

2026 Final Round Gala Guest Performers



DOMINIC BALLARD

Ballet West, Soloist

Dominic Ballard is from Albury, New South Wales, Australia. He joined Ballet West in 2017, was promoted to Demi-Soloist in 2022 and to Soloist in 2025.

Dominic trained at the Australian Ballet School in Melbourne, Australia. He began his professional ballet career in Europe with the National Ballet of Slovakia and Philadelphia Ballet in 2016.

At Ballet West, Dominic has enjoyed leading roles such as Dr. Jekyll in Val Caniparoli's *Jekyll and Hyde* and Death in Kurt Joos' *The Green Table*, as well as feature roles in Christopher Wheeldon's *Within the Golden Hour* and Ulysses Dove's *Red Angels*. Dominic received his earliest training in ballet from his mother, stepfather, and older sister. Outside of dancing, Dominic loves reading and trying his hand at various arts and crafts like drawing, painting, or crochet.



ANNA BROWN

International Ballroom Champion

ANNA BROWN IS A WORLD AND 3X NATIONAL LATIN BALLROOM CHAMPION. SHE HAS WORKED WITH DANCERS FROM DWTS AND SYTYCD. ANNA TEACHES BALLROOM AROUND THE COUNTRY AND IS STILL ACTIVELY DANCING HERSELF. SHE HAS PERFORMED IN LA OPERA'S WEST SIDE STORY AND DONE NUMEROUS COMMERCIAL JOBS. SHE IS EXCITED TO TEACH BALLROOM TO THE NEXT GENERATION OF DANCERS.



Nicole Fann y

Ballet West, Demi-Soloist

Nicole Fann y is from Cary, North Carolina. She joined the Ballet West Academy as a Trainee in 2016 and joined Ballet West II in 2018. She was promoted to the main company in 2020 and Demi-Soloist in 2023. Nicole began her training at the International Ballet Academy in Cary, North Carolina. She then attended Houston Ballet Academy on full scholarship in 2015, and in the summer of 2016, studied at the Paris Opera Ballet School. In 2015, she was awarded the Grand Prix at the Youth America Grand Prix Tampa Semifinal.

Fann y performed in Youth America Grand Prix's Stars of Today Meet the Stars of Tomorrow Gala in Tampa in 2015 and 2016, and in Indianapolis in 2015. With Ballet West, Nicole has danced Ratmansk'y's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, Wheeldon's *Within the Golden Hour*, Kyli n's *Symphony of Psalms*, Rowena in Caniparoli's *Jekyll & Hyde*, Sklute's *Swan Lake*, Archibald's *Tides*, Forsythe's *Blake Works I*, Lady Capulet in Smuin's *Romeo + Juliet*, and Fonte's *Carmina Burana* and *Rite of Spring*, to name just a few. She has also originated featured roles in works by Sophie LaPlane and Juliano Nunes. Fann y debuted her work as a choreographer with *Lingering Echoes*, a world premiere during Ballet West's *Works From Within* in 2025.



SEOK JOO KIM

Boston Ballet, Second Soloist

SeokJoo Kim studied at Peniel High School of the Arts and graduated from Korea's National University of Arts in 2021.

His repertoire includes Yuri Grigorovich's *Spartacus*, Sunhee Kim's *Song of the Mermaid*, and Marius Petipa's *Don Quixote*, *Giselle*, and *Swan Lake*.

In 2016, Kim won the silver medal at the International Ballet Competition Sicilia. In 2020, he won the gold medal at the Seoul International Dance Competition.

Kim joined Boston Ballet as an artist of the Company in 2021 and was promoted to second soloist in 2025.



EMMA TOPALOVA

Boston Ballet, Company Artist

Emma Topalova began her ballet training at Pittsburgh Ballet House and continued her studies at Canada's National Ballet School on scholarship. Topalova has garnered numerous awards and accolades at ADC IBC and several Youth America Grand Prix competitions, including the Hope Award. She was the recipient of the Wallace F. McCain Award from 2018-2023 and the Peter Dwyer Award and Christopher Ondaatje Prize in 2023.

Her repertoire includes George Balanchine's *Mozartiana* and *Symphony in Three Movements*, Robert Binet and Esie Mensah's *The Call*, Jorma Elo's *Plan to B*, Akram Khan's *Vertical Road Reimagined (2023)*, James Kudelka's *The Nutcracker*, Jiří Kylián's *Petite Mort*, Jean-Christophe Maillot's *Roméo et Juliette*, Mikko Nissinen's *Raymonda*, *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*, Crystal Pite's *The Seasons' Canon*, and Jera Wolfe's *Arise*. Topalova joined Boston Ballet as an artist of the Company in 2023.



MILA DECOLA

BalletMet 2

Mila DeCola grew up dancing in BalletMet's Academy program, starting at age four. When she was fifteen, she joined the Trainee Program at BalletMet. While in this program she had the opportunity to perform in multiple productions alongside BalletMet's company, including Gerard Charles' *The Nutcracker*, Edwaard Liang's *Swan Lake*, *Alice*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as the most recent production of *Sleeping Beauty*. Mila has also performed in several of George Balanchine's ballets with the Trainee Program; these include the Demi-soloist role in *Walpurgisnacht*, Second Violin in *Concerto Barocco*, the principal role in *Divertimento No. 15*, and *Tarantella*. In 2023, she enjoyed training at American Ballet Theatre's Summer Intensive in New York. Mila is very appreciative of all the opportunities BalletMet has given her and is excited to be joining BalletMet 2 for the 2025 26 season!



GRAYDON GEORGE
BalletMet 2

Graydon George was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and began his formal ballet training at Kansas City Ballet School at the age of 8. He continued his studies at Canada's National Ballet School in Toronto, Ontario, graduating from the Professional Ballet Academic Program in 2022, training under Mavis Staines, Raymond Smith, Alexander Gorbatsevich, and James Kudelka.

He furthered his training for a year in Canada's National Ballet School's Company Life Program. Performance highlights of his time at Canada's National Ballet School include performing the lead man in excerpts of James Kudelka's *The Four Seasons*, originating soloist roles in Robert Binet and Esie Mensah's *The Call for the Assemblée Internationale Dance Festival* in 2023, and receiving the distinct honor of performing the lead role in Jera Wolfe's *Arise for the Fall* for Dance North Festival. In 2023, George joined the National Ballet of Canada as an apprentice. As an apprentice, he performed corps de ballet roles in productions like John Cranko's *Onegin*, James Kudelka's *The Nutcracker*, Christopher Wheeldon's *Alice in Wonderland*, and Carlos Acosta's *Don Quixote*. In 2024, George was invited to join the prestigious San Francisco Ballet School Trainee Program under Grace Holmes and Pascal Molat. His performance highlights as a trainee include being a part of the world premiere of Esteban Hernandez's *1941* on tour in Ketchum, Idaho, for the Ballet Sun Valley Festival, performing David Justin's *A Boy and a Girl Pas de Deux* in Golden Gate Park, and performing the principal couple in Lew Christensen's *Vivaldi Concerto Grosso* on the SF War Memorial Opera House Stage for the SFBS Spring Festival. As an SFBS trainee, he also received the opportunity to perform corps de ballet roles in San Francisco Ballet company productions like Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Manon*, Tamara Rojo's *Raymonda*, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's *Broken Wings*, and Liam Scarlett's *Frankenstein*. He is beyond excited to continue his budding professional career with Ballet Met 2 for the 2025/26 season!



SANTINO BENJAMIN HERRERA
Royal Ballet School

Santino Benjamin Herrera, born in Argentina, began his dance training at the age of 13 at Danza Andrea Montero in Salta, Argentina. Showing rapid progress and passion for ballet, at the age of 15, Santino was awarded a full scholarship by Director Mariaelena Ruiz to join Cary Ballet Conservatory's Professional Training Program in North Carolina, USA.

Since joining Cary Ballet Conservatory, Santino has established himself as a rising talent on the international stage. He has participated in prestigious competitions, including the Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP), the American Dance Competition | International Ballet Competition (ADC|IBC), and the Prix de Lausanne.

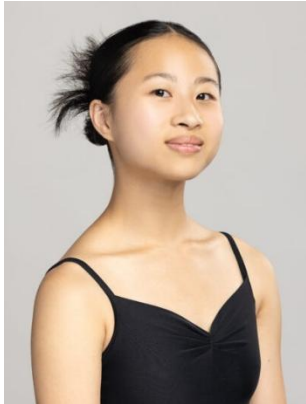
In 2024, Santino achieved significant recognition: he won first place in Senior Classical at the YAGP semi-finals in Winston-Salem, NC; earned second place in both Senior Classical and Contemporary at ADC|IBC semi-finals in Raleigh, NC; and advanced to the final round of YAGP Finals at Lincoln Center in New York City. At ADC, he reached the final rounds and secured a spot in the Top 10.

In 2025, Santino's accomplishments grew even further. He was selected as a Prix de Lausanne candidate, representing Cary Ballet Conservatory. At ADC|IBC semi-finals in Winston-Salem, he won first place in Senior Classical and second place in Senior Contemporary. At the YAGP semi-finals in Raleigh, NC, he again earned first place in Senior Classical and second place in Senior Contemporary.

At ADC IBC Finals, Santino reached the pinnacle of success: he advanced to the final rounds, won first place in his category, earned the highest overall score among both male and female dancers, and was awarded the prestigious Fernando Bujones Recognition Prize.

At YAGP Finals, Santino placed in the Top 12 in the Men's Category as well as the Top 12 in Pas de Deux. His talent earned him multiple gala invitations for both YAGP and ADC|IBC, with performances in St. Petersburg, Tampa, New York City, and Lake Como.

As a result of the scholarship he received during his participation at the Prix de Lausanne, Santino is now training with The Royal Ballet in London, where he continues to refine his artistry and pursue the next stage of his professional career. Immersed in one of the world's most prestigious ballet institutions, Santino is embracing every opportunity the experience offers and is loving every minute spent at the Royal.



PHOEBE ING

Ballet Met 2

Phoebe Ing was born in Columbus, Ohio, and began dancing at four years old with the BalletMet Academy. At age fifteen, she joined BalletMet's Trainee Program and is grateful to have performed in several productions alongside the professional company.

As a trainee, she had the opportunity to perform in George Balanchine's Concerto Barocco, Divertimento No. 15, and Tarantella. Phoebe attended the Royal Danish Ballet Summer School in the summer of 2024 and received a full tuition scholarship to return in 2025. Phoebe is so excited to be joining BalletMet 2 for the 25/26 season.



MIHARU KIKUCHI

Cincinnati Ballet 2

Miharu Kikuchi was born in Japan and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She began dancing at the age of three and trained professionally at the International City School of Ballet from 2014 to 2025.

At the ADC IBC Finals, she received Gold and Bronze Medals, as well as the Traditional Excellence Award (2022) and the Fernando Bujones Memorial Award (2024), in addition to numerous scholarships. Miharu joined the Cincinnati Ballet Second Company for the 2025–2026 season, beginning her professional career.



JETT LECAMU

BalletMet 2

Jett Lecamu began his dance training at the age of six. At nine, he continued his training through the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) Preparatory Program for five years before joining the UNCSA high school program in 2020. While at UNCSA, performance highlights included the roles of the Nutcracker Prince and Sugar Plum Cavalier in Ilya Kozadayev's Nutcracker (2021, 2022), as well as the principal couple in Dean Endalyn Outlaw's Shostakovich Suite (2023). In 2022, with Kozadayev as his coach, he was selected as a candidate for the prestigious Prix de Lausanne. In 2023, he was awarded the Grand Prix at the YAGP Winston Salem. Jett trained at English National Ballet School for two years,

studying under David Yow and Juan Eymar. In 2024 and 2025, he performed as Prince Siegfried in My First Ballet: Swan Lake with English National Ballet (ENB) and ENBS, under the direction of Antonio Castilla (2024), and Lynne Charles (2025). He also performed in ENB's new production of The Nutcracker (2024), choreographed by Aaron Watkin and Arielle

Smith. Jett graduated from ENBS in July 2025. He is eager for the opportunity to work with Remi Wortmeyer and the extraordinary artists of BalletMet 2



ZANDER MAGOLNICK

Cincinnati Ballet 2

Zander Magolnick started dancing at seven years old with a focus on tap and hip-hop. He quickly expanded his training into jazz, lyrical and contemporary — before finding his true passion in ballet at 12 years old.

Through the years he has enjoyed competitive success at regional and national levels. Notably in 2022, he was awarded the Senior Grand Prix at the pre-professional international ballet competition ADC|IBC Finals, received the Silver Medal at the Youth American Grand Prix International Finals and recognized as a YoungArts Winner for ballet.

In the 2022-2023 season, Zander joined United Ballet Theatre in Orlando where he performed many pieces, including the Black Swan Pas de Deux coached by Joseph Gatti. In 2023, he was invited to compete at the USAIBC and became a third-round finalist. After the competition, Zander joined Ballet West as a trainee for the 2023-2024 season, where he performed in a variety of classical and contemporary pieces including Second Before the Ground by Trey McIntyre, George Balanchine's Allegro Brillante and Aires De Ballet by Lew Christensen. For the last two seasons, Zander has performed with the Cincinnati Ballet in numerous productions including Wizard of Oz, Giselle, and Swan Lake.



SAKURA NATORIGAWA

Atlanta Ballet 2

Sakura began her ballet training in London at the age of three, later continuing her studies in Japan and New York. At thirteen, she joined the prestigious Ellison Ballet Professional Training Program in New York City, where she trained for four years under the direction of Edward Ellison, graduating this past season. During her training, she achieved notable success in international competitions, earning top placements at YAGP and the ADCIBC Finals. During ADC IBC 2025 Sakura was awarded an Atlanta Ballet 2 contract.

In 2023, Sakura continued her studies at the Palucca University of Dance Dresden in Germany. While in Europe, she competed at the prestigious Prix de Lausanne in Switzerland and was named a recipient of the 2024 Young Creation Award.



ISAAC ORRANTE

BalletMet 2

Bio coming soon.



GABRIEL ROUSH

BalletMet 2

Gabriel Roush began his ballet training at his mother's dance studio in North Carolina, where his passion for dance quickly became evident. In 2019, he was accepted into the prestigious high school program at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA), where he refined his craft under the guidance of esteemed instructors such as Misha Tchoupakov, Ilya Kozadayev, and Susan Jaffe.

After graduating in 2022, Gabriel joined Charlotte Ballet as a Trainee. There, he further honed his technique and artistry with the mentorship of renowned teachers including Laszlo Berdo, Kati Mayo, and Patricia McBride. During his time at Charlotte Ballet, he had the privilege of performing in iconic works like George Balanchine's *Who Cares* and Alejandro Cerrudo's *Lickety Split*. In addition to his ballet achievements, Gabriel is an accomplished tap dancer, having received multiple awards for both his performances and choreography. Gabriel is excited to be back for his second season with BalletMet 2.



LAUREN WOODWARD

BalletMet 2

Lauren Woodward was born in Denver, Colorado. She began her formal ballet training at the age of seven at Littleton Ballet Academy, under the direction of Alison and Bobbie Jaramillo.

At age 14, she was offered a full tuition scholarship to attend the American Ballet Theatre JKO School, after having competed as a soloist at the 2019 Youth America Grand Prix finals. She continued her training there with Cynthia Harvey, Petrusjka Broholm, Stella Abrera, and Yan Chen, among other incredible teachers.

During her time with the ABT school, she studied and performed choreography by Robert LaFosse and Alexei Ratmansky, as well as by Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson for the Complexions Contemporary Ballet 28th anniversary season gala. Lauren also attended summer programs at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, the School of American Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and Oklahoma City Ballet. After graduating from the JKO school in the spring of 2023, Lauren joined BalletMet as a trainee for the 23-24 season, and returned last season as a second company member. She is honored to work alongside such inspiring artists each day!