDIO COMPANY



## OKCB II

Left to Right: Jessica Lynn, Morgan Dunham, Amelia Aroneo, Kesler Colton, Maura Moody, Leah Reiter, Rachel Kundzins, Racheal Nye (School Director), Olivier Muñoz (Men's Program/Rehearsal Director), Kira Robinson, Savannah Payne, Rayan Dridi, Mikaela Guidice, Ana Vega, Darcey Lynn



## TRAINEES

Left to Right: Katie Kelley, Carson Berry, Michael O'Neill, Madisen Acevedo, Grace Duhan, Tristan Thompson, Moira Kate Werner, Sarah Beth Wriston, Olivia McFadden, Freestone Dopp, Isabella Sacololo, Aylani Guajardo



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Oklahoma City Ballet's Amy Potter dancing the *The Dying Swan*  
at the 2016 Green Box Arts Festival in Green Mountain Falls, CO.  
[greenboxarts.org](http://greenboxarts.org) - Photo credit: Tom Kimmell Photography





Paige Russell and Joseph Hetzer,  
Corps de Ballet

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