

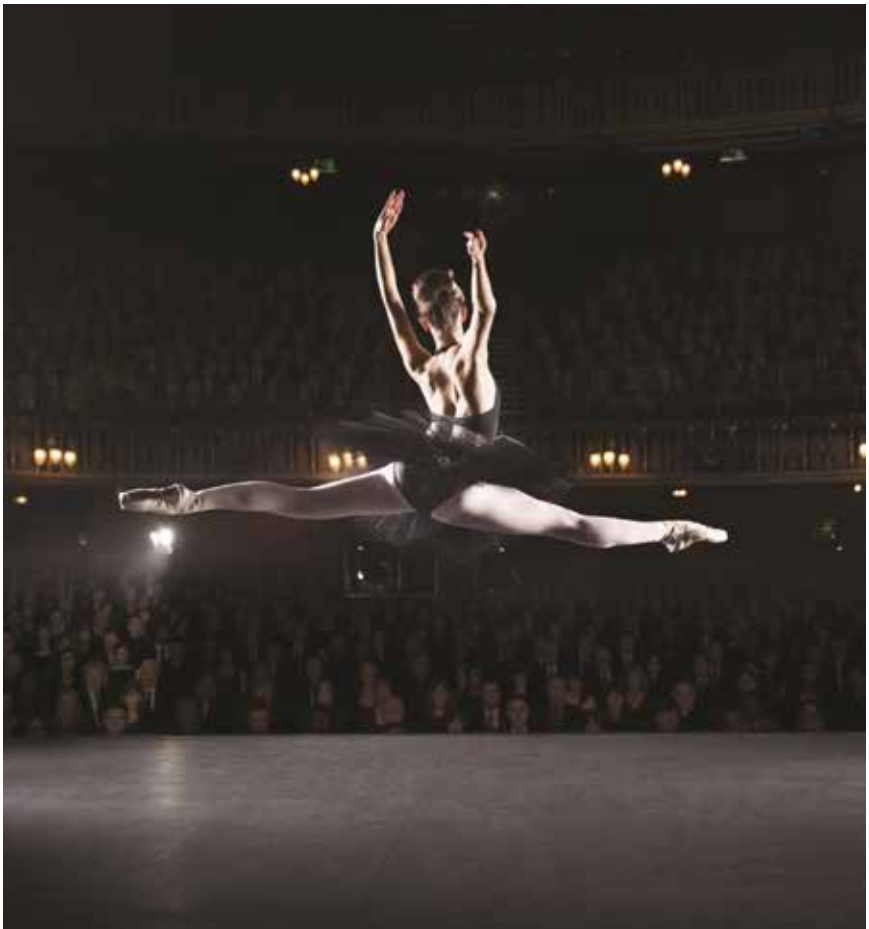


12TH ANNUAL
DANCE stl. UMSL | THE TOUHILL
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE**[®] **FESTIVAL**

MAY 23-25 2019 TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PRESENTED BY **THE WHITAKER FOUNDATION**



Emerson is proud to support Dance St. Louis' mission of enriching the arts in our community.

World Headquarters
8000 W. Florissant Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63136
Emerson.com



DANCEstl**UMSL** | THE TOUHILL
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER
University of Missouri – St. Louis**EMERSON** **SPRING TO DANCE**[®] **FESTIVAL**PRESENTED BY THE **WHITAKER FOUNDATION****MAY 23, 24 & 25, 2019**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
Touhill Performing Arts Center

FESTIVAL TITLE SPONSOR



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arts.gov

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DANCE ST. LOUIS**TERENCE MARLING**2019 *SPRING TO DANCE*
FESTIVAL
CO-CURATOR,
DANCE ST. LOUIS**JOHN CATTANACH**MANAGING DIRECTOR,
BLANCHE M. TOUHILL
PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER, UNIVERSITY
OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS**FOLLOW US ON***The taking of flash photos and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited.
Program and artists are subject to change.*

THE ARTS ENRICH LIVES AND COMMUNITIES

OUR MISSION
IS TO DO
THE SAME.



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CENTENE IS PROUD
TO SUPPORT

Dance St. Louis

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS

Welcome to the 12th year of *SPRING TO DANCE*®! What a truly remarkable celebration this festival is and how satisfying it is to see this gathering of performers and artists continue to thrive and grow year after year. Spring to Dance coming back this year to its original 3 day programming is truly the perfect bookend to what has been a glorious 53rd season for Dance St. Louis. It is very exciting to see happy faces exit the theater on what was a season of “firsts.” We have no doubt that we will continue to see these smiling faces this Memorial weekend as audiences experience the robust and full line-up of artists, companies and performers that will grace the stages and lobby of the Touhill Performing Arts Center.


We would like to thank our partners that allow us to bring a rich gathering of dance in an affordable and accessible way. Emerson and the Whitaker Foundation have been celebrating with us for years and we are very grateful for their continued leadership support. The *SPRING TO DANCE*® FESTIVAL was launched 12 years ago as a partnership with UMSL and the Touhill Performing Arts Center, and that partnership remains strong. We can't imagine holding the festival anywhere else. Edward Jones and the Centene Charitable Foundation have always been big cheerleaders of the arts in the city and their support of the festival allows us to bring a diverse line up of artists, and enables some of our local professional companies the opportunity to perform alongside their national and international peers. Ameren's support provides a platform for St. Louis organizations, artists and dancers to be seen and be exposed to a totally new audience that could help them further their mission and grow their own support. Of course, our season would not be complete without the support of our season sponsors, our loyal subscribers and our single ticket buyers for coming and enjoying this experience with all of us.

As we prepare to head to our 54th season with an explosive season of favorites, we hope that you will continue to support us and our mission of bringing the world of dance to our city. Next season you will see a diverse line-up of favorites that will once again light up the stages of St. Louis like no one else can. Join us as a season subscriber or as a supporter, a volunteer and a friend. Together, let us keep St. Louis a true destination for dance!

On behalf of our festival co-curator, Terence Marling and the Dance St. Louis Board of Directors, and all of us here at Dance St. Louis, thank you for joining us this weekend. Bravo and see you at the theater!

Christopher Mohnani
Dance St. Louis
Managing Director
Artistic Programs and
Community Engagement

Richard M. Dee
Dance St. Louis
Managing Director
Philanthropy and
Administration



Proud to support
Dance St. Louis and the
12th Annual Emerson
SPRING TO DANCE[®] Festival

Edward Jones[®]



Powering the Quality of Life

Ameren provides electricity and natural gas that is vitally important to our region, powering the quality of life for millions of people in Illinois and Missouri.

Ameren proudly supports **Dance St. Louis**

Ameren.com/communities



EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE** FESTIVAL

TERRACE LOBBY PERFORMANCES

PRESENTED BY



Join us in the Terrace Lobby for complimentary performances by local dance troupes.

THURSDAY, MAY 23 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

DANCE PLUS

EMAIL: JamellJacobs@danceplus.org

www.danceplus.org

CONTACT: Jamell Jacobs, Owner

314-921-7007

Dance Plus offers a 6-week summer session for dancers ages 2 - 18. Classes begin July 8th

GEETHA ARURU

EMAIL: Geetha.sw@gmail.com

224-875-9007

CONTACT: Geetha Aruru

Geetha began performing Indian Classical Dance and Western dances at the age of 7. This performance at the *SPRING TO DANCE FESTIVAL* is called "Kuchipudi" representing South India. Kuchipudi is one of the eleven major Indian Classical Dances.

DIVA SWEAT DANCE COMPANY

EMAIL: info@divasweatgirls.com

www.divasweatgirls.com

CONTACT: Carmellena Blockton, Director

314-499-0771

Diva Sweat Dance Company's purpose is to build confidence, character, and positive attitudes through dance.

GRAND CENTER ARTS ACADEMY

EMAIL: nicki.beier@grandcenterartsacademy.org

www.grandcenterartsacademy.org

CONTACT: Nicki Beier, Lead Dance Teacher

314-533-1791

Grand Center Arts Academy is a unique public charter school offering rigorous academics and exceptional arts training grades 6-12.

BALLROOM DANCE ACADEMY OF ST. LOUIS, BDASL

Email: ballroomdancestl@gmail.com

www.ballroomdancestl.org

CONTACT: Marsha Shepley, BDASL Board Member

314-357-1001

Ballroom Dance Academy of St. Louis, BDASL, promotes ballroom dancing, an important component of American culture and education by sponsoring inter-generational ballroom dance programs at The Grandel and throughout the St. Louis community.

EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE** FESTIVAL

TERRACE LOBBY PERFORMANCES

PRESENTED BY



Join us in the Terrace Lobby for complimentary performances by local dance troupes.

FRIDAY, MAY 24 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

ALMA DE MEXICO

EMAIL: alma_mexicostl@yahoo.com www.facebook.com/AlmadeMexicoStLouis/

CONTACT: Octavio Nieto, Artistic Director, Gaby Cornelious, Coordinator 636-236-6723

A Mexican folkloric dance group that promotes Mexican culture through dance.

CONVERGENCE TRAINEE PROGRAM TO THE BIG MUDDY DANCE COMPANY

EMAIL: dcrumbaugh@thebigmuddydanceco.org www.thebigmuddydanceco.org

CONTACT: Dustin Crumbaugh, Co-Director 314-540-9832

Convergence provides pre-professional dancers the opportunity to train and work in a company setting while preparing for the rigorous demands of a dance career.

WEBSTER UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

EMAIL: dance@webster.edu www.webster.edu/dance

CONTACT: Maggi Dueker, Chair 314-968-6936

Webster University's Department of Dance in the Leigh Gerding College of Fine Arts educates students to become skilled, creative, and compassionate thinking artists for 21st century careers as performers, choreographers, educators, and scholars. We invite you to join us at Webster Dance and take the first step toward your career. Visit our website for summer training opportunities for students ages 10 and up.

MO RIVER CLOGGERS

EMAIL: rjzerf@gmail.com www.morivercloggers.com

CONTACT: Ruth Zerface, Director 636-578-2442

Clogging for young to young at heart. Classes Wednesday evenings at the Olivette Community Center.

WEI DANCE ARTS

EMAIL: weidancearts@gmail.com www.weidancearts.com

Contact: Weiwei Fu, Director 314-800-8898

Wei Dance Arts offers the best and most professional Chinese dance group in the great St. Louis area. Offering classes and performance opportunities, Wei Dance Arts can be seen all over the community participating in festivals and community engagement in addition to its own series of performances.

EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE** FESTIVAL

TERRACE LOBBY PERFORMANCES

PRESENTED BY



Join us in the Terrace Lobby for complimentary performances by local dance troupes.

SATURDAY, MAY 25 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

GEETHA ARURU

EMAIL: Geetha.sw@gmail.com

224-875-9007

CONTACT: Geetha Aruru

Geetha began performing Indian Classical Dance and Western dances at the age of 7. This performance at the *SPRING TO DANCE FESTIVAL* is called “Kuchipudi” representing South India. Kuchipudi is one of the eleven major Indian Classical Dances.

CENTRAL VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS

EMAIL: raymondparks@slps.org

www.slps.org/CVPA

CONTACT: Ray Parks, Director of Dance

314-771-2772

Central Visual and Performing Arts High School creates an environment where students receive an exemplary academic and artistic education that showcases their talents and prepares them to meet the challenges of our dynamic global society.

COLLECTIVE MOTION

EMAIL: Katrina.Pon@gmail.com

www.collectivemotionstl.com

CONTACT: Katrina Pon, Treasurer

314-824-8217

Collective Motion collaborates with local professionals and student artists to share and create art inspired, interactive experiences that educate and empower people of all ages to make positive life choices.

THE DANCELIFE CENTER

EMAIL: Arthomas@eiu.edu

www.dancelifecenter.com

CONTACT: Antoine Thomas, Business Coordinator

217-345-7182

DanceLife aims to provide quality and tasteful dance instruction in a positive environment. Our mission is to create a supportive and nurturing environment for every student to learn dance, whether for fun and exercise, or whether to enter the arts on a professional level.

HUI HULA 'O PUNAEHELE HULA HALAU

EMAIL: stlouishulahalau@gmail.com

www.stlouishula.com

CONTACT: Dori Neumeier, Kumu (Director)

636-219-0837

Hui Hula 'O Punaehele Hula Halau is St. Louis' only halau, teaching the foundation of Hawaiian and Polynesian cultures, with language, dance, and traditional creative arts. Classes offered for all ages.



RAC'S VISION FOR ARTS AND CULTURE IN ST. LOUIS

As we listened to the diverse voices of the different audiences who have been a part of this process, several key themes, challenges, needs, resources, and opportunities emerged.

With these as our guide, we have identified key priorities where the Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis (RAC) plans to focus its efforts and attention. These priorities will drive the development of a collective strategy for arts and culture in St. Louis.

 [learn more
vision.racstl.org](https://www.vision.racstl.org)

RAC'S KEY PRIORITIES

- ❑ Establish arts education for all as a community-wide commitment
- ❑ Position the arts and culture sector as a leader in advancing equity
- ❑ Amplify arts and culture as an economic engine and contributor to St. Louis' high quality of life
- ❑ Invite all St. Louisans into creativity to advance active participation in the arts and encourage civic engagement
- ❑ Attract and retain a high-performing community of professional artists and creative entrepreneurs
- ❑ Use this vision to forge new partnerships, collaborations, and alliances

EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE**® FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, MAY 23

LEE THEATER, 6-7 P.M.

FUKUDANCE (Winchester, MA)
Missouri Contemporary Ballet (Columbia, MO)
Visceral Dance Chicago (Chicago, IL)
TL Collective / Micaela Taylor (Los Angeles, CA)

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30-9:30 P.M.

MADCO (St. Louis, MO)
Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (Dayton, OH)
DanceWorks Chicago (Chicago, IL)
 - INTERMISSION -
BennyRoyce Dance (Brooklyn, NY)
Dancing Wheels (Cleveland, OH)
Atlanta Ballet (Atlanta, GA)
Boom Crack! Dance Company (Chicago, IL)

FRIDAY, MAY 24

LEE THEATER, 6-7 P.M.

Svastha Indian Dance Company (Frisco, TX)
Karlovsky & Company Dance Company (St. Louis, MO)
Robert Moses Kin (San Francisco, CA)
Water Street Dance Milwaukee (Milwaukee, WI)

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30-9:30 P.M.

Big Muddy Dance Company (St. Louis, MO)
Boston Ballet (Boston, MA) / Tulsa Ballet (Tulsa, OK)
Eisenhower Dance (Detroit, MI)
 - INTERMISSION -
Aerial Dance Chicago (Chicago, IL)
Washington Ballet (Washington, DC)
Ensemble Espanol Spanish Dance Theater (Chicago, IL)

EMERSON **SPRING TO DANCE**® FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, MAY 25

LEE THEATER, 6-7 P.M.

MoSTLy Tap (St. Louis, MO)
Helen Simoneau Dance (Winston-Salem, NC)
Project 44 Dance Company (New York, NY)
Valerie Alpert Dance Company (Chicago, IL)

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30-9:30 P.M.

St. Louis Ballet (St. Louis, MO)
Joffrey Ballet (Chicago, IL)
Owen/Cox Dance (Kansas City, MO)

- INTERMISSION -

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago (Chicago, IL)
National Ballet of Cuba (Havana, Cuba) / **San Francisco Ballet** (San Francisco, CA) /
Cincinnati Ballet (Cincinnati, OH)
Chicago Human Rhythm Project (Chicago, IL)

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -
LEE THEATER, 6 PM

FUKUDANCE

Junichi Fukuda, Artistic Director

DISMELL (EXCERPT)

Choreography by Junichi Fukuda

Music by Michael Palace

Lighting by Paul Marr

(2018)

JUNICHI FUKUDA

Silvan Tomkins was a 20th century psychologist who believed that there are nine affects that are biologically based and cannot be classified as emotions.

He believed they manifest a shared biological heritage with what is called emotion in animals. These are: interest-excitement, enjoyment-joy, surprise-startle, distress-anguish, anger-rage, fear-terror, “dissmell” and disgust.

Extending beyond Freudian drives, these are immutable biological affects.

With reactions being beyond human conscious control, this perspective nearly negates the concept that as a human we are responsible for our negative actions. Boys will be boys, after all. Focusing on Dismell, this piece is inspired by Tomkin’s made up word “Dissmell” which he considers the biological response to noxious tastes and odors. Is someone, feeling a profound antipathy towards another! , experiencing a subjective dismell and therefore justified in their negative reaction as a biological state? This can give easy justification for all forms of discrimination. This piece contemplates where responsibility for a negative reaction to someone lies. Performers embody the reaction of dismell.

They express this as indifference in movement, dominating movements and even facial expressions.

I believe that every person has the innate wisdom to perceive their own connectedness and the expansive, multifaceted reality of their existence. The roots of suffering lie in the belief that we are disconnected and powerless cogs in society’s machinery. As an artist, I feel it is my mission to inspire audiences and performers to awaken to their ability to sense, comprehend and embrace their greater, connected selves. I believe that dance holds a special place in inspiring the humanity of audiences. As we all have a body, there is an innate empathy towards the dance performer. As the dancer experiences their own awakening and movement catharsis, the audience will empathetically experience it too. I use the body’s movement to explore specific facets of the wisdom of connectedness.

FUKUDANCE is a collective group of artists with the integrities who believe in the mission. www.fukudance.com

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

MISSOURI CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Karen Mareck Grundy, Artistic Director

AWRY

Choreography by Penny Saunders

Music by Zoe Keating, Julia Kent

Costumes by Barbara Smith

Lighting by Josh Reid

(2017)

NICOLE BELL MARIA HALL ELISE MOSBACHER
 FERNANDO RODRIGUEZ ANTHONY SIGLER
 JOSE SOARES MEREDITH GREEN SOARES
 ALICE WELLS KAY WHITNEY

Inspired by the 2017 solar eclipse, *Awry* looks at how migration patterns are easily shifted by the lack of light in these very special stellar occurrences. Adjusting to these abrupt disturbances requires a reconciliation of sorts, and survival is reliant upon the ability to adapt.

Now in its 13th season, **Missouri Contemporary Ballet** (MCB) brings accessible, edgy, world-class dance to mid-Missouri. Founded in 2006 by Artistic/Executive Director Karen Mareck Grundy, MCB is based in the city of Columbia, home to the University of Missouri and a thriving arts scene. Their resident stage is the historic Missouri Theatre and they perform primarily as a part of the distinguished University of Missouri Concert Series. Off the stage and beyond the not-for-profit School of MCB, they serve the community through educational and outreach programs that promote creativity and fitness while building an appreciation for the arts. We welcome and foster up-and-coming guest choreographers, and frequently partner with local musicians and arts organizations. As a company, we enthusiastically strive to enrich the community and collaborate with local and national artists of all mediums. Additionally, we value the ability to offer audience members a new outlook and appreciation of contemporary ballet.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY SEASON SPONSOR



- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

VISCERAL DANCE CHICAGO

Nick Pupillo, Artistic Director

KEEP

Choreography by Nick Pupillo

Music by Sigur Ros

Lighting by David Goodman-Edberg
(2018)

BRAEDEN BARNES

MEREDITH HARRILL

Take my heart when you go.

Founded in 2013 by Artistic Director Nick Pupillo, **Visceral Dance Chicago** is a contemporary dance company dedicated to a bold and progressive world of movement. In less than six years, the company has developed a diverse and respected repertoire. With works by distinguished choreographers Sidra Bell, Mónica Cervantes, Marguerite Donlon, Brian Enos, Robyn Mineko Williams, Banning Bouldin, Harrison McEldowney, Fernando Melo, Ohad Naharin, Mark Godden, Danielle Agami, Kevin O'Day and Pupillo, Visceral Dance Chicago continues to challenge audiences' expectations. In January of 2015, Visceral Dance Chicago was named one of Dance Magazine's 25 to Watch, recognizing the company's accomplishments and potential in the national community. "Visceral Dance Chicago breathes life into the Chicago arts community with their ability to intertwine complex human emotions with the raw beauty of dance and physical movement." (Chicago Stage Standard)

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

THE TL COLLECTIVE

Micaela Taylor, Artistic Director

DRIFT

Choreography by Micaela Taylor

Music by Various Artists: Bee Gees, Pan Sonic, Tupac, Sam Cooke

Costumes by Micaela Taylor

Lighting by Micaela Taylor

Set by Micaela Taylor

(2019)

MICAELA TAYLOR MATT LUCK JENN LACY
GIGI TODISCO JESSIE THORNE

Choreographer/dancer Micaela Taylor, one of *Dance Magazine's* 25 to Watch for 2019, is a Ford Theatres 2019 Artist-in-Residence. During her residency, she will create an original dance piece, entitled *Drift*, with her company TL Collective that will culminate in performance on the Ford stage, and will be performed at Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts in Summer 2019. *Drift* unfolds an individual's ever-changing relationship to self. In a season of singleness, when someone is otherwise alone, who else can they develop but themselves? Micaela Taylor's new work will expose her season of self-growth into an evening-length piece performed by five dancers.

The TL Collective was founded by Micaela Taylor in 2016, ignited by her passion to create an engaging, diverse, work. After a successful launch in LA of premiered work-Molecular Fuel, Taylor continued to create new works that were performed throughout intimate spaces in LA such as PopMadness(2017), SeeColour(2018), and ROSEWOOD (2018). Due to rave reviews, in 2018 Taylor was commissioned to perform in Grand Performances with PopMadness which further exposed her work to the greater Los Angeles community. Since then, The TL has solidified their repertoire and Taylor's creative voice with commissions and presentations by Grand Park, Ford Amphitheatre, The Broad Stage, The ACE hotel, and Jacob's Pillow.

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- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -
 ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

MADCO

Nicole Whitesell, Artistic Director

UNTIED

Choreography by Cecil Slaughter

Music by Shares of Night, Movement 2 and 3 by James Rich; performed by Matt Henry & guest artists

Costumes by Felia Davenport

Lighting by Dominick Ehling
 (2010)

BELICIA BECK ELYSE GUTTMANN DARRELL V. HYCHE II DARYON KENT
 JEFF MITCHELL TAYLOR NASH ARIANNA RUSS NATALIE WILLIAMS

This intense, high-energy piece demonstrates excellent technicality while moving through one obstacle after another. Nothing can tie these dancers down.

MADCO has served our community through dance for over 40 years making us the longest running professional dance company in St. Louis. We are known for collaborative work through which we provide community inspired, innovative dance experiences. We create pathways for self-discovery and social connections in addition to excellent entertainment for audience members, students, teachers, presenters, as well as corporate clients. Dare! Dance! Discover! Move with us into the future! You can find more information at www.madcodance.com or on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @madcodance.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL UNDERWRITING SPONSOR **CENTENE**
Charitable Foundation

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

DAYTON CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY

Debbie Blunden-Diggs, Artistic Director

STUMP-SPEACH

Choreography by Crystal Michelle

Music by Wynton Marsalis

Costumes by L'Amour

Lighting by Matthew J. Evans

(2017)

DEVIN BAKER GARRIANNE BLAYR
NILE ALICIA RUFF MATTHEW J. TALLEY

Set to a Wynton Marsalis piece called “The Death of Jazz,” “Stump-Speach” plays with the gestures of minstrelsy as choreographer Crystal Michelle asks what it means for black bodies to be in performance.

Dayton Contemporary Dance Company was founded in 1968 to create performance opportunities for dancers of color. Fifty years later, it remains rooted in the African American experience, committed to the development of diverse movement artists on the global stage. A co-recipient of the 2016 Bessie Award for Outstanding Revival, the culturally diverse company is dedicated to exceptional performance and quality community engagement. DCDC’s 50th anniversary touring is generously supported by University of Dayton. Visit www.dcdc.org for more information.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY SEASON SPONSOR



- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

DANCEWORKS CHICAGO

Julie Nakagawa, Artistic Director

SWANS

Choreography by Hanna Britson

Music by Tchaikovsky, excerpts from *Swan Lake*

Costumes by Hanna Britson

Lighting by Margaret Nelson

(2019)

JADE MONET HOOPER CAMERON LASATER RACQUEL MAR
ELIJAH RICHARDSON IMANI WILLIAMS

With wit, athleticism, and precision, *Swans* brings to life
a Tchaikovsky-flavored Olympics that captures athletes' grit
and dancers' rhythm all the way to the finish line.

DanceWorks Chicago is a creative incubator that focuses on the development of young artists to foster a diverse next generation of dance movers and makers. Providing artistic training and guidance along with financial, emotional, and practical support for early career professionals, DWC achieves excellence in the studio, in the community, on stage, and behind-the-scenes. A good dance citizen, DWC takes an active role in the forward movement of the art form. Always moving. www.danceworkschicago.org
Facebook: /DanceWorksChicago Instagram: /danceworkschicago

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL UNDERWRITING SPONSOR **Edward Jones**

- INTERMISSION -

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -
 ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

BENNYROYCE DANCE

Bennyroyce Royon, Artistic Director

IN PURSUIT

Choreography by Bennyroyce Royon

Music In Similar Motion - Music by Philip Glass

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Costumes by Bennyroyce Royon

Lighting by Julie Ballard

(2017)

LAUREN BURKE A'LEXUS CROOMS ALLISON SALE CARA SEYMOUR
 PHILIP STROM WADE WATSON

In Pursuit is a 12-minute dance set to the hypnotic music of Philip Glass. This work explores the shape of effort, the power of stillness, and the tension in balancing centeredness and the urgency of pursuit. *In Pursuit* is richly layered with fluid and balletic movements, dynamic partnering, introspective stillness, and moving group structures.

Bennyroyce Dance is a project-based contemporary dance collective led by Filipino American choreographer Bennyroyce Royon. His work has been described as “unexpected and heart-stoppingly dramatic” (Creative Loafing Atlanta), “glimmers of ballet with a lot of edge” (BroadwayWorld.com), and “refreshingly original” (ARTS ATL). Founded in 2010, Bennyroyce Dance engages a multicultural group of broad-minded artists who share a common passion for movement, experimentation, and innovation. The company connects with diverse audiences through performances, classes, and workshops in New York City and beyond.

Bennyroyce Dance has performed at The Joyce Theater, Bryant Park Presents, Baryshnikov Arts Center, The Ailey Studios, Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture, Baruch Performing Arts Center, The Theater at the 14th Street Y, and Salvatore Capezio Theater among others. The company has also performed at festivals including the CHOP SHOP Contemporary Dance Festival and the New Orleans Fringe Festival. Bennyroyce Dance has received space residencies from CUNY Dance Initiative, Brooklyn Music School, Velocity Dance Center, Armitage Gone! Dance at Mana Contemporary, and The Art Mill.

Website: www.bennyroyce.com

Instagram & Twitter: @bennyroycedance

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL PARTNER SPONSOR

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

THE DANCING WHEELS COMPANY

Mary Verdi-Fletcher, Artistic Director

NEITHER LOST NOR FOUND

Choreography by James Morrow

Music by Songs edited by James Morrow include "Tight Sweater: III> Mara's Lullaby" by Real Quiet, "Twinkle" by Eryka Badu, and "Station" by Låpsley

Costumes by The Dancing Wheels Company

Lighting by Jeremy K Benjamin

(2017)

MATT BOWMAN TANYA EWELL KAITLYN FABIAN

MOLLY HASLAG SARA LAWRENCE-SUCATO

DEBORAH REILLY MATTHEW ROBINSON CELINA SPECK

MARY VERDI-FLETCHER MEREDITH ALEIGHA WELLS

A reflection on Niemöller's profound words that continue to resonate in popular discourse over hot button societal issues, choreographer James Morrow's "Neither Lost Nor Found" ties into Dancing Wheels mission to bring about awareness of disabilities through dance.

The Dancing Wheels Company, founded in Cleveland, OH in 1980 by Mary Verdi-Fletcher, is America's first and foremost physically integrated company. With a composition of professional stand-up and sit-down dancers, the company tours globally presenting innovative works from nationally acclaimed choreographers. Each season, the company accomplishes whirlwind tours of more than 50 cities presenting to audiences of 50,000+. The School of Dancing Wheels embraces inclusive arts programming, reaching over 7,000 children and adults with disabilities and economic challenges each year. The Dancing Wheels Company & School is proudly hailed as the World Center for Physically Integrated Dance & Arts Access. For more information, visit www.dancingwheels.org.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

NADIA MARA, ATLANTA BALLET

Gennadi Nedvigin, Artistic Director

and

JARED TAN, ATLANTA BALLET

Gennadi Nedvigin, Artistic Director

DIANE AND ACTEON PAS DE DEUX

FROM THE FULL-LENGTH BALLET *ESMERALDA*

Choreography by Agrippina Vaganova after Marius Petipa

Music by Cesare Pugni

Diane, the Goddess of Hunt, falls in love with Acteon, a supreme hunter, but human. A technical showcase, this pas de deux displays bravura dancing and intricate partnering.

Nadia Mara was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, and trained at Uruguay's National School of Ballet, graduating as the best dancer in school and earning the Elena Smirnova Gold Medal. In the United States, Nadia began dancing with North Carolina Dance Theatre and joined Atlanta Ballet in 2006. Her most notable lead roles include *Giselle*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, Sugar Plum Fairy in *Atlanta Ballet's Nutcracker*, Mina in Michael Pink's *Dracula*, Nathalie in Jordan Morris' *Moulin Rouge®* - The Ballet and Marguerite in Helen Pickett's *Camino Real*. Nadia has received the award of "Outstanding Artist" given by *The Atlanta Journal Constitution* and *Mundo Hispanico*.

Jared Tan comes from the Philippines, and began dancing at age 9 with Philippine Ballet Theatre under the direction of Gener Caringal. He trained for more than 14 years under Russian Ballet Master Anatoly Panasyukov. Tan came to the United States in 2009 to join American Repertory Ballet in New Jersey under the direction of Graham Lustig, and, in 2010, he joined Atlanta Ballet. He is most proud of the work he has done with choreographers Ohad Naharin in *Minus 16* and Secus, Alexanrde Ekman in *Cacti* and Jiří Kylián in *Petite Mort*. He has performed featured roles in many works, including Christopher Hampson's *Rite of Spring*, Michael Pink's *Dracula*, Alexei Ratmansky's *Seven Sonatas*, Twyla Tharp's *The Princess & the Goblin* and Liam Scarlett's *Vespertine*.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- THURSDAY, MAY 23 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

BOOM CRACK! DANCE COMPANY

Trae Turner, Artistic Director

THE MASSACRE!

Choreography by Jack Chen, Krista Ellensohn, Susan Skrzymowski, Trae Turner

Music by Trae Turner

Costumes by Susan Skrzymowski, Trae Turner

Lighting by Trae Turner

(2019)

GEOREL ACUNA ERICA ANDRUS KI'ERA BANKS QUDASHA BROOKS
 BLAIRE BUTLER JACK CHEN RYLEY CLEMENT ASHLEY CORREA
 TRINITY DENT EMILY DIETZE KRISTA ELLEN SOHN LILA FAGEN
 DARNETTA FRAZIER ERIK GONZALEZ-CIBRIAN NIGEL GRANT
 KYLA HUBBARD JACKIE HUEY ANNIE KIM KRIS KNIGHTON
 ALEXA KRUCHTEN SHARMAINE MEMPIN CHERYL OKUDA
 PAULINA PIETRAS GRACE PILCHER MICHELLE RADVILLAS
 SOPHIA SANTORE MIMI SIRIOUDOM RYAN SIU SUSAN SKRZYMOWSKI
 SAMANTHA TAYLOR STELLA TAYLOR TRAE TURNER
 KIERRA WILLIAMS MADDIE YOUNG

From the moment of its incorporation as a city in 1837, Chicago has been plagued by corrupt politicians, shady businessmen, and barbarous gangsters.

The year 1930 saw the incarceration of famed mobster Al Capone, one year after the infamous St. Valentine's Day Massacre. This left Chicago in disarray as a record of 1,400 gangs ravaged the city for a piece of Capone's hundred million dollar bootlegging empire. This is a story of one of those gangs.

BOOM CRACK! Dance Company is a professional hip-hop company based out of Chicago, Illinois. The company consists of over 40 dancers from various dance backgrounds ranging from contemporary and jazz to various hip-hop styles. Unlike average hip-hop companies, BOOM CRACK! creates inspiring and memorable concept-based sets with a style that is unique to the company. The "BCDC dance style" emerged as variations of Founder and Artistic Director Trae Turner's style, which can be described as "controlled chaos" or "high energy street jazz." Its concepts and style of dance push the boundaries of today's hip-hop dance and open the door for creating the hip-hop dance of tomorrow.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL TITLE SPONSOR



- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

SVASTHA DANCE COMPANY

Surya Ravi, Artistic Director

NANDI CHOL

Choreography by Aarth Sundar, Surya Ravi, Swathi Jaisankar, Vivek Ramanan

Music by Ramesh Babu

Costumes by Svastha Dance Company

Lighting by Julie Ballard

(2016)

AARTHY SUNDAR

SURYA RAVI

VIVEK RAMANAN

Nandi Chol (Nandi speaks), demonstrates a combination of intricate footwork and hand gestures typical of Bharatanatyam. In Hindu mythology, Nandi is a bull who is Lord Shiva's vahana (vehicle). Amongst his many duties, Nandi guards the gates of Kailasa (where Lord Shiva resides) and plays the mridangam (a drum) for Lord Shiva when he dances. The piece slowly builds in four speeds and geometric formations showcasing this mythological imagery of Nandi and Lord Shiva.

SVASTHA Dance Company performs Bharatanatyam, an Indian Classical dance form. Surya Ravi, Aarth Sundar and Vivek Ramanan initially served as fellows at the prestigious Indian Raga Fellowship in 2016 and continued to participate in 2017 as Creative Directors. They have developed, choreographed and performed in multiple dance video productions through the Indian Raga platform. With their common desire to explore choreographic boundaries in traditional dance and eagerness to collaborate, they formed SVASTHA Dance Company in 2018. The company strives to promote Bharatanatyam to a wider audience.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY SEASON SPONSOR



- FRIDAY, MAY 25 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

KARLOVSKY & COMPANY DANCE

Dawn Karlovsky, Artistic Director

IN... INTO... ONE

Choreography by Dawn Karlovsky

Music by Philip Glass - "Knee 1" from Einstein on the Beach

Costumes by Dawn Karlovsky

Lighting by Dawn Karlovsky

(2010)

R. VANCE BALDWIN SUMMER BEASLEY ELISE MARIE RINGENBER

In...Into...One, a trio characterized by layers of complex gestural phrasing, examines the human traits of curiosity and our desire to push beyond both emotional and physical boundaries.

KARLOVSKY & COMPANY DANCE is a St. Louis-based contemporary modern dance company in residence at the Grandel Theatre, supported by the Kranzberg Arts Foundation. Now in their 6th Season, Karlovsky & Company Dance performs vibrant, inventive works that articulate and illuminate, through movement, the relationships and experiences that reveal our humanity. Dawn Karlovsky, Founder/Artistic Director/Choreographer of Karlovsky & Company Dance, is a recipient of the 2015 Artist Fellowship awarded by The Regional Arts Commission of St. Louis. Her thought-provoking, athletic, and emotionally candid choreography has been commissioned and presented throughout the US, France, China, and soon in South Africa. The works of Karlovsky & Company Dance bring to life choreographic landscapes through evening-length productions that involve collaboration and integration of contemporary dance, dance-theater, live music, spoken word, and visual art. The company engages audiences through concert performances, dance for the camera, site-specific dance, and educational programs for older adults and children. Karlovsky teaches Modern Dance and the Alexander Technique at Washington University/University College, and in the Department of Dance at Webster University in St. Louis, and is a nationally certified teacher of the Alexander Technique (AmSAT) since 2004. Karlovsky & Company Dance completed their first international tour in France in June 2018. Upcoming tours include a performance in the SF-Bay Area in June 2019, and an international collaboration and performance with New World Dance Theatre in Cape Town, South Africa in August 2019. Karlovsky & Company Dance is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. www.karlovskydance.org

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL UNDERWRITING SPONSOR **CENTENE** Charitable Foundation

- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

ROBERT MOSES' KIN

Robert Moses, Artistic Director

TRAPDOORS / CAUSE (EXCERPT)

Choreography by Robert Moses

Interviews Used With Permission

Costumes by Robert Moses

Lighting by David Elliot

(2017)

TIFFANY RAE FISHER

Since founding Robert Moses' Kin in 1995, the artist Robert Moses has created numerous works of varying styles and genres for his highly praised dance company. His work explores topics ranging from oral traditions in African American culture to the nuanced complexities of parentage and identity and the simple joys of the expressive power of pure movement. In addition to his work with Robert Moses' Kin, Moses has choreographed for Alvin Ailey American Dance, The San Francisco Opera, and Ailey 2 and other esteemed dance companies. He has choreographed for the SFFF, The Lorraine Hansberry Theater, New Conservatory Theater, Los Angeles Prime Moves Festival (L.A.C.E.), and Olympic Arts Festival.

RMK has earned Seven Isadora Duncan awards for work supported by funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, San Francisco Arts Commission, California Arts Council, San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, and San Francisco Foundation, and among others and is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Bonnie Bird North American Choreography Award, the SF Weekly Black Box Award for Choreography, and the SF Bay Guardian Goldie Award. RMK performs at venues such as the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Fall for Dance/City Center, Bates Dance Festival, Colorado Dance Festival and Black Choreographers Moving Toward.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -
LEE THEATER, 6 PM

WATER STREET DANCE MILWAUKEE

Morgan Williams, Artistic Director

BROKEN CHORD

Choreography by Christa Smutek

Music by Arthur Rubenstein

(2018)

MORGAN WILLIAMS MADYUN WILSON
ALEX SEAGER ASHLEY TOMASEWSKI

Broken Chord is a dark comedic work set to the music of Chopin. The work can be interpreted as the everyday struggle and abuse that couples go thru. Dancers are at one point throwing themselves at each other while looking to the audience for emotional support.

Previously known as SueMo: A Dance Experience, **Water Street Dance Milwaukee** is a dance organization based in Milwaukee WI committed to providing innovative performances, educational outreach, and a platform for emerging dancers and choreographers. The company has been a dominant force in the Milwaukee arts scene and the greater midwest dance community, and only continues to excel further under their new vision. Artistic Director Morgan Williams aims to fulfill his vision of a dance company that offers an impactful dance experiences to audiences and dancers everywhere. The company brings their ambition and passion to cities all over the country through works presented by both the company and through varying education dance intensives and outreach programs. The company is committed to all parts of concert dance: the creation process, collaborative input, producing dynamic and expressive works unique to the company, and translating the latter product into performances offered to multifarious audiences.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL TITLE SPONSOR  **EMERSON**

- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

THE BIG MUDDY DANCE COMPANY

Brian Enos, Artistic Director

ZUGZWANG!

Choreography by Prince Lyons

Music by Noah Valenti

Costumes by Nathali Rottier

Lighting by Andrew Snyder

(2019)

GEOFFREY ALEXANDER CJ BURROUGHS THOMAS JACOBSON
 ROBERT POE KARINA CARDELLA SAMUEL ASHER KUNZMAN
 MOLLY RYAN JESSIE PHILBRICK DUSTIN CRUMBAUGH BRANDON FINK
 KELLY SCHNEIDER CARLY VANDERHEYDEN MALLORY HENSEL

The Big Muddy Dance Company is a St. Louis - based repertory company that strives to invigorate life through dance through its MainStage productions, education, and senior citizen outreach. About to embark upon its ninth season, the company of 15 dancers builds upon its programming each year under the artistic direction of Brian Enos in the heart of the Grand Center Arts District. The Big Muddy envisions a broad community that believes in the love, joy, and transformative power of dance.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL UNDERWRITING SPONSOR **CENTENE**
 Charitable Foundation

- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

DAYNELIS MUNOZ AND JOSEPH GATTI

International Principal Guest Artists

PAS D' ESCLAVE (DANCE OF THE SLAVE) GRAND PAS DE DEUX

FROM ACT 1 OF THE FULL-LENGTH BALLET *LE CORSAIRE*

Choreography by Marius Petipa

Music by Adolphe Adam

Daynelis Munoz began her formal ballet training in Cuba, where she is from. She studied Classical Ballet at the Cuban National Ballet School. After graduating in 2005, she was hired on as a Professional Classical Ballet Dancer and Ballet Instructor. Daynelis has been a company member and professional dancer for the Cuban National Ballet, Mexico Ballet, and Tulsa Ballet. She has danced on stages in Spain, France, Colombia, and Mexico to name a few. Has been highlighted most of her career as a Principal Dancer. Daynelis has danced the main roles in *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Infra*, *Serenade*, and *Bayadera*. She has danced pieces of internationally renowned choreographers in the world of art such as John Cranko, Edwaard Liang, Marcello Angelini, George Balanchine, Wayne McGregor, Ma Cong, and Alicia Alonso. She has participated in different International Ballet Competitions in Cuba, Mexico, winning Gold Medal and in Youth America, winning Grand Prix.

Joseph Gatti is a Principal Dancer with the Cincinnati Ballet and Corella Ballet, and First Soloist with Boston Ballet and is currently the Artistic Director and Founder of United Ballet Theatre. In 2003, he was coached by Orlando Molina for the Youth American Grand Prix Ballet Competition in New York, where he was awarded the gold medal and a scholarship to the Royal Ballet School in London. Upon graduating with honors, he received the Dame Ruth Railton Award for Excellence in Dance in 2004. In 2005, he became the first American male dancer to win the prestigious gold medal at the New York International Ballet Competition. In 2006, he became a bronze medalist at the USA International Ballet Competition and a silver medalist at the Seoul International Ballet Competition in Korea. In 2007, Joseph was coached by Magaly Suarez for the first World Ballet Competition in Orlando, Florida, where he received the gold medal. Mr. Gatti also received the bronze medal at the 2010 Istanbul International Ballet Competition. In 2013, Joseph received the Mr. Virtuosity Award at the Dance Open Ballet Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia. In 2014, he also received the "Best Pas De Deux" award at the Dance Open Festival in St. Petersburg.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

EISENHOWER DANCE DETROIT

Stephanie Pizzo, Artistic Director

CUES

Choreography by Jousha Peugh

Music by Steve Reich

Costumes by Tina Tomicic

Lighting by David Goodman-Edberg

(2017)

LINDSAY CHIRIO-HUMENAY ANDREW CRIBBETT ALEX HLAVATY
 BROOKE MAINLAND
 MATTHEW SCHMITZ MICHAEL TEASLEY III

Eisenhower Dance Detroit, Michigan's premier contemporary dance company, ranks among the finest dance ensembles in the nation and hails as one of the most outstanding arts organizations in the Midwest. EDD's artistry, inventiveness, and collaborative spirit have propelled the company to 28 years of national and international acclaim. The company has performed works by choreographers Edgar Zendejas, David Parsons, Lar Lubovitch, Ron de Jesus, Gina Patterson, Lauren Edson and Harrison McEldowney, to name a few. The Company's mission of collaboration has resulted in performances with the Michigan Opera Theatre, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, the Warren Symphony, the Immigrant Suns, Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings, the Rackham Symphony Choir, the Motor City Lyric Opera and the Toledo Opera, among others.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL PARTNER SPONSOR



- INTERMISSION -

- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

AERIAL DANCE CHICAGO

Chloe Jensen, Artistic Director

BLACKBIRD (EXCERPT)

Choreography by Karen Fisher Doyle and Chloe Jensen

Music by Mario Batkovic, Olafur Arnalds & Nils Frahm, Origamibiro, The Thing

About Noise, Daniel Pemberton

Costumes by Duoduo Wang

Lighting by Jacob Snodgrass

Rigging by Kip Conwell

(2018)

ALANNA KLETCKE HANNAH ROSENFELD LIBBY WESTRA

DANI BITOUT GENA BRADY GRANT HILL

CHLOE JENSEN LISA CALDWELL

Blackbird reveals the truth that the potential for darkness and the potential for light exists within each of us.

AERIAL DANCE CHICAGO (ADC) is a contemporary dance company in flight, founded in 1999 and guided by the original creative vision of Chloe Jensen. One of the world's first dance companies dedicated to exploration of aerial dance choreography, ADC is a pioneer and a leader in the international dance community. Characterized by extraordinary physicality and originality, the company's work has been presented across the United States at theaters, museums, schools, universities and festivals, including favorite hometown venues like The Athenaeum Theatre, Navy Pier, The Museum of Science & Industry, Millennium Park and the historic Grand Ballroom of the Drake Hotel. In 2014, ADC opened Chicago's only dance center dedicated to the fine art of aerial dance, offering cutting-edge curriculum in contemporary dance, both on the ground and in the air. As ADC moves forward, creating, performing and teaching, company artists continue to redefine human movement potential and transcend the assumed limits of dance. Visit us at www.aerialdancechicago.org.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY SEASON SPONSOR



- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

KATHERINE BARKMAN, WASHINGTON BALLET

Julie Kent, Artistic Director

and

ROLANDO SARABIA, WASHINGTON BALLET

Julie Kent, Artistic Director

GRAND PAS CLASSIQUE

Choreography by Victor Gsovsky

Music by Daniel François Auber

Premiered in Paris in the year 1949, Grand Pas Classique by Russian choreographer and ballet master Victor Gsovsky is a homage to classical dance. Based on a musical extract from the three act ballet Marco Spada published by the composer Daniel-François-Esprit Auber as an offshoot of his opera by the same name, this pas de deux is a masterpiece of exquisite virtuosity.

Katherine Barkman joined The Washington Ballet in October 2018, soon after winning consecutive Silver Medals from two of the world's most prestigious ballet Olympiads — the XI USA International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi, and the XXVIII Varna International Ballet Competition in Bulgaria. Her other major awards from international competitions include winning the Grand Prix Cup at the 2015 Asian Grand Prix. Since then, Barkman has debuted in the classical roles of Odette/ Odile in *Swan Lake*, Kitri in *Don Quixote*, Giselle in *Giselle*, Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*, the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Snow Queen in *The Nutcracker*, Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Nikiya in *La Bayadere*, and Medora in *Le Corsaire*. She has also performed the lead in popular masterpieces such as *Grand Pas Classique*, *The Dying Swan*, *Paquita*, and Balanchine's *Tarantella*.

Rolando Sarabia is a Cuban ballet dancer of international acclaim who has danced with companies throughout the world including the Cuban National Ballet, Houston Ballet and Miami City Ballet. Sarabia is often compared to the young Mikhail Baryshnikov and has been called the "Cuban Nijinsky" by the *New York Times*. Sarabia is the recipient of the Prix Benois de la Danse, Concours International de Danse de Paris, Varna International Ballet Competition, Gold Medal USA International Ballet Competition, Gold Medal 1998 International Ballet Competition and Grand Prix 1998 International Encounter of Ballet Academies among others.

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- FRIDAY, MAY 24 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL SPANISH DANCE THEATER

Dame Libby Komaiko, Founder; Irma Suarez Ruiz, Artistic Director; Jorge Perez,
Executive Director

MIL CLAVOS

Choreography by Ron De Jesus

Music by Ezio Boso (section 1), Valtteri Kujala (section 2),
Ludovico Einaudi (section 3)

Costume Design by Ron De Jesus, Irma Suarez Ruiz
Costume Production by Luz Creations and Emily Taylor
Lighting by Nathan Tomlinson
(2014)

FULL COMPANY

This performance is dedicated to founder Dame Libby Komaiko
(6/30/1949 - 2/2/2019)

Combining Flamenco and contemporary dance styles, choreographer Ron De Jesús collaborates with the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater to create “Mil Clavos - One Thousand Nails,” a ballet in three movements honoring the Ensemble and its founder Dame Libby Komaiko. This new work examines the indestructible bond between Spanish dance and contemporary movement, as it affirms that the “nail” that holds time-honored traditions and modern sensibilities together is found in the artists’ dedication to their craft.

Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, founded by Dame Libby Komaiko, is Chicago’s world class Spanish dance company under the dynamic leadership of artistic director, Irma Suarez Ruiz and executive director, Jorge Perez. The Ensemble Español is the premier Spanish dance company and center in the United States to have in-residence status at a university, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago. The Company’s mission is the preservation, presentation and promotion of the classical, folkloric, flamenco and contemporary dance and music traditions of Spain. The company, now celebrating its 42nd anniversary, is comprised of dancers, singers, and musicians representing a mosaic of cultures from around the world. The Company works in cultural and educational arts programs serving over 31,000 students annually. The Company performs throughout the U.S. and has performed on four continents.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL TITLE SPONSOR  **EMERSON**



SPANISH DANCE ICON

DAME LIBBY KOMAIKO

JUNE 30, 1949 – FEBRUARY 2, 2019



Dame Libby Komaiko, one of the most important female figures in Spanish dance in the United States, passed away earlier this year. A trailblazer for Spanish and Flamenco dance, she leaves behind a strong and flourishing legacy, which includes Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, The Ensemble Español Center for Spanish Dance and Music, the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Youth Company, the Northeastern Illinois University Spanish Dance Program, and the annual American Spanish Dance and Music Festival.

In 1983 she was granted the Lazo de Dama de la Orden de Isabel la Catholica (the Ribbon of the Dame) from the King of Spain, His Majesty Don Juan Carlos I. Our Dame Libby was the first American artist to be awarded the distinction.

Our deepest and sincerest admiration, love and gratitude for the gift she has left us.

As co-Managing Director of Dance St. Louis and Vice Chair of the Board at Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater in Chicago, we celebrate the life and legacy of Dame Libby Komaiko this weekend at the EMERSON SPRING TO DANCE® FESTIVAL.

RICHARD M. DEE

There are short-cuts to happiness,
and dancing is one of them.

Vicki Baum



Night Moves, oil on canvas | courtesy of the artist: David Spear, Columbia | alleywayarts.com

Dance St. Louis is one of over
550 quality arts programs supported by the
Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

www.missouriartscouncil.org



- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -
LEE THEATER, 6 PM

MOSTLY TAP

Maria Majors, Founder and Artistic Director

SIR DUKE

Choreography by Amy Gammon, Kelly Ging, Maria Majors, Tommy Wasiuta
Music by Stevie Wonder from the Album Songs In The Key of Life (1976)

Performed Live by moSTLY Jazz
(2018)

AMY GAMMON KELLY GING MARIA MAJORS TOMMY WASIUTA

Simon Chervitz (bass), Scotti Iman (drums), Phillip Russo (guitar, vocals), Ryan Torpea (piano)

moSTLY TAP is an ensemble of professional tap dancers in St. Louis. It is the company's mission to boost enthusiasm for the art of tap dance and expand the community of dancers and musicians working together in the area. moSTLY TAP has been invited to perform at music and art festivals, corporate and community events, and dance concerts. moSTLY TAP performs with the musicians of moSTLY JAZZ, providing a live music and tap dance experience that is the only one of its kind in the area. The collaboration, a full evening of live music and tap dance choreography and improvisation, debuted with a sold out audience. moSTLY TAP offers educational programs with experienced instructors and hosts live music and tap jam sessions throughout the area for dancers of all ages and levels. www.mostlytap.com

THIS PERFORMANCE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY FESTIVAL UNDERWRITING SPONSOR **CENTENE**
Charitable Foundation

- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

HELEN SIMONEAU DANSE

Helen Simoneau, Artistic Director

CARIBOU (SOLO)

Choreography by Helen Simoneau

Music by Bernard Adamus rendition of “La Foule,”

composed by Angel Cabral with lyrics by Michel Rivgache

Sound by John C. B. Wilson

Costumes by Kathryn Grillo

Lighting by Gordon Olsen

(2015)

HELEN SIMONEAU

“Caribou (solo)” delves into issues of assimilation, identity, and the willing erasure of the self. As a Québécoise living and working in the U.S., Simoneau draws upon the duality of living between two languages to explore both immigrating and migrating forms. What is the impact of arriving and of departing? This piece served as the beginning research for an evening-length work titled “Land Bridge.” “Caribou (solo)” was created at the Liguria Study Center for the Arts and Humanities in Italy during a residency supported by the Bogliasco Foundation.

Founded in 2009, **HELEN SIMONEAU DANSE** (HSDanse) is committed to creating and performing dance works of its founder and choreographer Helen Simoneau. In addition to an annual performance in Winston-Salem, NC, the company has been presented in Austria, Brazil, Canada, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and toured throughout Germany, Asia, and the United States. Simoneau has been commissioned by The Juilliard School, Oregon Ballet Theatre, the American Dance Festival, UNC School of the Arts, The Yard, Springboard Danse Montréal, and the Swiss International Coaching Project (SiWiC) in Zurich. Most recently, Simoneau was resident artist at Baryshnikov Arts Center, Bates Dance Festival, NYU/Tisch Summer Dance Residency, and has received fellowships from The NYU Center for Ballet and the Arts, the Bogliasco Foundation, as well as twice from the North Carolina Arts Council. Notable venues that have presented Simoneau’s work include The Guggenheim Museum (NYC), Dance Place (DC), Joyce SoHo (NYC), Tangente (Montréal), The Aoyama Round Theatre (Tokyo), the L.I.G. Art Hall Busan (South Korea), Jacob’s Pillow Inside/Out (MA), PACT-Zollverein in Essen (Germany), the Shanghai Dance Festival (China). Her work was also presented at the 13th Internationales Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival in Stuttgart, Germany, where she was awarded 1st place for Choreography. She has been described as “a Choreographer-on-the-rise” with a style that is both “athletic and smooth” — *Dance Magazine*. www.helensimoneau.com

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- **SATURDAY, MAY 25** -
LEE THEATER, 6 PM

PROJECT 44

Gierre J Godley, Artistic Director

SELECTED SCENES

Choreography by Gierre J Godley

Music by Loscil

Costumes by Gierre J Godley

Lighting by Ted Boyce-Smith
(2017)

ALEX COTTONE

ROSS HONAKER

Inspired by a quote from Simon Sinek, “We base decisions on what we think we know,” *Selected Scenes* is a collage of snapshots that expose the “outside” moments of a relationship leaving the audience the task of discovering who, why, & the outcome.

Established in 2010, **PROJECT 44** (Queens, NY) is an all male dance group that serves as the artistic platform for choreographer Gierre J Godley. The company strives to erase all preconceived notions about masculinity and the role of a male performer in the arts. With a visceral approach to choreography, the works of PROJECT 44 aims to showcase the beauty, versatility, and athleticism of male performers. Though still in its infancy, PROJECT 44 has performed at venues throughout the United States and abroad, including tours to Germany, Cuba, Montreal, Spain, & the United Kingdom. The company is the recipient of the 2018 CUNY Dance Initiative, 2018 New Works Grant from Queens Council on the Arts, and 2018 Resident Artists at Topaz Arts Inc. For information on PROJECT 44 please visit www.project44dance.org

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

LEE THEATER, 6 PM

VADCO / VALERIE ALPERT DANCE COMPANY

Valerie Alpert, Artistic Director

SUM OF ITS PARTS

Choreography by Valerie Alpert

Music by Feed Lots & Inchilalo by Armand Amar, Uja by Tanya Tagaq

Lighting by Julie Ballard

(2017)

BRIDGET GRISSOM MATHEW KINNEY AMANDA RAMIREZ
ANDRE SANTIAGO

Sum of Its Parts emerged over several years as a result of researching a variety of war stories. The work reflects the shared experience that so many different people have while in the midst of war. Working with images such as phantom limb, animalistic brutality, survival and courage; the movement in the dance depicts the urgency, anxiety, and anticipation of (in the words of many) “...waiting for their turn to die.”

VADCO/Valerie Alpert Dance Company has touched thousands of people across the nation with its powerful and innovative dance works. Founded in 2000, the company continues to produce highly artistic and imaginative dance programs in various Chicago communities. VADCO encourages audience development by presenting works that are driven by reflections of life and various cultures. For more information on VADCO, visit www.vadco.org.

THIS PERFORMANCE IS FUNDED BY FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR, **WHITAKER FOUNDATION**

- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

ST. LOUIS BALLET

Gen Horiuchi, CEO/ Founding Artistic Director

RUBIES (FROM THE BALLET JEWELS)

Choreography by George Balanchine©

Music by Igor Stravinsky (Capriccio for Piano and Orchestra)

Staged by Elyse Borne

Costumes courtesy of Ballet Chicago (supervised by Susan Erhart)

Lighting by Don Guy

© The George Balanchine Trust

Music by arrangement with Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.,
publishers and copyright owner.

Premiere: April 13, 1967, New York State Theater, New York

LORI WILSON COLIN ELLIS

LAUREN LANE

LAUREN CHIRSTENSEN REBCCA CORNETT EMILY FUGETT
AMY HERCHENROETHER AUDREY HONERT ELIZABETH LLOYD
ALEXIS MATTHESEN KIMBERLY MORSE JORDAN NELSON
MICHAEL BURKE MATTHEW RUSK SEAN SESSIONS

Under the direction of former New York City principal ballet dancer Gen Horiuchi, **Saint Louis Ballet** is a company of 20 professional dancers, many of whom completed training and apprentice programs elsewhere before winning a national audition to dance in St. Louis. Established in 1975, the company presents both classic and contemporary ballet in the beautiful 1,600-seat, state-of-the-art Touhill Performing Arts Center and in Grand Center. The Missouri Arts Council, Regional Arts Commission, Arts and Education Council provide support, along with numerous area corporations, foundations and individuals. Saint Louis Ballet Company impacts the lives of thousands of people through inspiring productions, world-class choreography and community outreach.

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- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

CHRISTINE ROCAS, THE JOFFREY BALLET

Ashley Wheater, Artistic Director

and

RORY HOHENSTEIN, THE JOFFREY BALLET

Ashley Wheater, Artistic Director

DUET FROM AFTER THE RAIN

Choreography by Christopher Wheeldon

Music by Arvo Part

Widely praised for its sublime simplicity and intricate partnering, Christopher Wheeldon's *After the Rain Pas de Deux* is set to Estonian composer Arvo Pärt's haunting *Spiegel im Spiegel*. The ballerina is dressed in pink and her partner is bare-chested. In a series of unfolding partnering movements, the dancers explore the shifting emotions of their relationship.

Christine Rocas joined The Joffrey Ballet in August 2005 after dancing with Ballet Manila in the Philippines. Prior to joining The Joffrey Ballet, Ms. Rocas participated and won several prestigious awards from differing international ballet competitions. In August 2003, Ms. Rocas received a finalist certificate in the Junior Division of the 9th Asian Pacific International Ballet Competition in Tokyo, Japan. She was also chosen as a full scholar in the 2004 Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Aberdeen, Scotland. Then, in 2005, Ms. Rocas participated in the Helsinki International Ballet Competition in Helsinki, Finland, where she became a semi-finalist in the junior division. Additionally during that year, she received the Arpino Award and was also the silver medalist in the New York International Ballet Competition. Since joining The Joffrey, Ms. Rocas has performed in *Apollo*, *Cinderella* (Cinderella and Summer Fairy), *The Dream*, *Giselle* (Giselle), *The Green Table*, *Light Rain*, *Les Presages*, *The Nutcracker*, *In the Night*, *Reflections*, *Pretty Ballet*, *Crossed*, *Age of Innocence*, *After the Rain*, *Stravinsky Violin Concerto* and *Romeo & Juliet*.

Rory Hohenstein joined The Joffrey Ballet in 2011. Mr. Hohenstein was born in Washington, D.C. At age six, he began dancing jazz, tap and modern. At age 12, he began training at the Kirov Academy of Ballet in D.C. In his senior year of high school, he joined Le Jeune Ballet de France in Paris, while completing his studies overseas. In July of 2000, he joined the San Francisco Ballet as a member of the corps and was promoted to a soloist in 2006. In 2008, he moved to New York City, joining choreographer Christopher Wheeldon's new company, Morphoses/The Wheeldon Company. As a member of Morphoses, he performed in their home season and toured with the company to Sadler Wells London and the Sydney Festival in Australia.

- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -
 ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

OWEN/COX DANCE GROUP

Jennifer Owen, Artistic Director

PARTITA NO. 3

Choreography by Jennifer Owen

Music by J. S. Bach

Costumes by Lisa Choules

Lighting by Rachael Shair
 (2015)

GAVIN ABERCROMBIE KALEENA BURKS JOSH BODDEN
 CAROLINE DAHM PRINCE LYONS TARYN MEJIA DANIEL RODRIGUEZ
 LAURA JONES WALLNER

VIOLINIST: IGOR KHUKHUA

Owen/Cox Dance Group's Partita No. 3 premiered in 2015 through a collaborative performance with violinist Elizabeth Suh Lane. The choreography is inspired by the exuberance and virtuosity of Bach's music. Owen/Cox Dance Group is thrilled to have acclaimed violinist Igor Khukhua join us at this year's *SPRING TO DANCE FESTIVAL*.

Owen/Cox Dance Group is an ensemble of dancers, musicians and artists dedicated to creating and performing collaborative new works. Formed in 2007 by choreographer Jennifer Owen and composer Brad Cox, the ensemble is deeply committed to performing with live music, and has created over 50 new works, including 7 full-length productions. More information is available at owencoxdance.org

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- INTERMISSION -

- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

Glenn Edgerton, Artistic Director

IGNORE (EXCERPT FROM DECADANCE/CHICAGO)

Choreography by Ohad Naharin

Music by Arvo Part, Lyrics by Charles Bukowski, Vocals by Bobby Jene Smith

Costumes by Rakefet

Lighting by Avi Yona Bueno

(2018)

JACQUELINE BURNETT ALICIA DELGADILLO KELLIE EPPERHEIMER
ADRIENNE LIPSON CONNIE SHIAU

Ignore is an excerpt for five women from Decadance/Chicago, Ohad Naharin's evening-length work created specifically for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago featuring Naharin's most popular and widely known works.

**Please note IGNORE contains some explicit language that may be inappropriate or unsuitable for some.*

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's core purpose is to bring artists, art and audiences together to enrich, engage, educate, transform and change lives through the experience of dance. Celebrating Season 41 in 2018-19, under the artistic leadership of Glenn Edgerton and Executive Leadership of David McDermott, Hubbard Street continues to innovate, supporting ascendant creative talent while presenting repertory by internationally recognized living artists. Hubbard Street has grown through the establishment of multiple platforms alongside the Lou Conte Dance Studio — now in its fifth decade of providing a wide range of public classes and pre-professional training — while extensive Youth, Education, Community, Adaptive Dance and Family Programs keep the organization deeply connected to its hometown. Visit hubbardstreetdance.com for artist profiles, touring schedules, and much more.

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- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

ADIARYS ALMEIDA, TARAS DOMITRO AND JORGE BARANI

International Principal Guest Artists

LE CORSAIRE GRAND PAS DE TROIS FROM ACT 2 OF THE FULL-LENGTH BALLET LE CORSAIRE

Choreography by Marius Petipa

Music by Adolphe Adam

Adiarys Almeida is a former Principal Dancer, Cincinnati Ballet and Corella Ballet in Spain. Also a former First Soloist of Boston Ballet and danced with the Cuban National Ballet under the direction of Alicia Alonso. She won the Silver Medal at the International Ballet Competition in Havana, Cuba in 1997 & 1998, and the Gold Medal in 1999 and 2000. Adiarys was the first Cuban female finalist at the USA International Ballet Competition in 2006. As an International Ballet Star Ms. Almeida has performed with several renowned companies, Festivals, and Ballet Galas at some of the most important stages around the world.

Taras Domitro is a former Principal Dancer with Cuban National Ballet and San Francisco Ballet. Taras Domitro was nominated for Best Male Dancer at Benois de la Danse 2013. He won the Gold Medal at the World Ballet Competition in 2008, the Grand Prix Award at Peru's International Ballet Festival in 2003, and the First Prize and Revelation Award at Internacional Ballet Competition of Havana, Cuba in 2000. As an International Ballet Star Mr. Domitro has performed with several renowned companies, Festivals, and Ballet Galas at some of the most important stages around the world.

Jorge Barani was Born in Matanzas, Cuba and graduated from the National School of Art Ballet in Havana, Cuba. In 2010, he joined the Ballet de Monterrey Company in Mexico. Barani came to the United States in August 2012. He was invited to the final YAGP gala in New York, dancing with Maria Kochetkova from San Francisco Ballet. In 2013, he won two Gold Medals at the World Ballet Competition USA and joined the Kentucky Ballet Theatre in 2014, as a Principal Dancer and currently performs with Cincinnati Ballet as a Soloist. In 2015, Barani won the Silver Medal at The Korea International Ballet Competition, in 2016 he won the Gold Medal at Vienna International Ballet Competition and the Silver Medal at Varna International Ballet Competition. Barani has also been invited to dance in international galas in Europe, Asia, Canada, and Mexico.

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- SATURDAY, MAY 25 -

ANHEUSER-BUSCH PERFORMANCE HALL, 7:30 PM

CHICAGO HUMAN RHYTHM PROJECT'S STONE SOUP RHYTHMS

Lane Alexander, Founder and Director
Dani Borak, Artist in Residence

ECHOS

I. ALIEN II. RYTME III. FUSION

Choreography by Daniel "Dani" Borak
Rehearsal Director: Jessica Tenbusch

Music by "Arrival" Johann Johannsson, "Modul 18" Nik Barscht's Mobile,
"RYTME" Bugge Wesseltoft, "Take A Quick Break" Bugge Wesseltoft, Henrik
Schwarz, Dan Berglund

Costumes by Jessica Tenbusch
Lighting by Margaret Nelson
(2019)

TRISTAN BRUNS MEGAN DAVIS MATT POSPESHIL KJ SHELDON
DAVON SUTTLES JESSICA TENBUSCH

Point to counterpoint, melody to harmony, shape to shadow, movement to stillness, physical to spiritual – ECHOS exist between thought and passion

Stone Soup Rhythms is the resident ensemble of the **Chicago Human Rhythm Project** and is a collective of independent artists. The name refers to a European fable in which a wayfaring stranger brings a struggling community together to create a feast amidst famine. Chicago Human Rhythm Project is the oldest and largest presenter of American tap and contemporary rhythmic expression in the United States. CHRP presents percussive arts in concert, education and economic development programs through collaboration. Its signature programs include: Stomping Grounds (city-wide percussive arts festival); Rhythm World (America's oldest tap dance festival); We ALL Got Rhythm (free, arts-education programs); the American Rhythm Center (shared dance-arts space/incubator, business development center); and, Stone Soup Rhythms (resident artistic collective).

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CHRISTOPHER MOHNANI

MANAGING DIRECTOR
ARTISTIC PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY
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Christopher Mohnani, originally from Makati City in the Philippines, started his professional dancing career in 1993 with Philippine Ballet Theater. He continued to dance for Ballet Manila, Krasnoyarsk Opera and Ballet Theater (Russia), up until his retirement in 2009 as Principal Danseur at Nashville Ballet. During his career, he has had the privilege of dancing principal roles from classical and contemporary to Balanchine masterpieces and original choreographies. In 2004, he started his work as an arts administrator with founding of Asian American Performing Arts Society. Since then he has led and affiliated with Dance Theatre of Tennessee, Ballet Manila, Maybank Performing Arts Center, The Crucible and most recently Dance St. Louis. He has been honored and recognized as sole recipient, Individual Artist Award, from Tennessee Arts Commission, Outstanding Leadership in the Arts from Nashville GLBT Chamber, "40 Under 40" from Nashville Business Journal, Leadership Award in Arts and Entertainment from Nashville Chamber of Commerce, "Movers in the Arts" from the Tennessean and Outstanding Achievement Award from Nashville Mayor Karl Dean.



RICHARD M. DEE

MANAGING DIRECTOR
PHILANTHROPY AND ADMINISTRATION

Rich Dee is a seasoned executive fundraising professional with 23 years of experience, and has been with Dance St. Louis since 2011 while being promoted in May 2017 to co-lead the organization. In addition to Dance St. Louis, he has led the fundraising efforts for major nonprofits that include the Humane Society of Missouri during an \$11 million capital campaign and the American Red Cross most notably during 9/11. He has raised more than \$70 million in his career, and has had the honor to work with Beverly Sills, Bob Costas and other prominent figures. Prior to fundraising, he was with Fleishman-Hillard, and mentored by civic icons Ruth K. Jacobson and Al Kerth. Rich currently serves as Vice Chair of the Board at Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theatre in Chicago, and Board Vice President of the Dielmann-Kaiser House Foundation in St. Louis. Since 1995, Rich has been an active member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, serving as an Executive Board Member for nearly ten years. He is a graduate of Missouri State University with a bachelor's degree in Electronic Media and Journalism. He was inducted into the NRHH that recognizes top student leaders across the globe.



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