



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Ellen McDonald / 816.213.4355 / publicity@kcballet.org

For Tickets: 816.931.8993 or kcballet.org



Kansas City Ballet Presents *The Great Gatsby*

Kansas City Premiere

Bringing the Jazz Age to the Kauffman Center: May 8-17

KANSAS CITY, MO (April 7, 2026) — Artistic Director **Devon Carney** today announced the Kansas City premiere of **Septime Webre's *The Great Gatsby***, bringing the Jazz Age to the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, May 8-17, 2026. This high-energy narrative ballet will feature a fusion of contemporary dance, jazz and tap set to a 1920s-inspired score, with the noted jazz ensemble **Billy Novick's Blue Syncopators** joining the production, alongside Kansas City artists **Lonnie McFadden, Eboni Fondren** and **Tanner Rose**.

Carney said: "The glamorous world of the Roaring Twenties will come to life on the Kauffman Center stage in Kansas City Ballet's dynamic production of Septime Webre's new ballet, *The Great Gatsby*. With a live jazz ensemble on-stage and some of Kansas City's most respected performers, immerse yourself in the

Jazz Age, and see the great American *novel* become a great American *ballet*. This is a must-see performance!”

Visit kcballet.org for more information about Kansas City Ballet’s upcoming performances and kauffmancenter.org for a downloadable media kit about the Kauffman Center. High-resolution photos, video and more can be found at kcballet.org/media-center/.

Sponsors

This production is presented by VanBrock Jewelers and supported by the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund (NTDF) and the Estelle S. and Robert A. Long Ellis Foundation.

Additional 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, help to make Kansas City Ballet’s 2025-2026 season possible.

The Great Gatsby

May 8-17, 2026 | Muriel Kauffman Theatre | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Septime Webre

Music: Billy Novick

Featuring these guest artists:



Live Jazz Accompaniment: BILLY NOVICK’S BLUE SYNCOPATORS



Tap Dancer: Lonnie McFadden



Vocalist: Eboni Fondren



Narrator: Tanner Rose

Step into the glamorous world of the Roaring Twenties with Kansas City Ballet's stunning new production of **The Great Gatsby**. Experience the luxury, drama, and tragic romance of F. Scott Fitzgerald's iconic novel, brought to life on stage. Set in Jay Gatsby's lavish Long Island mansion, where the champagne flows and the elite gather for extravagant parties, this production unveils a world of glamour, jealousy, and hidden secrets. *The Great Gatsby* immerses you in the spirit of the Jazz Age and the vibrant energy of 1920s New York, making this an unparalleled theatrical experience. It's the party to end all parties!

Visit kcballet.org/events/the-great-gatsby/ to read more about the show and guest artists.

The Great Gatsby

Fri., May 8	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 9	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 10	1:30 p.m.
Fri., May 15	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 16	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 17	1:30 p.m.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND EVENTS

Ticket Information

Purchase single tickets:

- Online at kcballet.org with the Select Your Own Seat capability.
- Call Kansas City Ballet Ticket Office at 816.931.8993, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- At the Kauffman Center Ticket Office and website, kauffmancenter.org

Kansas City Ballet's website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly. Ticket prices start at only \$34. There is a \$9.50 facility and order processing fee per ticket. Prices are subject to change.

Student Rush discount tickets are available approximately one month prior to production, for \$24 plus a \$5 fee (with valid student ID, one ticket per ID). Purchase online here: kcballet.org/student-rush-tickets 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 Kauffman Center Ticket Office 90 minutes prior to all performances (except *The Nutcracker*, *New Moves* and *Family Series*) can purchase available rush tickets for as much as 40% off single ticket prices.

Parking and Downtown Maps

The Arts District Garage is the primary parking garage for Kansas City Ballet patrons. The garage is directly attached to the Kauffman Center just south of the building with multiple access points to surrounding streets. Purchasing event parking in advance is highly recommended as it often will sell out. Event parking is \$16 in advance or \$20 at the gate per car for the garage or valet may be purchased in advance for \$25 or for \$27 upon arrival (if available). To pre-purchase parking and find frequently asked questions about your experience, visit kcballet.org/faqs. Make a night of it! [Reserve your room](#) at The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, partner hotel of Kansas City Ballet.

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.

Pre-Curtain Talks

Artistic Director Devon Carney and guest artists offer audience members views on the choreography, history, design elements and music prior to each performance. These informal discussions — known as Belger Footnotes — are free for all ticket holders and are held at the theatre **one hour prior to curtain** for Kansas City Ballet repertory shows.

Media

Visit kcballet.org/media-center or kauffmancenter.org for a downloadable media kit about Kansas City Ballet and the Kauffman Center. High-res rehearsal and past production photos and more can be found [here](#).

Social Media

Join the KC Ballet [Facebook page](#), follow us at [@kc.ballet on Instagram](#), [LinkedIn at @kansas-city-ballet](#), and [TikTok at @kansascityballet](#). Watch videos at youtube.com/kansascityballet. Be sure to check out our blog at kcballet.org/blog.

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. Kansas City Ballet is a resident company at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, and each season features an eclectic repertory including traditional classics and exciting contemporary dances. Our professional company, the second company (comprised of KCB II and Trainees), professional dance school, and partnership programs, seek to nurture and develop our artists, audiences, and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity, and joy of dance.

Kansas City Ballet reaches more than 20,000 students and adults each year through our many community partnerships and education programs for all ages. The Kansas City Ballet School offers professional dance training for the career-minded student as well as for those simply seeking a healthy lifestyle for 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 Prairie Village, KS.

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

Photo credits on front page:

Kansas City Ballet Dancers Amanda DeVenuta and Andrew Vecseri in Septime Webre's *The Great Gatsby*.

Photography by Kenny Johnson.