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ORLANDO BALLET

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR **JORDEN MORRIS**
CHOREOGRAPHY **JORDEN MORRIS**

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JORDEN MORRIS • ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

The NUTCRACKER

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ASSISTANT TO THE CHOREOGRAPHER
LISA THORN MORRIS

REHEARSAL DIRECTOR & ANIMATRONIC CHOREOGRAPHY
HEATH GILL

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Choreography created by Jorden Morris sponsored by: Krista & Jonathan Ledden

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Abdel & Colte Debbouza-Suggs

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Snow Scene Castle sponsored by: Judy & Bob Yarmuth / Sonny's BBQ

Drosselmeyer Costume sponsored by: Charles & Jane Gibbons

Clara Costume Collection sponsored by: David Simon & Melissa "Clara" Mull

The Nutcracker Prince Costume Collection sponsored by:
Paola & Rolando Sanz Guerrero

Party Girl Dresses sponsored by: Andrew & Elyse Starling

Mouse King Costume sponsored by: Lesniak & Franklin Family Trust

Columbina Costume: Dr. Lynn Le

Harlequin Costume sponsored in honor of: Louis & Alexandra Logas

Snowflake Costumes sponsored by: Cheryl & Tom Collins; Jayne & John Willis

ACT TWO

Magical Garden Divertissement sponsored by: Massey Services, Inc.

Spanish Women & Men Costume Collections sponsored by: Theodora Uniken Venema

Desert Princess Costume sponsored by: Raul & Jennifer Socarras

Heron Costume sponsored by: SchenkelShultz Architecture

Les Patineurs & Le Patineur Costume Collection sponsored by: Margaret Shan Atkins & James Edward Erbs

Trepak Women & Men Costume Collection sponsored by: Larry & Laura Zirbel

Mother Goose Costume sponsored in memory of: Diane "Deedoo" Trezenski

Waltz of the Flowers Soloist & Corps de Ballet Costume Collection sponsored by:
Frank Santos

Sugar Plum Fairy Costume sponsored by: Guillermo & Yadhira Sollberger



Thank you for joining us for *The Nutcracker*, a production that delights children and adults alike. From puppetry and toys to magical snow globes, Cyr wheels, flying, snow, and wonderful dancing, every detail is meant to invite you into Clara's adventure with a sense of warmth and wonder.

I have always wanted this ballet to feel like a true holiday journey—one that sparks a child's imagination and reminds adults of the magic they once felt. Unlike many versions of *The Nutcracker*, in this version, Drosselmeyer gently guides Clara and the audience through the journey, much like a narrator. The use of puppetry adds another layer of wonder and playfulness along the way, awakening the joy that defines the holiday season for us all.

There is something breathtaking about seeing wonder unfold in the theatre—the lift of a dancer, the hush of falling snow, the surprise of flight. In a season shaped by love and adventure, Clara's journey reminds us how love can give a young heart courage, imagination, and joy.

We're so glad you're here to celebrate this magical tradition with us.

With holiday cheer,

Jorden Morris

JORDEN MORRIS
Artistic Director



For generations, *The Nutcracker* has been one of the most cherished ways families celebrate the holiday season. It brings audiences of all ages together, creating memories that are passed from one generation to the next and reminding us of the joy, wonder, and connection that live performance can inspire.

We extend our deep gratitude to Orlando Health for their extraordinary commitment to the families and communities that make Central Florida so vibrant. Through their support of Orlando Ballet and *The Nutcracker*, they help create a holiday tradition that brings families together, strengthens community connection, and ensures this beloved production is made possible for audiences across our region.

To further share the magic of *The Nutcracker* across our community, we extend our gratitude to the Universal Orlando Foundation, Orlando Magic Youth Foundation, United Arts, Jacarlene Foundation, Chesley G. Magruder Foundation, Hearst Foundations, and Martin Andersen-Gracia Andersen Foundation for their belief in Orlando Ballet's Intro to Ballet program.

Through their support, more than 15,000 second graders from Orange County Public Schools experience a shortened production of *The Nutcracker*, often marking the first time many of these students encounter ballet and the joy of live performance. Intro to Ballet helps open the door to imagination, creativity, and the wonder of dance for the next generation.

We are grateful to share the beauty of this art form with you as we celebrate the season together, and we wish you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday season.

Warmest wishes,

Brad

BRADLEY RENNER
Executive Director

CAST

ACT 1

DROSSELMEYER

Cameron Bailey • Jack Ragland
Nathan Rowell • Troy Santulli

CLARA STAHLBAUM

Maya Fazzari • Kate Gardinier
Ellie Iannotti • Aria Smith

NUTCRACKER PRINCE

Finn Adams • Thomas Gerhardt
Charlie Mellor • Jaysan Stinnett

FRITZ STAHLBAUM

Finn Adams • Thomas Gerhardt
Charlie Mellor
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo

MRS. STAHLBAUM

Savannah Campbell • Kenna Gold
Sabrina Sierens

MR. STAHLBAUM

John Abenanty • Joshua Fickling
Troy Santulli • Jaysan Stinnett

CHESTNUT VENDOR

Ezekiel Richards • Joel Ruybalid

BUTCHER

Finn Adams • Isaac Aguirre
Troy Santulli

COOK

Remy Juliette Loren • Noe Lynds

MAID

Elena Babato • Sara Marin

BUTLER

Jaime Monroy • Brendan Turner

SOUS CHEF/GOOSE PUPPETEER

Cameron Bailey • Jack Ragland

POULTRY SHOP PUPPETEER

Finn Adams • Thomas Gerhardt
Charlie Mellor
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo

FRITZ'S FRIENDS/CADETS

John Abenanty • Ruei Lin Cheng
Joshua Fickling • Thomas Gerhardt
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo
Jack Ragland • Nathan Rowell
Caleb Wire

CLARA'S FRIENDS

Savannah Campbell • Kate Gardinier
Kenna Gold • Dominique Guerra
Ellie Iannotti • Hazuki Kishida
Chen-yu Liao • Sophia Longid
Remy Juliette Loren • Hitomi Nakamura
Renee Shubov • Sabrina Sierens
Aria Smith

PARENTS - LADIES

Charlotte Borden • Saydee Kim
Viktoriia Kovyreva • Willow Kristich
Georgianna Lewis • Emma Longin
Sara Marin • Mackenzie Marin
Poppy Martinez-Cox • Ruri Nonami

PARENTS - GENTLEMEN

Finn Adams • Isaac Aguirre
Mykhailo Denysenko • Jaime Monroy
Ezekiel Richards • Joel Ruybalid
Troy Santulli • Brendan Turner
Caleb Wire

CASTING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

PARTY GIRLS

Regan Brighton • Sofia Correa
Abigail Craig • Riley DeBellis
Scarlett Dykes • Evelyn Haak
Eleanor Landress • Ava Miller
Maria Fernanda Moulin Perez
Wynne Puttick • Luisa Sollberger

PARTY BOYS

Khloe Bryant • Brianna Cabrejos
Rowan David • Reagan Grafton
Estelle Grandsard • Amelia Haase
Camilla Nelson • Claire Pavlov
Katherine Sands
Charlotte Theimann • Olivia Uban
Heidi Wieland

MOUSE KING

Cameron Bailey • Jack Ragland

COLUMBINA DOLL

Dominique Guerra • Chen-yu Liao
Sophia Longid • Renee Shubov

HARLEQUIN DOLL

Charlie Mellor
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo
Caleb Wire

FIGHTER MICE

Ainsley Arner • Julia Barbeta
Claire Baumgarten • Maria Brooks
Regina Osorio Cabiedes
Danica DesChamps • Maria Duran
Sara Hobbs • Matsuharu Lai
Zahir Miranda • Caroline Morrow
Grace Nelson • Kiana Tiscareno
Eileen Zeqo • Bradyn Harris
Joel Ruybalid • Caden Santander

LITTLE MICE

Sayler Bland • Ivy Hartman
Gabriella Kikuchi • Kylie Kincaid
Hazel Kondrich • Aurora Lutzko
Ella-Marie Miller • Iris Mills
Gianna Owens • Riley Pais
Ana Victoria Moulin Perez
Charlotte Renton • Giselle Rodriguez
Aurora Thiemann • Autumn Thiemann
Parker Thinnes • Caroline Tormey

SOLDIERS

John Abenanty • Finn Adams
Ruei Lin Cheng • Joshua Fickling
Thomas Gerhardt • Charlie Mellor
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo
Jack Ragland • Nathan Rowell
Caleb Wire

SMALL SOLDIERS

Berkeley Barksdale • Lyla Blankemeier
Aria Bowerman • Claire Bowerman
Adriella Collado • Ella Dingman
Elle Golden • Cece Goldsberry
Charlotte Henderson • Emma Hill
Landry Johnson • Remy Patrick
Berkley Rustmann
Harper Belle Seliga • Emily Siviglia
Abby Sterrett

SNOWFLAKES

Elena Babato • Mallory Baggs
Regina Osorio Cabiedes
Savannah Campbell • Zella Diener
Natalie DuCharme • Kate Gardinier
Kenna Gold • Jocelyn Gross
Dominique Guerra • Lola Hildebrand
Saydee Kim • Hazuki Kishida
Viktoriia Kovyreva • Willow Kristich
Chen-yu Liao • Sophia Longid
Emma Longin • Remy Juliette Loren
Noe Lynds • Poppy Martinez-Cox
Ruri Nonami • Sabrina Sierens
Aria Smith

CASTING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ACT 2

SUGARPLUM FAIRY

Maya Fazzari • Ellie Iannotti
Hitomi Nakamura • Renee Shubov

CAVALIER

John Abenanty • Joshua Fickling
Nathan Rowell • Jaysan Stinnett

SPRITES

Phoebe Beck • Maisie Bennett
Regan Brighton • Brianna Cabrejos
Sofia Correa • Abigail Craig
Rowan David • Riley DeBellis
Alena Dolenc • Scarlett Dykes
Camille Garaban • Reagan Grafton
Estelle Grandsard • Evelyn Haak
Amelia Haase
Michelle Aolan Chen Iannotti
Eleanor Landress • Ava Miller
Maria Fernanda Perez Moulin
Camilla Nelson • Avalon Ochalek
Claire Pavlov • Penelope Pizzaro
Claire Richardson • Luisa Sollberger
Charlotte Theimann • Olivia Uban
Natalie Walsh • Heidi Wieland

SPANISH WOMEN

Savannah Campbell
Dominique Guerra • Chen-yu Liao
Remy Juliette Loren • Sabrina Sierens

SPANISH MEN

Finn Adams • Cameron Bailey
Joshua Fickling
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo
Nathan Rowell • Troy Santulli

DESERT PRINCESS

Kenna Gold • Hazuki Kishida
Hitomi Nakamura • Aria Smith

HERON BIRD

Hitomi Nakamura • Renee Shubov
Aria Smith

LE PATINEUR MAN

Ruei Lin Cheng • Joshua Fickling
Thomas Gerhardt • Charlie Mellor
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo

LES PATINEURS WOMEN

Natalie DuCharme
Viktoriia Kovyreva • Chen-yu Liao
Sophia Longid • Emma Longin
Noe Lynds • Sara Marin
Ruri Nonami

TREPAK WOMAN

Maya Fazzari • Kenna Gold
Chen-yu Liao • Aria Smith

TREPAK MEN

John Abenanty • Ruei Lin Cheng
Mykhailo Denysenko • Charlie Mellor
Jack Ragland • Ezekiel Richards
Caleb Wire

MOTHER GOOSE

Claire Baumgarten • Maria Duran
Caden Santander • Eileen Zeqo

MOTHER GOOSE DRIVERS

Isaac Aguirre • Bradyn Harris
Jaime Monroy • Ezekiel Richards
Joel Ruybalid

CASTING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

POLICHINELLES

Mina Aleem • Berkeley Barksdale
Beatrice Bell • Bexley Burket
Reese Cravens • Cara Donovan
Madeleine Eddy • Elizabeth Fabian
Riley Feggins • Ariella Fornea
Eden Freiburger • Sylvea Golosova
Azalea Golosova • Julianne Hancock
Daisy Lemos • Madeleine Nort
Livia Patel • Henley Poole
Evelyn Ramirez • Camille Sawyer
Henry Saygin • Harper Updike
Calla Warner

POLICHINELLE (FLYING)

Harper Belle • Ella Dingman
Cece Goldsberry • Emma Hill

FLOWER WOMEN SOLOISTS

Savannah Campbell • Kate Gardinier
Kenna Gold • Dominique Guerra
Hazuki Kishida • Chen-yu Liao
Sophia Longid • Remy Juliette Loren
Sabrina Sierens

FLOWER MEN SOLOISTS

Finn Adams • Cameron Bailey
Ruei Lin Cheng • Joshua Fickling
Thomas Gerhardt • Charlie Mellor
Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo
Jaime Monroy • Jack Ragland
Nathan Rowell • Troy Santulli
Caleb Wire

FLOWER CORPS WOMEN

Elena Babato • Charlotte Borden
Regina Osorio Cabiedes
Zella Diener • Natalie DuCharme
Jocelyn Gross • Saydee Kim
Viktoriia Kovyreva • Willow Kristich
Emma Longin • Noe Lynds
Sara Marin • Poppy Martinez-Cox
Ruri Nonami • Claire Rutland
Rio Saito

SCAN HERE FOR DAY OF CASTING

CASTING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ACT ONE

On Christmas Eve, Drosselmeyer the toy maker prepares for the Stahlbaum family's festive celebration, bringing with him a magical Nutcracker doll created especially for young Clara. As the town buzzes with holiday energy, he delights children with a puppet show depicting a battle between the Nutcracker and the Mouse King. At the Stahlbaum home, the party begins with dancing, laughter, and the arrival of Clara's beloved gift. When her brother Fritz breaks the Nutcracker, Drosselmeyer repairs it, and the evening ends with joyful family dances as Clara drifts off to sleep.

Later that night, Clara sneaks downstairs, drawn by a mysterious glow from Drosselmeyer's enchanted snow globe. Suddenly, mice invade the room and a magical transformation begins — the Christmas tree grows sky-high, toys come to life, and Clara finds herself in a fantastical world. Her Nutcracker becomes a valiant soldier and battles the Mouse King in a whimsical war. With Clara's quick thinking, the Nutcracker triumphs, and a grateful dance follows. As snowflakes swirl and the scene turns to a glistening Snow Kingdom, Drosselmeyer reappears and sends Clara soaring off to meet the Sugar Plum Fairy in a new land of enchantment.

ACT TWO

In the heart of the Magical Garden, playful Sprites awaken and dance with Drosselmeyer as they await Clara's arrival. She floats gently from the sky, greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy, her Cavalier, and the Nutcracker, who all celebrate her bravery in the great battle. Clara is invited to stay and join in the festivities, where she dances with dazzling characters from around the world — fiery Spanish couples, the graceful Desert Princess, a colorful Heron, icy Patineurs, leaping Trepak dancers, and even Mother Goose with her cheerful Polichinelles.

The celebration crescendos with a radiant waltz of flowers and a final, enchanting dance from the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. As the magical world begins to fade, Clara bids farewell to her new friends. Drosselmeyer gently returns her Nutcracker and sends her soaring one last time. She lands softly back in her living room, cradling her beloved Nutcracker and dreaming of the adventures still to come.



JORDEN MORRIS

Artistic Director

After his dance career, Jorden Morris studied teaching and choreography at Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet (RWB) and later dance and theatre arts at New York University. He trained in French choreography and pedagogy with Claude Bessy and Serge Golovine at the Paris Opera and later with Russian masters Sergei Berejnoi and Tatiana Terekhova at Boston Ballet.

Morris' elite training led to artistic leadership at RWB where he premiered his first work – an interpretation of Alexander Dumas' *The Three Musketeers*. He later joined Boston Ballet's artistic staff and choregraphed two pieces for Queen Elizabeth II during her visit to Canada.

From 2002 to 2013, Morris served as RWB's associate school director and was commissioned to create his first, full-length production – *Peter Pan*, the company's best-selling production, surpassed only by his *Moulin Rouge*® – *The Ballet*, whose grand debut required performances to be added.

Morris directed and choreographed *Head Start/Feet First*, a collaboration between the RWB and intercity academic schools, which resulted in Canada's popular children's television show, "The Toy Castle," in which he also starred.

Morris premiered two other works at RWB - *The Doorway*, inspired by the poetry and voice of Leonard Cohen; and *MOA*, inspired by the artist Egon Schiele.

While *Moulin Rouge*® – *The Ballet* toured the world, Morris' *Peter Pan* was being performed by the RWB, Pittsburgh Ballet and Nevada Ballet Theatre.

In 2019, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre premiered *The Great Gatsby*, Morris' glamorous ballet with an original score by composer Carl Davis. Before being named its artistic director, Morris came to Orlando Ballet in 2020 as Artist in Residence and staged three grand ballets. In 2023, he debuted his newest creation, a reimagined production of *The Nutcracker*, a highlight of Orlando Ballet's 50th anniversary season.

LISA THORN MORRIS

Associate Artistic Director



As Associate Artistic Director at Orlando Ballet, Lisa Thorn Morris, who joined Orlando Ballet in 2015, has significantly contributed to the success of the professional company's artistic development.

Lisa enjoyed a 20-year dance career as an artist with the Kansas City Ballet where she performed numerous principal roles by some of the world's greatest choreographers including favorite roles by Alvin Ailey, George Balanchine, Todd Bolender, August Bournonville, Merce Cunningham, Agnes DeMille, Nacho Duato, Ruth Page, Marius Petipa and Twyla Tharp, to name a few.

While at Kansas City Ballet, Lisa transitioned to serve as Associate Ballet Mistress before being elevated to Ballet Mistress in Residence.

In addition to dancing professionally, Lisa has also choreographed for numerous organizations including Orlando Ballet, Kansas City Ballet, Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Actors Theatre of Kansas City, and the Kansas City Youth Ballet. Lisa's choreographic skills and success led to her being named 2005's Emerging Choreographer at the Craft of Choreography Conference.

Lisa earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts in Dance, graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Missouri where she also served as an Adjunct Professor at the Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Lisa also serves as the stager for Artistic Director Jorden Morris' highly popular ballets including *Moulin Rouge® – the Ballet*, *Peter Pan*, *The Great Gatsby,* and *Deverell*. She spent two years as choreographic assistant to Morris in the development and world premiere of his new multi-million-dollar production of *The Nutcracker* during Orlando Ballet's 2023-2024 season.

HEATH GILL

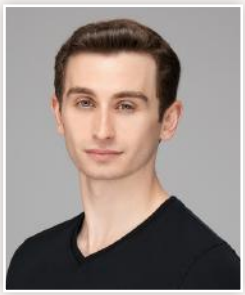
Rehearsal Director



Throughout his career, Heath had the opportunity to perform featured roles in a widely varied repertoire that included renowned creators such as: John McFall, Jorden Morris, Christopher Wheeldon, James Kudelka, Twyla Tharp, David Bintley, Jean-Christophe Maillot, Jorma Elo, Val Caniparoli, Helen Pickett, Liam Scarlett, Jiri Kylian, Alexander Eckman, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Michael Pink, and Ohad Naharin. Heath received critical acclaim for his performances and was recognized as one of ArtsATL's "30 under 30" and Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch".

In 2017 Heath co-founded Terminus Modern Ballet Theatre (TMBT) in Atlanta, Georgia. Beyond bringing his skills to the stage for TMBT, Gill served on the Board of Directors and as the company's Production Director and Resident Choreographer. In his time at Terminus, he created many full evening dance works and his production, *Marley Was Dead, To Begin With* was named "Best Dance Production of 2020" by ArtsATL. He continues to aid the organization in a Board Emeritus role.

Since joining the team at Orlando Ballet, Heath has continued to present and create new works for the company including *Confronting Genius*, *The Next Big Thing*, and *Memento*. He also continues his creative endeavors by serving as a guest choreographer for other companies and as a stager for Kenneth Tindall's works. Heath has a sincere love for coaching and is thrilled to be passing his skill and love of the artform on to the next generation as Orlando Ballet's Rehearsal Director.



JOHN ABENANTY

Originally from Brooklyn, New York, John Abenanty trained at Brooklyn Ballet, LaGuardia High School, and The Harid Conservatory. He became the first foreign dancer to achieve Principal rank at Sofia Opera and Ballet after dancing as a Soloist with the State Ballet of Georgia. His repertoire includes Siegfried, Romeo, Albrecht, and Basilio. This is John's sixth season with Orlando Ballet.

FINN ADAMS

Originally from Massachusetts and raised in Houston, Texas, Finn Adams trained at Houston Repertoire Ballet, Central Pennsylvania Ballet, and the graduate program at Houston Ballet. His performance credits include William Forsythe's *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, José Martínez's Le Corsaire, and the Mazurka man in Serge Lifar's *Suite en Blanc*. Finn joins Orlando Ballet for his first season with the company.





CAMERON BAILEY

Originally from Morecambe, England, Cameron Bailey attended Elmhurst Ballet School and graduated from English National Ballet School. His performance highlights include the Genius in Heath Gill's *Confronting Genius*, Captain Hook in Jorden Morris's *Peter Pan*, and Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*. Cameron spent two seasons with OBII and begins his fourth season with Orlando Ballet's main company.

SAVANNAH CAMPBELL

Originally from Morris, Illinois, Savannah Campbell trained at Salt Creek Ballet, Orlando Ballet Academy, and Sarasota Ballet as a trainee and studio company member. Her repertoire includes George Balanchine's *Who Cares*, *Rubies, and Serenade*. This is Savannah's fourth season with Orlando Ballet, including two years with the school and her second season as a company member. Savannah is also a certified yoga instructor.





RUEI LIN CHENG

Originally from Taoyuan City, Taiwan, Ruei Lin Cheng graduated from Taipei National University of the Arts before continuing training at The Washington School of Ballet. Ruei Lin performed in Septime Webre's *The Nutcracker* and placed second in classical and third in contemporary at the 2024 YAGP Pittsburgh semifinal. This is Ruei Lin's second season with Orlando Ballet, his first as a company member.

MAYA FAZZARI



Originally from Hamilton, Ontario, Maya Fazzari graduated from Canada's National Ballet School and completed an exchange program at San Francisco Ballet School. Following her graduation, she danced with The National Ballet of Canada before joining Orlando Ballet. Her Orlando Ballet highlights include Clara and the Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*, Jordan Baker in *The Great Gatsby*, and the *Swan Lake* pas de trois. This is Maya's fourth season with Orlando Ballet.



JOSHUA FICKLING

Originally from Meltham, West Yorkshire, Joshua Fickling enters his second season with Orlando Ballet. He trained at The Royal Ballet School and graduated from Mentors in Ballet Education. His highlights include Escamillo in Kenneth Tindall's *Carmen*, Jay Gatsby in Jorden Morris's *The Great Gatsby*, and the Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*. Joshua holds a teaching diploma in Cecchetti classical ballet and received the Gail Monahan Overall Winners Award at GradPro 2024.

KATE GARDINIER



Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kate Gardinier trained at Wexford Dance Academy and graduated from The Washington Ballet School before joining OBII. She was promoted to the main company after one season. Her highlights include Mome Fromage in *Moulin Rouge® – The Ballet*, Jordan Baker in *The Great Gatsby*, and Clara in *The Nutcracker*. This is Kate's fifth season with Orlando Ballet.



THOMAS GERHARDT

Originally from Dorset, England, Thomas Gerhardt trained at The Royal Ballet School and performed with The Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet. With Orlando Ballet, he has danced Tom Buchanan in *The Great Gatsby*, the Nutcracker Prince, the *Swan Lake* pas de trois, and Jewels in Christopher Stowell's *The Sleeping Beauty*. Thomas has danced with Orlando Ballet for five years.

KENNA GOLD



Originally from Redondo Beach, California, Kenna Gold trained at The Rock School for Dance Education on a full scholarship. Since joining Orlando Ballet, she has danced Myrtha in *Giselle*, Daisy and Myrtle in Jorden Morris's *The Great Gatsby*, and Mina in Michael Pink's *Dracula*. She is also a certified personal trainer specializing in cross-training for dancers. This is Kenna's sixth season with the company.



DOMINIQUE GUERRA

Originally from Landrum, South Carolina, Dominique Guerra trained at Ballet Spartanburg and attended summer intensives on scholarship at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and Pacific Northwest Ballet. Dominique performed at Italy's DAP Festival and has received overseas training opportunities with Akram Khan Company and Spellbound. This is Dominique's third year with Orlando Ballet.

ELLIE IANNOTTI



Originally from West Deptford, New Jersey, Ellie Iannotti trained at The Rock School for Dance Education before completing her graduating year at American Ballet Theatre's Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School. Her Orlando Ballet highlights include the title role in *Giselle*, Carmen in Kenneth Tindall's *Carmen*, and Blanche in Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's *A Streetcar Named Desire*. This is Ellie's fifth season with the company.



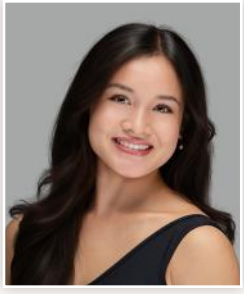
HAZUKI KISHIDA

Originally from Victoria, British Columbia, Hazuki Kishida graduated from Victoria Academy of Ballet's Post-Secondary Bridge Program in 2022. She joined OBII and was promoted to the main company after one season. Her highlights include Heath Gill's *Confronting Genius*, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Serenade*, *Divertimento No. 15*, and *Allegro Brillante*. A three-time British Columbia Provincial Arts Council Scholarship recipient, Hazuki is in her fourth season with Orlando Ballet.

CHEN-YU LIAO



Originally from Taichung, Taiwan, Chen-Yu Liao trained in the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School Graduate Program and spent one season with OBII before joining the main company. Performance highlights include Terrence S. Orr's *The Nutcracker*, Septime Webre's *The Wizard of Oz*, and Houston Thomas' *Steel City Elegy*. This is Chen-Yu's first season with Orlando Ballet's main company.



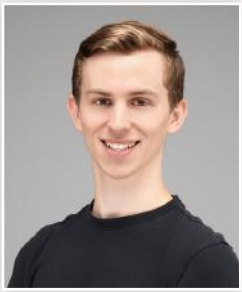
SOPHIA LONGID

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, Sophia Longid trained at Joffrey Academy of Dance and graduated from The Joffrey Ballet Trainee Program in 2026. Her performance highlights include Gerald Arpino's *Reflections* and *Viva Vivaldi*, Christopher Wheeldon's *The Nutcracker* and *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and Yuri Possokhov's *Eugene Onegin*. This is Sophia's first season as a dancer with Orlando Ballet.

REMY JULIETTE LOREN



Originally from San Diego, California, Remy Juliette Loren trained at Ballet Arte Academy, Philadelphia Ballet, and Joffrey Ballet. Her highlights include Gerald Arpino's *Kettentanz*, Christopher Wheeldon's *The Nutcracker*, Cathy Marston's *Atonement*, and Jorden Morris's *The Nutcracker*. Remy has also earned multiple top YAGP placements in classical and contemporary. This is her second season with Orlando Ballet.



CHARLIE MELLOR

Originally from Peterborough, England, Charlie Mellor trained at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts. His Orlando Ballet repertoire includes the Nutcracker Prince in Jorden Morris's *The Nutcracker*, Hilarion and the Pas de Quatre in *Giselle*, and Alan in Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Charlie also performed in Matthew Bourne's *Romeo and Juliet*. This is his sixth season with Orlando Ballet.

HITOMI NAKAMURA



Originally from Tokyo, Japan, Hitomi Nakamura trained at Kaneta Kono Ballet Academy, Houston Ballet Academy, and Orlando Ballet with the second company, OBII. Her Orlando Ballet highlights include Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*, Princess Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Carmen in Kenneth Tindall's *Carmen*. A 2014 USA IBC Jackson semifinalist and first-place winner at The Ballet Competition in Tokyo. This is her thirteenth season with Orlando Ballet.



ALBERTO PEÑALVER MELGAREJO

Originally from Murcia, Spain, Alberto Peñalver Melgarejo trained at the Conservatorio Profesional de Danza de Murcia and John Cranko Schule before graduating from the School of American Ballet. He previously danced with Tulsa Ballet II and Ballet Arizona, performing George Balanchine's *Agon*. His Orlando Ballet repertoire includes *Divertimento No. 15*. Alberto received a 2025 Premios Kairós award and has danced five seasons with Orlando Ballet.

JACK RAGLAND



Originally from Columbia, South Carolina, Jack Ragland trained at South Carolina Christian Dance Theatre and attended summer programs at Charlotte Ballet, Philadelphia Ballet, and the University of South Carolina Conservatory for the Arts. His Orlando Ballet highlights include Tom in Jorden Morris's *The Great Gatsby* and the principal male role in Alyssa Pires's *Skyward*. This is Jack's fourth season with Orlando Ballet.

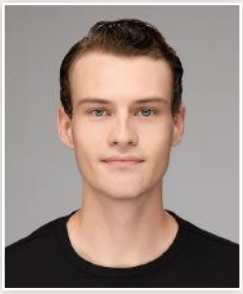


NATHAN ROWELL

Originally from Eugene, Oregon, Nathan Rowell trained at Oregon Ballet Academy, Houston Ballet Academy, and Orlando Ballet's second company, OBII. His Orlando Ballet highlights include the title role in *Casanova*, *Peter Pan*, Stanley in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and Toulouse in *Moulin Rouge®–The Ballet*. Nathan has danced six years with Orlando Ballet's main company.

TROY SANTULLI

Originally from Boston, Massachusetts, Troy Santulli trained at Boston Ballet School and danced with Kansas City Ballet II, Texas Ballet Theater, and Milwaukee Ballet. His career highlights include Drosselmeyer in Jorden Morris's *The Nutcracker*, the Red Inquisitor in Kenneth Tindall's *Casanova*, and the Queen of Hearts in Ben Stevenson's *Alice in Wonderland*. This is Troy's second season with Orlando Ballet.





RENEE SHUBOV

Originally from Manhattan, New York, Renee Shubov trained at the Academy of Dance Arts and Houston Ballet Academy. Her Orlando Ballet highlights include Tinkerbell in Jorden Morris's *Peter Pan*, Princess Florine in Christopher Stowell's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and the Pas de Trois in his *Swan Lake*. Renee joined OBII in 2023 and the main company in 2024; this is her fourth year with Orlando Ballet.

SABRINA SIERENS

Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Sabrina Sierens began her training at Ann Parsley School of Dance before graduating from The Rock School for Dance Education on scholarship under the direction of Peter Stark. Her performance highlights include Russian Girl in Christopher Stowell's *Swan Lake*, George Balanchine's *Allegro Brillante*, and Moyna in *Giselle*. This is her fourth season with Orlando Ballet.





ARIA SMITH

Originally from San Clemente, California, Aria Smith trained at Maple Conservatory of Dance and graduated from Ballet West Academy's Professional Training Division. Her highlights include Michaela in Kenneth Tindall's *Carmen*, the lead couple in *Maple Leaf Rag*, and a soloist role in *Divertimento No. 15*. She also performed *The Nutcracker* at the Kennedy Center with Ballet West. This is Aria's fifth season with Orlando Ballet.

JAYSAN STINNETT



Originally from Knoxville, Tennessee, Jaysan Stinnett began training at Thomas Armour Youth Ballet and graduated from The Harid Conservatory. His Orlando Ballet highlights include Prince Albrecht in *Giselle*, Prince Siegfried in *Swan Lake*, Prince Florimund in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Jay Gatsby in *The Great Gatsby*, and Don José in Kenneth Tindall's *Carmen*. This is Jaysan's eighth season with Orlando Ballet.



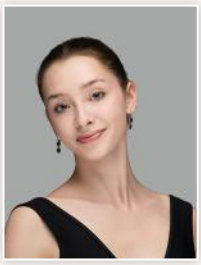
CALEB WIRE

Originally from Sugar Hill, Georgia, Caleb Wire trained at Sugarloaf Youth Ballet and Ballet West's Professional Training Division. His performance highlights include Danielle Rowe's *Dreamland* with Ballet Idaho, Trey McIntyre's *Second Before the Ground*, Carlos in María Konrad's *Día de los Muertos* with Nashville Ballet 2, and Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Caleb spent a season as an OBII and was promoted this season to the main company.

ORLANDO BALLET SECOND COMPANY (OBII)



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AGUIRRE



CHARLOTTE
BORDEN



MYKHAILO
DENYSENKO



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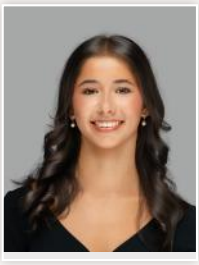
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As one of our go-to “date nights,” we’ve enjoyed watching the ballet evolve and grow over the last decade. I (Eliza) took ballet and tap as a child, so I’ve always appreciated the athleticism and beauty of dance. Our family has grown and now our young son is thrilled by The Nutcracker and especially Peter Pan. We want Orlando Ballet to continue to thrive for our son and other families in Central Florida for many years to come.

– Eliza & Matt Juliano



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as of November 15th, 2026

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We are deeply grateful to all of these generous supporters, as well as the more than 705 donors who contributed up to $1,499. Every gift—no matter the size—plays an essential role in helping Orlando Ballet entertain, educate, and enrich through the transformative power of dance. Your support keeps our artists on stage, our students in the studio, and our community inspired.
Thank you!

*indicates deceased

as of November 15th, 2026

THE BALLET FUND

PLAY A PART IN ELEVATING OUR ART

Your gift to The Ballet Fund helps bring the transformative power of dance to our stage, our classrooms, and our community. Your generosity supports exceptional performances, arts education, and community outreach while providing donor benefits such as presale ticket access, invitations to special events, and more. Together, we can inspire audiences and enrich lives for generations to come.



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Inspiring MOVEMENT



Keeping people healthy with movement and activity along with good nutrition and sleep is really important for them to be able to function in everyday life and do things they enjoy, like going to see *The Nutcracker*.

–Elizabeth Davis, MD

Who hasn't watched in awe as dancers leap, spin and soar across the stage in *The Nutcracker* and marveled, **"How do they move like that?"**

While few of us will ever match a dancer's level of flexibility, balance, strength and endurance, incorporating those same elements into our everyday lives is important for maintaining health and mobility.

Two people who understand that well are Orlando Ballet team physician Elizabeth Davis, MD, and head athletic trainer Courtney Butler, who are now in their 15th and 9th seasons, respectively, of caring for the company's dancers.

"Dance takes a lot of strength and flexibility. Pairing that back to everyday life, maintaining muscle mass is increasingly important as we age," says Dr. Davis. **"And it's actually pretty easy to incorporate a little extra movement into your day and get about 30 minutes of moderate activity."**

In addition to helping maintain bone density and muscle mass, and preventing issues such as stress fractures and osteoporosis, regular movement can help reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, depression and dementia.

"Basically, it helps with whole body health," says Courtney. **"To the bones, to the muscles, to the joints, to the heart."**

Both experts emphasize that movement can look different for everyone, from gym activities such as weight training, yoga and tai chi to structured team sports to leisure pursuits like swimming, cycling and tennis. Even simple choices, like taking a brisk walk or opting for the stairs instead of the elevator, can make a difference.

"Overall, the types of movement are pretty consistent across all ages," says Courtney. **"It's just how you modify the intensity for your age and ability."**

Like the Orlando Ballet, Orlando Health Jewett Orthopedic Institute has deep roots in Central Florida. Their relationship has evolved from a volunteer network of providers into a dedicated, technology-driven program that supports the dancers, helping them perform at their best. That same high level of orthopedic expertise extends to patients throughout the community.

"Among our many sports and community partnerships, we provide education, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation in an effort to highlight the importance of movement and also to keep our patients moving," says Courtney.

ORLANDO HEALTH IS THE OFFICIAL MEDICAL TEAM OF ORLANDO BALLET

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WELCOME TO THE DR. PHILLIPS CENTER

Grab a Drink, Grab a Snack

- Pop by the bars on tiers 1, 3, or 4 for a range of food and drinks—including delicious culinary offerings created by our in-house chef. Bar service starts 1.5 hours before shows. You can also preorder drinks for intermission.
- On tier 2, you can visit Crafts on two and enjoy local craftbeer, wine, cocktails, and Foxtail Coffee. Beverages in the auditorium are allowed if they are purchased in the Dr. Phillips Center. Please enjoy your food before taking your seat.
- It's our goal to make your experience as smooth as possible. Concessions and coffee bars are now cashless to make checkout easier—so you can get back to your seat quicker. All major credit and debit cards and mobile payment options accepted.

Feel at Home

- Restrooms are available on each tier, and all are wheelchair accessible.
- Elevators reach all tiers of the theater. One elevator is on the north side of the Harvey & Carol Massey Family Grand Staircase, and two are on the south side.
- Applause is welcome! The dancers love to know if you're enjoying the performance, so don't be afraid to applaud after a dancer does something spectacular onstage, when the dancers take a bow, or at the ballet's end.

Be a Good Neighbor

- We all want to enjoy the performance. Please refrain from talking or whispering during the performance. Help keep an unobstructed view by arriving on time, being seated before the performance starts, and not leaning forward or resting your head on your seatmate's head or shoulder.

Need Some Help?

- Ticket services are available through the Dr. Phillips Center Box Office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 pm, Saturday, 12 p.m. to 4 pm, or two hours before showtime.
- Visit drphillipscenter.org or call 407-358-6603.
- Subscriber services are available through the Orlando Ballet Box Office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Visit orlandoballet.org or call 407-418-9828.
- Lost and Found is at the concierge desk behind the Harvey & Carol Massey Family Grand Staircase in Della Phillips Grand Lobby.

Important Policies

- Late seating isn't allowed while a performance is in progress. You'll be asked to stand until a break, at the discretion of house management, which may be at intermission. Guests can watch a live stream of the performance from monitors in the Della Phillips Grand Lobby until entry is permitted.
- Guests can freely leave and re-enter the performance at any time during our Family & Sensory Friendly performances.
- Occupying a seat other than the seat for which you hold a ticket isn't allowed. Please sit only in your ticketed seat.
- Audio/visual recordings of any kind of the performance are strictly forbidden.
- Mobile devices should be turned off and put away before the performance. The lights and sounds are a distraction to the performers and your fellow patrons.

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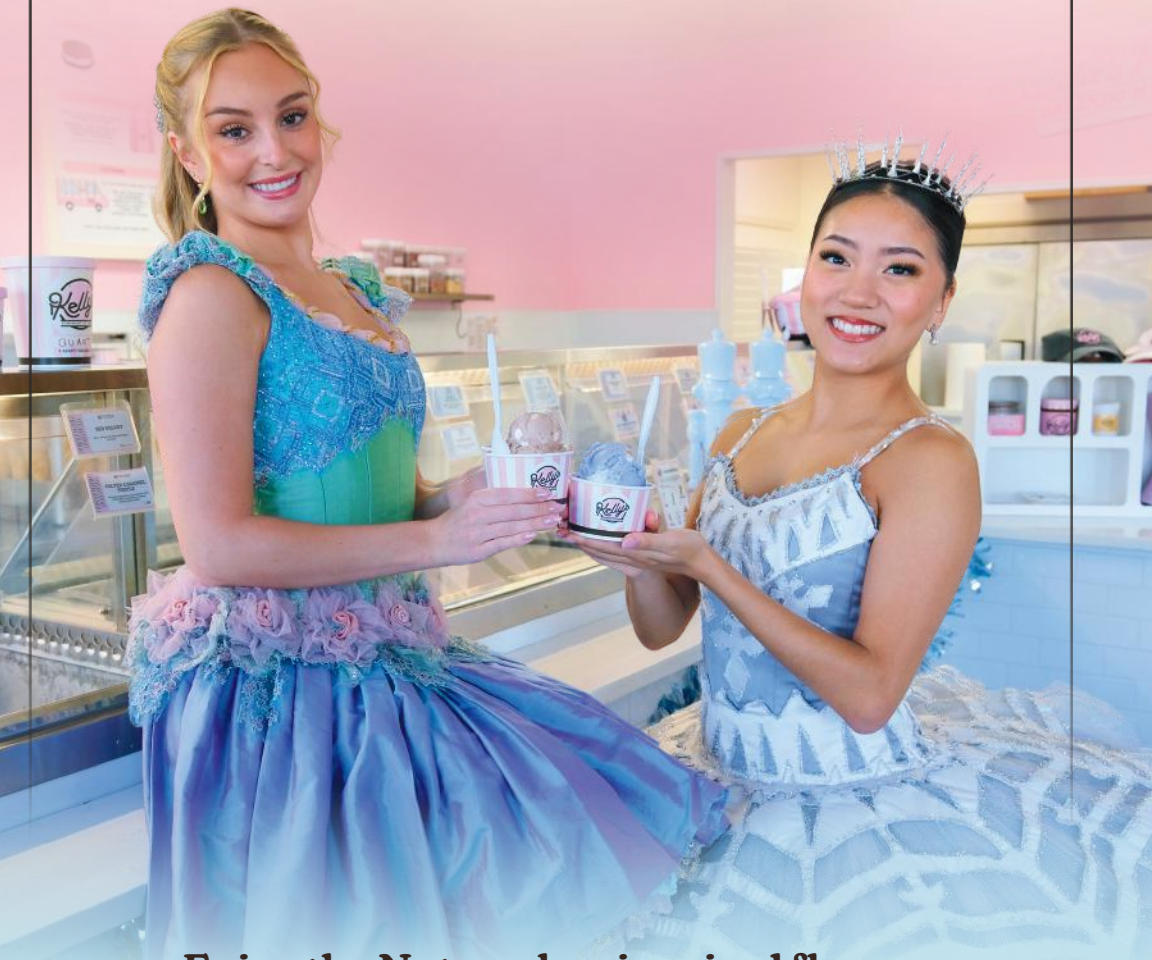
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Enjoy the Nutcracker-inspired flavor, *Snowflake Swirl*, created in collaboration with Orlando Ballet, along with our lineup of December Featured Flavors at Kelly's Scoop Shops now through December 31.

Photo Credit: Kelly's Homemade Ice Cream.
Feat. Orlando Ballet Company Artists Kate Gardinier and Hazuki Kishida

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ORLANDO BALLET

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BROADWAY KNIGHTS
FEBRUARY 6 | 2:30 & 7:30 P.M.

SCHUBERT'S 5TH
FEBRUARY 10 | 7:00 P.M.

LP GIOBBI:
SYMPHONIC HOUSE
FEBRUARY 19 | 8:00 P.M.

MOZART'S "JUPITER"
SYMPHONY NO. 41
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FEBRUARY 28 | 2:30 P.M.

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SUMMER INTENSIVE

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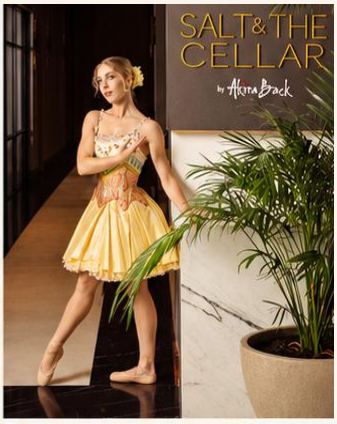
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