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Apprentices

Leighton Baumgartner, Juliana Ghertan, Nicole VanEekeren, Sabrina Villanueva

The School of Ballet Chicago Student Division

Celeste Arevalo, Liliana Borggren, Veda Calhan, Sofia Catenacci, Shaila Chaturvedi, Lois Classen, Evelyn Detrych, Natalie Dickler, Julia Dobbin, Mila Eickhoff, Lisa Gonzalez, Harley Gorgas, Sofia Mae Hunt, Elizabeth Jarousse, Zarah Javed, Isabelle Jin, Leila Kantner, Zoe Keenan, Mira Kindelsperger, Mathilda Konrady-Sloan, Alice Li, Noelle Liu, Natalia Maldonado, Isabella Medina, Tate Million, Madeline Morrow, Harper Oehmen, Katelyn Park, Rachel Ross, Isabella Rossi, Caroline Stoughton, Sofia Strana, Natalya Szidik, Zoya Szidik, Arya Tappy, Arabella Vitale

The School of Ballet Chicago Preparatory Division

Penelope Armes, Arya Arumili, Sloan Bhayani, Emma Cassan, Aurora Catenacci, Emilia Catenacci, Sarina Chaturvedi, Ella Colon, Genevieve Drummer, Wren Felker, Lola Gillis, Eila Gnat, Julia Gustafson, Melani Guzman, Molly Hannah, Shannon Haviland, Paige Hennessy, Isla Huffman, Mae Huffman, Mila Irvin, Ella Kominsky, Erika Kubo, Elissa Li, Eva Mamic, Gwendolyn Martin, Elizabeth Miles, Stella Ogren, Danielle Pak, Blake Park, Janelle Pelaez, Isla Pham-Smith, Ariela Ponce de Leon, Caroline Richardville, Ayla Riemma, Isabella Speh, Madeleine Streicher, Ella Weinberg

Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director School Director

NUTCRACKER

ACT ONE

When the curtain rises, we are in the Stahlbaum home. Dr. and Mrs. Stahlbaum, their young daughter Marie, and their son Fritz are preparing for their annual holiday party – a festive gathering for relatives and close friends, but most of all, a party for the children.

The children arrive with their parents as the doors open. All rejoice at the large, lighted tree, and the children speculate about what is in the packages. While everyone greets each other, puzzling things begin to occur – the lights flicker and build to a frenzy, it's almost as though there's a lightning storm in the grand parlor. Then, at the door, an eerie glow fills the portal and a mysterious old gentleman appears. We soon learn that the gentleman is none other than Marie's beloved godfather, Herr Drosselmeyer. He is a marvelous inventor of moving toys, and he has brought with him magical gifts. Drosselmeyer brings out a large Nutcracker and gives it to Marie. He shows everybody how it works and Marie is delighted with her present. Drosselmeyer conjures life-size magic dolls that perform for the guests, after which the children dance, and all receive wonderful presents.

Dr. Stahlbaum and his wife perform a final dance. As the party ends, the guests shake hands solemnly, reluctant to say goodnight to each other, hoping that they will meet again soon. Everyone goes off to bed, the room darkens, and only by the lights of the Christmas tree can we make out the empty space. It is midnight. Marie has fallen asleep with her Nutcracker. Drosselmeyer enters and sends Marie wondrous dreams of dancing mice, a battle between a fearsome Mouse King and the Nutcracker (now life-sized) and a magical forest with a Snow King and Queen and their dancing snowflakes.







ACT TWO

When the curtain rises, Marie's dream has taken us to a magical Land of Sweets. Angels glide about the stage. The Sugarplum Fairy, who rules this land, makes a regal entrance. She dances a charming variation and welcomes a full assortment of delightful dancing treats: Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Tea, Babka, Marzipan, Polichinelles, and a bouquet of sparkling, jeweled flowers. Next, Marie enters and meets the Sugarplum Fairy, who asks Marie how she came to be in this magical place. Marie relays, in pantomime form, that on Christmas Eve, after a grand and glorious party, she dreamt of tiny mice and a fight between the Mouse King and the Nutcracker Doll. Defending her Nutcracker, she threw her slipper at the King of Mice, magically dispatching him with one mighty throw. The mysterious Drosselmeyer then rewarded her with this extraordinary journey. The Sugarplum Fairy congratulates Marie and escorts her to a place where she can watch the entertainment that has been arranged for her pleasure.

We now watch a series of dances by the denizens of the Land of Sweets. When they are finished, the Sugarplum Fairy and her Cavalier perform the grandest dance of all. All return for a spirited finale as the Sugarplum Fairy, her Cavalier and Marie bid everyone farewell.









Babka, In Honor of Ukraine

Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director School Director

Ballet Chicago stands with the Ukrainian people in their courageous struggle for independence.



"This year, on behalf of the people of Ukraine, we are naming our former "Caviar" dance "Babka" – a culturally traditional bread recipe with its origins in the Jewish communities of Ukraine and Poland. We have also ramped up the Babka costumes stylistically to further reflect and honor traditional Ukrainian folk dancing. My choreography remains as is – from the very beginning it was based on Ukrainian folk dances. I am eager to experience the audience response to this choreography in these new costumes."

- Daniel Duell, Founder and Artistic Director

Artistic Direction

Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director School Director



Daniel Duell
Founder and Artistic Director, Ballet Chicago

Repetiteur, The George Balanchine Trust

Ballet Chicago Artistic Director Daniel Duell is a force in the development of American Classicism, and is passionate about the advancement of ballet technique in its purest and most energetic form. As a dancer with the New York City Ballet from 1972-1987, he was taught and coached daily by George Balanchine. Quickly rising through the ranks, Duell was promoted to Soloist in 1977, and then Principal Dancer in 1979. He performed a wide-ranging repertoire, dancing leading roles in the ballets of George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Peter Martins, and Jacques of 'Amboise, among others, including multiple works that were created for him. A Ford Foundation Scholarship recipient from the age of 13, he trained with the Dayton Civic Ballet, then at The School of American Ballet, and at the age of 19 was invited to join NYCB. In addition to his fifteen years at NYCB, he was a featured guest artist for numerous companies nationwide and performed for several PBS Dance in American public television programs. Duell has been choreographing since 1980 and has created works for Ballet Chicago, Ballet Hispanico of New York, Dayton Ballet, Harkness Dance Theatre, The Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and The School of American Ballet. He also collaborated with WITW Channel 11 in Chicago to design two programs; the first, an Emmy Award winning special (Outstanding Cultural Programming) on Ballet Chicago, and the second entitled "Love in Four Acts" a program showcasing four Chicago choreographers selected by Duell. He was also awarded the prestigious Ruth Page Award from the Chicago Dance Community for Artistic Direction of The Ballet Chicago Studio Company.

Duell is a frequent lecturer on ballet, music, and the arts, serves on several not-for-profit boards and advisory boards, and has been an adjudicator for the National Endowment for the Arts and The Illinois Arts Council. He is also a répétiteur for The George Balanchine Trust and stages ballets across the United States.

Duell conducts master classes in both the United States and Europe, including repeated teaching engagements at The School of American Ballet, Indiana University at Bloomington, The University of Iowa, and the Bulgarian National Dance Academy in Sophia, Bulgaria. He has taught and coached the Royal Danish Ballet Company in preparation for both their New York seasons and their Copenhagen performances of Balanchine/Stravinsky masterworks. In March 2019, he returned to his alma mater, New York City Ballet, to teach company class.



York City.

Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director and School Director, Ballet Chicago Repetiteur, The George Balanchine Trust

Patricia Blair was born in New York City, began studying ballet at the age of 7, and launched her professional performing career at the age of 17. She trained in various schools including North Carolina School of the Arts and Harkness House for Ballet Arts, but attributes her summer at the School of American Ballet with igniting her love for and commitment to the Balanchine Technique®. While a student at North Carolina School of the Arts, she was chosen to dance the role of "Myrtha" in Giselle alongside principal dancers Svea Ekloff (Grande Théatre de Genéve) and American Ballet Theatre's Burton Taylor – a true honor. After leaving NCSA, she returned

to NYC, studied with Wilhelmm Burman, David Howard and Nanetie Charisse, and subsequently joined the Eglevsky Ballet under the direction of NYCB former principal, Edward Villella. Six years later, while still dancing full time with the company, she became one of the organization's Ballet Masters.

Ms. Blair performed as a guest artist developing new works with numerous NY choreographers, danced in musical theatre productions across the US and on Broadway, and briefly entered the LA motion picture world with *Pavanne for a Dying Princess*, a solo dance film created especially for her.

Ms. Blair is highly committed to the artistic education and personal well-being of young dancers. She began working with children when she was only 15 years old, and to this day, her love and respect of classical ballet and passing that on to young artists is one of her greatest passions. In the late 70's and early 80's, she volunteered to teach at-risk youth in East Harlem, both in churches and community centers. She also taught classes at Steps NY and the Harkness House for Ballet Arts.

Blair came to Chicago in September 1987, at the invitation of Daniel Duell, to stage ballets for Chicago City Ballet's fall season. After working together for only three weeks, Duell invited her to relocate to Chicago and join his artistic team.

Later that year, the two formed Ballet Chicago. Blair has served in many capacities throughout - teacher, répétiteur, ballet master and administrative management with Duell.

In addition to her work with Ballet Chicago, she has been a guest teacher for Carolina Ballet, St. Louis Ballet Idaho, the Pacific Northwest Ballet School in Seattle, the National Dance Institute and New Mexico School of the Arts in Santa Fe, and Indiana University in Bloomington. She has also had the honor of teaching at The School of American Ballet in New

Ms. Blair has a lifelong love for the ballets of George Balanchine, and values both the privilege of having performed so many of them, as well as the joy of passing them on to today's dancers. As a répétiteur for the George Balanchine Trust, she is responsible for staging and maintaining a large body of work for Ballet Chicago. She has also staged Mr. Balanchine's ballets for St. Louis Ballet, Indiana University Bloomington, and Huntsville Ballet.

Artistic Direction & Guest Artists

Patricia Blair
Associate Artistic Director
School Director



George Balanchine Choreographer, Sugar Plum Pas de Deux

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, George Balanchine (1904-1983) is regarded as the foremost contemporary choreographer in the world of ballet. He came to the United States in Iate 1933, at the age of 29, accepting the invitation of the young American arts patron Lincoln Kirstein (1907-96), whose great passions included the dream of creating a ballet company in America. At Balanchine's behest, Kirstein was also prepared to support the formation of an American academy of ballet that would eventually rival the long-established schools of Europe. A major artistic figure

of the twentieth century, Balanchine revolutionized the look of classical ballet. Using classicism as his base, he heightened, quickened, expanded, inverted, and streamlined the fundamentals of the 400-year-old language of academic dance. This had an inestimable influence on the growth of dance in America. Although at first his style seemed particularly suited to the energy and speed of American dancers, especially those he trained, Balanchine's ballets are now performed by major classical ballet companies throughout the world. The George Balanchine biography information provided courtesy of the New York City Ballet.



Ted Seymour Resident Choreographer and Faculty, Ballet Chicago Faculty, Chicago High School for the Arts

Ted was born in Dallas, Texas where he began his training at The Dallas Metropolitan Ballet. He later moved to Chicago to study with Daniel Duell and Patricia Blair at the School of Ballet Chicago as a member of The Ballet Chicago Studio Company. Ted choreographed his first ballet for BCSC, *Toccata for 5*, in 2001. Later, Ted moved to New York to attend the School of American Ballet. While at SAB, Ted choreographed two ballets for the Student Choreographic Workshop

and was invited by Peter Martins to create a new work for The New York Choreographic Institute. Upon leaving SAB, Ted joined Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, dancing for choreographers such as Edward Liang, Nicolo Fonte, and Benoit-Swan Pouffer. Ted joined Suzanne Farrell Ballet in 2007 where he has danced featured roles in Balanchine's Episodes, La Valse, and the Act II pas de deux from A Midsummer Night's Dream, among others and was promoted to Soloist with the company in 2014. He has been a faculty member for Ballet Chicago since 2009, and was named Ballet Chicago's Resident Choreographer in 2013, choreographing for the company's mainstage performances and educational programs. Ted's recent ballets include LongLivingLine, A Pulse Stolen, Celestial Rites, Intermezzi, Danzonl, Secrets de Printemps, The Creatures of Prometheus, and Stravinsky Miniatures. In addition to his work for Ballet Chicago, Ted is on faculty at Chicago High School for the Arts.



Joshua L. Ishmon Deeply Rooted Dance Theater

Joshua L. Ishmon was born and raised in Gary, IN. He is a 2007 graduate of Emerson School for the Visual and Performing Arts where he also studied with Ballet Chicago and M.A.D.D. Rhythms. After completing DRDT's Summer Intensive (2006-2007), Ishmon joined the second company, where he continued professional training in Horton, Graham, Ballet, and African Pyragrammic and received choreography/leadership coaching. In 2009, he matriculated into the 1st company of Deeply Rooted Tonce Theater. He is a founder and the Director of Deeply Rooted's Emeraina

of Deeply Rooted Dance Theater. He is a founder and the Director of Deeply Rooted's Emerging Choreographer's Showcase, has served as Rehearsal Director of DRDT for 7 years in addition to continuing to dance with the company and is now Resident Choreographer for the Company, Ishmon was also a member of Winifred R. Harris' Between Lines (Denver, CO), Seamless Dance Theater (Kansas City, MO), a guest artist with Ballet Chicago as well as Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (where he danced in the Bessie Award winning cast of Donald McKayle's 'Rainbow Round My Shoulder'), and has shared the stage with Bobby McFerrin. Ishmon is a Artist in Residence at Purdue University, taught dance at several organizations and institutions across northwest Indiana and has choreographed for a multitude of programs including Deeply Rooted Productions, Ballet Chicago, South Shore Dance Alliance, Carnegie Arts Center, Cirqua Rivera and served as a co-choreographer and curator for the Chicago's Teen Dance Festival Showcase. In 2015, Ishmon founded Production: COLORS, a project based collective that uses music, dance and storytelling to investigate the myriad of human experiences, with composer/co-founder, Sam Thousand. In 2017, Ishmon was voted Chicago Best Choreographer by the Chicago Reader, listed as Breakout Contemporary Dance Artist by Newcity Chicago, became a Chicago Dancemakers Forum Lab Artist, and named a 3Arts Make A Wave artist in 2021. Joshua is always in a constant pursuit of deepening his artistry, continuing to grow, and must pay homage to the amazing people whose shoulders' he stands on.



Kayla Schmitt

Kayla Schmitt started ballet at the age of two in hometown Asheville, North Carolina. She spent four years training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and Manhattan Youth Ballet before joining Ballet Chicago's Studio Company. During her three years in Chicago she performed many times including lead roles in 'The Nutcracker' and several world premieres by Ted Seymour and Durante Verzola. In her time at the Studio Company she was given the opportunity to teach several of the children's classes as well as participate in choreographing dances for the end of year recital. Since graduating this spring, Kayla has taken a job with New Chamber Ballet located in New York City. In addition to dancing and traveling with the Company, she has continued her teaching

journey at a school in Pleasantville, New York. Kayla joins us at Ballet Chicago this holiday season to teach and perform with the school in this year's production of 'The Nutcracker'.



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Ballet Chicago salutes its Masterworks Society Sponsors, who provide critical annual funding for the scholarships and opportunities that are available to the young people who train here. Masterworks Society Sponsors ensure top-quality performance opportunities for students on the professional stage through *The Nutcracker* and Spring Series performances.

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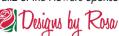


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The Philip and Marsha Dowd Merit Scholarship Program was established in 2002 through a generous gift from Mr. and Mrs. Dowd. The Merit Scholarship Program offers tuition assistance to gifted students and supports world-class faculty members, repetiteurs, and guest teachers. Many of the students you see on stage are part of the Scholarship Program.

Philip and Marsha Dowd have generously offered to match all donations dollar for dollar up to \$45,000 annually.

We gratefully acknowledge our donors to the Dowd Merit Scholarship during this past year.

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Patricia Blair

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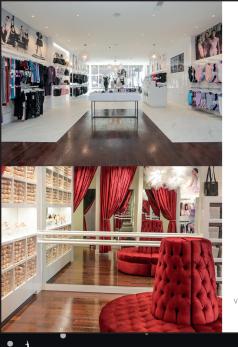
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A vacation from school provides extra time to dance AND prepare for upcoming auditions. Get ready for those upcoming auditions and experience Ballet Chicago's exemplary training.

Balanchine Répétiteurs, Patricia Blair and Daniel Duell (former NYCB Principal) lead the highly esteemed faculty that also includes Ballet Chicago Resident Choreographer, Ted Seymour.

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Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director School Director

Dancer Salutes

Congratulations, Caroline! Your hard work and passion for ballet stand out every time you are on stage. We couldn't be more proud of you!

Love. Mom & Dad



Congratulations, Evelyn! We are all so proud of you and love seeing you perform on stage. Can't wait to see all those coffee grinders. You be you, girlfriend. Love Mom and Dad



Congratulations, Isabella! Your commitment and strength shine on stage. Enjoy each performance and all the well deserved applause. May you pursue all your dreams with such determination. We are so proud of you!

Love, Dad, Mom, Alexander & Angelina



Dear Nicole, Congratulations on another year of *Nutcracker*!! I am so proud of your hard work, long hours, and dedication!! Watching you dance fills my heart with joy and I love you so much! Love Always, Mom



Noelle, we admire your grit and the hard work you've put in leading to this big day! We are beyond proud to see you on stage! Love, Mom & Dad



Sofia, Watching your hard work and dedication translate to your beautiful & graceful stage performances is the highlight of the *Nutcracker* season for all of your family & friends! Best wishes to you and all the dancers! We love you so much!!! Love, Dad, Mom & Carolina



I salute the dedicated dancers and parents, the devoted Board of Directors, and the incomparable staff under the brilliant leadership of Dan and Patricia.

Gail Kalver





Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director

School Director

About Ballet Chicago

Co-founded in 1987 by acclaimed New York City Ballet Principal dancer Daniel Duell, and former ballerina Patricia Blair, Ballet Chicago is an internationally recognized elite training program. The school curriculum is based on the ballet technique established by George Balanchine, the 20th century's most celebrated teacher and choreographer. Ballet Chicago is dedicated to providing each student superior ballet training in a culture that fosters personal growth, and is known for its ability to transform dancers through highly focused guidance, correction, and validation for each student.

Annual Programs

The Preparatory Division

Ballet Chicago's Preparatory Division classes provide an inspired introduction to the arts with a focus on creativity, group interaction, motor skill development and the joy of self-expression.

- Creative Movement (ages 3 4)
- Pre-Ballet (age 5)
- Introduction to Ballet (age 6 7)

The Student Division

The School of Ballet Chicago offers a comprehensive training environment that provides students with the skills necessary to pursue a career in classical ballet and inspires each of them to reach their very best potential through the study and discipline of classical ballet. The technique taught at The School is based on standards established by George Balanchine and emphasizes the energy, musicality, articulation, and generosity of spirit that is the hallmark of Balanchine trained dancers.

- Bravo Boys! (ages 7-12)
- Ballet 1 (ages 7 & 8) no audition required
- Ballet 2 audition required
- Ballet 3 audition required
- Ballet 4 audition required
- Ballet 5 audition required

The Professional Division

The Professional Division offers a comprehensive training program for the serious student who aspires to be a professional dancer. Admittance to the program is by audition only. The students in the program train daily to master advanced technical skill, consistency, musicality, articulation, and natural expression. To provide performing experience that is a critical component to the student's development, the Ballet Chicago Studio Company was created in the fall of 1997. Composed of advanced level students, The Ballet Chicago Studio Company performs professional level repertoire in theatrical venues throughout metropolitan Chicago. The company repertory consists primarily of the works of George Balanchine, whose ballets are performed by dance companies all over the world. This unique opportunity to perform the ballets of Mr. Balanchine is made possible through a special arrangement with the George Balanchine Trust.

- Ballet 6 (ages 14 and up) audition required
- Ballet 7 (ages 15 and up) audition required
- Men's Division (ages 15 and up) audition required







Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director School Director

Ballet Chicago Summer Programs

Named 1 of the top 15 summer programs in the world by A Ballet Education.

Professional Training



Ron McKinney Photography

Ballet Chicago Boot Camp (June 19 - 23, 2023)

A one week "get in shape" workshop that prepares dancers for summer training programs.

Summer Intensive (June 26 - July 28, 2023)

Ballet Chicago's five-week Summer Intensive offers the serious ballet student an unparalleled training experience. Our comprehensive curriculum includes Ballet Technique, Pre-Pointe, Pointe, Repertory, Men's Technique, Gyrokinesis, Stretch Classes, Modern (Horton and Graham), Spanish dance, and Pas de Deux (upper levels only).

Advanced Repertory Workshop (July 31 - August 11, 2023) Ballet Chicago's two-week Advanced Repertory Workshop, focusing on ballets of George Balanchine, is a perfect complement to our five-week Summer Intensive. Dancers immerse themselves in a complete Ballet Curriculum: Technique, Pointe, Men's Technique, Pas de Deux and Repertory, with supplemental classes in Stretch and Gyrokinesis. Learning and perfecting repertory is a key element of this workshop. Students are coached daily to gain the skill, musicality, and self confidence that enable them to transform classroom technique into artistry.

Children's Programs



Children's Theme Camp (June 19 - 23, 2023)

Calling all Super Heroes! Come join Ballet Chicago in one of our favorite weeks of the year! From June 17th to June 21st our studios fill with super heroes. Your hero will participate in dance class to live music, craft time, story time, and dress up dance time daily, all culminating in a miniperformance on the final day.



Junior Intensive (June 19 - 23 and/or July 31 - August 11, 2023) We believe that all students deserve the opportunity to develop their technical abilities and explore their creativity. Ballet Chicago's Junior Intensive Program provides students the foundation necessary to excel in both areas. We inspire them to cultivate beautiful posture, teach them how to combine purity of form with individual expressiveness, and show them how to increase focus for their minds and their bodies. Both in the classroom and in performance, Ballet Chicago builds technique, artistry, awareness and self-confidence.

The Junior Intensive curriculum includes Ballet Technique, Repertoire, Modern Dance, and Classical Spanish Dance, Body Conditioning and Stretch classes. Two class levels are available; placement is based on age, amount of training, and level of advancement. Additionally, Pointe and Pre-Pointe classes are available for those enrolled in Level B.



Daniel Duell Founder and Artistic Director Répétiteur, George Balanchine Trust Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director and School Director Répétiteur, George Balanchine Trust

NATIONAL AUDITIONTOUR

Summer Intensive | Advanced Repertory Workshop | Annual Program



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Ballet Chicago alumni are spanning the globe and excelling in their careers!

Patricia Blair Associate Artistic Director School Director

Since 2001, when our first students began branching out on their own, they have joined companies, attended universities, become professional dancers, teachers, choreographers, actors and designers, doctors, lawyers, writers, business professionals in many areas, and most of all, wonderful human beings. We are proud of each and every one of them and are honored to have helped them on their way.

Dance Companies Joined Columbia City Ballet

Alabama Ballet American Ballet Theatre II American Repertory Ballet Ballet Austin Ballet Austin II Ballet Idaho Ballet Magnificat **Ballet Memphis** Ballet Met Ballet Nebraska Ballet NY Ballet Spartanburg Ballet St. Polten Balleto Del Sud Carolina Ballet Cedar Lake Ensemble Charleston Ballet Theatre Cincinnati Ballet City Ballet of San Diego

Company C Continuum Contemporary Ballet Dallas Opera Dance Theatre of Harlem Festival Ballet Georgia Ballet Grand Rapids Ballet Introdans Jessica Gaynor Dance Les Grands Ballets Canadiens Los Angeles Ballet Louisville Ballet Lyric Opera of Chicago Madison Ballet Mama Mia/Las Vegas Miami City Ballet Milwaukee Ballet Milwaukee Ballet II

Nashville Ballet New Mexico Ballet Co. New York City Ballet Oakland Ballet Oklahoma City Ballet Orlando Ballet Pacific Northwest Ballet Pennsylvania Ballet Pennsylvania Ballet II Quad Cities Ballet Richmond Ballet River North Dance Chicago Royal Danish Ballet Sacramento Ballet Sophia Opera Ballet Stattstheater Schwerin St. Louis Ballet Suzanne Farrell Ballet Tyego Dance Project

Minnesota Dance Theatre

Minnesota Ballet Universities Attended

Bard College
Brigham Young University
Butler University
Columbia University
Cornell University
DePaul University
Duke University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Bloomington
John Marshall Law School

Colorado Ballet

Loyola University
MIT
Middlebury College
Northwestern University
New York University
Oxford University
Pomona College
Princeton University
Sarah Lawrence College
Southern Methodist
University

Thurgood Marshall School of Law
University of Illinois Champaign / Urbana
University of Illinois - Chicago
University of Nebraska
University of New Mexico
University of Pennsylvania
University of Utah
University of Wisconsin Madison
Yale University

"I can honestly say that without the School of Ballet Chicago and the Ballet Chicago Studio Company, I would not have a career in professional ballet. The Ballet Chicago organization did for me what it did for a number of my contemporaries: it welcomed those of us who possessed the mere desire and determination to dance, and proceeded to mold and shape our talent into a tangible force. Along the way, I believe that Daniel Duell and Patricia Blair have cultivated in each of us skills - poise, commitment, and confidence among them - that have served us all well regardless of the specific path we each ultimately chose. I feel privileged to have grown up in the Ballet Chicago family - and it is a family - and know that I am a more completely developed dancer and fully realized individual as a result of my years there."

Texas Christian University

Genevieve Custer Weeks, Ballet Chicago Alumna

"I could have never made it this far without the foundation I gained at The School of Ballet Chicago. I am forever indebted and grateful."



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PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS



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RAIN SESSIONS: Jan. 20-29

COLOR POWDER SESSIONS: Feb 3-12

AUDITION & ARTISTIC STUDIO SESSIONS: Dec 27-Jan 15

These sessions are good for individuals or groups; dancers of all ages/skills

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