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**Kansas City Ballet
Announces 2019-2020 Season:
WORLD PREMIERE of Adam Hougland's
Carmina Burana, Record-breaking *Swan Lake*
returns, and KC Premiere of Lila York's *Celts***

KANSAS CITY, MO (Feb. 1, 2019) — Kansas City Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney today announced the 2019-2020 Season which opens with the WORLD PREMIERE of Adam Hougland's *Carmina Burana*, continues with the enchanting tale of Devon Carney's *Swan Lake*, and closes with Lila York's *Celts*, one of three ballets on that program. The season also includes the annual return of *The Nutcracker* and New Moves.

Subscriptions are available now at the Kansas City Ballet ticket office **816.931.8993** or online at www.kcballet.org. Subscription tickets are a 20 percent savings on single ticket prices and range from \$137 to \$297 for the 3-ballet package.

Devon Carney said: "I am delighted to announce this season, featuring a wide array of works not only sure to entice audiences but also to challenge and inspire the talent of our company. I have long been a fan of Adam Hougland's work and am honored and thrilled to welcome his WORLD PREMIERE of *Carmina Burana*, with a full spectacle of pulsating choral work and choreography."

These performances in October also include two audience favorites: *Tulips & Lobster* by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa which premiered at Johnson County Community College's New Dance Partners in the fall of 2018 and Helen Pickett's *Petal* — last seen in May 2016.

Carney went on to say, "Continuing the season is the mesmerizing *Swan Lake*. I am so thrilled to see our dancers get another opportunity to perform this defining work for

our audiences. Additionally, the group of swans compromising the corps de ballet must breathe and move almost as one—the quintessential example of precision and timing. It isn't any wonder this spectacular ballet has withstood the test of time, and it's an honor and a privilege to present it again."

When Kansas City Ballet premiered *Swan Lake* in 2016, the highly-anticipated production broke all previous box office records for ticket sales (outside of *The Nutcracker*).

Carney also wants this season's programming to challenge and inspire the artists to new heights with renowned works by some of the most accomplished choreographers. The spring program of mixed repertoire includes: Lila York's *Celts*, George Balanchine's *Serenade* and Edwaard Liang's *Wunderland*. "This amazing line up of exciting innovative works have radically influenced the dance world and will be a series that will be memorable for dancers and audiences alike," Carney said.

Carmina Burana, *Tulips & Lobster*, *Swan Lake*, *Serenade* and *Wunderland* all will be accompanied by the Kansas City Symphony, conducted by Kansas City Ballet Music Director Ramona Pansegrau.

Visit www.kcballet.org for more information about Kansas City Ballet's 2019-2020 season and www.kauffmancenter.org for a downloadable media kit about the Kauffman Center. High resolution photos of the 2019-2020 season can be found [here](#).

Kansas City Ballet 2019-2020 Season

Kansas City Dance Day

Saturday, August 24, 2019, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

Kansas City Ballet's 9th annual celebration of dance and movement features FREE dance performances, dance and fitness classes, demonstrations and FUN for the whole family.

New Dance Partners

Sept. 27-28, 2019 | Johnson County Community College

New Dance Partners, a project for new work in dance, has been produced by the Performing Arts Series at Johnson County Community College since 2013 to further artistic growth in dance by creating new work and encouraging collaboration between Kansas City arts organizations. Local, professional dance companies are featured, and new works, commissioned on their behalf, are set by renowned choreographers.

WORLD PREMIERE

Carmina Burana

October 11-20, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Adam Houglan

Music: Carl Orff performed by Kansas City Symphony

Hugely popular and an insatiably indulgent celebration of life and love, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* is a pulsating choral work that provides an incredible landscape for choreographed spectacle. Most have experienced *Carmina Burana* in choral presentation, but too few have seen it as it was originally imagined. This program also includes *Tulips & Lobster* by Annabelle Lopez Ochoa (which premiered at New Dance Partners at Johnson County Community College in September 2018), music by Purcell, Albinoni, Lambert and Vivaldi, and *Petal* by Helen Pickett, with the music of Philip Glass and Thomas Montgomery Newman.

Carmina Burana
Tulips & Lobster
Petal

Choreography: Adam Houglan

Choreography: Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

Choreography: Helen Pickett

Music: Carl Orff

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky

Music: Philip Glass &
Thomas Montgomery Newman

Fri., Oct. 11	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 12	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 13	2 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 18	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 19	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 20	2 p.m.

The Nutcracker

December 5-24, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Devon Carney

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by Kansas City Symphony

Sponsored by Bank of America

Kansas City Ballet's *The Nutcracker* awed Kennedy Center audiences in Washington, D.C., was hailed as "positively oozing charm" and called "especially lovely with its bright, fresh décor" by *The Washington Post*. The classic, Victorian-era story by E.T.A. Hoffman featuring Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, Dr. Drosselmeier and the Sugar Plum Fairy is a magical theatrical experience wrapped with exquisite costumes, grand sets and captivating choreography.

Thurs., Dec. 5	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 6	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 7	2 p.m.* & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 8	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Thurs. Dec 12	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 14	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 15	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 18	6 p.m. (Sensory-friendly Performance)
Thurs., Dec. 19	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 20	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 21	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 22	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 23	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 24	1 p.m.

(*) Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball Luncheon

Swan Lake

February 14-23, 2020 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
 Choreography: Devon Carney after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov
 Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by the Kansas City Symphony

THE MOST ENCHANTING LOVE STORY EVER SEEN

Perhaps the most recognized ballet of all time, *Swan Lake* makes its highly-anticipated return to Kansas City Ballet after breaking box office records in 2016. This immortal love story involves a wicked sorcerer who captures the beautiful Princess Odette and turns her into a swan. His evil spell can only be broken when a young prince pledges his love and marries her. Should he betray her, she will remain a swan forever.

Fri., Feb. 14	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 15	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb 16	2 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 20	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 21	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 22	2 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 22	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 23	2 p.m.

New Moves

March 26-29, 2020 | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

New Moves, one of Kansas City Ballet's most popular performances, showcases contemporary ballet in an intimate setting. This limited-run production gives audiences a chance to see tomorrows sought-after choreographers today! It is a very up close and visceral experience for audience and dancer alike, with all performances held in the Bolender Center's Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater. Come see our Kansas City Ballet artists and emerging choreographers discover bold new ways of expression and feel the athleticism, beauty, power and passion of never-before seen dance creations!

Thurs., March 26	7:30 p.m.
Fri., March 27	10:30 a.m. (Student/Senior Group Matinee)
Fri., March 27	7:30 p.m.
Sat., March 28	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sun., March 29 2 p.m.

KANSAS CITY PREMIERE

Celts

May 8-17, 2020 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Lila York debuted *Celts* at Boston Ballet — a year before Michael Flatley’s *Riverdance* became a sensation — and was hailed by *The Boston Herald* as “a riveting, imaginative marriage of ballet and Irish folk dance with a modern sensibility.” Set to the music of The Chieftains and more, this celebration of Irish culture has brought audiences to their feet with its choreographically intense jig and captivating energy. This program also features George Balanchine’s *Serenade* with the music of Peter I. Tchaikovsky and Edwaard Liang’s *Wunderland*, set to the music of Philip Glass, last performed by Kansas City Ballet in May 2015.

<i>Celts</i>	Choreography: Lila York	Music: The Chieftains; William J. Ruyle; Bill Whelen; Mason Daring
<i>Serenade</i>	Choreography: George Balanchine	Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky
<i>Wunderland</i>	Choreography: Edwaard Liang	Music: Philip Glass

Fri., May 8	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 9	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 10	2 p.m.
Fri., May 15	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 16	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 17	2 p.m.

Sponsors

The Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, Kansas City Ballet Guild, the Missouri Arts Council—a state agency, and ArtsKC support Kansas City Ballet’s 2019-2020 Season.

Season Subscriber Information

For the 2019-2020 Season in the Kauffman Center, a Series Subscription Package is suggested for best pricing and seating. In addition to saving up to 20 percent off single ticket prices by purchasing a 3-Show Subscription, season ticket patrons enjoy benefits including: priority seating in the Kauffman Center, savings on additional single ticket prices, free ticket exchanges and the chance to purchase discounted tickets for *The Nutcracker* and New Moves before they go on sale to the public. For parents, subscriptions for children under 21 are half price with an adult subscription order.

Subscriber Benefits

- Guaranteed seating in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- Free and flexible ticket exchanges
- Convenient payment options
- 20 percent savings and early purchase of The Nutcracker and New Moves tickets
- Subscriber Arts Card – discounts to other performing arts organizations
- Missed Show Insurance – for when last minute life things happen
- Pre-paid parking package
- Save 20% on Dance Speaks Educational Series
 - DANCE SPEAKS: Carmina Burana – Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019
 - DANCE SPEAKS: Swan Lake – Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2020
 - DANCE SPEAKS: New Lines, New Moves – Wednesday, Mar. 11, 2020
 - DANCE SPEAKS: Celts – Wednesday, Apr. 22, 2020
- Kansas City Ballet School Studio Discount – Subscribers save \$20 on 20-class packs for dance and fitness classes

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Accessibility Assistance

Kansas City Ballet is committed to providing assistance to those with disabilities. Requests for information and questions can be directed to our Patron Services Manager Mark Volk at 816.931.1348. Those who are hearing impaired or hard of hearing, can get help with telephone access by using the free relay service — 711.

About Kansas City Ballet

Making Kansas City a destination for dance

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 30-member professional ballet company under the leadership of Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director Jeffrey J. Bentley. The company's mission is to establish Kansas City Ballet as an indispensable asset in its community through exceptional performances, excellence in dance training and quality community education programs for all ages.

Kansas City Ballet is home to Kansas City Ballet School with an enrollment of 2,000+ children and adults offering professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those simply seeking a healthy lifestyle.

Through the professional company, second company (KCB II & Trainees), and community programs for all ages, Kansas City Ballet seeks to nurture and develop their artists, audiences and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance.

Kansas City Ballet's home, the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity, in conjunction with its Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, truly has positioned Kansas City as a destination for dance.

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Please direct all media inquiries to: Ellen McDonald at 816.444.0052 or publicity@kcballet.org.