

KansasCityBallet

Devon Carney, Artistic Director

For Immediate Release

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Kansas City Ballet Announces KCB II

KANSAS CITY, MO (August 22, 2013) — Devon Carney, newly appointed Artistic Director of the Kansas City Ballet, announced today the creation and launch of Kansas City Ballet II (KCB II), the second company of Kansas City Ballet.

KCB II, a project of Kansas City Ballet's School, is Kansas City Ballet's emerging professionals program, giving extraordinarily talented young dancers a professional company experience as prelude to their joining a professional company. Dancers in the KCB II program are selected from auditions around the country. These talented young dancers receive intensive professional experience, honing their skills through community presentations, lecture-demonstrations, arduous daily classes, rehearsals and, as necessary, participation in corps de ballet roles for larger productions of the main Kansas City Ballet company.

KCB II is committed to arts education, community outreach and the professional development of college graduates and undergraduates preparing for professional dance careers. KCB II will provide a platform for emerging performers, teachers and choreographers to hone their technical skills and showcase their artistic talent. KCB II will perform throughout the region through public performances, lecture demonstrations, residencies and workshops, enabling the community to experience live dance in a public setting. Dancers in KCB II will act as ambassadors for Kansas City Ballet.

Carney stated, "One of my primary goals as I begin my tenure with Kansas City Ballet is the creation of this second company. In keeping with the successful history and growth of the Company in recent years it seemed the natural next stage of development. This will enable us to expand our outreach beyond the remarkable Todd Bolender Center for Dance and Creativity into schools, community centers, public parks and more. KCB II will serve Kansas City Ballet well as it continues to move forward as a national force in dance."

Jeffrey J. Bentley, the Ballet's Executive Director added, "This has long been our goal and the selection of Devon Carney certainly played a role in the advancement of that goal. I am so pleased to be able to have the opportunity to partner with Devon in the launch of KCB II."

The dancers for KCB II include:

- Rochelle Chang is a recent graduate of the highly respected Indiana University dance department.
- Lark Commanday who participated in the Houston Ballet Summer Program.
- Katya Duncan recently received her B.A. in mathematics from the University of Chicago and participated in the Joffrey Trainee program in Chicago.
- Morgan Sicklick recently received her B.A. from Butler University.
- Megan Swisher who performed for two seasons with Colorado Ballet Studio Company.

Complete bios can be found at <http://www.kcballet.org/aboutus/company/kcbii.html>. High resolution photos can be found at <http://bit.ly/KCBalletMedia>.

Those interested in learning more about KCB II and/or booking them for a performance, please contact KCBII@kcballet.org.

2013-14 Season At A Glance

Kansas City Ballet at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Fall Performances

October 11-20, 2013 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

Presenting classics from Balanchine, Robbins and Bernstein, plus both Kansas City and world premiere ballets.

<i>Allegro Brillante</i>	Choreography: George Balanchine	Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky
<i>Triple Play</i>	Choreography: William Whitener	Music: Francis Poulenc
<i>World Premiere</i>	Choreography: Jodie Gates	Music: J. S. Bach
<i>Fancy Free</i>	Choreography: Jerome Robbins	Music: Leonard Bernstein
<i>World Premiere</i>	Choreography: Devon Carney	Music: Franz Schubert

The Nutcracker

December 7-24, 2013 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

Kansas City's favorite holiday tradition continues with the presentation of Todd Bolender's delightful family classic *The Nutcracker*.

<i>The Nutcracker</i>	Choreography: Todd Bolender	Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky
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Winter Performances

February 21-March 2, 2014 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

The classic gothic horror story becomes a frightening and bravura work of dance theatre filled with sensuality and danger.

Dracula

Choreography: Michael Pink

Music: Philip Feeney

Spring Performances

May 9-18, 2014 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

The delightful fairy tale of the young girl who unexpectedly finds true love and proves that dreams really do come true.

Cinderella

Choreography: Victoria Morgan

Music: Sergei Prokofiev

About Kansas City Ballet

To make Kansas City a destination for dance

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 28 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 500+ children and adults offering professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those simply seeking a healthy lifestyle.

Through its professional company, its second company KCB II and its many community service programs such as Reach Out and Dance (ROAD) and DanceINFORMances we seek to nurture and develop our artists, audiences and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance.

Our home, the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity on the campus of Union Station, in conjunction with our Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts has truly positioned Kansas City as a Destination for Dance.

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