

# PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE SCHOOL



## PRE-PROFESSIONAL SHOWCASE

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SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023  
2 P.M. & 6:30 P.M.

# PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE SCHOOL

## COME LEARN WITH US!

PROGRAMMING FOR AGES 2-14.  
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*Photography: Aviana Adams*

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PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE  
THIS SUMMER



## **VISIT**

**PBT.ORG/SUMMER**

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*Running Time: 2 hours 30 minutes*

## OUR MISSION

PBT School, the official training institution of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, is recognized as one of the nation's finest schools for dance education and training. Under the direction of PBT School Director Marjorie Grundvig, PBT School provides a diverse dance curriculum to students across its Children's, Student and Pre-Professional. Ranging from pre-ballet to pre-professional, PBT School fosters the expression, discipline and joy of ballet at every level and cultivates the next generation of professional dancers.

Cover Artist: Alexandria Troianos

# PRE-PROFESSIONAL SHOWCASE

## Program Order

**May 27 | 2 p.m.**

Running Time: 2:30 w/intermission

*Paquita*

INTERMISSION

*Garland Waltz*

*Sleeping Beauty Pas de Trois*

*Sleeping Beauty Friends*

*Corsaire Trio*

*Sleeping Beauty Prologue*

INTERMISSION

*Be Still*

*Long Way Down*

*Shadow Self*

*Islands*

*Modified-Vivaldi*

**May 27 | 6:30 p.m.**

Running Time: 2:30 w/intermission

*Paquita*

INTERMISSION

*Garland Waltz*

*Sleeping Beauty Pas de Trois*

*Sleeping Beauty Friends*

*Corsaire Trio*

*Sleeping Beauty Prologue*

*Diana and Acteon*

INTERMISSION

*Be Still*

*Strongest Suit*

*Islands*

*Modified-Vivaldi*

# Saturday, May 27 | 2 p.m.

## ***Paquita***

Choreography after Marius Petipa  
Staged by Erin Halloran with  
Eun Young Ahn, Christopher Budzynksi, Christine Schwaner  
Composer: Edouard Deldevez & Ludwig Minkus

Ansley Hynes    Jesse Joiner

Gracie Joiner, Emily Saffos, Hinako Shinzaki,  
Chihiro Yamaoka, Olivia DeAngelo, Alexandria Troianos

Gabriella Agnew-Huertas, Adrienne Butler,  
Maddie Kucensky, Mackenzie Libao, Sophia Magliocco,  
Aya Nemoto, Kiara Patasan, Siri Vedel

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## INTERMISSION

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## ***Garland Waltz***

Choreography: Christine Schwaner  
Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Aoi Asano, Cj Klotz, Erin Miller,  
Cullen William Casey, Iain Engle-Roe, Isak Sorenson

Brady Allen, Abigail Brautigam, Ming Diller, Ava Durigon, Em-  
maline Fontanilla, Schuyler Mainier, Ayslinn Metzger,  
Eshli Misuk, Akshata Moorthy, Maria Peraceli,  
Lily-Rose Peterson, June Weatherington

## ***Sleeping Beauty Pas de Trois***

Choreography after Marius Petipa  
Staged by Christopher Budzynski and Alexandra Kochis  
Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Emma Jennings, Maddie Kucensky, Logan McIntosh

## ***Sleeping Beauty Friends***

Staged by Elise Gillum

Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Margaret Benson, Brooke Bergamasco, Veva Best,  
Carys Blough, Elaine Blumenfeld, Annabelle Chernyshev,  
Mary Hirth, Eva Huckle, Fiona McCarthy, Maggie Paice,  
Eden Piekut, Lance Sciulli, Sheila Joy Smith, Sadie Walsh

## ***Corsaire Trio***

Choreography after Joseph Mazilier

Staged by Eun Young Ahn

Composer: Adolphe Adam

Aoi Asano, Cj Klotz, Erin Miller

Second Variation: Emmaline Fontanilla

## ***Sleeping Beauty Prologue***

Choreography after Marius Petipa

Staged by Eun Young Ahn

Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Rebecca Tschan, Aya Nemoto, Emily Saffos,  
Mackenzie Libao, Erika Bressler, Siri Vedel

Gabriella Agnew-Huertas, Elsa Erickson, Gracie Joiner,  
Maddie Kucensky, Margaret Kuefler, Sophia Magliocco,  
Elizabeth McMindes, Isabella Ombrellaro, Kiara Patsan,  
Rachel Whitenight, Grace Wiechart, Chihiro Yamaoka

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## **INTERMISSION**

## ***Be Still***

Choreography: Alexandra Tiso

Music: Alan Watts & Boreta, Snorri Hallgrímsson &  
Slow Meadow

Brady Allen, Aoi Asano, Jade Buseman, Cullen William Casey,  
Téah Creasy, Ming Diller, Ava Durigon, Iain Engle-Roe,  
Emmaline Fontanilla, Nathan Huffman, Victoria Itoh-Castilla,  
Cj Klotz, Hannah Kramer, Schuyler Mainier, Ayslinn Metzger,  
Erin Miller, Eshli Misuk, Akshata Moorthy, Maria Peraceli,  
Lily-Rose Peterson, Isak Sorenson, Edaline Tan,  
June Weatherington

## ***Long Way Down***

Choreography: Jamie Erin Murphy

Music: Delta Rae

Margaret Benson, Brooke Bergamasco, Veva Best,  
Carys Blough, Elaine Blumenfeld, Annabelle Chernyshev,  
Mary Hirth, Eva Huckle, Fiona McCarthy, Maggie Paice,  
Eden Piekut, Lance Sciulli, Sheila Joy Smith, Sadie Walsh

## ***Shadow Self***

Choreography: William Moore

Composer: Radiohead

Gabriella Agnew-Huertas, Olivia DeAngelo,  
Corabelle Kennedy, Alexandria Troianos, Logan McIntosh

## ***Islands***

Choreography: JoAnna Schmidt

Composer: Simon and Garfunkel, Brigitte Bardot,  
Laster Young

Maya Belcove, Haley Brelín, Adrienne Butler, Jordyn Chepolis,  
Emily Cobb, Elsa Erickson, Kelsey Gilbert, Anjali Hern,  
Emma Jennings, Kasey Kasmar, Maddie Kucensky,  
Margaret Kuefler, Mackenzie Libao, Isabella Ombrellaro,  
Kiara Patsan, Tyra Smith, Rachel Whitenight, Yu-Wen Yang,  
Nathan Bender

## ***Modified-Vivaldi***

Choreography: Yoshiaki Nakano

Music: Antonio Vivaldi & Max Richter

Summer: Kylie Dyson, Cooper Blankenburg,  
Rebecca Tschan, Cecelia Johnson

Autumn: Hinako Shinzaki & Corps de ballet

Winter: Cooper Blankenburg, Jesse Joiner, Yamato Matsui

Spring: Kylie Dyson & Corps de ballet

Summer: All

Corps de ballet: Erika Bressler, Alexis Holizna, Gracie Joiner,  
Aya Nemoto, Sophie Waterfall, Grace Wiechart,  
Chihiro Yamaoka

# Saturday, May 27 | 6:30 p.m.

## **Paquita**

Choreography after Marius Petipa  
Staged by Erin Halloran with  
Eun Young Ahn, Christopher Budzynski, Christine Schwaner  
Composer: Edouard Deldevez & Ludwig Minkus

Cooper Blankenburg    Nathan Bender

Cecelia Johnson, Rebecca Tschan, Anjali Hern,  
Jordyn Chepolis, Kara Hunter, Kylie Dyson

Maya Belcove, Haley Breslin, Erika Bressler, Emily Cobb,  
Alexis Holizna, Isabella Ombrellaro, Grace Wiechart,  
Yu-Wen Yang

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INTERMISSION

## **Garland Waltz**

Choreography: Christine Schwaner  
Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Aoi Asano, Ava Durigon, Emmaline Fontanilla  
Cullen William Casey, Iain Engle-Roe, Nathan Huffman

Brady Allen, Jade Buseman, Victoria Itoh Castilla, Téah Creasy,  
Ming Diller, Hannah Kramer, Schuyler Mainier, Ayslinn Metzger,  
Erin Miller, Eshli Misuk, Akshata Moorthy, Maria Peraceli

## **Sleeping Beauty Pas de Trois**

Choreography after Marius Petipa  
Staged by Christopher Budzynski and Alexandra Kochis  
Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Gracie Joiner, Isak Sorenson, Chihiro Yamaoka



## ***Sleeping Beauty Friends***

Staged by Elise Gillum

Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Margaret Benson, Brooke Bergamasco, Veva Best,  
Carys Blough, Elaine Blumenfeld, Annabelle Chernyshev,  
Mary Hirth, Eva Huckle, Fiona McCarthy, Maggie Paice,  
Eden Piekut, Lance Sciulli, Sheila Joy Smith, Sadie Walsh

## ***Corsaire Trio***

Choreography after Joseph Mazilier

Staged by Eun Young Ahn

Composer: Adolphe Adam

Ava Durigon, Hannah Kramer, Ayslinn Metzger

## ***Sleeping Beauty Prologue***

Choreography after Marius Petipa

Staged by Eun Young Ahn

Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Emily Cobb, Sophie Waterfall, Gabriella Agnew-Huertas,  
Sophia Magliocco, Haley Breslin, Cecelia Johnson

Maya Belcove, Erika Bressler, Adrienne Butler, Elsa Erickson,  
Alexis Holizna, Kasey Kasmar, Mackenzie Libao, Aya Nemoto,  
Emily Saffos, Siri Vedel, Rachel Whitenight, Yu-Wen Yang

## ***Diana and Acteon***

Choreography after Marius Petipa

Staged by Christopher Budzynski and Alexandra Kochis

Composer: Cesare Pugni

Hinako Shinzaki    Yamato Matsui

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INTERMISSION

## **Be Still**

Choreography: Alexandra Tiso  
Music: Alan Watts & Boreta, Snorri Hallgrímsson &  
Slow Meadow

Brady Allen, Aoi Asano, Jade Buseman, Casey Cullen,  
Téah Creasy, Ming Diller, Ava Durigon, Iain Engle-Roe,  
Emmaline Fontanilla, Nathan Huffman, Victoria Itoh-Castilla,  
Cj Klotz, Hannah Kramer, Schuyler Mainier, Ayslinn Metzger,  
Erin Miller, Eshli Misuk, Akshata Moorthy, Maria Peraceli,  
Lily-Rose Peterson, Isak Sorenson, Edaline Tan,  
June Weatherington

## **Strongest Suit**

Choreography: Kerra Alexander-Sullivan  
Music: Sherie Rene Scott, Women of the Palace  
Margaret Benson, Brooke Bergamasco, Veva Best,  
Carys Blough, Elaine Blumenfeld, Annabelle Chernyshev,  
Mary Hirth, Eva Huckle, Fiona McCarthy, Maggie Paice,  
Eden Piekut, Lance Sciulli, Sheila Joy Smith, Sadie Walsh

## **Islands**

Choreography: JoAnna Schmidt  
Composer: Simon and Garfunkel, Brigitte Bardot,  
Laster Young  
Maya Belcove, Haley Breslin, Adrienne Butler,  
Jordyn Chepolis, Emily Cobb, Elsa Erickson, Kelsey Gilbert,  
Anjali Hern, Emma Jennings, Kasey Kasmar, Maddie Kucensky,  
Margaret Kuefler, Mackenzie Libao, Isabella Ombrellaro,  
Kiara Patsan, Tyra Smith, Rachel Whitenight, Yu-Wen Yang,  
Nathan Bender

## **Modified- Vivaldi**

Choreography: Yoshiaki Nakano  
Music: Antonio Vivaldi & Max Richter

Summer: Hinako Shinzaki, Kylie Dyson  
Autumn: Cooper Blankenburg & Corps de ballet  
Winter: Rebecca Tschan, Jesse Joiner, Yamato Matsui  
Spring: Hinako Shinzaki & Corps de ballet  
Summer: All  
Corps de ballet: Erika Bressler, Gracie Joiner, Cecelia Johnson,  
Sophia Magliocco, Elizabeth McMIndes, Emily Saffos,  
Siri Vedel, Chihiro Yamaoka

# Thank you for joining us!

Congratulations to our hardworking dancers  
who have accepted professional offers with...

Alabama Ballet, Alonzo King LINES Ballet,  
Ballet Rhode Island, Boston Ballet II,  
Canyon Concert Ballet, Collage Dance Collective,  
Croatian National Theatre, Louisville Ballet - Studio  
Company, Milwaukee Ballet II,  
Sarasota Ballet - Corps de Ballet and  
Sacramento Ballet - Trainee

Congratulations to our hardworking dancers  
who have chosen to pursue higher education  
with the following institutions...

Butler University, The New School,  
Parsons School of Design and SUNY Purchase

We wish you well on your journey!  
Keep up the good work,  
and please stay in touch.

# Profiles



**MARJORIE GRUNDTVIG** began her ballet training in her hometown of Davis, California, and with Marguerite Phares in Sacramento, California. Additionally, she spent summers on scholarship with San Francisco Ballet School. At the age of 17, Ms. Grundvig joined the North Carolina Dance Theatre. She continued her performing career as a soloist with both the Tulsa Ballet and the Boston Ballet. She has taught at the Boston Ballet, Margo Marshall School of Ballet, and the University of Oklahoma. She has guest taught at many schools, both nationally and internationally, in addition to touring nationally to audition students for the annual summer programs of Boston Ballet and PBT School. Ms. Grundvig directed the ballet department of the Washington Academy of Performing Arts in Seattle prior to being appointed co-director of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School in August 2005. Since starting at PBT, Ms. Grundvig has been instrumental in the school's growth by increasing overall annual enrollment by 79 percent.



**KRISTIN MCCLAIN** brings with her a lifetime of sewing experience, having learned from her mom starting in middle school. She began her time at PBT in 2016 with the building of PBT's brand new Giselle. Staying on as a part time stitcher, then full time First Hand, and currently Costume Director, she's work on many of PBT's costumes old and new. Other prior experience includes study in Costume Design and Construction at the University of Pittsburgh, and various freelance design and construction work for a number of companies throughout the city. Additionally, Kristin is a versatile, visual artist and craftsperson, focusing on fiber arts, sculpting and watercolor paintings.



**WILLIAM MOORE** received his training at the Angela Rose School of Dance and later the Royal Ballet School from 2002-2009, where he performed and toured with the company. From 2009-2012, he performed with Northern Ballet, English National Ballet and the Estonian National Ballet. His repertoire at PBT includes Birbanto in *Le Corsaire*, Riff in *West Side Story Suite*, the Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*, Tom in *The Great Gatsby*, Hook in *Peter Pan*, lead couple in George Balanchine's *Rubies*, Peasant Pas de Deux in *Giselle* and more. He has been commissioned by PBT and PBT School, to choreograph several ballets and in 2019 won the most Outstanding Choreographer award at Youth America Grand Prix.  
Year joined PBT Company: 2013



**YOSHIAKI NAKANO**, a native of Japan, joined PBT in 2010 and was promoted to a principal in 2014. He received his training at the Elite Ballet Studio in Osaka, Japan, San Francisco Ballet School and the PBT School. Nakano won the gold medal at the 2013 Beijing International Ballet and Choreography Competition in China and the silver medal at the 2010 World Ballet Competition in Orlando, Florida. In 2014, Dance Magazine named Nakano among its top "25 Dancers to Watch." PBT has commissioned Nakano to choreograph for several productions.  
Year joined PBT Company: 2010  
Graduate of PBT School



**JOANNA SCHMIDT** received her training from Vasile Petrutiu, Vladimir Bykov and Heather Fryxell at Central Florida Ballet. She also trained in summer intensives at Miami City Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet Academy and Jacob's Pillow. At PBT she has performed as Cupid in *Don Quixote*, Princess Florine in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Tinker Bell in *Peter Pan*, the Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*, William Forsythe's *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort*, and principal roles in George Balanchine's *Divertimento No. 15*, *Rubies* and more. In 2018, JoAnna was commissioned to choreograph *Lightworks* for PBT's New Works program.  
Year joined PBT Company: 2012  
Graduate of PBT School

SAVE THE DATES!

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THEATRE



A Series in Celebration of  
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**JUNE 22-25**

Westinghouse Arts Academy, Wilmerding

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Pack a picnic basket and join us!

**DBT.ORG/OPENAIR**

Artist: Grace Rookstool | Photo: Rieder Photography



# WISHING YOU WELL!

**Maggie Benson**

Good job on all of your hard work!  
You are our star!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Sophia

**Max Duvall**

Dear Max,

Congratulations on your first performance!  
We are so proud of all of your hard work and  
determination. Keep it up and you'll be a  
superstar!

Love,  
Mom, Grandma, Nicky, Cliff,  
Wesley, Jewel and Luke

## **Haley Breslin**

Haley, when we watch you dance  
your heart speaks to us. We are mesmerized  
by your passionate commitment to become  
the ballerina of your dreams. Patience,  
motivation, and determination are your  
guiding lights. May all your hopes and  
dreams come true!

Love,  
Doc and Babka

**WISHING  
YOU WELL!**

## **Ava Schurr**

Congratulations Ava Schurr for 2 years  
at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School.  
We admire your enthusiasm and love of dance.  
Good luck with your first Spring Performance!

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy, Nikolaus, Wilhelm,  
Poppy and Judy



# PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE SCHOOL

*Our heartfelt thanks to these individuals and families  
whose generosity made possible the new and  
refurbished costumes you see on stage.*

Anonymous

The Behr Family

The Blankenburg Family

Janet and David Campbell

Ms. Tanying Dong

Jessica Ellet and John Franco

Damien and Cynthia Graeff

Kyleigh Graham

Dr. Kent A. Harries and Ms. Cara Jones

The Hazlett Family

The Jendrzewski Family

Jessica Ketchum and Olivia Erjavac

Mr. Raymond P. Lantzy

The Lesko Family

Patrick and Michelle McCarthy

The Nance-Duvvuri Family

Chin Ong and Zhiwen Yu

The Pietragallo Family

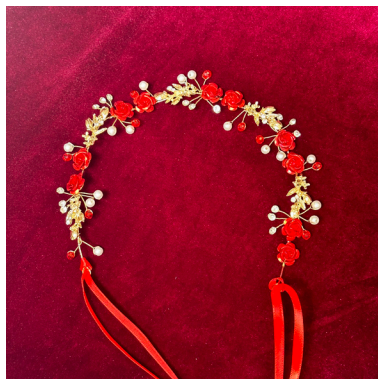
Dr. and Mrs. Richard E. Redlinger Jr.

The Sichok Family

The Teter Family

The Wang Family

*and donations made at  
Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's production  
of The Sleeping Beauty.*



# Team PBT

## SCHOOL ARTISTIC FACULTY

Marjorie Grundvig .....PBT School Director  
Eun Young Ahn .....Head of Curriculum and Student Division Principal  
Kaila Lewis ..... Head of Children's Division  
Christopher Budzynski .....Head of Men's Programming  
Christine Schwaner ..... Full-Time Ballet  
Jamie Murphy ..... Full-Time Modern  
Kerra Alexander-Sullivan, Jonathan Bright, Ariana Chernyshev, Ann Corrado,  
Marcella Day, Elise Gillum, Madeline Gradle, Erin Halloran, Juliana Hougland,  
Aaron Ingley, Alexandra Kochis, Sophie Powell, Toma Smith and Alexandra Tiso

## SCHOOL MUSICIANS

Yoland Collin ..... Principal Pianist and Music Administrator  
Ellen Gozion ..... School Music Coordinator and Full-Time Pianist  
Maja Petrovich ..... Full-Time Pianist  
Juliet Winovich ..... Full-Time Pianist  
Sun Chang, Jack Hawn, Joshua Malavé, Mark Micchelli, Amaury Morales,  
David O'Brien, Aida Olarte, Lisa Wimer

## SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONS

Aviana Adams  
School Marketing Manager  
Autumn Lenze  
School Registrar and Enrollment  
Manager  
Marchae' Peters  
Manager of Residential Programs  
Rosalie Anthony  
Byham House Resident Assistant  
Byham House Support Staff:  
Aviana Adams, Bekah Little,  
Deanna Reed, Vania McClendon,  
Melissa Heid, Shea Standish  
School Front Desk  
Administration:  
Maya Belcove,  
Ebony Cunningham, Sean Hale,  
Kate Houser, Heidi Murr

## PRODUCTION

Greg Coppolo  
Director of Production  
Alicia Reece  
Production Stage Manager  
Hope Debelius  
Lighting Designer  
Kathie Sullivan  
Wardrobe Supervisor

## WARDROBE

Kristin McLain  
Costume Director  
Kaylee Hansberry  
Costume Shop Assistant  
Anna Buntin  
First Hand  
Anna Burns  
Stitcher  
Elizabeth Miller  
Stitcher

PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

# ballet under the stars

August 20, 2023  
Performance 8 p.m.  
Hartwood Acres

Gather friends, family and neighbors for an evening  
of outdoor ballet, children's activities, food trucks and more!

Part of the 2023 Allegheny County Summer Concert Series



# PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE SCHOOL

SCHOOL DIRECTOR MARJORIE GRUNDTVIG

*"We welcome students of all levels, interests and backgrounds to support each dancer's individual journey in our programming. PBT School focuses on creating confident, well-rounded dancers in each of our divisions to help them thrive in ballet and beyond."*

*-Marjorie Grundvig, PBT School Director*

As the official training institution of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, PBT School is recognized as one of the nation's finest schools for dance education and training. In all of its divisions, it combines a top-tier curriculum informed by proximity to a professional company with a supportive community and knowledgeable faculty.

Joining the PBT School community invites families into the world of a professional ballet company, allowing for opportunities unmatched by any other dance school in the region.

## Children's Division

Ages 18mo+

## Student Division

Ages 7-12

## Pre-Professional Division

Ages 13+



Photography by Aviana Adams

412-281-6727 | [PBT.ORG/JOIN](https://pbt.org/join)



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2023-24 SEASON



# LIGHT IN THE DARK

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giant  
eagle

CLEARVIEW



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PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE

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