



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Ellen McDonald

816.213.4355

publicity@kcballet.org

For Tickets: 816.931.8993 or www.kcballet.org

***Kansas City Ballet
Announces Three Company
Promotions and
Two New Members;
Welcomes New KCB II and Trainee
Members***

A Record Seven Promotions within Kansas City Ballet

KANSAS CITY, MO (Sept. 7, 2018) — Kansas City Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney today announced the promotion of two existing members and appointment of 16 new members to the Company and Second Company.

Carney said: "Since my arrival, it has been my intent to develop dancers within our organization. Establishing the trainee program and KCB II has helped create a seamless bridge for dancers interested in making a career develop here in Kansas City, with some of the most established and renowned faculty and guest artists available. This year, we are thrilled to announce a record number of promotions. This is a testament not only to the accomplishments of these artists but of the level of support, interest and commitment from the community. Kansas City is truly a destination for dance."

Company Members

Enrico Hipolito, Cameron Thomas and Goldie Walberg, former 2017-2018 Company Apprentices, will join the Company this season as Members. New members **Courtney Nitting** and **Daniel Rodriguez** will join the Kansas City Ballet Company.

Apprentices

Gavin Abercrombie, Angelin Carrant, and Marisa Whiteman, formerly with KCB II, will join the Company as Apprentices. New member **Nicholas Keeperman** will join the Company as an Apprentice.

KCB II

Samantha Huebner, formerly a Trainee, will join KCB II. New members **Connor Hammond, Mikayla McKean and Wojciech Ogloza** will join KCB II.

Trainees

Former Kansas City Ballet School Summer Intensive students **Teresa Bowden, Sidney Haefs, Juliana Kuhn, Emma Pennell and Leah Upchurch** will join the Trainee Program.

Graduates of Kansas City Ballet School **Jeremy Hanson and Grace Reed** will join the Trainee Program.

High resolution photos of all the members can be downloaded [here](#).

New Company Members

Courtney Nitting

Courtney Nitting was born in Lafayette, NJ and began her dance training at the age of 3 at The New Jersey School of Ballet. After nine years at NJB on scholarship, she was invited to continue her training at The School of American Ballet. It was at SAB that Ms. Nitting received a review from the credited critic Alastair MacCaulay for her lead role in George Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments* during the annual workshop. Over these years, she also attended numerous summer programs such as American Ballet Theatre, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, and Boston Ballet. After graduating from SAB, she performed guest leading roles as Dew Drop in Eglevsky Ballet & Neglia Ballet's *Nutcracker*. She also guested in performances with Tom Gold Dance in their 2017 New York City Annual Season. Ms. Nitting then went on to join Pennsylvania Ballet II for the 2017-2018 season performing in ballets such as Angel Corella's *The Sleeping Beauty*, George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*, and *Swan Lake*.

Daniel Rodriguez

Daniel Rodriguez was born in New York City and was introduced to dancing through a not for profit organization named National Dance Institute at the age of 10. After graduating as a dance major from Laguardia Arts High School, Mr. Rodriguez finished his training at the Manhattan Youth Ballet in 2010, joining North Carolina Dance Theater. He then joined The Sarasota Ballet in 2012, where he danced for five seasons before briefly joining Dayton Ballet in 2017. His repertory includes works by Sir Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine, Septime Webre, Ricardo Graziano, Dwight Rhoden, Jiri Bubenicek, Paul Taylor, Christopher Wheeldon and Jiří Kylian.

Promoted Company Members

Enrico Hipolitto

Enrico Hipolito is from Seattle, Washington. He began his training with Pacific Northwest Ballet School on a full scholarship. Mr. Hipolito has attended summer programs with Boston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and Houston Ballet. In 2012, Enrico was sent to a summer exchange program to The Royal Dutch Ballet to represent PNB. Upon graduating PNB School, he trained at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet for two years through the male scholarship program. Mr. Hipolito then joined Ballet West II in 2015 and danced there for two years. Enrico has performed works by Twyla Tharp, John Cranko, Stanton Welch, Nicolo Fonte, August Bournonville and George Balanchine.

Cameron Thomas

Cameron Thomas began his dance training in 2008 at the Draper Center for Dance Education in his hometown of Rochester, New York. In 2013, he became a trainee with the Rochester City Ballet. In January 2015, Mr. Thomas received a full scholarship to attend the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis (JKO) School at American Ballet Theatre. In 2016, he joined KCB II under the direction of Devon Carney and Anthony Krutzkamp. After the 2016-2017 season, he was promoted to Apprentice with the Kansas City Ballet for the 2017-2018 season. With Kansas City Ballet, Mr. Thomas has performed in Bruce Wells' *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Devon Carney's *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, and George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*.

Goldie Walberg

Goldie Walberg grew up in Sherman Oaks, California where she studied with Andrea Paris Gutierrez and Conny Mathot at Los Angeles Ballet Academy. Ms. Walberg received scholarships to Houston Ballet, Harid Conservatory, and Pacific Northwest Ballet where she attended summer intensives. In 2012, she received the Royal Academy of Dance's highest honor, the Solo Seal. She was also a finalist at Youth America Grand Prix in New York where she received a

full scholarship to the Washington School of Ballet. While at TWSB, Ms. Walberg performed the Pas de Deux from *Don Quixote*. In 2013, she joined the second company at Ballet Met in Columbus, Ohio. In 2014, Ms. Walberg joined KCB II.

New Company Apprentices

Company Apprentices perform with the company under the tutelage of the artistic leadership as part of their initial professional experience.

Nicholas Keeperman

Nicholas Keeperman began his ballet training at age 9 with Main Street Dance Academy in his hometown, Wilmington, Illinois. Mr. Keeperman has trained and performed with academies across the United States. He has created, staged and debuted original choreography in collaboration with the American Festival for the Arts and danced lead roles in a variety of performances. His noted roles include those of Prince, Snow, and Cavalier in *The Nutcracker*, Romeo in *Romeo & Juliet*, Blue Bird in *Sleeping Beauty* and Basilio in *Don Quixote*. He also has danced in Stanton Welch's *Nutcracker*, *A Dance in the Garden of Mirth* and *The Long and Winding Road*. He has trained under the leadership of Nutmeg's Victoria Mazzarelli, Eleanor D'Antuono, Alexi Tchernichov, Denise Limoli and Houston Ballet's Andrew Murphy and Claudio Munoz.

Promoted Company Apprentices

Gavin Abercrombie

Gavin Abercrombie was born in Acton, California, and began his ballet training at the age of 8 with the Antelope Valley Ballet. At the age of 14 he attended Pittsburgh Ballet Theater's summer intensive, where he was invited to stay year-round on full scholarship. In Pittsburgh Mr. Abercrombie trained under the leadership of Marjorie Grundvig and Dennis Marshall and was given the opportunity to perform roles such as "romantic boy" in David Lichine's *Graduation Ball*, and "Golden Idol" from Petipa's *La Bayadere*. After two years in Pittsburgh he attended San Francisco Ballet's summer intensive where he trained under Patrick Armand and Parrish Maynard. Upon completion of the summer course he was invited to stay year-round on full scholarship. During the two years he spent in San Francisco, he was given many chances to perform in ballets such as the North American premier of Kenneth MacMillan's *Soiree Musicale*, John Neumier's *Yondering*, Helgi Tomasson's *Handel a Celebration*, Russian in Helgi Tomasson's *Nutcracker*, and debuted the male principal role in the world premiere of Parrish Maynard's *Symphonic*. Mr. Abercrombie then moved to Kansas City and spent two years in Kansas City Ballet's Second Company before joining the main company. While in Kansas City, he has had the opportunity to perform in many ballets including;

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Balanchine's *Theme and Variations* and *Diamonds*, Devon Carney's *Romeo & Juliet* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, and Stanton Welch's *Play*.

Angelin Carrant

Angelin Carrant, originally from Paris, France, began his training at the age of 6 with the American Academy of Dance. As a child he was chosen to perform in *Le Songe de Médée*, by Angelin Preljocaj, with the Paris Opera Ballet. In 2013, Angelin was offered a full scholarship with the San Francisco Ballet School, under the leadership of Patrick Armand. He trained there for four years where he danced in productions such as Helgi Tomasson's *Nutcracker*, Christopher Wheeldon's *Cinderella* and John Neumeier's *Yondering*. He joined the Kansas City Ballet Second Company in 2017.

Marisa Whiteman

Born in Stony Brook, NY, Marisa DeEtte Whiteman began classical training at Seiskaya Ballet. She joined Next Generation Ballet in 2011, where she also danced in *La Traviata* with Opera Tampa and in the YAGP Gala at Lincoln Center. Subsequently, as a Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Pre-Professional Student she performed with the company in corps de ballet roles in ballets such as *The Nutcracker* and *Cinderella*, as well as with the Pittsburgh Symphony in concert. Ms. Whiteman spent a year training privately and was awarded top 12 in the Senior Classical Division at YAGP, before joining Kansas City Ballet as a Trainee in 2014, and KCB II in 2016. She has spent recent summers performing at the Hermitage Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, Jacob's Pillow where she was featured in Yury Yanowsky's World Premiere at the opening Gala Performance, as a Stepsister of *Cinderella* (Misty Copeland) in a benefit performance of *Cinderella* and also was featured as Zelda Fitzgerald with Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance. Since joining Kansas City Ballet, she has had the privilege of performing roles in *Alice (in wonderland)*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Diamonds*, *Peter Pan*, *Play*, *Rite of Spring*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Swan Lake*, *The Four Temperaments*, *The Uneven*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Theme and Variations*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, both Todd Bolender's and Devon Carney's *The Nutcracker* and *Vesna* (Viktor Plotnikov's World Premiere), as well as with Pink Martini in concert. Ms. Whiteman danced with KCB II for two seasons prior to joining the company.

New KCB II Dancers

KCB II, a program connected with Kansas City Ballet School and a part of the second company of Kansas City Ballet, is Kansas City Ballet's emerging professionals program, giving talented young dancers a professional company experience. Dancers in the KCB II program are selected from auditions around the country. These dancers receive professional experience performing corps de ballet roles in Kansas City Ballet full-length productions.

KCB II is committed to arts education, community outreach and the development of aspiring young artists preparing them for professional dance careers. KCB II provides a platform for emerging performers, teachers and choreographers to hone their technical skills and showcase their artistic talent. KCB II performs 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 act as ambassadors for Kansas City Ballet.

Connor Hammond

Connor Hammond grew up in Coos Bay, Oregon. He began his formal ballet training at the age of 10 at the Pacific School of Dance under the direction of Christine Rader. Looking to further his training, Mr. Hammond moved to San Francisco at the age of 16 to join the San Francisco Ballet School under full scholarship. Throughout his two years at SFBS, he worked closely with director Patrick Armand as well as retired principal dancers Rueben Martin Cintas and Pascal Molat. He has worked with many reputable guest teachers as well, such as Julio Bocca and Gennadi Saveliev. He rehearsed and performed many roles while in the school such as corps in Balanchine's *Stars and Stripes* and in Helgi Tomasson's *Meistens Mozart*. He also performed in Tomasson's versions of *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. Mr. Hammond spent four summers at SFBS and one summer training at the Rock School in Philadelphia.

Mikayla McKean

Mikayla McKean is from Austin, Texas. Her formal ballet training began at the age of 10 at the Austin School of Classical Ballet under the direction of Jennifer Felkner. At the age of 14, Ms. McKean moved to Cary, North Carolina to further her ballet training at Cary Ballet Conservatory's Pre-Professional Training Program under Artistic Director Mariaelena Ruiz. While At CBC, she had the opportunity to perform with Cary Ballet's Company in many classical ballets. Roles included Sugarplum in *The Nutcracker*, Nikiya in *La Bayadere*, Pas de Trois and Grand Pas in *Le Corsaire* and Variations from *Paquita* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. She also competed in major ballet competitions, receiving third place in 2017 YAGP Senior Classical in Boston, Massachusetts, also receiving the 2017 ADC Jury Encouragement Award and placing in the top 12 in both classical/contemporary at ADC 2016/2018 Competition. She has spent many summers studying at prestigious ballet schools such as The Harid Conservatory, Ellison Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet.

Wojciech Ogloza

Wojciech Ogloza (from Ridgecrest, California) began classical ballet training at 15. He moved to Nevada to attend Kwak Ballet under the direction of Kyudong

Kwak and Yoomi Lee. After a year and a half of classical ballet training in Nevada, Mr. Ogloza attended City Ballet in San Francisco where he worked with Nikolai Kabaniaev and Galina Alexandrova. He spent two years working with City Ballet and had the opportunity to do many demanding roles such as; Prince Desire (*Sleeping Beauty*), Cavalier (*The Nutcracker*), Albrecht (*Giselle*), etc. He then took a summer course with American Ballet Theatre and was offered a traineeship with Julie Kent at Washington Ballet in DC for a season. He then moved on to become a PD1 at Pacific Northwest Ballet for a season after attending their summer intensive. At PNB he received direction from Peter Boal, Kiyon Gaines, and many others. While at PNB he was able to learn about company life and learn amazing ballets such as *Jewels*, Balanchine's *Nutcracker*, and was also given the opportunity to play the Prince role in *Snow White*.

Promoted KCB II Dancer

Samantha Huebner

Originally from San Marcos, Texas, Samantha Huebner began her training under Keith Duncan at Central Texas Ballet Conservatory and Marieli Guardiola-Pope at Ballet Conservatory of South Texas. At the age of 16, Ms. Huebner was accepted into the University of North Carolina School of the Arts where she spent one-year training under Susan Jaffe and Laura Martin. After spending one year at UNCSA she was invited to join the Professional Division at Texas Ballet Theater under the direction of Ben Stevenson. She joined Kansas City Ballet as a trainee in 2016. Ms. Huebner also attended summer intensives with American Ballet Theater, Ballet Austin, Texas Ballet Theater, Walnut Hill, Kaatsbaan Extreme Ballet, and Kansas City Ballet. Throughout her training, she performed in ballets such as *Etudes*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Theme and Variations*, and *Romeo & Juliet*, and has also performed soloist roles such as Pigtail Girl in *Graduation Ball*, Clara in *The Nutcracker*, Dawn in *Coppelia*, Myrtha in *Giselle*, variations in *Paquita* and *Le Corsaire*, among other contemporary ballets.

New Trainee Dancers

The Trainee Program, which is a tuition based program of Kansas City Ballet School, aims to nurture and develop young aspiring post-secondary dancers' technical skills and artistry, ultimately preparing them for a professional dance career by bridging the gap between the student and KCB II. In addition to their dance studies, trainees participate in some company classes, have the opportunity to be considered for performances with Kansas City Ballet Company during the season and perform in tandem with KCB II in their own educational and community outreach performances throughout the year.

Former Kansas City Ballet School Summer Intensive students **Teresa Bowden**, **Sidney Haefs**, **Juliana Kuhn**, **Emma Pennell** and **Leah Upchurch** will join the Trainee Program.

Graduates of Kansas City Ballet School **Jeremy Hanson** and **Grace Reed** will join the Trainee Program.

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 2000+ 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, 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, in conjunction with our Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, truly has positioned Kansas City as a destination for dance.

Kansas City Ballet 2018-2019 Season

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

New Dance Partners

Sept. 21-22, 2018 | 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

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featured and new works, commissioned on their behalf, are set by renowned choreographers.

DANCE SPEAKS: *The Wizard of Oz*, A World Premiere Ballet

Thursday, September 27, 2018

6:30-7:30 p.m. | Panel Discussion

Kansas City Public Library | Central Branch Downtown

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS. This series, held at various venues around the community, is intended to provide an up-close and personal look into the creative process choreographers and dance artists embark upon before ballets reach the stage. Acclaimed choreographer Septime Webre, who's creating an imaginative adaptation of the beloved book, headlines a discussion around the making of this production with KC Ballet's Artistic Director, Devon Carney with R. Crosby Kemper, Director of The Kansas City Public Library moderating.

Webre is the Artistic Director of Hong Kong Ballet. His *The Wizard of Oz*, featuring original music, costumes, sets, projections, and special effects, premieres October 12-21 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. This Dance Speaks is co-presented by the Kansas City Public Library and is free to the public.

The Emerald City Ball

Saturday, October 6, 2018, 7:30 p.m. | Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza

Chairman: Gigi Rose

Honorary Co-Chairmen: Carol and W. Anthony Feiock

The Ball benefits Kansas City Ballet and celebrates the Ballet's world premiere *The Wizard of Oz*. Join Dorothy and friends for a memorable evening of extraordinary décor, superb cuisine, great music to dance to and an extra-special glimpse into the fantastical world of Septime Webre's *The Wizard of Oz*. For more information or sponsorship opportunities, contact Ball Chairman Gigi Rose at balletball@kcballet.org or 913.221.3992.

World Premiere

The Wizard of Oz

October 12-21, 2018 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Septime Webre

Music: Matthew Pierce performed by Kansas City Symphony

The much-anticipated world premiere by Septime Webre, the creator of *Alice (in wonderland)*, will take audiences on a fantastical journey to the Emerald City. Filled with all the familiarity of the classic story—Dorothy and Toto swept to Oz join up with three unlikely heroes to see the Wizard, their triumph over the Wicked Witch, and the quest to return home—yet realized with a bold, new spectacle of music, costumes, sets, projections and special effects. This is *the* must-see family event of the season.

Story lines and visual elements from the motion picture provided by Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures.

Fri., Oct. 12	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 13	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 14	2 p.m.
Wed., Oct. 17	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 18	10:30 a.m. (Student Matinee)
Thurs., Oct. 18	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 19	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 20	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 21	2 p.m.

Funding partners include: Hall Family Foundation, Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts, Estelle S. and Robert A. Long Ellis Foundation, William T. Kemper Foundation-Commerce Bank, n.a. Trustee, Arvin Gottlieb Foundation-UMB Bank, n.a. trustee, and Francis Family Foundation.

The Nutcracker

November 30-December 23, 2018 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Devon Carney

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by Kansas City Symphony

Sponsored by Bank of America

Last year, Kansas City Ballet's *The Nutcracker* awed Kennedy Center audiences in Washington, D.C., and was hailed as "positively oozing charm" by *The Washington Post*, and is "especially lovely with its bright, fresh décor." 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.

Fri., Nov. 30	10:30 a.m. (Student Matinee)
Fri., Nov. 30	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 1	2 p.m.* & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 2	1 p.m.
Thurs., Dec 6	10:30 a.m. (Student Matinee)
Thurs., Dec 6	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 7	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 8	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 9	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 12	6 p.m.** Sensory-Friendly Performance
Thurs., Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 14	10:30 a.m. (Student Matinee)
Fri., Dec. 14	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 15	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 16	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 20	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 21	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

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Sat., Dec. 22 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 23 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.

(*) Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball Luncheon

(**) Sensory-Friendly Performance was designed to engage children and adults with sensory sensitivities in the community tradition of the holiday themed Nutcracker ballet.

DANCE SPEAKS: *Lady of the Camellias*

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

5:30-6:00 p.m. | Company Open Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 p.m. | Panel Discussion

Frost Studio Theater | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS, held at various venues around the community.

Guest choreographer Val Caniparoli and KC Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney provide an up-close and personal look into bringing Caniparoli's ballet *Lady of the Camellias* to the Kauffman Center stage. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

Lady of the Camellias

February 15-24, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Based on the novel by Alexandre Dumas

Choreography: Val Caniparoli

Music: Frédéric Chopin performed by the Kansas City Symphony

Armand, a young countryman encounters the ravishing courtesan Marguerite in a chance meeting that leads to a passionate, but doomed love. Val Caniparoli's popular adaptation of this classic tale is set to the romantic score by Frédéric Chopin, and deftly depicts the moving story of beauty, extravagance, jealousy, deception and heartbreak. Alexandre Dumas' tragic love story has inspired many adaptations, including Greta Garbo's *Camille* and Baz Luhrman's *Moulin Rouge!*, but none more popular than Verdi's opera *La Traviata*.

Fri., Feb. 15 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 16 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Feb 17 2 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 22 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 23 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 24 2 p.m.

DANCE SPEAKS: New Voices, New Moves

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

6:30-7:30 p.m. | Panel Discussion

Hilliard Gallery | 1820 McGee St.

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As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS. This Dance Speaks will provide an up-close and personal look into the process emerging, cutting edge choreographers employ in creating original contemporary works. Devon Carney, Artistic Director for Kansas City Ballet will lead a panel of special guest artists. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

New Moves

March 28-31, 2019 | 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 tomorrow's 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.

Thurs., March 28	7:30 p.m.
Fri., March 29	10:30 a.m. (Student/Senior Group Matinee)
Fri., March 29	7:30 p.m.
Sat., March 30	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., March 31	2 p.m.

DANCE SPEAKS: Ballets by Tharp, Parsons, and Forsythe

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

5:30-6:00 p.m. | Company Open Rehearsal

6:00-7:00 p.m. | Panel Discussion

Frost Studio Theater | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS. KC Ballet's Artistic Director Devon Carney moderates a discussion with the staggers of Twyla Tharp's ballet *In The Upper Room*, William Forsythe's ballet *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, and with Kansas City native David Parsons, around his world premiere ballet. Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

THARP / PARSONS / FORSYTHE

May 10-19, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

This is Kansas City Ballet's must-see dance event of the season with the works of three of America's most recognized and acclaimed choreographers brought together on stage at the Kauffman Center! Twyla Tharp's *In the Upper Room* is a tour-de-force of athleticism, built on a pulsating score by Philip Glass. William Forsythe's contemporary masterpiece, *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, is a high-voltage thrill ride that changed dance forever and became one of Forsythe's signature works. Kansas City native, David Parsons founded Parsons Dance and quickly was hailed as a master of contemporary dance. He returns to KC with a world premiere ballet just for you.

WORLD PREMIERE Choreography: David Parsons Music: TBA
In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated
Choreography: William Forsythe Music: Thom Willems
In The Upper Room Choreography: Twyla Tharp Music: Philip Glass

Fri., May 10 7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 11 7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 12 2 p.m.
Fri., May 17 7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 18 7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 19 2 p.m.

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Please direct all media inquiries to: Ellen McDonald at 816.213.4355 or
publicity@kcballet.org.