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2019-2020 ANNUAL PROGRAM



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Lindsay Moncrieff, Artistic Director

Photo by Liza Voll

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Audience Member,

Story ballets run the gamut from exotic spectacles to psychological dramas. Some are straightforward tragedies, for example one of the earliest of the modern ballets, *La Sylphide* (1836) in which a young man perishes following an unfortunate romance with a woodland fairy. Others, like *Don Quixote* are fluffy delights full of action and gorgeous dancing, but not much deeper meaning. As much as I appreciate fancy dancing, for me the greatest ballets are those that take a character on a journey of growth and transformation.



Our annual production of *The Nutcracker* is an interesting mix. It has the charm of the party scene, the excitement of the battle between the Nutcracker and the Mouse King, and the display of balletic virtuosity that comprises the second act divertissements. But it is also the story of Clara, a young girl on the verge of womanhood. We catch her in a moment of high imagination, as the events from the evening's Christmas party transform into brilliant dances in the Land of the Sugar Plum Fairy, Clara's last moments of childhood fantasy.

Our March production of *The Secret Garden* has two dramatic themes, the personal growth of Mary from a spoiled brat to a generous and joyful person, and the redemption of the relationship between Archibald Craven and his son, Colin. Both are instances of growth, mirrored and reinforced by the growing of the secret garden itself. The ballet's Prologue is a party in Mary's home in India where we meet Mary as a spoiled, demanding, and neglected girl. When she arrives at Misselthwaite Manor as an orphan, we witness Mary's spiritual awakening as she discovers the garden and makes friends with various characters. We also learn of the tragic rift between Colin and his father. The ballet continues the joyful development of both Mary and Colin, and the ballet ends with the reconciliation of father and son.

Ballets like *Secret Garden* show dance's ability not only to delight the eye, but also inform the heart.

A program note: this year we are delighted to welcome two new guest artists to our *Nutcracker*. Our *Nutcracker* will be Sam Griffin, who trained in Chicago and is now a sophomore at Boston Conservatory. The first weekend's Cavalier will be danced by Brandon Ragland from Louisville Ballet. They are joined by returning guests Christopher Phillips, Rosario Guillen and Greg Tyndall as our second weekend's Cavalier, with Lindsay Moncrieff returning as the Sugar Plum Fairy.

Chip Morris

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COMMONWEALTH BALLET CALENDAR

Friends of CBC Members Reception

October 19, 2019

Acton School of Ballet Studios



Emil Otto Hoppe and the Balle Russe

November 14, 2019

Museum of Russian Icons - Clinton MA

Nutcracker Public Library Readings

November 7-December 7, 2019

Boxborough Nov. 7,

Silver Unicorn Bookstore, Acton Nov. 8,

Wellesley Nov. 9,

Lincoln Nov. 16, Concord Dec. 7.

The Nutcracker

November 29-December 1, 2019

December 20-22, 2019

Casey Theatre, Regis College - Weston MA

The Secret Garden

March 7-8, 2020

Casey Theatre, Regis College - Weston MA

Benefit Gala

April 4, 2020

Butternut Farm Golf Club

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COMMONWEALTH BALLET

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Kathryn Anderson, Artistic Director Emerita

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Dylan Kattwinkel, Emily Lardizabal, Sophie Lee, Janelle Lim,
Megan Lin, Ava Lublin, Cate Moore, Fiona Morrison, Una Oljaca,
Lucy Richards, Kassy Sun, and Sophie Wu

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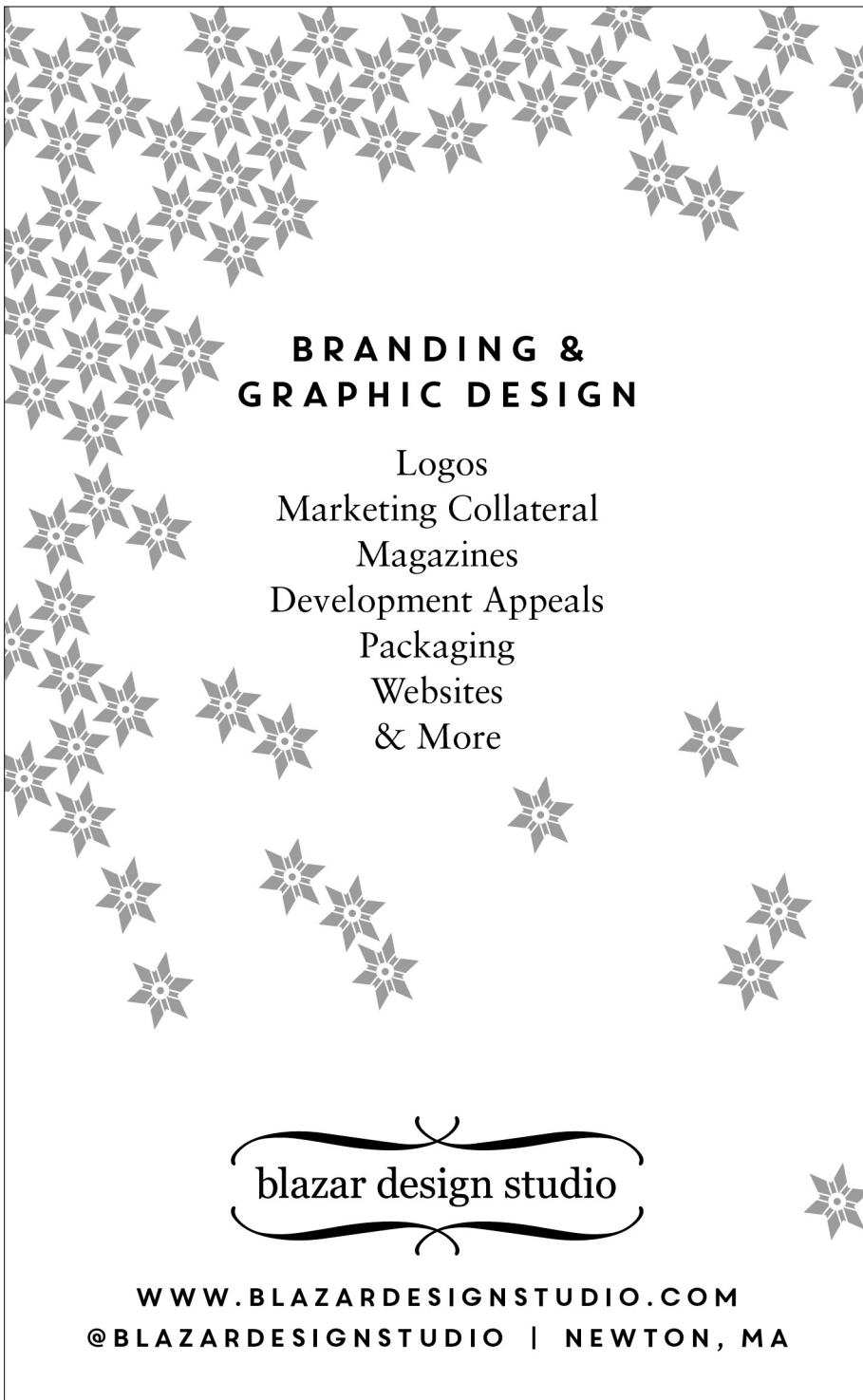
Commonwealth Ballet Company

P.O. Box 892, Acton MA 01720

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CommonwealthBallet.org

Commonwealth ballet is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in 1992 to develop, foster and promote the performance and appreciation of classical and contemporary ballet. To this end, CBC endeavors to maintain strong ties with the communities it serves, provide a substantial educational opportunity for young dancers, and demonstrate the highest level of artistic quality.



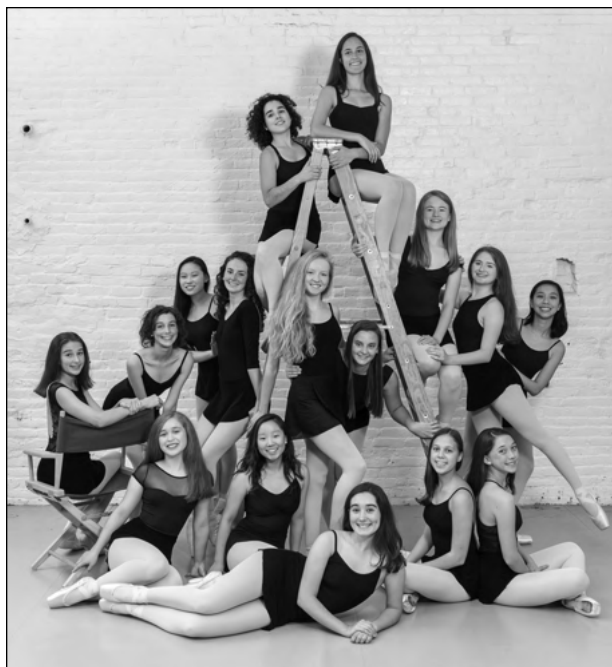
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THE COMPANY



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Clockwise from top:

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Fiona Morrison,
Kayla Freeman,
Sophie Wu,
Megan Lin,
Emily Lardizabal,
Molly Burke,
Janelle Lim,
Sophie Lee,
Anya Ganss,
Cate Moore,
Kassy Sun,
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Ava Lublin

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Jeri Lee (administrator)

Seated: Lisa Lapinski, Yang Liu,
Mara Bond Ricker

Not Shown: Evan Ricker,
Patricia Wilkey, Christine Brault

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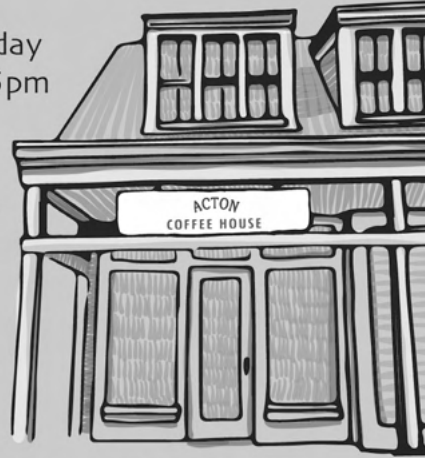
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Within our broader community, we have a commitment to helping the widest possible audience experience the art of ballet. Our Culture4Kidz program enables a diverse range of young people to attend CBC performances. Regional Boys and Girls Clubs and other youth organizations assist by identifying children who would benefit from these donations, and Commonwealth Ballet provides them with tickets.

To help the Culture4Kidz cause, mail a donation to Commonwealth Ballet, PO Box 892, Acton MA 01720-0892.

CBC in the Community

We are proud to be an active part of the Boston MetroWest community, striving to educate, engage and entertain. We interact with younger audiences during readings at local libraries and museums, provide backstage tours for Girl Scout groups, and present School Lecture demonstrations. In addition, our Outreach programs provide elderly adults and disadvantaged families with free tickets. Last season we distributed over 300 free tickets locally.



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COMMONWEALTH BALLET



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Makeup	Yunshin Choi, Yulia Ostrerov
Wardrobe	Paula Lublin, Carrie Bergeron, Sophie Richards, Ken Mayer
Property Coordinator	Bart Morrison
Volunteer Coordinator	Jeri Lee

Fundraising

Friends of Commonwealth Ballet	Yang Liu, Jeri Lee
Annual Program	Lisa Lapinski, Yang Liu, Jeri Lee, Sue Peterman
Culture4Kidz	Jeri Lee
Concessions	Neda Oljaca, Chris Morrison, Ye Tao, Maryellen Freeman
Outreach	Jeri Lee

Marketing

Website	Betsy Blazar, Aaron Moore
Publicity	Jeri Lee, Lisa Lapinski, Debby Lee, Christine Brault
Library Readings	Ali Ganss, Mara Bonde Ricker
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Photography	Mike Nyman Photography and Liza Voll Photography
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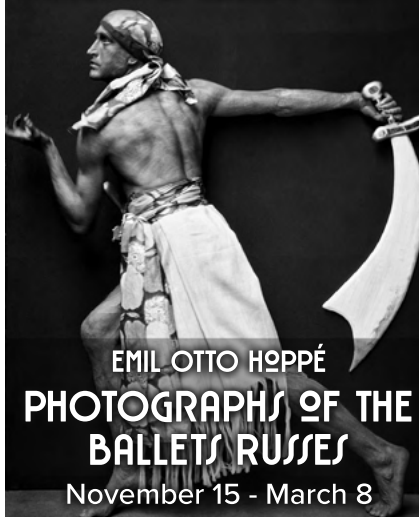
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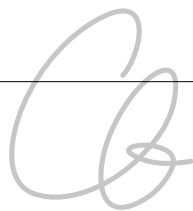
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Photo by Mike Nyman Photography

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By becoming a Friend of Commonwealth Ballet, you can experience the special feeling that comes from being part of a remarkable artistic venture within our community. You'll help pass on to others the joy that you experience when attending our live performances. For as little as \$40, you can become a member and share in the benefits reserved for the Friends of Commonwealth Ballet.

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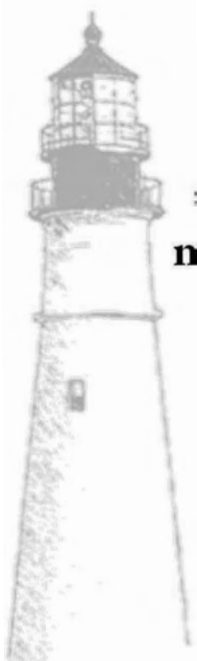
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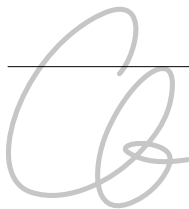
ARTISTIC DIRECTION

Artistic Director

Chip Morris began his training in modern dance and ballet while pursuing his Ph.D. in Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. While in Madison he taught advanced ballet classes at the Wisconsin School of Ballet, directed the Jazzworks Dance Company, co-founded the Choreographer's Consortium, and choreographed for the Madison Savoyards. Since coming to Boston, Mr. Morris has danced with Choreo Dance Company and as a soloist for the Dance Prism. He has choreographed for the Harvard-Radcliffe Dance Company, the Dance Prism, and Peanut Butter & Jelly Dance Company. He also choreographed *The Winged Joy* for the Wellesley College Choir, and was a guest performer and choreographer for the Wheaton College Dance Company. He was commissioned by them in 1994 to stage *Hear Ye, Hear Ye*, based on a score by Aaron Copeland. He has choreographed six original full-length ballets for Commonwealth Ballet, including its first major production, *Dracula*; its first story ballet with accompanying new music composition, *Rappaccini's Daughter*; the full length family ballets *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Nightingale* and *The Secret Garden*; and CBC's own production of *The Nutcracker* (with Kathryn Anderson). Other dances he has choreographed include *Ta Voix dans la Nuit*, *Le Papillon*, *Chance Encounters*, *Shattered Ritual*, *Lost Concerto*, *Lunar Tides*, *Farewell*, *Three Brahms Intermezzi*, *Orton Dances* and, most recently, a suite of dances to contemporary music: *The Night Has Many Houses*, *This Marriage*, *The Handmaid's Dream* and *Night Terror*. Mr. Morris is the past Director of the Acton School of Ballet, a past member of the Board of Directors of the Boston Dance Alliance, and co-founder of Commonwealth Ballet Company.

*Artistic Director Emerita*

Kathryn Anderson trained at American Ballet Theatre in New York City, where she began her professional ballet career. As a soloist with the Boston Ballet Company, Ms. Anderson danced leading roles in such ballets as *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Les Sylphides*, *Cinderella*, *The Nutcracker* and *The Four Temperaments*. She toured extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and Israel, and had the honor of dancing with Boston Ballet when it became the first American ballet company to visit, and perform in, the People's Republic of China. Ms. Anderson choreographed many ballet works for Commonwealth Ballet, including *At the Waterfall*, *The Fated*, *Icare*, *Rachmaninoff Opus #43*, *Hajamari-sozo* and *Countdown*, and collaborated with Chip Morris on the full-length ballets *Dracula*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Nutcracker*. Ms. Anderson taught at the Boston Ballet School and was guest instructor at Alabama Dance Theater, the Walnut Hill School of Performing Arts, the Worcester Performing Arts Center and the Dance Complex in Cambridge. She also starred in the nationally acclaimed educational video *Ballet for Children and Adults*. She was co-founder of Commonwealth Ballet Company and is currently its Artistic Director Emerita. Ms. Anderson was the director of Acton School of Ballet from 1983 until her retirement in 2004.

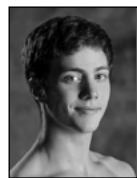


GUEST ARTISTS

Brandon Ragland (Cavalier) Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Brandon received his early training from Jacqueline Crenshaw Lockhart and continued his dance training at the Alabama School of Fine Arts. In 2007, he graduated from Butler University with a B.S. in Dance-Arts Administration. Since joining the Louisville Ballet in 2010, he has had the opportunity to perform leading roles in classical and neoclassical works such as, Andre Prokofsky's *The Three Musketeers*; Val Caniparoli's *The Brown-Forman Nutcracker*, *Lamberena*, *Lady of the Camellias*, and *Spaghetti Western*, Robert Curran's *Coppelia*, Serge Lifar's *Suite en Blanc*, George Balanchine's *Square Dance*, *Kammermusik #2*, and *Western Symphony*. Other works include Bruce Simpson's *Swan Lake*, *La Slyphide*, Ma Cong's *Tethered Pulse*, and works by Adam Houglund, Lucas Jervies, and Alun Jones. Before joining Louisville Ballet, Brandon spent 3 seasons with the Alabama Ballet, where he performed works by George Balanchine, Roger Van Fleteren, Christopher Bruce, and Twyla Tharp. As an aspiring choreographer, he has created works for Louisville Ballet, Louisville Ballet Youth Ensemble, Alabama Ballet, Alabama Ballet School, AROVA Contemporary Ballet, Ballet Arkansas, Next Generation Ballet, J. Lockhart Performing Arts Institute, and Sedona Chamber Ballet.

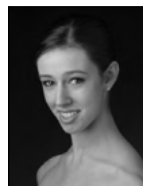


Gregory Tyndall (Cavalier) was born and raised in Atlanta Georgia where he began his formal dance training at the age of fourteen. Tyndall was accepted in to the Cobb County Centre for Performing Arts at Pebblebrook High School where his Instructor Denise Reeves encouraged him to broaden his horizons in classical, contemporary, and modern dance. Tyndall then began to train with various different schools across the country including The Atlanta Ballet, The Kirov Academy in Washington D.C. The Rock School for Dance Education, Nashville Ballet, and The Cincinnati Ballet. In 2009 Gregory was accepted into the prestigious Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Ballet Theatre where he would spend the next four years performing various repertoire by choreographers such as, George Balanchine, Dwight Rhoden, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp Joshua Bergasse. Tyndall has spent the last five years dancing professionally with The Saint Louis Ballet under the direction of New York City Ballet legend Gen Horiuchi. During his tenure with the company Tyndall has performed principal roles such as Prince Desire in *The Sleeping Beauty*, Sugar Plum Fairy Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*, and the lonesome cowboy in George Balanchine's *Western Symphony*. Gregory is currently dancing his first season with Island Moving Company in Newport, RI. Gregory Tyndall appears courtesy of Island Moving Company.



G U E S T A R T I S T S

Lindsay Moncrieff (Sugar Plum Fairy) Lindsay is the owner and Artistic Director of the Acton School of Ballet where she studied for 12 years before attending Butler University where she received a B.S. in Dance Arts Administration. While at Butler she performed soloist and principal roles including Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*, Aurora in *The Sleeping Beauty*, as well as in George Balanchine's *Walpurgisnacht Ballet* and *Nacho Duato's Por Vos Muero*. She received four different performance awards during her time at Butler in addition to the Eileen Poston Dance Scholarship. Lindsay also had the opportunity to study and perform internationally at the Polish National Ballet School in Warsaw, Poland and at the Rimsky-Korsakov Music Conservatory in St. Petersburg, Russia. Upon graduation, Lindsay joined Colorado Ballet where she performed several Corps de Ballet roles and worked with world-renowned choreographer Steven Mills on *Light, The Holocaust and Humanity Project*, as well as Glen Tetley's *Rite of Spring*, and George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*. Lindsay has worked in development and fundraising for several prominent dance organizations including American Dance Festival in Durham, NC, Charlotte Ballet, and more recently was the Assistant Director of Donor Relations at Walnut Hill School for the Arts. Lindsay was a member of the Commonwealth Ballet Company from 2003-2008 and returned as a Guest Artist in the role of Sugar Plum Fairy for several seasons. She served as Commonwealth Ballet's Regiseusse for four years and is now a member of their Board of Directors.



Rosario Guillen (Snow King, Neapolitan) hails from Pharr, Texas where he trained under the direction of Nadia Valdez. It is there where he began his extensive training in Ballet, Jazz, Flamenco, Modern, and contemporary dance styles. To further his training Mr. Guillen left his home town and attended various elite intensives and workshops with a myriad of companies such as; Nashville ballet, NYC beginnings workshop, TAMUCC (acting intensive) and Joffrey Elite Ecole. Rosario also has had the opportunity to portray several roles with theaters across Texas and Massachusetts. In the dance field Mr. Guillen has worked with highly acclaimed teachers and choreographers for instance Diane Orio, Yuri Yanowsky, and Ben Cameron. CBC premiered his new ballet, *Portraiture*, in May 2018. Rosario is currently a Senior at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee.



T H E C O M P A N Y



FAITH BERGERON lives in Littleton MA, and is joining the Commonwealth Ballet company for the second year in the 2019-2020 season. Faith began her training at the Acton School of Ballet in 2012. For her summer training she has attended two years of the Walnut Hill Summer Dance intensive, Burklyn Ballet Theater, the American Repertory Ballet at Princeton University and Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. Faith assisted in the Fairy Tale class for the last two years at Acton School of Ballet and will now be joining the Acton School of Ballet staff as a teacher in that class. She has performed non-company roles in *The Nutcracker* for 6 years, *The Secret Garden*, *The Nightingale*, and *Beauty and The Beast*. In the 2018-2019 season Faith performed company roles in the Commonwealth Ballet's 2019 productions of *The Nutcracker*, *George Balanchine's Serenade*, and *Portraiture*.



MOLLY BURKE lives in Acton MA, and has just joined the Commonwealth Ballet company for the 2019-2020 season. Molly began dancing at the age of 2 and started her training at the Acton School of Ballet in 2015. For her summer training she has attended Chautauqua Institution Workshop I, Bolshoi Ballet Academy in CT, American Ballet Theater (ABT), Koltun Ballet, The Rock, Walnut Hill Summer Dance intensive, Walnut Hill Youth Summer Dance Intensive and Back to Ballet Bootcamp. Molly previously trained during the school year at Boston Ballet, Walnut Hill and Koltun Ballet Boston. Molly has danced in various CBC productions as a non-Company member, including *The Nightingale*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Nutcracker*, in which she performed as Lieutenant. She is eager to join the Commonwealth Ballet Company for the 2019-2020 season!



KAYLA FREEMAN lives in Concord and is excited to be joining Commonwealth Ballet for the 2019-2020 season. She began her training at the School of Ballet Arts in Concord before moving to Acton School of Ballet in 2013. She has attended summer intensives at Ballet Austin, BalletMet, and Acton School of Ballet, including the Back to Ballet Boot Camp. Kayla has performed non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's productions of *The Nutcracker*, *Beauty & the Beast*, and *George Balanchine's Serenade*.



ANYA GANSS lives in Acton, MA and has been training with the Acton School of Ballet since 2009. She began her time in CBC as a freshman during the 2018-2019 season. She has attended summer intensive programs at the Houston Ballet Academy, the School of American Ballet, the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Academy for Ukrainian Dance, and the Acton School of Ballet. Anya has danced in various CBC productions as a non-Company member, including *The Secret Garden*, *The Nightingale*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Nutcracker*, in which she performed as Clara in 2016. As a company member, she has performed in *The Nutcracker*, *George Balanchine's Serenade*, and *Portraiture*. She is looking forward to her second year in the company, and thoroughly enjoyed her first year.

THE COMPANY



DYLAN KATTWINKEL Dylan discovered ballet as a preschooler in Bend, Oregon. She now lives in Carlisle, Massachusetts and has danced year-round at Lexington School of Ballet, Lucia Guarnido Escuela de Danza in Granada, Spain, and at Acton School of Ballet since 2014. Dylan participated in summer intensive programs at Boston Ballet, Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Washington School of Ballet, Koltun Ballet Boston, Integrarte, and ASB. Dylan has attended Back to Ballet Boot Camp with Kathy Stark and Joseph Jeffries for the past four years. She has studied with teachers Erica Cornejo, Carlos Molina, Igor Burlak, Xiomara Reyes, David Prottas, and Cheryl Madeaux. Dylan danced non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, *The Nightingale*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. She performed the role of Clara in CBC's 2017 production of *The Nutcracker*. She is grateful for the opportunity to dance with Commonwealth Ballet this 2019-20 season!



EMILY LARDIZABAL lives in Westford, Massachusetts and has been training at Acton School of Ballet since 2008. She has attended summer intensives at Burklyn Ballet Theatre, Southern New Hampshire Dance Theatre, Acton School of Ballet, and Back to Ballet Bootcamp. Emily has performed numerous non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Secret Garden*, and *The Nightingale*. She is excited to join the Commonwealth Ballet Company this season.



SOPHIE LEE lives in Acton, Massachusetts and has been training with the Acton School of Ballet since 2009. She has also attended summer intensives at Vermont Ballet Theatre, Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Burklyn Ballet Theatre, American Repertory Ballet at Princeton University, and Colorado Ballet. She has performed non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Nightingale*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. After joining the company in 2018, she performed company roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Portraiture*, and *Serenade*.



JANELLE LIM lives in Boxborough, Massachusetts, and began dancing at the age of two in Nashua, New Hampshire. She began studying at Acton School of Ballet in 2010. She has attended summer intensives at Integrarte, Acton School of Ballet, and Back to Ballet Bootcamp at ASB. She has performed numerous non-company roles in CBC productions *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Nutcracker*, in which she performed as Clara. Janelle is thrilled to be joining and performing with Commonwealth Ballet Company for the 2019-2020 season.

THE COMPANY



MEGAN LIN lives in Acton, MA and has been training at Acton School of Ballet since 2009. She has attended summer intensive programs at Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Burklyn Ballet Theatre, American Repertory Ballet at Princeton University, Acton School of Ballet, and Back to Ballet Bootcamp. She has performed various non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's *The Nightingale*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Nutcracker*, in which she danced the role of Clara. Megan is very excited to join Commonwealth Ballet for the 2019-2020 season.



AVA LUBLIN lives in Concord, MA and began her training at Acton School of Ballet in 2015. She has attended summer programs at American Repertory Ballet in Princeton, NJ, Kaatsbaan Extreme Ballet (NY), and Ballet Austin (TX). Ava joined Commonwealth Ballet Company for the 2017-2018 season. Since 2016, she has performed in *The Nutcracker* in both non-company and company roles, *A Glimpse Beyond*, and *Beauty and the Beast* with the company. In 2019, Ava performed in Commonwealth Ballet's *Beginnings*, dancing in *Blue Wallpaper*, *Bernstein Piano Trio*, and *George Balanchine's Serenade*. Also in 2019, Ava performed *Portraiture* in New York City with the Company.



CATE MOORE lives in Acton and has been training at Acton School of Ballet since 2012. She has attended summer intensives at Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Boston Ballet, The Brookline Ballet School, Miami City Ballet, and The Washington School of Ballet. Cate has performed non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's productions of *The Nutcracker*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Nightingale*, and *Beauty and the Beast*, as well as company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's 2019 productions of *Portraiture* and *George Balanchine's Serenade*.



FIONA MORRISON lives in Harvard, MA. She has been training at Acton School of Ballet since 2014. She has attended summer intensives at Jose Mateo Ballet Theater, South Shore Ballet Theater, Integrarte, Acton School of Ballet, and Back to Ballet Bootcamp. Fiona has performed company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's productions of *The Nutcracker*, *George Balanchine's Serenade*, *Portraiture*, and *Blue Wallpaper*. She has also performed non company roles in *The Nutcracker* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

THE COMPANY



UNA OIJACA lives in Concord, MA and began dancing at the age of three in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She has studied at the Acton School of Ballet since 2014. Her summer intensives include Acton School of Ballet, Back to Ballet Boot Camp, Bolshoi Ballet in CT, Princeton Ballet, and Houston Ballet. Una joined Commonwealth Ballet in 2016. She has performed non-company roles in *The Nightingale*, as well as Company roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Edge*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Beginnings*, and *George Balanchine's Serenade*.



LUCY RICHARDS lives in Harvard, MA and began studying at Acton School of Ballet in 2009. For the past three years she has attended the Burklyn Ballet Theater summer intensive program, and back to Ballet Boot Camp at Acton School of Ballet. Lucy has performed non-company roles in *The Nutcracker*, *The Nightingale*, and *Beauty and the Beast* as well as company roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Beginnings*, and *George Balanchine's Serenade*. She is thrilled to be returning to the Commonwealth Ballet Company for the 2019-2020 season.



KASSY SUN lives in Westford, MA. She began dancing with Acton School of Ballet since 2008. She has attended summer intensives such as Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Burklyn Ballet, American Repertory Ballet at Princeton Ballet School, Back to Ballet Bootcamp, and Acton School of Ballet summer intensive. Kassy has performed non-company roles in *The Nutcracker*, *The Nightingale*, *The Secret Garden*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. Kassy is excited to join and perform with Commonwealth Ballet Company for the 2019-2020 season.



SOPHIE WU lives in Acton, MA where she began dancing at Acton School of Ballet in 2010. She has attended summer intensives at Houston Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet in Connecticut, American Repertory Ballet at Princeton Ballet School, and Walnut Hill School for the Arts. After joining Commonwealth Ballet in 2018, Sophie has performed company roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Portraiture*, as well as *George Balanchine's Serenade*. Sophie has also danced various non-company roles in Commonwealth Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Nightingale* and *Beauty and the Beast*.

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