



## Phoenix, AZ Timeline

DATE: January 2-4, 2026

**ClassVenue: Ballet Arizona**  
2835 E Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034

**Performance Venue: The Madison Center for the Arts Rental Agreement**  
5601 North 16th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85016

TIME	Friday January 2, 2026	LOCATION
11am-1pm	*Colorado Ballet Summer Intensive Audition*	Ballet Arizona
2pm	Primary Check in	Ballet Arizona
2:30-4pm	<b><u>Primary Technique Evaluation Class</u></b>	Ballet Arizona
3:40pm	Junior Check in	Ballet Arizona
4:10-5:40pm	<b><u>Junior Technique Evaluation Class</u></b>	Ballet Arizona
5:30	Senior Check in	Ballet Arizona
5:50-7:20	<b><u>Senior Technique Evaluation Class</u></b>	Ballet Arizona

\*Colorado Ballet Summer Intensive Audition \*

This audition is not a required class. It is an optional opportunity for students interested in auditioning for summer intensives. Participants must register directly with Colorado Ballet. Please note that the audition is hosted by Colorado Ballet and is not organized or operated by ADC.



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TIME	Saturday, January 3, 2026	LOCATION
9am	Staff Arrive	
9:45am	Doors open to public	Madison Center
10am	Open Stage Primary Contemporary (15mins)	Madison Center
10:15-11:15am	<u>Primary Contemporary Division Competition</u>	Madison Center
11:15am	Open Stage Junior Classical 30mins)	Madison Center
11:35-1:15pm	<u>Junior Classical Division Competition</u>	Madison Center
1:15-1:45pm	LUNCH	Madison Center
1:45pm	Open Stage Junior Contemporary (15mins)	Madison Center
2-3:15pm	<u>Junior Contemporary Division Competition</u>	Madison Center
3:15pm	Open Stage Senior Classical (30mins)	Madison Center
3:45-5:15pm	<u>Senior Classical Division Competition</u>	Madison Center
5:15-5:45pm	Dinner	Madison Center
5:45pm	Open Stage Ensembles (30mins)	Madison Center
6:15-7pm	<u>Ensemble Division Competition</u>	Madison Center



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TIME	Sunday January 4, 2026	LOCATION
9am	<u>Staff Arrive</u>	Madison Center
9:15am	Doors Open to public	Madison Center
9:30am	Open Stage Primary Classical (30mins)	Madison Center
10-11am	<u><b>Primary Classical Division Competition</b></u>	Madison Center
11am	Open Stage Senior Contemporary (15mins)	Madison Center
11:15-12:15pm	<u><b>Senior Contemporary Division Competition</b></u>	Madison Center
12:15-1:30	<u>LUNCH</u>	Madison Center
1:30-2pm	<u><b>Panel Discussion Forum</b></u>	Madison Center
2-3pm	<u><b>Awards</b></u>	Madison Center

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ERICA FISCHBACH  
Academy Director, Colorado Ballet

Academy Director Erica Fischbach enjoyed a 20-year professional ballet career with American Ballet Theatre and Pacific Northwest Ballet before embarking on her current teaching career. Ms. Fischbach came to the Colorado Ballet after nine years as the Artistic Director of Southold Dance Theater in South Bend, IN. Ms. Fischbach is certified in the American Ballet Theatre Curriculum and the Gyrotonic Method. She has been on the faculty of the country's leading professional summer intensives including American Ballet Theatre and the Colorado Ballet, and is a current guest faculty at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and the Cecchetti Council of America. Ms. Fischbach began her training in Ballet and Highland Dance with Theresa Bullard's Kalamazoo Ballet Company at the age of seven. When she was 12, her family moved to Milwaukee, where she studied on scholarship at the Milwaukee Ballet under the direction of Ted Kivett and Basil Thompson, and trained privately with former Israeli Ballet principal Mariana Sachs Laufer. At 15, Ms. Fischbach was awarded a scholarship to attend the North Carolina School of the Arts for three years where she studied primarily with Balanchine's muse Melissa Hayden, American Ballet Theatre's Fanchon Cordell, and Ballet Russe's Duncan Noble. During her first months as a professional dancer, Ms. Fischbach had the privilege of dancing Balanchine ballets as a principal under the direction of Edward Villella before accepting a position with Pacific Northwest Ballet, where she danced principal and soloist roles in numerous Balanchine ballets. After nine years with PNB, Ms. Fischbach took two years away from company life and freelanced as a guest artist and guest teacher of ballet, Pilates, and Gyrotonic® based classes. In 1996 Ms. Fischbach was invited to join American Ballet Theatre under the direction of Kevin McKenzie, where she danced until 2005. Ms. Fischbach had roles created for her in world premier ballets by Lar Lubovitch, Mark Morris, Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, and Kevin McKenzie and danced principal roles in ballets by Anthony Tudor, Twyla Tharp, Jiri Kylian, and Agnes DeMille. She also enjoyed featured roles in the company's full-length classical repertoire. On September 8, 2001, Ms. Fischbach was featured as a principal guest artist for Twyla Tharp performing Tharp's "Sinatra Suite" at the World Trade Center in New York City. Ms. Fischbach has appeared in several Dance in America films, the PNB Nutcracker, and Center Stage. Ms. Fischbach transitioned to her teaching career in 2005 and in 2008 created a Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) program in which her students quickly gained a prominent presence by winning top placements and passing onto the NYC International Finals each year. In 2013 and 2015, YAGP honored Ms. Fischbach with the "Outstanding Teacher" award. Her program was introduced with great success at Colorado Ballet Academy in 2016, and in 2019, CBA was awarded

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the prestigious “Outstanding School” award. CBA placed 1st in 2017, 2018, and 2nd in 2019 in the ensemble category as well as several top three placements in solo and pas de deux categories which have competed each year in the NYC International Finals. Ms. Fischbach has been praised for her choreography and adaptations of the famous classic ballets to incorporate dancers of all ages. She has choreographed full-length versions of Coppelia and Swan Lake for Colorado Ballet Academy at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House as well as The Nutcracker, Giselle, Sleeping Beauty, Don Quixote, Les Patineurs, and numerous original concert pieces for YAGP and community performances. Ms. Fischbach’s graduating students have been accepted into professional companies including Colorado Ballet and top ranked collegiate dance programs all over the country. Many of her current students have been awarded scholarships to prestigious summer intensives and year round programs including American Ballet Theatre, School of American Ballet, Royal Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Houston Ballet, Boston Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Miami City Ballet. Erica Fischbach is thrilled to lead Colorado Ballet Academy’s team of dedicated, world-class professionals.



### Gillmer Duran, Ballet Arizona

Originally from Barquisimeto, Venezuela, Mr. Duran started dancing Venezuelan Folk Dances and continued his formal ballet training at the Fundacion Arte Nuevo. He danced professionally with Ballet Metropolitano, Ballet NuevoMundo, National Ballet of Caracas, Tulsa Ballet Theatre and eight consecutive seasons with Eugene Ballet Company. He worked with choreographers such as Vicente Nebraska, Maria Rovira, Nicolo Fonte, Robert Battle, Mauricio Wainrott, Edwaard Liang, Jessica Lang and Toni Pimble, among others. His versatility and intuition allowed him to perform a variety of classical, neoclassical and contemporary roles. In June of 2010, he began teaching ballet as a way to share his passion for dance. In October of 2010, he was appointed as Alaska Dance Theatre’s Artistic Director and resident choreographer. In 2011 Mr. Duran received the Fermin Toro University Award for his career and continued to teach ballet in the east coast. He has taught master classes for several schools and created choreography for Eugene Ballet, Ballet Des Moines, Northwest Arkansas Ballet Theatre and Ballet Arizona Studio Company. In July of 2023 he obtained his bachelor in Fine Arts from Saint Mary’s College of California. He was awarded a Research and Development Grant from the Arizona Arts Commission and is currently a full-time faculty at the School of Ballet Arizona.

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### **Kyra Laubacher; Editor for Pointe Magazine**

Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kyra is the digital editor for Dance Media and oversees Pointe's news column. In 2020, she was inducted to Phi Beta Kappa and graduated summa cum laude from Butler University with a BFA in Dance Performance and a BA in English Literature. Following graduation, she danced with Eugene Ballet and #instaballet in Eugene, Oregon. Kyra began working for Dance Media as Pointe's 2020 summer intern, continuing as a contributing writer before joining the editorial team in 2022. She currently studies manuscript and developmental editing at the University of Chicago.