

BALLET NORTH TEXAS

NICOLINA LAWSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Cinderella

Winspear Opera House

June 4-5 , 2021 - 7:30 PM

June 4 - 2:00PM (Sensory Performance)



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BALLET NORTH TEXAS

Presents

Cinderella

June 4 & 5, 2021 at 7:30

June 5 at 2:00 (Sensory Friendly)

Winspear Opera House, Dallas TX

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BALLET NORTH TEXAS

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BALLET NORTH TEXAS

Welcome

Dear Friends of the Ballet,

Welcome back to the Winspear Opera House and the Ballet North Texas production of *Cinderella*, a performance we are excited to finally bring to the stage after the delays due to COVID restrictions. The 2020/2021 season was like no other, but we managed to keep our dancers dancing, and present productions with the help of safety protocols and a supportive community.

With thousands of dancers, musicians, stage technicians, costume and set designers long out of work, each production that we can bring back to the public stage is one step closer to guaranteeing the industry lights will again burn bright.

We cannot do this without your help! In past years, performance ticket sales generated 85% of Ballet North Texas revenue. Since March 2020 with the shutdown requirements and social distancing accommodations, the ability for these sales to generate that income was cut by one-third. Please consider donating to our ***Ballet North Texas Future Fund*** so that we may continue to bring beautiful performances to the DFW area and continue with our valuable R.E.A.C.H. programs.

Thank you for your continued support of Ballet North Texas.

Sincerely,

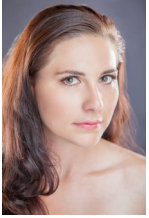
Nicolina Lawson

CEO & Artistic Director, Ballet North Texas



BALLET NORTH TEXAS

ARTISTIC STAFF



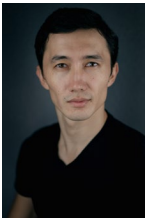
Nicolina Lawson, Executive & Artistic Director

Nicolina Lawson founded Ballet North Texas in November 2017 for the purpose of bringing, and continually expanding, productions of contemporary, neo-classical, and classical concert dance to the Dallas, Texas area through its own professional ballet company. Throughout Mrs. Lawson's long performance career, she performed nationally and internationally, acquiring a vast repertory that includes many principal roles in classical and contemporary works that heavily influence her choreography. In 2019 she founded North Texas Conservatory as the official school of Ballet North Texas, bringing a wealth of experience to the organization as a dancer, choreographer, and businesswomen.



Cindy Michaels, Ballet Master & Resident Choreographer

Cindy Michaels, originally from California, served as Artistic Director of Redding City Ballet from 1997 to 2012, and as Director of Dance for the Shasta College Fine Arts Department teaching ballet, modern dance, Choreography/Dance Analysis, and Partnered Adagio classes. Her thirty-year performance and teaching career has provided her with extensive knowledge of classical and contemporary ballet repertory as well as the mechanics that govern the technique of classical training. She has set historical works, and created numerous works of her own for operas, musicals, summer theater festivals and now, Ballet North Texas.



Marlen Alimanov, Master Teacher & Guest Performer

Marlen Alimanov began his training at age nine at the Almaty Ballet Academy in Kazakhstan. After graduating he danced with the Almaty Ballet and Opera, Ballet Novosibirsk and the Russian National Ballet, which brought him to the States in 2010. After his arrival Mr. Alimanov danced with Manassas Ballet Theater, New Jersey Ballet Company, and Texas Ballet Theater. Mr. Alimanov has had the pleasure of dancing leads such as Romeo in Romeo and Juliet, Frederic in Ben Stevenson's Dracula, Escamillo in Carlos Acosta's Carmen, The Prince in the Nutcracker, Prince Desire in Sleeping Beauty and highlight roles in Etudes and Seven Sonatas. Marlen is currently a principal guest artist in the DFW area and a Master Teacher at BNT.



BALLET NORTH TEXAS

ARTISTIC STAFF



Lisa Miller, Resident Lighting Designer

Lisa Miller works with many organizations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, including Texas Ballet Theater and Kitchen Dog Theater. She is also Lighting Director for The Galveston Island East End Theatre Company. Lisa is the founder of Hope Rising, an arts organization in North Texas that seeks to raise awareness and put an end to Sexual and Domestic Violence through the arts. She has been the resident lighting designer for Ballet North Texas since its founding, taking on notable full-length ballets as well as mix rep performances.



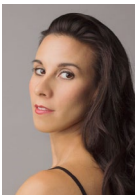
Allan González, Resident Photographer & Videographer

Allan González is the founder of a local professional photography business called AAFotos / DFW Dance Photography. His work is all about capturing the essence of a moment, and the beauty of a performance, staying true to the heart of each image and subject. He has been the resident photographer of Ballet North Texas since its founding, producing all the images for the dancers and media.



Lorinda Mitchell, Costume Designer & Backstage Manager

Sewing various items since the age of 10, Lorinda discovered her love of ballet costumes in 2010, perfecting the tradition of tutu and tunic construction. She has been assisting with costuming and backstage organization for Ballet North Texas since their first Nutcracker in 2018, working directly with Mrs. Lawson and other choreographers in the design of the ballets. She is also the founder and curator of Sew Busy Creations.



Lindsy Dec, Resident Regisseur & Master Teacher

Lindsy Dec is from Fairfax, Virginia. She trained at Washington School of Ballet and joined Pacific Northwest Ballet as an apprentice in 2001. She was promoted to corps de ballet in 2002, soloist in 2009, and principal in 2014. Ms. Dec retired from Pacific Northwest Ballet in July of 2020. Upon retirement, she and her husband, Karel Cruz, founded DeCruz Ballet in San Antonio. In addition to working with BNT, she continues to freelance as a guest artist, teach master classes, and stage ballets for Kiyon Gaines.



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BALLET NORTH TEXAS

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Lauren Kellison, Marketing & Company Manager

Lauren Kellison, originally from Littleton, Colorado, began her classical training at the age of three. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance from Colorado State University. While at CSU, she received her pedagogical certification in modern technique and Vaganova ballet technique, while holding an Assistant to Director title for the CSU Tour Dance Company her junior and senior years. She has danced with Contrapose Dance Company out of Boston, trained on scholarship and performed with José Mateo Ballet Theatre in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and has danced as a guest artist with Saint Paul Ballet in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Some of Lauren's performance credits include *The Nutcracker*, *Carnival of the Animals*, and *Great Ballet Classics*, a program that included excerpts from *Swan Lake*, *Snow White*, *Coppélia*, and *Cinderella* that she danced in as a company member with Montana Ballet Company. Lauren also danced with Wild Space Dance Company under artistic director Debra Loewen in Milwaukee, Wisconsin before landing in Dallas, Texas where she became a founding member of Ballet North Texas. In 2019 she became Marketing and Company Manager working directly with the Artistic and Executive Staff.



Hannah Kleimeyer-White, Administrative Manager NTC

Hannah has served as the Administrative Manager for North Texas Conservatory since its formation. She is also a founding member of Ballet North Texas. Originally from North Bend, Ohio, Hannah has a BFA in Dance from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. She began her dance training with the Otto M. Budig Academy of Cincinnati Ballet, where she developed her passion for ballet. Hannah has had the privilege of dancing with many companies all over the country throughout her professional career and eventually made her way to Dallas. She joined Ballet North Texas and has performed many leading roles with the company including Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Snow Queen and Dew Drop in *The Nutcracker*, and Swanilda in *Coppélia*.



BALLET NORTH TEXAS

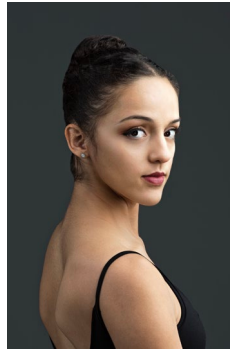
COMPANY DANCERS



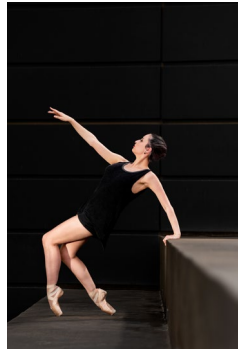
Natalie Anton



Gianna Biondo



Michelle Chaviano



Heather Dods



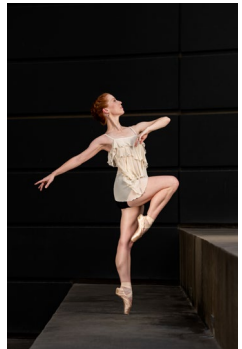
Jenna Holcomb



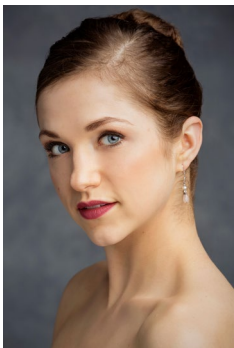
Mackenzie Jones



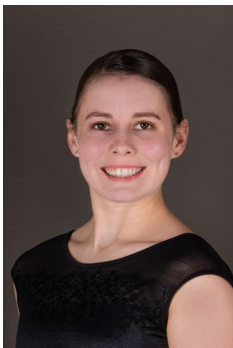
Lauren Kellison



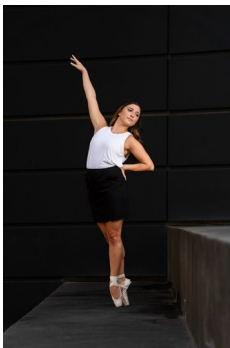
Hannah Rae Kleimeyer



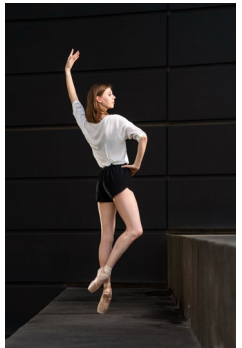
Hannah Knorr



Rachael Mitchell



Colleen Reed



Kara Weigel

COMPANY DANCERS

TRAINEES



(From Left-Right)

Susanna Wesson, Julianne Allen, Lucie Shultz

GUEST ARTISTS



Marlen Alimanov



Alejandro González



Same Jones



Victoria Dolph

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BALLET NORTH TEXAS

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

This evening we are celebrating the career of two founding members of Ballet North Texas, Hannah Rae Kleimeyer, also Administrative Director of North Texas Conservatory, and Heather Dods one of North Texas Conservatory's instructors. Both women will be missed for their dedicated work ethic and conscientious technique on top of their unique sense of humor and quick wit on full display this evening in their portrayals of the famous roles of Cinderella's stepsisters.

We are glad that both dancers' future plans keep them here in the metroplex, where they will continue to be a great asset to the integrity and standard of measure that has become the signature of the company and school.



Heather Dods



Hannah Rae Kleimeyer

Cinderella

Winspear Opera House – Dallas, TX
June 4-5, 2021

Choreography: Nicolina Lawson
Music: Sergei Prokofiev

SYNOPSIS

Once upon a time, in a kingdom far away, a widowed aristocrat lived in a beautiful chateau with his beloved daughter, Cinderella. Eventually, the man decided that his daughter needed a mother's care. His second wife, Lady Tremaine, was a widow and had two daughters, Anastasia and Drizella. Plain and socially awkward, these stepsisters are envious of the beautiful and charming Cinderella. The family lived happily for some time, until the untimely death of Cinderella's father. Afterwards, Lady Tremaine revealed her true nature; she was cold, cruel, and jealous of Cinderella's beauty in comparison to her own daughters. Cinderella was forced to work as a maid, and the family fortune was squandered by her stepsisters. Despite being required to wait upon Lady Tremaine and her stepsisters, and carry out all the household chores each day, Cinderella grew into a beautiful and kind young woman.

One day a messenger arrived with invitations for the entire household to attend a royal ball in honor of Prince Henry. Of course, Cinderella's stepmother forbade her to go unless the entire house was clean. She then proceeded to throw Cinderella's invitation into the fire!

On the evening of the ball, after her stepmother and stepsisters left, Cinderella was visited by a beggar woman in need of refreshment. Although Cinderella was sad she was still kind to the old woman.

The beggar woman asked her why she was so sad and Cinderella told her about her dream of attending the ball at the palace. As Cinderella finished telling her about her dream, the beggar woman revealed herself. "Don't be sad, Cinderella! I am your Fairy Godmother and you've been so kind. I will send you to the ball!" With that, her Fairy Godmother waved her magic wand

and changed Cinderella's old clothes into a beautiful new gown with slippers to match. Cinderella was overjoyed and set off for the ball. Before leaving, Fairy Godmother said, "Cinderella, this magic will only last until midnight. You must reach home by then!"

When Cinderella entered the palace, everybody was struck by her beauty including Prince Henry, but no one recognized her in her pretty clothes and shoes. The Prince introduced himself and danced with her all night. Cinderella was so happy dancing that she almost forgot what her Fairy Godmother had said about the midnight hour. At the last moment, as the bells of the clock started to ring, Cinderella remembered Fairy Godmother's warning. As she rushed to get out of the palace, one of her slippers came off, but she did not turn back. She reached home just as the clock struck twelve. The next day everyone was talking about the beautiful girl who had been dancing with the Prince.

Prince Henry had fallen in love with Cinderella and wanted to find out who the beautiful girl was. He found one of Cinderella's shoes that had fallen off in her hasty departure. Determined to find her, Henry set off the next day declaring that he would marry the girl whose foot fit the shoe. He visited all the houses in the kingdom but the shoe fit no one.

Cinderella's stepsisters also tried on the little shoe. They squeezed and pushed and tried to stretch the shoe over their feet until it seemed it would break. Out of rage that the shoe did not fit the sisters, Lady Tramaire threw the shoe into the fire. Prince Henry was devastated. But Cinderella appeared, and revealed that she had the matching shoe. Prince Henry sat Cinderella down, fitting the shoe perfectly on her foot. Then he whisked her away and together they lived happily ever after.



Cinderella

Winspear Opera House – Dallas, TX
June 4-5, 2021

Choreography: Nicolina Lawson
Music: Sergei Prokofiev

Cinderella

Lauren Kellison

Prince Henry

Sam Jones

Fairy Godmother

Michelle Chaviano

Lady Tremaine

Natalie Anton

Anastasia

Hannah Rae Kleimeyer

Drizella

Heather Dods

Dance Master

Victoria Dolph

Duke Jac

Alejandro González

Queen Charlotte

Cindy Michaels

King Albert

Colman Cochran

Fairies of the Seasons

Spring

Rachael Mitchell

Summer

Jenna Holcomb

Fall

Hannah Knorr

Winter

Kara Weigel

Julianne Allen, Gianna Biondo,
Mickayla Carr, Laci Hellmuth,
Mackenzie Jones, Susanna Wesson

Cinderella

Winspear Opera House – Dallas, TX
June 4-5, 2021

Cinderella's Mice

Mae Carducci, Viviana Lawson, Kate Mello

Butterflies

Jacqueline Bovard, Charlotte Drake, Eden Genova, Julie Lovell, Montana
Montgomery, Valentina Pineda, Kenna Ruibal, Genevieve Young

Hours

Olivia Barjum, Sophia Beckman, Evelyn Bossart, Emma Rose Bosworth,
Eliana Castaneda, Juliet Holcomb, Savannah Jarratt, Madison Kennett,
Scarlett Lawson, Keegan McLean, Caroline Skarbek

Midnight

Leila Agel

Guests of the Ball

Julianne Allen, Gianna Biondo, Mickayla Carr, Laci Hellmuth,
Jenna Holcomb, Hannah Knorr, Mackenzie Jones,
Rachael Mitchell, Susanna Wesson, Kara Weigel

Lighting Design: Lisa Miller

Stage Manager: Wendy Wester

Set Design: Alan Michaels & Dillon Lawson

Costume Design: Nicolina Lawson & Lorinda Mitchell

Photography & Videography: DFW Dance Photography



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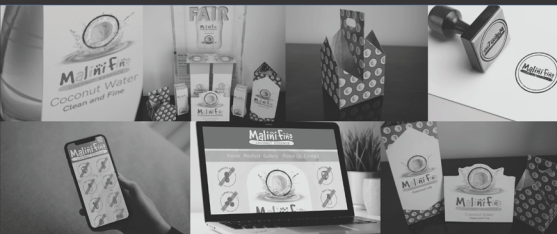
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