

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For Tickets: 816.931.8993 or kcballet.org

# Kansas City Ballet Launches 2024-25 Season with ALICE (in wonderland)

## Performances October 11-20 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



KANSAS CITY, MO (Sept. 10, 2024) — Kansas City Ballet launches its 2024-2025 season with the fresh and visually stunning ALICE (in wonderland), a modern reimagining of Lewis Carroll's beloved classic, Oct. 11-20 at the Muriel Kauffman Theatre at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Choreographed by Septime Webre with costume designs from Liz Vandal and music by Matthew Pierce, ALICE (in wonderland) will be performed by the Kansas City Symphony and conducted by Kansas City Ballet Music Director Ramona Pansegrau.

"We kick off our exciting new season with an invitation to fall down the rabbit hole and experience **ALICE (in wonderland)**, back by popular demand ten years after its KC premiere," stated Kansas City Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney. **ALICE (in wonderland)** is a modern, visually stunning take on Lewis Carroll's adored children's literature masterpiece, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, with additional characters from the author's *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.

The glossy, full-length ballet has been described as "crackling with energy and innovative movement," and "a dazzling production" by critics. Combining ballet and contemporary dance, Carroll's iconic characters are brought to life in an immersive experience for all ages, with exceptional choreography, colorful costumes, and a whimsical score.

Carroll's masterwork of fantasy fiction describes the curious and adventurous Alice as she falls down a rabbit hole into a surreal world. In Wonderland, she encounters a host of fantastical characters, including the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat and the Queen of Hearts. Alice is a polite and well-mannered child who finds herself in a crazy world where the rules of social etiquette don't apply, and time is irrelevant. Filled with wordplay, nonsensical logic and highly imaginative situations, the story takes readers on a delightful journey through a dreamlike landscape where just about anything can happen.

The production features Webre's revolutionary choreography, punctuated by Cirque du Soleil designer Liz Vandal's effervescent costumes and an original score by Matthew Pierce, performed by Kansas City Symphony under the baton of Kansas City Ballet Music Director Ramona Pansegrau. Scenic Design is credited to James Kronzer, Original Lighting Design is from Clifton Taylor, recreated for this production by Trad A Burns. The production's entrancing and magical flying sequences are provided by Flying by Foy.

High-res rehearsal and past production photos, and more can be found here.

#### **Sponsors**

This production is proudly presented by the Kansas City Ballet Guild.

Support provided by the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Family Foundation, the Missouri Arts Council — a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, support Kansas City Ballet's 2024-2025 Season.

#### ALICE (in wonderland)

Oct. 11-20, 2024 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts 1601 Broadway, Kansas City MO 64108 Choreography by Septime Webre Music by Matthew Pierce

#### Back by popular demand: ALICE (in wonderland)!

It's the classic descent into the rabbit hole for young ALICE! Witness the magic of ALICE, the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat and the Queen of Hearts in this dazzling reimagining of Lewis Carroll's children's masterwork.



Fri., Oct. 11 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 12 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 13 1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 17 6:00 p.m. \*
Fri., Oct. 18 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct.19 1:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 20 1:30 p.m.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND EVENTS

### Sensory-Friendly Performance of ALICE (in wonderland) Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, 6 p.m. | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Kansas City Ballet is pleased to present a performance of a sensory-friendly **ALICE** (in wonderland) for children, families, and adults with sensory sensitivities, autism spectrum disorder or other special needs. Appropriate changes will be made to this performance to create a welcoming and safe space for all in attendance. We are also pleased to be working with the Kansas City Symphony to provide live music for this performance while remaining sensitive to the needs of our audience. General admission for the sensory-friendly performance is \$25 per person plus a \$8 Kauffman Center facility fee per ticket and a \$5 processing fee per order. Call the Kansas City Ballet Box Office, 816.931.8993, to purchase tickets. Not available online. To learn more, please visit The Sensory Friendly Performance of ALICE.

#### **Belger Footnote Series**

Artistic Director Devon Carney and guest artists offer audience members their views about the choreography, history, design elements and music of the evening's performance. These informal discussions are free for all ticketholders and are held at the theatre **one hour prior to curtain** for Kansas City Ballet shows except the Sensory-Friendly performance of *ALICE* (*in wonderland*) and *The Nutcracker*. No reservations necessary.

#### **Social Media**

Kansas City Ballet's website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly. Join the KCB <u>Facebook page</u> and follow us at <u>@kc.ballet on Instagram</u> and <u>TikTok at @kansascityballet</u>. Watch videos at <u>www.youtube.com/kansascityballet</u>. Be sure to check out our blog at <u>www.kcballet.org/blog</u>.

#### **Ticket Information**

Purchase tickets:

- Online at <u>www.kcballet.org</u> with the Select Your Own Seat capability
- By telephone at 816.931.8993.
- At the Kauffman Center box office and website.

<sup>\*</sup> Sensory-Friendly performance

Ticket prices start at only \$34, and subscribers receive a 25-percent discount on additional tickets. There is an \$8 Kauffman Center facility fee per ticket and a \$5 processing fee per order. Prices are subject to change.

Student Rush discount tickets are available, for \$24 plus a \$4 fee (with valid student ID, one ticket per ID). Purchase online here: <a href="https://kcballet.org/student-rush-tickets/">https://kcballet.org/student-rush-tickets/</a> or 90-minutes prior to curtain at all performances based on availability. Seniors aged 62 or older and educators who present valid ID at the box office 90 minutes prior to all performances (except *The Nutcracker*) can purchase available rush tickets for as much as 40-percent off single ticket prices.

#### **Parking and Downtown Maps**

Find information and maps for Kauffman Center parking and construction updates at <a href="https://www.kcballet.org/planyourvisit">www.kcballet.org/planyourvisit</a>. The Arts District parking garage, immediately south of and beneath the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, is the primary parking garage for Kansas City Ballet patrons. Advanced purchase of event parking is highly recommended as this lot has been known to sell out. Event parking is \$13 in advance or \$16 per car upon arrival for the garage (if available). Valet parking may be purchased in advance for \$22 or for \$24 upon arrival (if available).

#### Accessibility

Kansas City Ballet is committed to providing assistance to those with disabilities. Direct questions and requests to Patron Services, 816.931.8993. Callers who are hearing impaired or hard of hearing can get help with telephone access by using the free relay service — 711.

#### Media

Visit <u>kcballet.org</u> or <u>kauffmancenter.org</u> for a downloadable media kit about Kansas City Ballet and the Kauffman Center. For High-res rehearsal and past production photos, and more can be found <u>here</u>.

#### **About Kansas City Ballet**

MISSION: To Inspire and Engage Through the Beauty, Power & Passion of Dance VISION: Outstanding Dance Experiences Accessible to All

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 30-member professional ballet company under the direction of Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director David Gray. Our professional company, the second company (comprised of KCB II and Trainees), professional dance school, and many community programs, seek to nurture and develop our artists, audiences, and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity, and joy of dance.

In 2023, Kansas City Ballet opened the state-of-the-art \$2.1M South Campus at Meadowbrook offering four studios and classes for all ages. Visit the <u>South Campus page</u> for more information.

Kansas City Ballet reaches over 20,000 students and adults each year through our many community partnerships, and the Kansas City Ballet School provides dance training to over 2,000 students each year in two locations: the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity in downtown and our South Campus at Meadowbrook in Overland Park, KS. Kansas City Ballet is a Resident Company at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Visit <a href="https://www.kcballet.org/kansas-city-ballet-press-releases/">www.kcballet.org/kansas-city-ballet-press-releases/</a> for more info.

Kansas City Ballet's website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly.

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Direct all media inquiries to Ellen McDonald, 816.213.4355 or publicity@kcballet.org.

Photo Credits: Kansas City Ballet Dancers Naomi Tanioka, Gavin Abercrombie, Isaac Allen and Kelsey Ivana Hellebuyck. Photography by Kenny Johnson. Inset: Kansas City Ballet Dancer Naomi Tanioka. Photography by Kenny Johnson.