



*Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight*

**20<sup>19</sup>/<sub>20</sub>** *Season 63*

fort wayne  
**ballet**

KAREN GIBBONS-BROWN  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



fort wayne  
ballet *Season 63*



**Hello!**

*"Lulled in these flowers with dances and delight"* is a line from Shakespeare's acclaimed *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a comic fantasy about four lovers bewitched by forest fairies and all the elements of love, jealousy, and marriage. Our hope is to "bewitch" you with another dazzling season of dance and delight as we welcome you into **Fort Wayne Ballet's 63rd Season!**

Fort Wayne Ballet is Indiana's preeminent professional ballet company and academy. We are proud to say that our reputation for exceptional classical and contemporary dance training and performances is spreading from northern Indiana through the Midwest, and across nations and oceans. **We've reached a new level of global awareness about the work and accomplishments we're achieving and sharing, and it's the result of our dedicated company, students, parents, and supporters like you. Thank you, all!**

This season's curriculum and centerpieces of dance are designed to lure your imagination and charm your senses. I encourage you to explore and enjoy everything our dancers and faculty have to offer. We have something for everyone — athletic prowess blended with the art and nuances of storytelling!

Whether you dance with your feet or simply in your heart, please join us as we embark on Season 63's adventures in artistry. Dance connects us in so many ways — you'll experience it here, and we're delighted to share the journey with you. Let's continue this conversation about the importance of all arts and how, together, we can connect ourselves with this community and beyond!

*Karen Gibbons - Brown*

Karen Gibbons-Brown  
Artistic Director

# DIVERSIONS

## FORT WAYNE BALLET'S ORIGINAL DIVERSIONS 19

SEPTEMBER 27 & 28, 2019 | 7:30 PM each evening

FRESH, INNOVATIVE WORKS by master choreographers who enjoy playing with possibilities — as presented by **Fort Wayne Ballet's professional company of dancers** who like to defy gravity and physics with this kinetic collection of artistic expressions.

DIVERSIONS 19\* is designed to enlighten and entertain audiences with its diverse styles of dance and short stories without words — the only way to believe is to see!

- Edward Stierle's ***Empyrean Dances***
- ***Dracula***, something with a bit of, um, *bite*

**TICKETS:** [fortwayneballet.org](http://fortwayneballet.org)  
[ARTSTIX.ORG](http://ARTSTIX.ORG) or 260.422.4226

\*Programming subject to change.

NEW!  
COME SEE TO  
BELIEVE



fort wayne  
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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



FORT WAYNE BALLET'S ORIGINAL

# The Nutcracker

**DECEMBER 6 thru 15, 2019**

**ARTS UNITED CENTER MAIN STAGE**

*Holiday treats, entertainment & shopping one hour prior to each performance.*

**PERFORMANCE OPTIONS:**

**December 6 at 7:30 PM\***

**December 7 at 2:30 PM\* and 7:30 PM\***

**December 8 at 2:30 PM**

**December 12 at 7:30 PM**

**December 13 at 7:30 PM**

**December 14 at 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM**

**December 15 at 2:30 PM**

*\* Performances with Fort Wayne Philharmonic*

**TICKETS: [fortwayneballet.org](http://fortwayneballet.org)**

**ARTSTIX.ORG or 260.422.4226**

Sponsored in part by



**FORT WAYNE'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY CLASSIC!** A story of a young girl, a Nutcracker prince, and the evil Mouse King bring the whole family together to experience holiday magic and a fantastic journey through the Kingdom of Sweets. It's more than a family tradition — it's a holiday feast for the eyes and ears!

*Oh-oh! Did someone say*

## Sugar Plum Party!

Join the dancers immediately following each weekend matinée for festive holiday treats and fun photo opportunities! Tickets are just \$8 each and available in advance at [ArtsTix.org](http://ArtsTix.org) or by calling 260.422.4226



**And don't forget MUTTcracker!**

We're proud to partner with Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control to include adorable, adoptable dogs during each performance that will be available to meet during intermission.

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC**

Andrew Constantine, Music Director

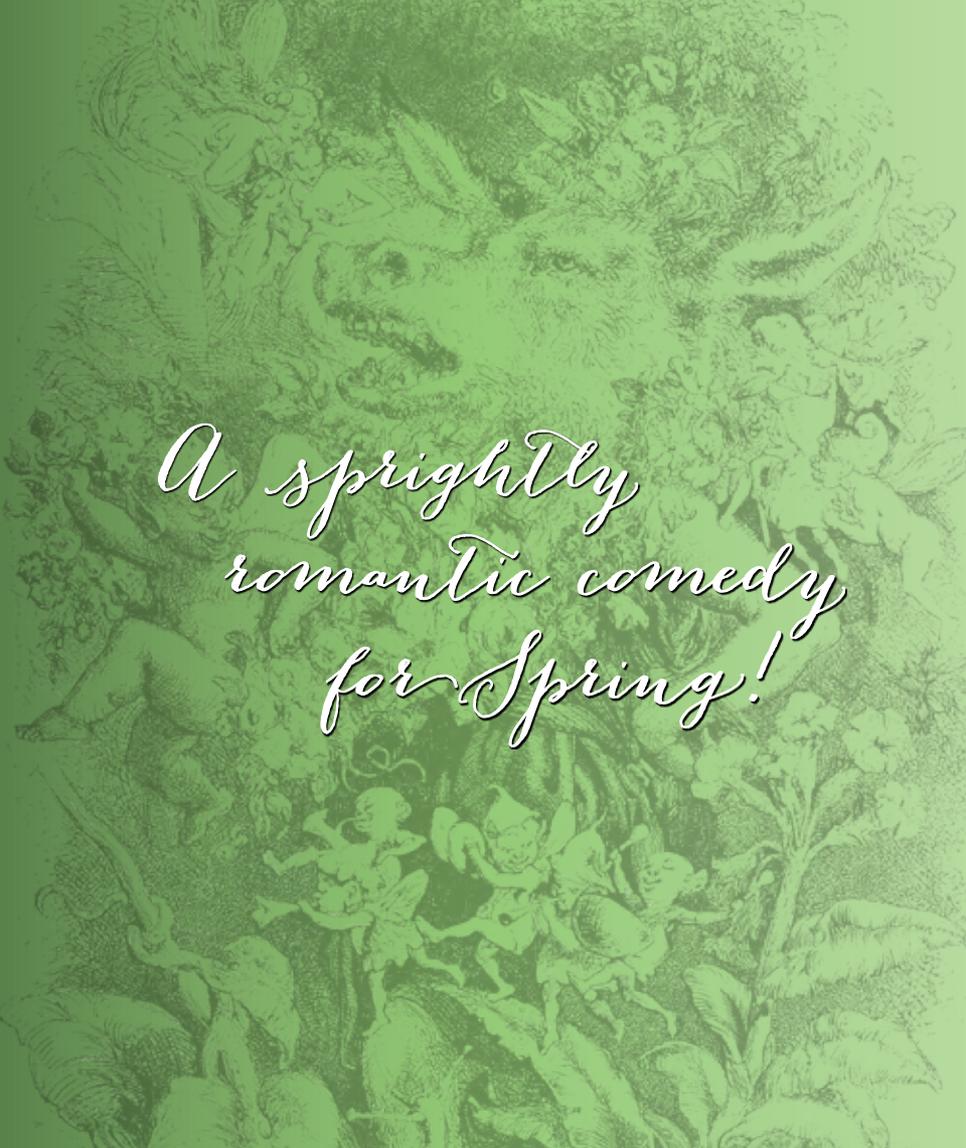
**fort wayne  
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**KAREN GIBBONS-BROWN**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



FORT WAYNE BALLET'S ORIGINAL

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*



*A sprightly  
romantic comedy  
for Spring!*

FOLLOW ALONG THE FOREST PATH INTO THIS WINSOME, DREAMY, AND SLIGHTLY MISCHIEVOUS ROMANTIC COMEDY as Fort Wayne Ballet's professional company enacts and encounters the antics of Shakespeare's energetic *A Midsummer Night's Dream*! Two young couples of hapless humans stumble into a magical realm and become the humor of feuding fairies, whimsical gods, and the oh-so-plucky Puck. Lots of plots including loves and longings, marriages and misconceptions — but is it real? ... or just a silly dream?!

**MARCH 20, 2020 at 7:30 PM**

**MARCH 21, 2020 at 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM**

**MARCH 22, 2020 at 2:30 PM**

*All performances with Fort Wayne Philharmonic*

*Pre-performance food and entertainment starts one hour prior!*

**TICKETS: [fortwayneballet.org](https://fortwayneballet.org)**

**[fwphil.org](https://fwphil.org) or 260.481.0777**

**FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC**

Andrew Constantine, Music Director

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

THE COMPANY of FORT WAYNE BALLET PRESENTS

# Love Notes

FEBRUARY 14 & 15, 2020

PARKVIEW PHYSICIANS GROUP ARTSLAB

| Evening performances at 7:00 PM |

**CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY** with an evening of romance and passion as your Fort Wayne Ballet professional company tells tales of love, new and old, intrepid and intertwined, in this heartfelt performance. Perfect for Date Night . . . or Girls Night Out! Hors d'oeuvre treats and beverage stations available before the performance.

**GENERAL SEATING:** All tickets \$20.

**SPECIAL VIP TABLES FOR TWO** with wine, roses, chocolates and premium stage side seating. \$50 per person for VIP tables.

**Order early! TICKETS:** [fortwayneballet.org](http://fortwayneballet.org)

[ARTSTIX.ORG](http://ARTSTIX.ORG) or 260.422.4226

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FORT WAYNE BALLET'S PROFESSIONAL COMPANY PRESENTS

# Progressions

**MAY 15 & 16, 2020**

FORT WAYNE BALLET **STUDIOS**

**INNOVATIVE. INTERPRETATIVE. INSPIRING.** Fort Wayne Ballet's company shows some leg as they ditch the tutus and shares their true athleticism in works of their own choreography and artistic vision. Audience members can pick-and-choose their performance by selecting from the evening's list of performances and progress from one studio to another. Refreshments available throughout the evening.

**Evening performances at 7:00 PM**

**ALL TICKETS \$20**

FORTWAYNEBALLET.ORG

ARTSTIX.ORG or

260.422.4226

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Also:

**MAY 22, 2020**

7:30 PM | LOCATION TBD



**FORTWAYNEBALLETTOO | FREE PERFORMANCE!**

Invite your friends and enjoy this *dance al fresco* with Fort Wayne Ballet's company in modern movement ...

FORT WAYNE BALLET'S YOUTH COMPANY PRESENTS

# StudioSTORIES

## FABLES, FOLK & FAIRY TALES

SELECT SATURDAY MORNINGS in FORT WAYNE BALLET STUDIOS  
PERFORMANCES AT 10 AM AND 11:30 AM

**FORT WAYNE BALLET'S YOUTH COMPANY PRESENTS THE FAMILY SERIES: FABLES, FOLK & FAIRY TALES**, a delightful series that offers a variety of fun and educational programming for audiences of all ages. These 30-minute performances are a great introduction to ballet for the entire family. All performances held in Fort Wayne Ballet Studios in the Auer Center for Arts & Culture, 300 E Main Street in downtown Fort Wayne.

Meet the dancers and enjoy free activities after each performance!

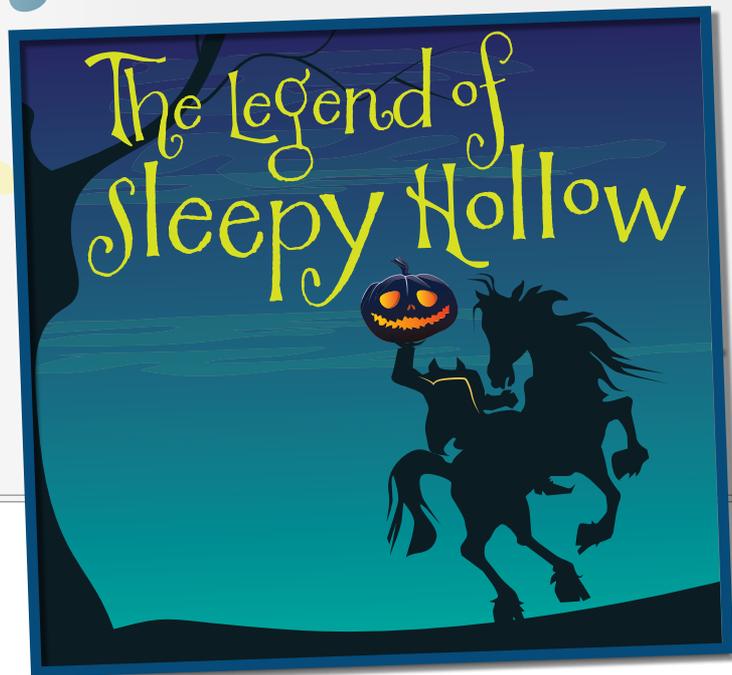
**TICKETS AVAILABLE** at [FORTWAYNEBALLET.ORG](http://FORTWAYNEBALLET.ORG)  
[ARTSTIX.ORG](http://ARTSTIX.ORG) or 260.422.4226

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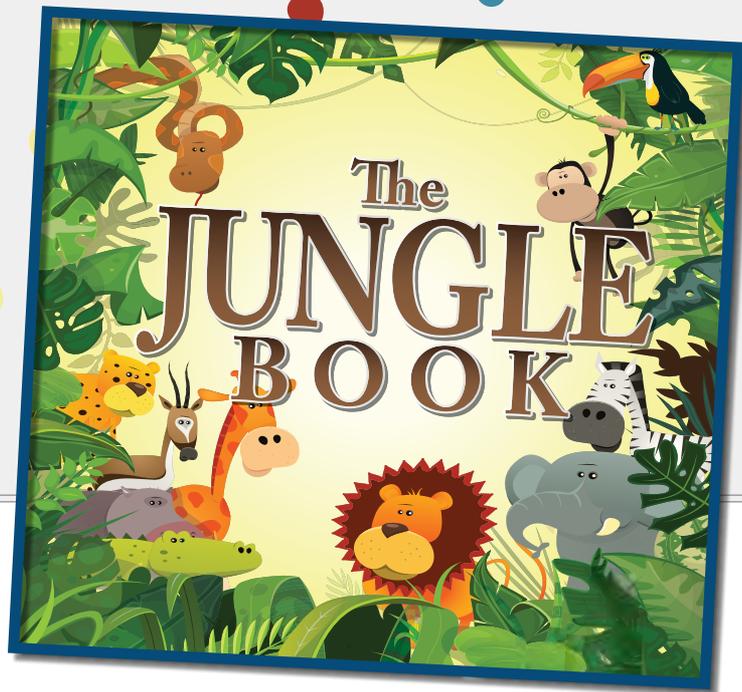
**3 RIVERS**



### The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019 • 10 AM and 11:30 AM  
FORT WAYNE BALLET STUDIOS

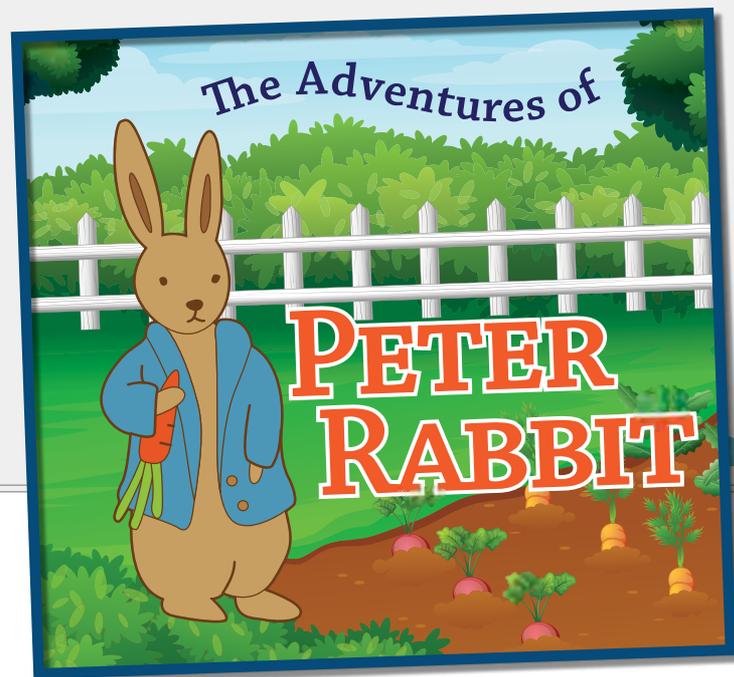
Huddle up for this one, kids, as we share the (only slightly) spooky tale of Ichabod Crane and his frightful evening encounter with the legendary Headless Horseman!



## **The Jungle Book**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020 • 10 AM and 11:30 AM**  
**FORT WAYNE BALLET STUDIOS**

Join Mowgli on his adventures into the jungle where he encounters the cruel tiger, Shere Khan, but is saved by his jungle animal friends and eventually realizes he belongs with his own family.



## **Peter Rabbit**

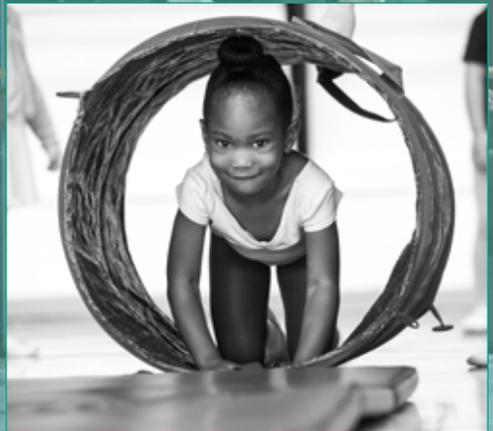
**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020 • 10 AM and 11:30 AM**  
**FORT WAYNE BALLET STUDIOS**

Poor Peter Rabbit! His curiosity and appetite for Mr. McGregor's tasty vegetables will get him in trouble, his mother warns. But Peter doesn't listen and barely escapes, losing his little blue jacket!

AUER ACADEMY of FORT WAYNE BALLET — Building stronger young women & m



fort wayne  
**ballet**  
AUER ACADEMY  
KAREN GIBBONS-BROWN  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



en through the disciplines of dance!



**Auer Academy of Fort Wayne Ballet** students learn and rehearse **the fundamentals of movement, nutrition, care and etiquette** as each component relates to their bodies, spirit, and the art of dance. Under the added guidance of Fort Wayne Ballet's professional company, students are given the opportunity to perform and perfect their abilities regardless of their aspirations. Additionally, Fort Wayne Ballet is actively achieving its **American Ballet Theatre (ABT) Teacher Training Certification**, a national training curriculum that works directly with Fort Wayne Ballet's dance educators to find the most effective approach to working with each student.

#### **FORT WAYNE BALLET TEACHES *THE WHOLE STUDENT*, AGES 3 THROUGH ADULT:**

- **60+ years of dance training** for girls and boys by experienced professional teaching staff.
- **A safe, secure environment** to learn: studios equipped with sprung Marley dance floors for a better dance surface, appropriately sized dance barres for development assistance, and mirrored studio walls to promote proper technique.
- **Live accompaniment** for classes: one of the few remaining dance schools to provide this added element.
- **Low student-teacher ratio** for enhanced, personalized training with an appropriately assertive, progressive, and professional dance curriculum.
- **Performance opportunities:** all students have the opportunity to perform during the end-of-year Academy Showcase. Dancers ages 6 years and up may audition for *The Nutcracker* during auditions held in early September. Dancers may also audition for other performance opportunities as they reach higher levels of ballet technique.

**YOU'RE WELCOME TO VISIT US!** Register online at [fortwayneballet.org](http://fortwayneballet.org) or in person at Fort Wayne Ballet Studios in the Auer Center for Arts & Culture, 300 E Main Street in downtown Fort Wayne. 260.484.9646

*Academy Showcase*

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020**  
ARTS UNITED CENTER MAIN STAGE

**PERFORMANCES AT 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM | TICKETS: [ArtsTix.org](http://ArtsTix.org) or 260.422.4226**

The Auer Academy of Fort Wayne Ballet celebrates the end of Season 63 with a full showcase of students to show off their new skills! An absolutely delightful performance for all ages!



**FORT WAYNE BALLET**  
**CONSERVATORY OF DANCE** *at the* **UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS** | FORT WAYNE, INDIANA



Our educational reach extends through an advanced 4-year or 2-year curriculum in conjunction with the University's standards of higher education and career development. Apply by contacting University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts online at [sf.edu](http://sf.edu) or by calling 260.399.7700, ext 8001.

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UNIVERSITY of  
SAINT FRANCIS™

# Season 63

## LOOK FOR US OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY!

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SPECIAL EVENTS

- Allen County Public Library performances
- Public arts and sporting events
- Fort Wayne Community & area schools
- “Flash Mob” pop-up dances
- Special events
- Local Arts Festivals

Fort Wayne Ballet is pleased to provide Sensory Friendly performances of *The Nutcracker* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in collaboration with AWS Foundation.

### TASTE OF THE ARTS — AUGUST 23 & 24, 2019

An amazing two-days of food and festivities held on the Arts United “Arts Campus” on Main Street in downtown Fort Wayne, including behind-the-scenes tours and insights into the Fort Wayne Ballet studios.

### BEER BARRE-BQ 'n' BOURBON — MAY 2020 [date TBD]

A delicious evening of local barbecue food favorites along with beer and bourbon tastings, silent and live auction festivities — and of course, dancing with your Fort Wayne Ballet's professional company of dancers!

## A C K N O W L E D G M E N T S

We are most grateful for our Season 63 Performance Sponsors and the ongoing support of Auer Academy of Fort Wayne Ballet. Please join us in thanking:



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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

[fortwayneballet.org](http://fortwayneballet.org) • 260.484.9646

We're social! Join the conversation:



PHOTOS BY JEFF CRANE, RAY STEUP, CHRIS TUCKER



20<sup>19</sup>  
20<sup>20</sup>

# Season 63

OPENING NIGHT: SEPTEMBER 27, 2019  
TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

fort wayne  
**ballet**

300 E Main Street  
Fort Wayne IN 46802

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