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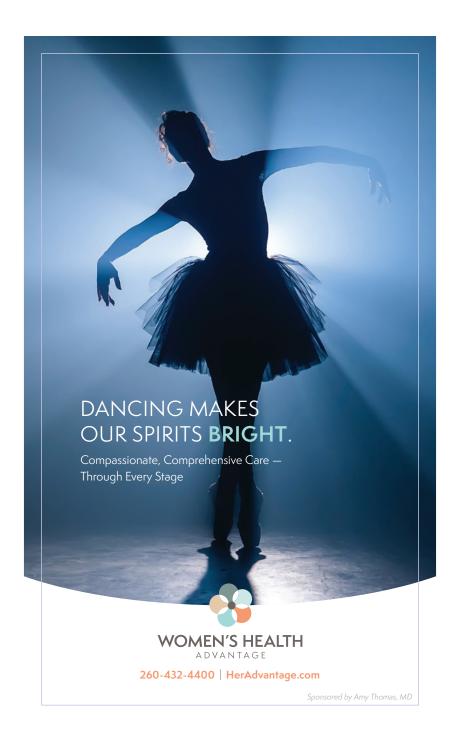
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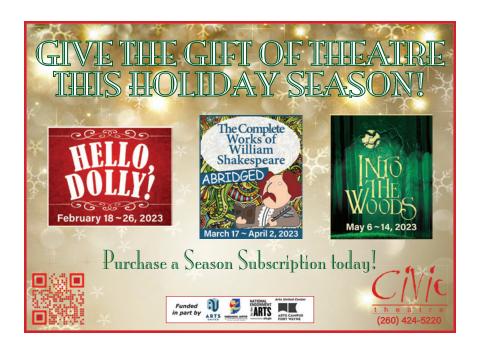
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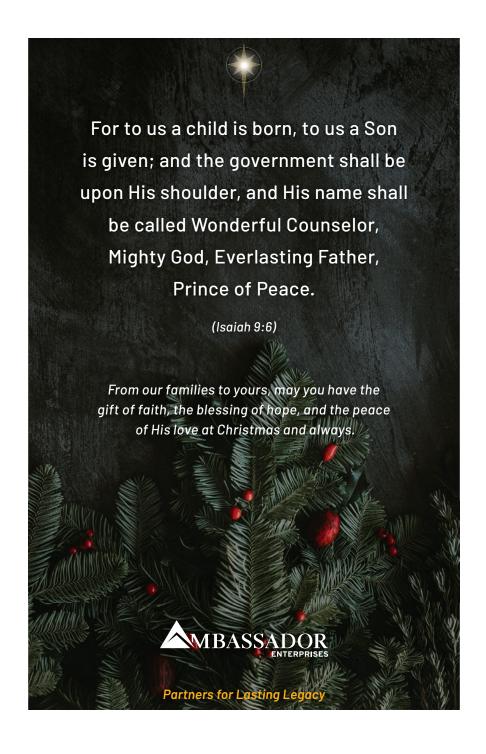


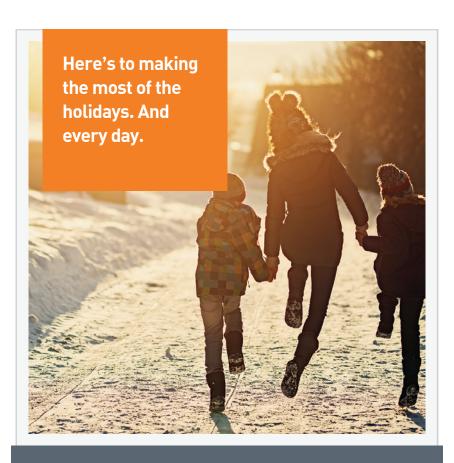


 Lake City Bank is proud to support the inspiring work of the Fort Wayne Ballet.



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Today's a day for family and friends, perfect moments and precious memories. We wish you the most of everything the season offers.

#### **Contact Amanda Kinneman**

Relationship Manager 260-438-9047 amanda.kinneman@pnc.com pnc.com



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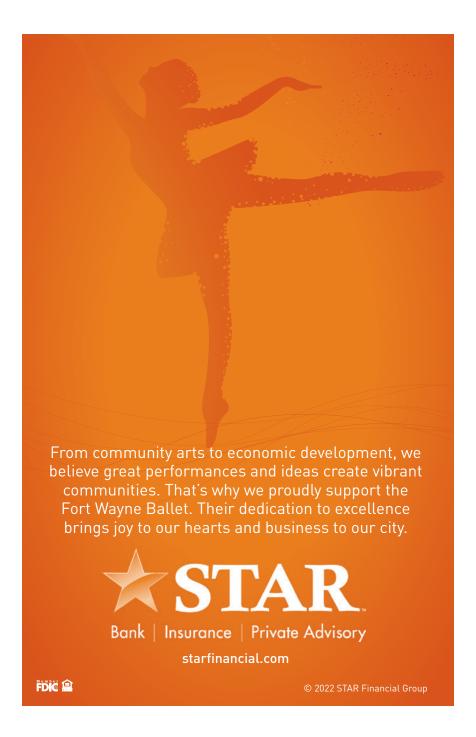


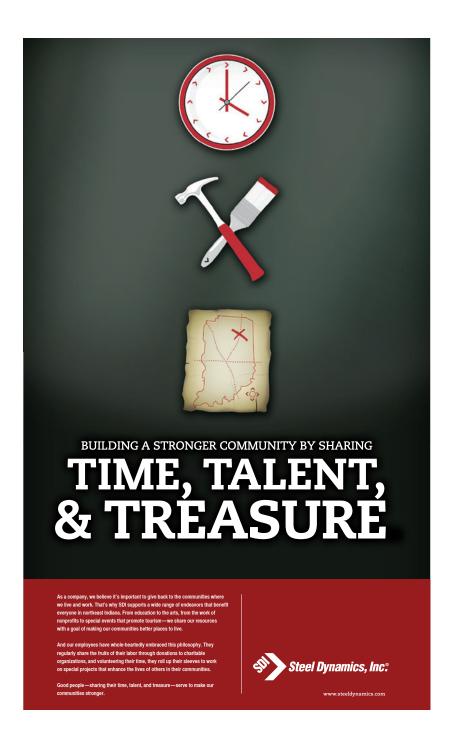
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This season's performances of The Nutcracker are dedicated in loving memory to Joni. Her passion for the Ballet, the Muttcrackers, and life will be deeply missed.





If you'd like more information about adoptable, four-legged family members (complete with cold noses and wiggly butts), please contact our friends at

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**Artistic Director** 

## KAREN GIBBONS-BROWN

Karen Gibbons-Brown's resume contains an impressive list of credentials. She began her early training in Columbia, South Carolina under Ann Brodie, Naomi Calvert and Adolphina Suarez-More. Her early training and performing included ballet as well as modern, jazz, tap and theater dance. She continued her studies at American Ballet Theatre with Maria Swoboda, Michael Lland, Patricia Wilde and Leon Danelian and studied on scholarship at David Howard School of Ballet.

Her professional experiences also include South Carolina Chamber Dance Ensemble, Ballet Celeste, Bristol Ballet and the Theatre Ballet of San Francisco where she recreated Anna Pavlova's roles The California Poppy and The Dragonfly. Other performing highlights include performances at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, the title role in Cinderella, The Sugar Plum Fairy in The Nutcracker, Swanhilda in Coppelia, Aurora in The Sleeping Beauty and "Spring Waters" pas de deux, an exciting display of partnering created by the great Russian choreographer Asaf Messerer. Ms. Gibbons-Brown considers herself fortunate to have had works created especially for her including solos, Pentimento by Jill Eathorne Barr and the role of Anna in Richard Monroe's work, The Hussar. Throughout her career, she has made numerous guest appearances throughout the United States.

Ms. Gibbons-Brown is known for her work in the classroom and enjoys teaching a variety of dance related subjects including ballet, pointe, repertoire, terminology, dance history, pedagogue and makeup and hair for stage as well as restaging major classical works. She has often been invited to teach guest classes and workshops including in Sicily, Italy, Fontenay le Fleury, France and the prestigious Joffrey San Antonio Workshop under the directorship of her mentor Jeremy Blanton. She received her certification in Labanotation while serving on the faculty of Virginia Intermont College under the direction of Constance Hardinge and served as Ballet Mistress for John McFall as he created his production of The Nutcracker for Atlanta Ballet. In 1985, Ms. Gibbons-Brown founded the Kingsport Guild of Ballet and became Artistic Director of the State of Franklin Dance Alliance at its inception in 1988. Other dance administrative duties include serving on the Tennessee Association Board of Directors in many capacities including as president and serving on the Performing Arts Panel for the Tennessee Arts Commission. She assumed directorship of Fort Wayne Ballet in August of 1998. Other career highlights include Outstanding Dance Artist Award in 1997, serving as a juror for Concours International de Danse Classique in Paris, France in 2000, a 2002 graduate of Leadership Fort Wayne and being listed in Who's Who in the 21st Century. In 2010, a new book authored by renowned choreographer Dean Speer, entitled On Technique, identifies Ms. Gibbons-Brown as among the world's 18 most respected ballet masters, pedagogues and artistic directors. Her other full time job is spending time with her husband, Jim, and a sundry of dogs.

## AS A MATTER OF FACT...

It's a safe assumption that many of you have "grown up" watching The Nutcracker as part of your holiday traditions. We're delighted to be a part of that for so many families for so many years — it's part of our tradition, too! Dancers dream of playing the various roles, dressing in the sumptuous costumes, and sharing the beloved story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince. It's truly iconic and magical.

But allow me share a few fascinating, behind-the-scenes facts with you about this beloved tale and the performance you're watching —

- When The Nutcracker was first produced in Russia, it was a failure. Tchaikovsky, who died at age 53, never lived to see its worldwide appeal and success.
- Traditionally, a Nutcracker is a symbol of luck and good will, and according to legend, Nutcrackers are very protective of the household in which they live.
- Fort Wayne Ballet's performance of The Nutcracker includes 140 members per cast and we operate with three casts with several cross-over or double-cast roles.
- Each performance requires 6 to 8 support staff or volunteers for each dancer on stage.
- Collectively, there are more than 500 rehearsal hours each year for The Nutcracker alone.

Season SIXTY-6 is in full swing! Our spring season begins with a sumptuous treat for Valentine's Day with performances of Love Notes. March brings back the Fort Wayne Philharmonic for Tchaikovsky's romantic tragedy, Swan Lake, and in May, we are honored to share the contemporary works of Edward Steirle with Dancer's Legacy: An Evening of Stierle. Check our website and social media for details to come. OUR FAMILY SERIES also has two additional performances in the spring: Peter Pan on February 25th and Carnival of the Animals on April 29th. So much to see and enjoy! Finally, a note of gratitude to every one of our patrons, parents, dancers, and instructors. Collectively, we will continue to engage and empower others to know the importance of the arts. Thank you for joining us on this journey!

Karen Gibbons-Brown

faren Abbons - Brown

Artistic Director

Fort Wayne Ballet

## THE STORY OF THE NUTCRACKER

It is Christmas Eve at the estate of Herr and Frau Von Stahlbaum. Their two children, Clara and Fritz, are eagerly anticipating the traditional holiday party that is about to begin. As the curtain opens, relatives and quests make their way through the wintery evening toward the Von Stahlbaum mansion.

Preparing to put in a surprise appearance at the party is an old family friend, Uncle Drosselmeyer. Herr Drosselmeyer is an inventor of magical toys, and it is his intention to entertain the guests at the Von Stahlbaum party.

When Herr Drosselmeyer arrives at the party with his nephew, Christian Drosselmeyer, the guests are delighted with the surprises and gifts he has brought. After the traditional Christmas promenade, Herr Drosselmeyer presents a special gift to Clara — a magical Nutcracker. Fritz and his friends tease Clara and the other girls, and in the process Fritz seizes the toy from Clara and breaks it. Clara is in tears as Herr Drosselmeyer mends the Nutcracker, then gently puts him back in Clara's arms. Clara and Fritz are taken to bed as the guests leave.

Later that evening, long after the party is over, Clara quietly tiptoes back to the parlor to find her beloved Nutcracker. Cradling it in her arms, she falls asleep in a chair and begins to dream that tiny frightening mice have come to steal the Christmas presents. As the clock strikes midnight, more mice appear and snatch the Nutcracker from Clara's arms. Herr Drosselmeyer intervenes and the magical journey begins.

The Nutcracker comes to life and calls together an army of toy soldiers to protect Clara from the nasty mice. Together, they battle the mice, now joined by their Queen Mouserink. As Clara watches in horror, she sees that the mice are winning and bravely strikes the Queen with her own shoe.

The Queen falls dead and the mice carry her away as Clara is left in tears with the collapsed Nutcracker. Herr Drosselmeyer reappears and makes the lifeless hero magically arise as a charming Prince. The courage of young Clara has delivered him from an evil spell that had imprisoned him in the misshapen form of a Nutcracker.

The Prince thanks Clara for saving his life and leads her outside. A wintery landscape greets the two voyagers as the Snow Queen welcomes Clara and the Nutcracker Prince. Showered by swirling snow, Clara and her Prince are sent along to the enchanting Kingdom of Sweets.

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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#### DECEMBER 2-11, 2022 | ARTS UNITED CENTER

Music - Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Staging & Choreography - Karen Gibbons-Brown Additional Choreography & Rehearsers - Raleigh Sparrow, Tracy Tritz

> Costume Design - Nan Possemato Costume Execution - Nan Possemato, Duncan Smith Lighting Design - Jeremy Springer Production Managers - Christina Brinker, Luke Holliger

Sets Design & Execution - Adam Fletcher, Elizabeth Sandmaier, Jonathon Sandmaier

Master Tree Design - Troy Trinkle Set Redesign & Tree Sponsored by - McMillen Foundation Adoptable pets provided by Humane Fort Wayne | Humane

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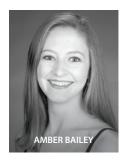












Amber began dancing in Traverse City, Michigan and continued her training at the University of Oklahoma. She graduated in 2018 with a BFA in Dance and BA in Mathematics. Amber is entering her fifth season with Fort Wayne Ballet where she has had the opportunity to perform principal roles in The Sleeping Beauty (Aurora), The Nutcracker (Sugar Plum Fairy), A Midsummer's Night's Dream (Helena), Dracula (Lucy) and The Phantom of the Opera (Christine). Amber has also been featured in works by Val Caniparoli, Gerald Arpino, Robert Joffrey and Edward Stierle. She's performed abroad in Taizhou, China with Fort Wayne Ballet and in Barcelona, Spain with Centre de Dansa de Catalunya. Her choreography has been performed at both the University of Oklahoma and Fort Wayne Ballet. She's a fully certified, ABT® Affiliate Instructor and enjoys sharing her passion with growing artists. Amber looks forward to another season with Fort Wayne Ballet.



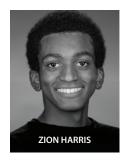
Alan is from Cancun, Mexico. He began his training at Talulah Centro Integral de Danza and attended Point Park University's International Summer Dance. He since has attended Escuela Superior de Música y Danza de Monterrey and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Classical Dance. At Escuela Superior de Música de Danza de Monterrey (ESMDM) he has performed feature roles in The Nutcracker, Giselle, La Bayadere and Sleeping Beauty as well as original works by Diego Landín and Louis Stains. He was a guest artist with Quenedit Dance Theater several times. While at ESMDM, he participated in the Monterrey International Ballet Gala and Workshop, Concurso Internacional de Ballet La Superior and Youth America Grand Prix Mexico. Alan is excited to be joining Fort Wayne Ballet for his first season.



Originally from Richmond, Virginia, David Claypoole started dancing at the age of 9, training at The School of Richmond Ballet and attending summer programs with Joffrey Ballet New York, Gelsey Kirkland Academy of Classical Ballet, and Richmond Ballet. David earned his college degree in Dance and Performance through Virginia Commonwealth University dual program with The Richmond Ballet trainee program. He spent two years performing in Richmond Ballet's second company dancing ballets such as Malcom Burn's Romeo and Juliet and Swipe by Val Canaperoli. David has danced numerous roles with Fort Wayne Ballet including Dracula in Fort Wayne Ballet's original Dracula, Demetrius in A Midsummer Night's Dream, and leading roles in Pas de Deesses, Light Rain, Edward Stierle's Empyrean Dances, and Cinderella. He has worked with guest choreographers including Cameron Basden, Jeremy Blanton, Kim Sagami, and Adam Sklute. David is excited to be performing in his sixth season.



Originally from Memphis, Tennessee, Tatum trained at the Ballet Memphis School under Janet Parke. Tatum continued her training at Butler University, receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Performance, and graduating cum laude with departmental honors. While at Butler, Tatum performed notable roles in The Nutcracker, Paquita, La Vivandiere, Sleeping Beauty, and Paul Taylor's Piazzolla Caldera. Tatum joined Fort Wayne Ballet in 2019, and since has enjoyed the opportunity to perform in Gerald Arpino's Italian Suite, Edward Stierle's Empyrean Dances, Tracy Tritz's Finding Meaning, Weird Sister in Dracula, and the "Pas de Trois" from Swan Lake. Tatum is eager to be dancing with Fort Wayne Ballet for a third Season



Zion is from Boston, Massachusetts, and began his dance training at the age of 4 at the Walnut Hill Dance Academy. He continued training at the Boston Ballet School when he turned 11 and the next year from was accepted into their Pre-Professional program where he spent seven years, including two as a trainee. In 2018 Zion joined Richmond Ballet's second company under the direction of Stoner Winslett and Igor Antonov. While there he performed in Cinderella, Salvatore Aiello's Senza Fretta, and Ron Cunningham's Summerset, among others. In 2019 Zion joined First State Ballet Theatre in Wilmington, Delaware. During his time there he danced in Plotnikov's Dracula, Carnival in Venice, and others. The next year he joined Fort Wayne Ballet and danced in Tracy Tritz's Dracula, "Russian" in The Nutcracker, and Swan Lake's "Pas de Trois". Zion is looking forward to his second season with Fort Wayne Ballet.



Jessica began her ballet training in her hometown of Birmingham, Michigan. She then studied as a trainee at The Joffrey Ballet in Chicago and performed in Coppélia, Paquita, Swan Lake, and Gerald Arpino's Viva Vivaldi. She performed with the company in Jerome Robbins' Glass Pieces and Balanchine's The Four Temperaments. Since joining Fort Wayne Ballet, Jessica has performed in a variety of works including Gerald Arpino's Italian Suite, Tracy Tritz's Adagio for Strings, Tarantella, Little Swans, as Snow Queen in The Nutcracker, and as Little Red in The Sleeping Beauty. Jessica is excited and grateful to start another season with Fort Wayne Ballet.



Originally from Springville, lowa, Babette started dancing at age 3. After high school she joined BalletMet as a trainee, studying under Edwaard Liang and Timothy Lynch. She then joined Oklahoma City Ballet as a trainee, performing in Robert Mills' Sleeping Beauty. In 2017, Babette joined Fort Wayne Ballet and has performed roles such as the Stepmother in Cinderella, works from Gerald Arpino including Light Rain and Italian Suites, Dew Drop from the Nutcracker, Little Swans from Swan Lake, and several pieces from Tracy Tritz including Bolero and the Weird Sisters in Dracula. Babette is looking forward to her fifth season with Fort Wayne Ballet.



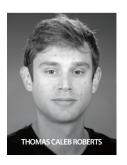
Izumi was born in Yamanashi, Japan, and started ballet at Miwa's Ballet school. She later studied on full scholarship at ABS (Austrian Ballet School). Izumi received First Place Award at the 41st Saitama Prefecture Dance Association National Contest in 2008. Concurrent with her graduation from the Austrian Ballet School, Izumi was promoted to ABC Tokyo Ballet Company as a Soloist Dancer in 2013. Izumi also danced with Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida before joining Fort Wayne Ballet.



Saki grew up in Osaka, Japan, where she studied ballet at Yamamoto Sanae Ballet School. At 15, she moved to the United States, where she trained at the Academy of Ballet NJ under the direction of David Gallagher. She continued her training at UNCSA under the direction of Susan Jaffe and graduated with a BFA in Dance. Since joining Fort Wayne Ballet, Saki's danced featured roles including Confetti by Gerald Arpino, Empyrean Dances by Edward Stierle and Pas de Deesses by Robert Joffrey. Her classical repertoire includes Coppelia (Swanhilda), Cinderella (Cinderella), and Swan Lake (Black Swan). She had the opportunity to tour to Taizhou, China (2018), and to Erie, Pennsylvania as Sugar Plum (2019). As a choreographer, she's created original works for Fort Wayne Ballet, including Main Stage production, Diversions 2020. Saki has been recognized by the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) as an Artist of Extraordinary Ability.



Keisuke was born in Hyogo, Japan. He began his training at the Seiko Kuramoto Ballet School. In 2013, Keisuke received First Place Award at the Osaka Prix Competition and a scholarship from the Vaganova Ballet Academy. Keisuke studied at Vaganova Ballet Academy for two years. In 2015, he was awarded with a First Place at the Japan Grand Prix. Keisuke danced with the Gelsey Kirkland Ballet Company and Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida before joining Fort Wayne Ballet.



Thomas Caleb Roberts began his pre-professional dance training at the Center for Dance Education under the direction of Mimi Worrell. He graduated from the SC Governor's School for the Arts under the tutelage of Stanislav Issaev and attended North Carolina School for the Arts, studying with Ethan Stiefel. Thomas has attended summer programs with ABT, Boston Ballet, South Carolina Summer Dance Conservatory and North Carolina School of the Arts to name a few. His professional career began with Boston Ballet as a trainee, continued with Cincinnati Ballet as a corps de ballet member and later with Columbia City Ballet as a demi-soloist. He has been a frequent guest artist with various regional companies including Carolina Ballet. Thomas joined Fort Wayne Ballet two season ago and has enjoyed performing in pas de deux's of Black Swan, Don Quixote, The Sleeping Beauty, Giselle romeo and Juliet and Spartacus. Thomas looks forward to his third season with the company.



From Fort Wayne, Indiana, Talbot started dancing at the age of nine with a local dance school. He then studied in the Auer Academy of Fort Wayne Ballet for seven years. His training at summer intensives includes Fort Wayne Ballet, Next Generation Ballet, Chautauqua Ballet Program, Richmond Ballet, and Nashville Ballet. After serving as a trainee at Richmond Ballet, he was a company dancer at First State Ballet Theater in Delaware. He then moved to Nashville Ballet to dance with their Second Company. He is excited to be back for his third season at Fort Wayne Ballet.



Carmie Schiano Nelson began her early dance training in New York City. At the age of 12, she was accepted to Kirov Academy of Ballet in Washington, D.C. and attended the year-round boarding school. After graduating high school early, she continued her training with Boston Ballet. She has attended summer programs at ABT, Ballet Austin, Boston Ballet, Nashville Ballet, among others, all on scholarship. Carmie has danced professionally with Festival Ballet Providence, Richmond Ballet, American Contemporary Ballet as a soloist and with Columbia City Ballet for 10 seasons. During her time at Columbia City Ballet, she has performed numerous different notable roles in both classical and contemporary works and prior to leaving, was promoted to demi-soloist. With Fort Wayne Ballet, her most memorable performance opportunities have been performing Juliet in Romeo and Juliet's Bedroom Pas de Deux, Spartacus Pas de Deux, and Esmerelda Pas de Deux. Carmie looks forward to her third season at Fort Wayne Ballet and continuing to explore the city.



Born in Louisville, KY, Maddie moved to Indiana and began her ballet training at age 3. She grew up through the Auer Academy of Fort Wayne Ballet under the direction of Karen Gibbons-Brown, Eleanora Pokhitonova-Hartung, and Tracy Tritz. She attended summer programs including American Ballet Theatre NYC, Ballet West, and Kaatsbaan Extreme Ballet where she worked closely with former American Ballet Theatre dancers Stella Abrera and Martine Van Hamel. After graduating high school, she joined the Studio Company at Texas Ballet Theater. Maddie is an ABT® Certified Teacher through the ABT® National Training Curriculum and is certified to teach levels Pre-Primary through Level 5. Since coming back to Fort Wayne Ballet, she has enjoyed dancing in numerous productions such as The Nutcracker, The Sleeping Beauty, Gerald Arpino's Birthday Variations, and Agnes DeMille's Three Virgins and A Devil. Maddie is thrilled to begin her third season with the company.



Born in Florham Park, New Jersey, Leah began her dance training at the New Jersey School of Ballet before going on to study at the Gelsey Kirkland Academy and the French Academie of Ballet. In 2019, she graduated from Butler University with honors with a BFA in dance performance and a secondary major in economics. She is also an ABT® Certified Teacher and has completed the ABT® Teacher Training Intensive in Pre-Primary through Level 3. This year, she is very excited for her fourth season with Fort Wayne Ballet, as well as her third season teaching for the Auer Academy!



Abby began training at the School of Richmond Ballet in 2006, working with Stoner Winslett, Judy Jacob, and Malcolm Burn. After graduating from high school in 2016 she was accepted into Nashville Ballet's Trainee program. There she had the opportunity to work with Paul Vasterling, Nick Mullikin, and Kathryn Crews Linsley, and performed in such works as La Bayadère, Swan Lake, Paquita, and The Nutcracker, along with original contemporary works. Abby joined Fort Wayne Ballet in 2019 as a corps de ballet member. She's performed in Eddie Stierle's Empyrean Dances, the Bluebird Pas de Deux from The Sleeping Beauty, Spring Waters, and Clara in Fort Wayne Ballet's The Nutcracker. Abby is very excited to start her third season with Fort Wayne Ballet – first as a company member!



**Back Row, Left to Right -** Seth Mostofsky, Katie Brown, Maia Culbreath, Erin Jenkins, Brittany Focht, Payton Wilson, Rachel Aron, Carrington Martin, Avalou Burns

**Front Row, Left to Right** - Alexandra Veronese-Milin, Christyna Schuppe, Sadie Jones, Anna Hess, Sandra Imbriaco, Katherine Cackovic, Amy Whittemore, Abby Storer



**Top Row, Left to Right** - Samantha Dunham, Megan Castellano, Teagan Bentley **Middle Row, Left to Right** - Allen Sizemore, Tekhylon Armour, Rudolph Davis **Front** - Ayla King



**Top Row, Left to Right** - Olivia Myers, Alexis Andrews, Sophia Francke, Gigi McDowell **Front Row, Left to Right** - Trinity Koch, Stella Falconer, Grace Gephart **Not Pictured** - Tabitha Wolf



**Top Row, Left to Right -** Rocco O'Reilly, Leah Thomas, Harper Kurzen, Olivia Johnson, Rhiana Pelance, Devlin Affolder-Walker

Third Row, Left to Right - Elizabeth Bose, Zadie Bell, Sophia Whetstone, Wednesday Carrier, Isabel Hoffer

Second Row, Left to Right - Ryla Jackson, Nayomie Marret, Isabelle Johnson, Jossalyn Sherman, Jillian Knowles

Front Row, Left to Right - Elizabeth Grable, Adelyn Doxsee, Lauren Thomas, Katherine Potter

Not Pictured - Bianca Parra, Allison Todd



Herr Drosselmeyer - Jim Schmidt

Frau Von Stahlbaum - Jessica Humphrey\*, Maia Culbreath^

Herr Von Stahlbaum - Kent Bixler

Clara - Abby Zinsser\*, Sadie Jones^

Fritz - Devlin Affolder-Walker

Christian Drosselmever - Talbot Rue\*, Zion Harris^

Party Ladies - Savannah Norwood\*, Babette Hunter\*, Maia Culbreath\*, Brittany Focht\*, Raleigh Sparrow, Ayla King^, Carmie Schiano Nelson^, Jessica Humphrey^, Anna Hess^

Party Men - Rudolph Davis, Seth Mostofsky, Zion Harris\*, Alan Barragan Campos, Tekhylon Armour^

**Grandfather - RJ Benninghof** 

Grandmother - Jackie Coburn\*, Marita O'Neil Maloley^

Party Girls - Gabriella Stroh\*, Isabelle Johnson^, Bianca Parra\*, Katherine Potter^, Jossalyn Sherman\*, Jillian Knowles^, Isabel Hoffer\*, Lauren Thomas^

Party Boys - Oliver Scott\*, Miles Boon^, Evan Naish, Matias Parra, Rowan Morrison

Party Guests - Beth Perkins, Patricia Reeves

Maids - Adella-Mae Huffer\*, Katie Brown^, Avalou Burns\*, Payton Wilson^

Butler - Allen Sizemore\*, Talbot Rue^

#### **Puppets**

Sugar Plum Fairy Puppet - Olivia Latham^, Polly Ahrens\*
Nutcracker Puppet - Kaitlynn O'Connell
Queen Mouserink Puppet - Rebecca Fletcher^, Charlotte Campbell\*
Sugar Plum Fairy Doll - Amber Bailey, Izumi Masaki, Saki Morimoto
Soldier Doll - David Claypoole, Keisuke Nishikawa, Thomas Caleb Roberts

(Special Guest appearance from Gigi's Playhouse December 6th, AWS performance)

<sup>\*</sup> December 2nd (7:30pm), December 3rd (2:00pm), December 6th (6:30pm), December 10th (7:30pm), December 11th (2:00pm)



Nutcracker Prince - Talbot Rue\*, Zion Harris^

Queen Mouserink - Rachel Aron\*, Babette Hunter^

Baby Mice - Willow Latham^, Kennedy Benzinger\*, Rebecca Fletcher^, Charlotte Campbell\*

**Big Mice** - Rudolph Davis, Seth Mostofsky, Tekhylon Armour, Allen Sizemore, Ayla King\*, Samantha Dunham\*, Gigi McDowell\*, Carrington Martin\*, Amy Whittemore^, Hitomi Shiraishi^, Alexandra Veronese-Milin^, Christyna Schuppe^

**Mouse King Sentry -** David Claypoole\*, Alan Barragan Campos\*, Thomas Caleb Roberts^,
Talbot Rue^

Little Soldiers - Caitlin Hall^, Emily Wennemar\*, Kaitlynn O'Connell

Soldier Captain - Keisuke Nishikawa

Soldier Brigade - Leo Walker, Elizabeth Bose\*, Trinity Armour-Kelsaw, Katie Carr, Allison Todd, Rocco O'Reilly, Harper Kurzen, Joanna Evanich\*, Isabel Hoffer^, Isabel Carrillo, Olivia Johnson, Trinity Koch\*, Rhiana Pelance, Sophia Tarlo^, Sophia Whetstone, Abby Storer^, Wednesday Carrier, Leah Thomas, Zadie Bell

# THE LAND OF SNOW

Snow Queen - Carmie Schiano Nelson\*, Maddie Opacinch^

Snow Cavalier - Zion Harris\*, Alan Barragan Campos^

Snow Crystals - Katherine Cackovic\*, Sandra Imbriaco\*, Avalou Burns^, Leah Wolfe^

Snowflakes - Olivia Myers\*, Teagan Bentley, Anna Hess\*, Stella Falconer, Tabitha Wolf\*, Grace Gephart, Hitomi Shiraishi\*, Abby Storer^, Alexis Andrews^, Samantha Dunham^, Sophia Francke^, Ayla King^, Trinity Koch^

#### INTERMISSION

^ December 3rd (7:30pm), December 4th (2:00pm), December 8th (7:30pm), December 9th (7:30pm), December 10th (2:00pm)



## THE KINGDOM OF SWEETS

As Act II begins, 12 beautiful Angels, along with the Blossoms and Sugar Plum Fairy Attendants, guide Clara's voyage to Konfiturenburg, the Kingdom of Sweets. She is welcomed by the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. The Nutcracker Prince relates the story of the battle and of Clara's bravery. Clara is crowned and a ceremony is performed to honor her for saving the Nutcracker Prince, featuring dances from several lands: Spain, Arabia, China, Russia and France. Then the enchanted Flowers perform a beautiful swirling waltz. After the Grand Pas de Deux by the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier, a joyous Finale is performed by all inhabitants of the Kingdom of Sweets. As Clara's dream begins to fade, her mother returns and gently guides the sleeping Clara back to her bed. The magic of this Christmas Eve will always remain with Clara, just as the magic of The Nutcracker continues to touch the ageless heart.

Sugar Plum Fairy - Amber Bailey, Izumi Masaki, Saki Morimoto

Sugar Plum Cavalier - David Claypoole, Thomas Caleb Roberts, Keisuke Nishikawa

**Unicorns** - Olivia Johnson\*, Erin Jenkins, Sophia Francke\*, Maia Culbreath\*, Brittany Focht^,
Savannah Norwood^, Tabitha Wolf^

Pages - Claire Falk^, Ivy Millspaw^, Virginia Cutter\*, Polly Ahrens\*

Sugar Plum Attendants - Harper Kurzen^, Grace Gephart\*, Olivia Johnson^, Leah Thomas\*

Sugar Plum Cavalier Attendant - Leo Walker, Rocco O'Reilly

Blossoms - Amelia Leitch\*, Clara Boon^, Allyson Sherman, Lily Mahoney\*, Annaliese McIntyre^, Evelyn Scott\*, Ava Kimmel^

Angels - Elizabeth Grable, Ryla Jackson, Adelyn Doxsee, Elizabeth Bose, Gabrielle Hire^, Natasha Cartwright^, Wednesday Carrier\*, Claire Mendenhall\*, Bridget McCarter^, Emory Majors\*, Trinity Armour-Kelsaw, Wren Kurzen, Zadie Bell, Jane Dohl, Leah Thomas^, Harper Kurzen\*

Spanish Chocolate (Female) - Avalou Burns\*, Babette Hunter^

Spanish Chocolate (Male) - Allen Sizemore\*, Tekhylon Armour^

Arabian Coffee Princess - Carmie Schiano Nelson^, Izumi Masaki\*

Arabian Coffee Prince - Thomas Caleb Roberts^, Alan Barragan Campos\*

Parrots - Hailey Perry^, Fiona Cutter\*, Abigail Bose^, Genevieve Underwood, Mary Jandorf\*,
Violet Harris

<sup>\*</sup> December 2nd (7:30pm), December 3rd (2:00pm), December 6th (6:30pm), December 10th (7:30pm), December 11th (2:00pm)



Chinese Tea - Tatum Farlow\*, Sadie Jones\*, Jessica Humphrey^, Abby Zinsser^

Chinese Dragon - Ayla King\*, Savannah Norwood, Sophia Tarlo\*, Alexis Andrews\*, Trinity Koch,
Katie Carr, Abby Storer\*, Christyna Schuppe, Samantha Dunham, Teagan Bentley, Hitomi Shiraishi^,
Joanna Evanich^, Olivia Myers^, Anna Hess^

**Trepak Candy Swirls** - Keisuke Nishikawa, Talbot Rue, Zion Harris, David Claypoole,
Alan Barragan Campos

**Trepak Corps** - Joanna Evanich\*, Olivia Myers\*, Isabel Carrillo, Hitomi Shiraishi\*, Sophia Tarlo^,
Payton Wilson^, Alexis Andrews^

Marzipan Shepherdess - Leah Wolfe\*, Maddie Opacinch\*, Payton Wilson\*, Katie Brown, Rachel
Aron^, Avalou Burns^, Brittany Focht^

**Sheep** - Allison Todd\*, Rhiana Pelance^, Katherine Potter\*, Lauren Thomas^, Stella Falconer\*, Bianca Parra^, Jillian Knowles

Mother Ginger - Raleigh Sparrow^, Maria Victoria\*

**BonBons -** Matias Parra, Sophia Whetstone, Gabriella Stroh, Lauren Thomas\*, Bianca Parra\*, Katherine Potter^, Isabel Hoffer, Jossalyn Sherman^, Isabelle Johnson^, Rhiana Pelance\*, Elizabeth Grable

Dew Drop - Amber Bailey\*, Saki Morimoto^

Flower Demi Soloist - Jessica Humphrey\*, Maia Culbreath\*, Tatum Farlow^, Carrington Martin^

Flowers - Gigi McDowell, Sadie Jones\*, Brittany Focht\*, Erin Jenkins, Alexandra Veronese-Milin, Carrington Martin\*, Amy Whittemore, Katherine Cackovic, Maia Culbreath^, Sandra Imbriaco^,
Abby Zinsser^,

#### FIN

^ December 3rd (7:30pm), December 4th (2:00pm), December 8th (7:30pm), December 9th (7:30pm), December 10th (2:00pm)



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CHOREOGRAPHER,
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RESIDENT MASTER TEACHER

VIEW EACH PROFILE AT FORTWAYNEBALLET.ORG/STAFF



#### **PRODUCTION CREDITS**

**Production Managers** Christina Brinker, Luke Holliger

Master Technician
Stage Manager
Lighting Design
Fly Master
Costume Designer
Luke Holliger
Luke Holliger
Luke Holliger
Luke Holliger
Ryan Myers
Ryan Myers
Nan Possemato

Costume Shop Supervisor
Costume Shop Assistant
Duncan Smith

Costume Shop Volunteers Anna Hess, Pam Laux, Christyna Schuppe,

Kate Hargens

Pink Poodle Costume Design Ellen Vartinoff

**Special Thanks** Adam Fletcher, Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, Luke

Holliger, Miriam Morgan, Troy Trinkle, IATSE, Local 146, Pappas Furs, Aaron's Fine Rug Gallery

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Assistant Director De'Andre Martin

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**Music Director** 

## ANDREW CONSTANTINE

Andrew Constantine began his musical studies on the cello. His first studies were with John Carewe and Norman Del Mar in London and later with Leonard Bernstein at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival in Germany. At the same time, he founded the Bardi Orchestra in Leicester. With this ensemble he performed throughout Europe and the UK and had his first taste and experience of conducting an enormous range of the orchestral repertoire.

A British Council scholarship took Constantine to the Leningrad State Conservatory in 1991 where he studied with the legendary pedagogue Ilya Musin. He cites Musin as being the strongest influence on his conducting, both technically and philosophically. His Royal Festival Hall debut in 1992 with the London Philharmonic was met with unanimous critical acclaim and praise.

In 2004, he was awarded a highly prestigious British NESTA Fellowship to further develop his international career. This was also a recognition of Constantine's commitment to the breaking down of barriers that blur the perceptions of classical music and to bringing a refreshed approach to the concert-going experience. This is a commitment that he has carried throughout his work and which continues with his advocacy for music education for all ages.

Another project created by Constantine geared towards the 'contextualizing' of composers' lives is The Composer: REVEALED. In these programs the work of well-known composers is brought to life through the combination of dramatic interludes acted out between segments of chamber, instrumental and orchestral music, culminating with a complete performance of a major orchestral work. The year 2015 saw the debut of Tchaikovsky: REVEALED.

In 2004, Andrew Constantine was invited by the great Russian maestro Yuri Temirkanov to become Assistant Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Within a year he became Associate Conductor and has enjoyed a wonderful working relationship with the orchestra since that time.

In 2007 he accepted the position of Music Director of the Reading Symphony Orchestra in Pennsylvania – after the RSO considered over 300 candidates - and helped the orchestra celebrate its 100th Anniversary as they continue to perform to capacity audiences. In addition, in 2009 he was chosen as the Music Director of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic from a field of more than 250 candidates.

He has worked with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Rochester Philharmonic, Syracuse Symphony, Jacksonville Symphony, Chautauqua Festival Orchestra and Phoenix Symphony, among others. Again, critical acclaim has been hugely positive, the press review of his Phoenix debut describing it as "the best concert in the last ten years."

# FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC Andrew Constantine, Music Director

Violin I

Violetta Todorova

Johanna Bourkova-Morunov

Timothy Tan

Marcella Trentacosti

Michael Acosta

Tomer Marcus

Violin II

Betsy Gephart

Pablo Vasquez Kristin Westover

Alexandra Tsilibes

David Ling

Linda Kanzawa

Viola

Derek Reeves Debra Welter

Bruce Graham

Theodore E. Chemey, III

Cello

Andre Gaskins

Deborah Nitka Hicks

Brian Klickman Elizabeth Lee <u>Bass</u>

Adrian Mann

Kevin Piekarski

**Flute** 

Luke Fitzpatrick

Vivianne Belanger

Hillary Feibel

Oboe

Orion Rapp

Pavel Morunov

Clarinet

Laurie Blanchet

Dan Healton

Bassoon

Dennis Fick

<u>Horn</u>

Michael Galbraith

Katie Loesch

**Trumpet** 

Akira Murotani

Daniel Ross

**Trombone** 

Kevin Dombrowski

**Timpani** 

Eric Schweikert

**Percussion** 

Jason Yoder

Ben Kipp

Harp

Anne Preucil Lewellen

**Keyboard** 

Alexander Klepach



Associate Artistic Director, Director of Treble Choir

## **EMILY BIRD**

Emily Bird is a graduate from the University of Notre Dame, with a Masters of Sacred Music in vocal performance. While at Notre Dame, she served as a director with the Notre Dame Children's Choir, teaching their youngest choristers. Prior to graduate studies, Emily worked as a choir director and arts administrator for several children's choir programs in the Greater Toronto Area, including the Toronto Children's Chorus, the Bach Children's Chorus, Canadian Children's Opera Company, and Mississauga Children's Choir. Emily holds a Bachelor of Music honors specialization in Music Education degree from the University of Western Ontario, in London, Ontario, Canada and has completed her Level 1 Kodály certification. Emily now resides in Fort Wayne, Indiana where she is the Associate Artistic Director of the Fort Wayne Children's Choir, and is the director of the Chamber Treble Singers at the Purdue Fort Wayne School of Music.



## TREBLE CHOIR 2022-2023

Miriam Rosenberg

Scarlett Baggett Hannah Kaleta Isabella Barron-Alvarenga Ryleigh Kannel K'Tavia Brooks-Williams Trinity Lilly Zella Cantrell Riya Manck Hailey Ensley Evelyn Masloob Eva Mettert Chloe Fogle Coralyn Fry Kennedy Mumaw Camila Gonzalez Adalynn Noga Andrea Grim Lena Owens

Averie Rupp
Michael Sakran
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Halle Wietfeldt Liam Wilson Anamaria Yaney

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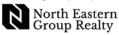
VILLAGE

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Located in the Arts United Plaza



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# Hours of Operation

Night of Lights Preview Nov 23, 5pm – 9pm

Dec 2, 5pm – 9pm

Dec 3, 12pm – 9pm

Dec 4, 12pm – 5pm Dec 9, 5pm – 9pm

Dec 10, 12pm – 9pm

Dec 11, 12pm – 5pm

# "Ho ho ho!"

Fort Wayne Ballet is excited to bring you The Kris Kringle Village on the Arts United Campus!

Open during Nutcraker performances, you can do your holiday shopping, have a snack, and bring the kids to see Santa\*!





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is an exclusive opportunity to be a catalyst for creativity, in the spirit of Sergei Diaghilev, a Russian-born promoter for innovation in the arts. **DIAGHILEV SOCIETY MEMBERS** enjoy a higher Fort Wayne Ballet experience through a host of rewards and privileges reserved for this leadership community in support of Fort Wayne Ballet.

#### THE FOUNDERS CIRCLE

The Founders Circle is more than an annual giving level... it is a group of individuals and couples providing a commitment to renew as a Society member for subsequent years. Founders Circle members are forever recognized as the visionaries who launched Fort Wanye Ballet's Diaghilev Society and a lasting legacy.

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#### FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Contact Jim Sparrow and Jessica Shaw, for a confidential conversation contact: 260.484.9646 or visit us online.

fortwayneballet.org/support/diaghilev-society

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Meshele Glass\*
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