

UTAH  
METROPOLITAN  
BALLET

news

FALL ISSUE N°5



04 2022-23 SEASON  
ANNOUNCEMENT

08 LEGEND OF  
TIMAPNOGOS

18 2022-23  
SEASON EVENTS





## MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JACQUELINE P. COLLEDGE

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Our season this year showcases a season of audience favorites. I am so pleased to share with everyone our stellar company of dancers for the 2022-2023 season. I would like to introduce two new company dancers recently added to the full-time company, Cyrus Shaskun, and Alyssa Seeman. Promoted to the rank of Solo Artists this year we have Stephen Kessler, Ryan Hatch, Shelbi Yagi and Emeline Terranova. Promotion to Performing Artists this year include Hallie Jo Johnson, Lily Stephenson, Hannah Vernon.

I would like to extend an invitation to join me in honoring our beloved friend and artist Julius Chavez who passed away unexpectedly in 2021. He will be honored at the opening performance of Legend of Timpanogos October 6th, 2022. His calm gentle spirit is greatly missed, his presence and influence will be felt for generations to come.

The company, Board of Directors and the Utah Metropolitan Ballet Orchestra are working hard to ensure the highest quality in Utah Metropolitan Ballet events and performances. We appreciate your dedication and continued support throughout the years. Please share and invite all to join us in celebrating this Season of Favorites.





## JOIN UTAH METROPOLITAN BALLET FOR A SEASON OF FAVORITES

Enjoy an original signature favorite, “Legend of Timpanogos”. New and returning ballet fans will delight in the thrilling drama and exquisite choreography in this tale of honor, rivalry, and the ultimate triumph of true love.

Next, whether you’re seeing it for the first time or it’s an annual treat, kick off your holiday season in grand style making memories to cherish with everyone’s holiday favorite, “Nutcracker”.

Then grab some pixie dust as you are transported to a magical land of boisterous lost boys, mesmerizing mermaids, and pillaging pirates in the family favorite, “Peter Pan”.

Rounding out the season is a performance that combines both art and heart as we honor community favorites in “Tribute”. This celebratory evening features new works that will both inspire and entertain.



SCAN TO PURCHASE  
**2022-23 SEASON TICKETS**

2022-23 SEASON SUBSCRIPTION

# THE BEST SEATS, PRICES, AND PERKS



Purchase a 2022-2023 season subscription  
and save 20% off regular single price tickets.  
**Season Subscriptions start at just \$80.**



#### **BENEFITS:**

**Priority Seating:** Choose the best seats before single tickets go on sale to the public.

**Save:** Your season subscription saves you 20% over single ticket prices

**Free Exchanges:** Exchange tickets to a future 2022-23 season performance (with 48 hours' notice)

#### **Additional Nutcracker Tickets:**

Purchase additional tickets for Nutcracker before they go on sale to the public.

**Exclusive Give-away:** Entrance into the “Sweetest Seats in the House” giveaway

**Optional Add-on Event:** Kick off your holiday with Utah Metropolitan Ballet when you add-on a ticket to Clara's Nutcracker Tea Party (special pricing exclusively for season subscription members)

Subscription  
Seating  
Choices

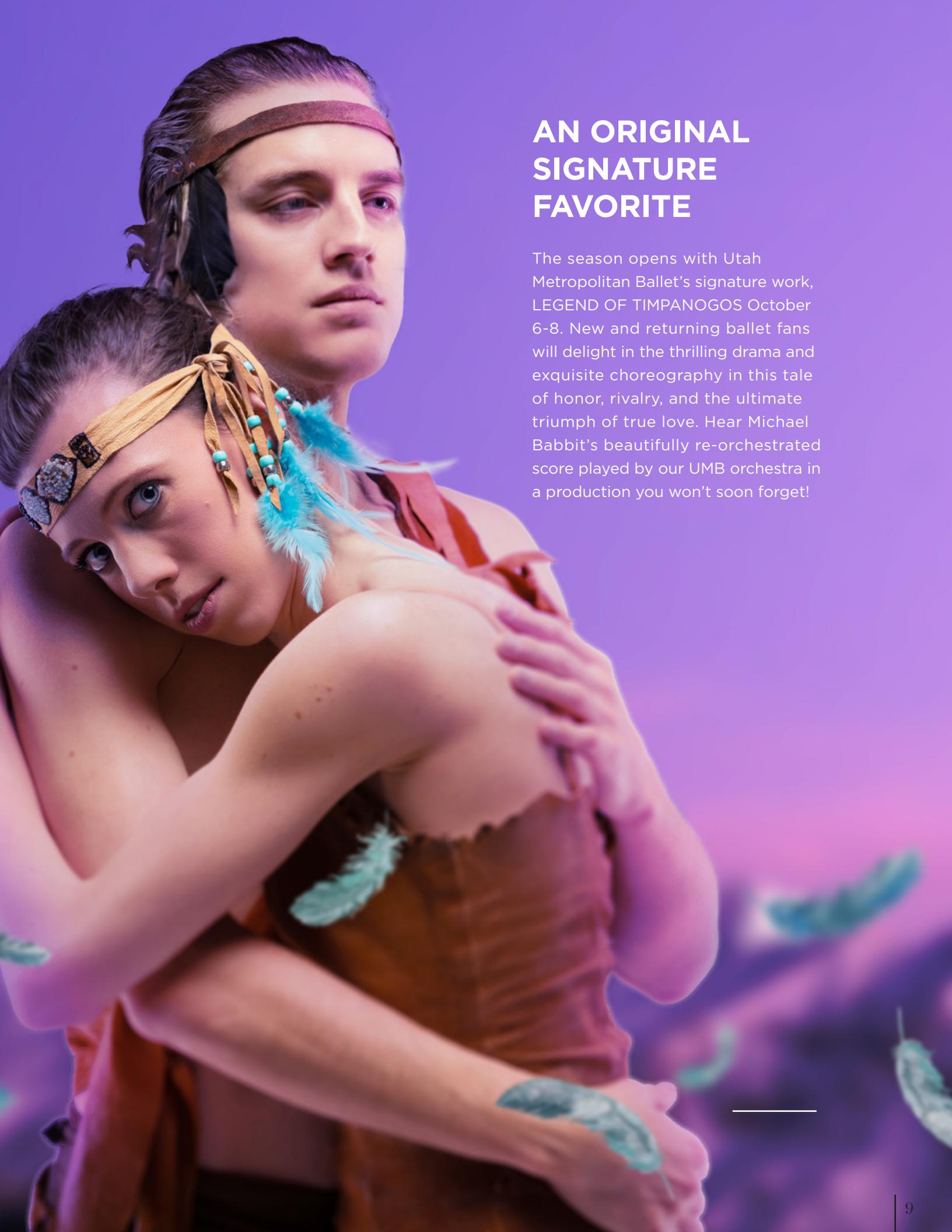


# LEGEND OF **TIMPANOGOS**

OCTOBER 6-8



SCAN TO PURCHASE  
**LEGEND OF TIMPANOGOS TICKETS**

A close-up photograph of two ballet dancers in Native American-inspired costumes. A male dancer in the background wears a dark headband with a large feather and a red vest over a white shirt. A female dancer in the foreground wears a yellow headband with blue feathers and a brown dress with blue feather accents. They are in a dramatic pose, with the female dancer's back arched and her head resting on the male dancer's shoulder.

## AN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE FAVORITE

The season opens with Utah Metropolitan Ballet's signature work, **LEGEND OF TIMPANO GOS** October 6-8. New and returning ballet fans will delight in the thrilling drama and exquisite choreography in this tale of honor, rivalry, and the ultimate triumph of true love. Hear Michael Babbit's beautifully re-orchestrated score played by our UMB orchestra in a production you won't soon forget!

# In Loving Memory of JULIUS CHAVEZ

**UMB TO HONOR JULIUS CHAVEZ WITH  
'LEGEND OF TIMPANOGOS,' THE CLASSIC  
REGIONAL TALE OF HONOR, RIVALRY AND  
TRUE LOVE**

Jacqueline Colledge was in 4th grade at Lehi Elementary when she first heard the tale of "The Legend of Timpanogos." Little Jackie was enchanted, moved by the beautiful tale of honor, rivalry and the ultimate triumph of true love. Listening to her teacher's voice, she found her mind weaving a beautiful "pageant" of characters and images across the stage of her imagination.

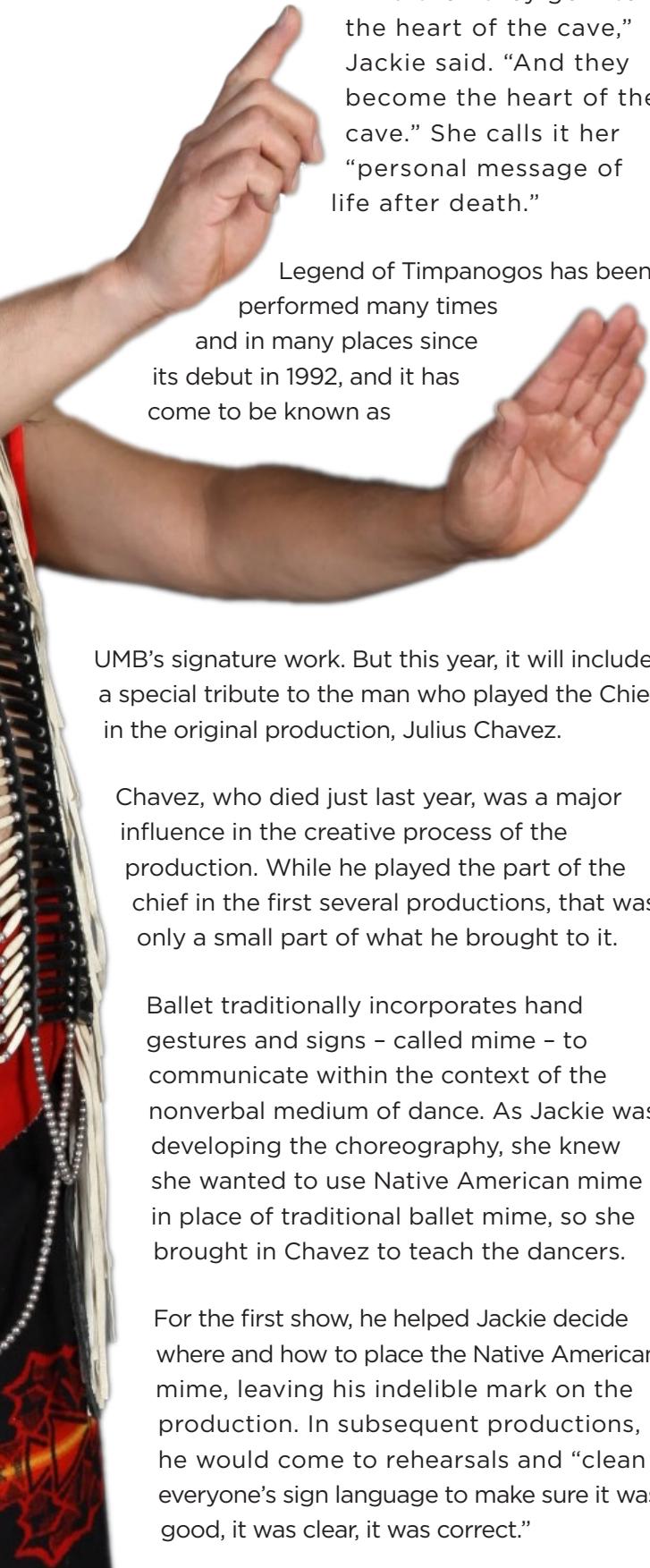
Decades later, after Jackie became the Founder and Director of the Utah Regional Ballet (now Utah Metropolitan Ballet, UMB), the beautiful story still played in her mind and heart. In 1992, after years of work and planning, she finally brought that pageant from her mind to the stage.

"I researched 22 different versions of the story," Jackie said. "They never could call it folklore, because there were so many versions that were written." So it must be called a tale.

In the legend, the warrior Timpanac must complete three tasks before he can marry the princess Ucanogos. As he is about to complete the third task, he is ambushed and pushed to his death from the mountain. In her sorrow, Ucanogos puts her breath into the earth and dies.

Jackie's version takes the legend along this familiar storyline, but rather than ending with the death of Ucanogos, it goes a step further. The two lovers are reunited in the tops of the snowcapped mountains in a pas de deux that delivers a dramatic finish to the ballet.





"And then they go into the heart of the cave," Jackie said. "And they become the heart of the cave." She calls it her "personal message of life after death."

Legend of Timpanogos has been performed many times and in many places since its debut in 1992, and it has come to be known as

UMB's signature work. But this year, it will include a special tribute to the man who played the Chief in the original production, Julius Chavez.

Chavez, who died just last year, was a major influence in the creative process of the production. While he played the part of the chief in the first several productions, that was only a small part of what he brought to it.

Ballet traditionally incorporates hand gestures and signs – called mime – to communicate within the context of the nonverbal medium of dance. As Jackie was developing the choreography, she knew she wanted to use Native American mime in place of traditional ballet mime, so she brought in Chavez to teach the dancers.

For the first show, he helped Jackie decide where and how to place the Native American mime, leaving his indelible mark on the production. In subsequent productions, he would come to rehearsals and "clean everyone's sign language to make sure it was good, it was clear, it was correct."

You might say that this year, the "personal message of life after death" will both conclude and begin the performance, as the ballet will open with Chavez, with facial expressions and mime preserved in the time-freezing medium of video, once more playing the part of the Chief.

Other Native American elements that are woven into the production include costumes made of leather and suede. In fact, dancers still wear the costumes from the original production. No two are alike, and each one was made to fit the personality of the dancer who wore it. Today, Jackie said, dancers are cast according to the personalities of the original dancers who wore those costumes.

Music for the production, which was originally electronic, was written by composer Michael Babbitt. In 2019 he re-orchestrated the original score, which will be performed this year by a live orchestra.

Jackie is excited to do it again this year with a cast of "so many seasoned professionals."

UMB has performed sections of Legend in many places, including China. When it's performed for audiences unfamiliar with the legend, a lot of backstory must be included in the program.

Jackie also said that it's very popular with men. "I think it's because it's down to earth, it pulls you in. There's fighting in it – it's very physical. There's romance that's very tender. People tell me it's not like anything they've seen or expected from a ballet. I think it's because it has such a powerful message about the earth and all that's created for us."

Jennifer Christie, UMB Principal Artist, will perform the part of Ucanogos, guest artist Sebastian Vinet will perform Timpanac, and guest artist Roger James will perform the part of the Chief.

Performances will be held at the Covey Center for the Arts Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 6-8, at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee at 2:00 on Saturday.

# UTAH METROPOLITAN BALLET ANNOUNCES SEVERAL PROMOTIONS AND NEW HIRES!

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Soloists Emeline Terranova, Shelbi Yagi, Ryan Hatch, and Stephen Kessler have all been promoted to the rank of Solo Artist. Additionally, UMB Apprentice Hallie Jo Johnson and Trainees Lily Stephenson and Hannah Vernon were promoted to Performing Artists.

# **SOLO ARTIST PROMOTIONS**



**EMELINE TERRANOVA**



**SHELBI YAGI**



**RYAN HATCH**



**STEPHEN KESSLER**

# PERFORMING ARTIST PROMOTIONS



HALLIE JO JOHNSON

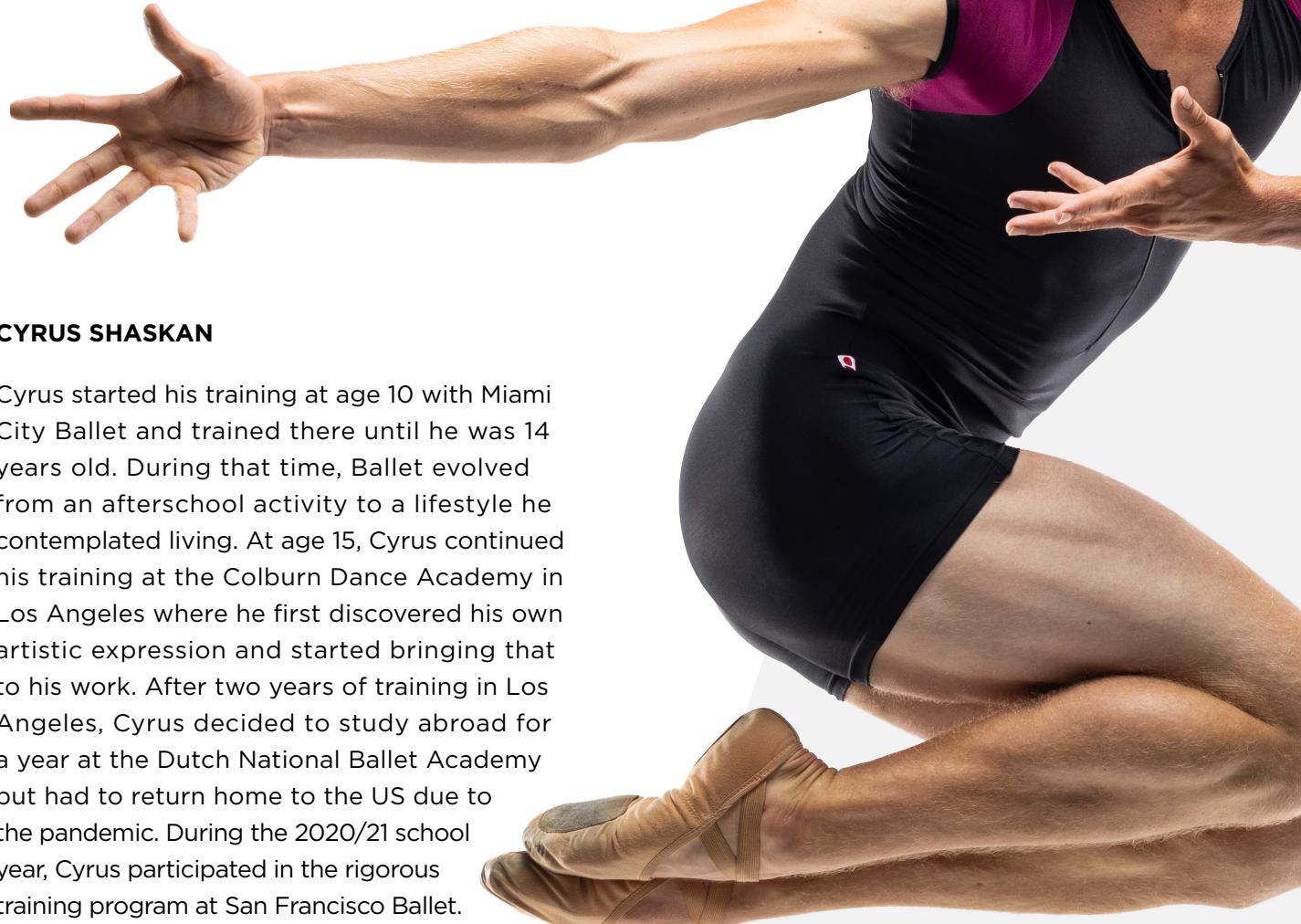


LILY STEPHENSON



HANNAH VERNON

# NEW DANCER!



## CYRUS SHASKAN

Cyrus started his training at age 10 with Miami City Ballet and trained there until he was 14 years old. During that time, Ballet evolved from an afterschool activity to a lifestyle he contemplated living. At age 15, Cyrus continued his training at the Colburn Dance Academy in Los Angeles where he first discovered his own artistic expression and started bringing that to his work. After two years of training in Los Angeles, Cyrus decided to study abroad for a year at the Dutch National Ballet Academy but had to return home to the US due to the pandemic. During the 2020/21 school year, Cyrus participated in the rigorous training program at San Francisco Ballet. Upon completion, Cyrus accepted a company contract with BalletMet for the 21-22 season and is now joining Utah Metropolitan Ballet for the 22-23 season. He is eager to expand his artistry and understanding of this art form.

In addition to Cyrus, we are excited to have **Alyssa Seeman** join us as an Apprentice with the company.

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO UMB PRINCIPAL ARTIST**

# LUCAS CASTRO



**Lucas Castro has just become the  
newest member of Dance Theatre  
of Harlem.**

The Dance Theatre of Harlem Company is a world-renowned organization that presents a powerful vision for ballet in the 21st century.



Lucas Castro is originally from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He started his training at the Center of Dance Rio under the guidance of Andrea Sales and Carla Martins. He trained additionally with City Dance Conservatory, American Ballet Theatre School, The Washington School of Ballet, and Jacob's Pillow School.

Prior to joining Utah Metropolitan Ballet as a principal artist Lucas worked for DF Dance Company, L'avant Danse Scene, and Cia Jovem de Ballet. His repertoire with UMB includes Cavalier, Snow King, Spanish and Arabian in the Nutcracker, Huntsman in Snow White, Friend in Coppelia, Lucien in Paquita, Demetrius in Midsummer Night's Dream, Prince in Cinderella, If when and In case of strings by Ariel Wright, Electric Noir and Cortex by Heather Gray, and lead in Funf by Alan Hineline. Lucas is an ABT® Certified Teacher, who has successfully completed the ABT® Teacher Training in Pre-Primary through Level 3 of the ABT® National Training Curriculum.

He was Awarded the ABT RISE scholarship, Jacob's Pillow Advancement in Dance Award, 1st place at the Brazilian Dance Council Competition, and many more.

Lucas is grateful for the tremendous growth and many positive experiences and opportunities he has had as a member of the Utah Metropolitan Ballet company. He is very excited to start this new chapter in his life with the Dance Theatre of Harlem!

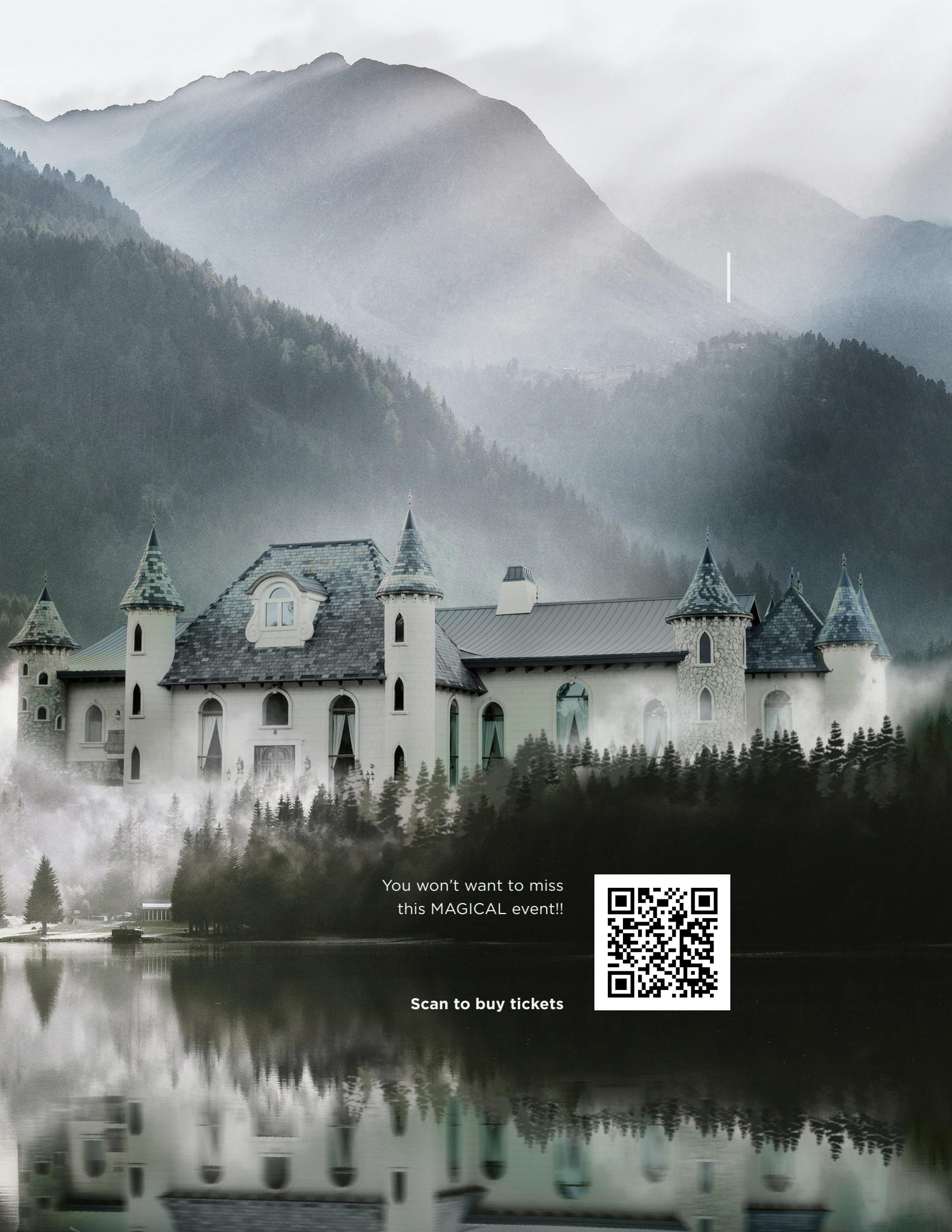
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

OUR MOST POPULAR EVENTS OF THE SEASON ARE BACK!

# FANTASTIC FEAST & FESTIVAL

**OCTOBER 24-26, 7-9 PM**  
**YEAR 4- THE TOURNAMENT!**

Come to an enchanted castle and enjoy a feast catered by the wizarding chef Hyrum Knapp. Meet your House Champion and join an interactive pursuit to help your Champion win the tournament. Shop at the wizarding village for wizarding wares, owls, wands, butter beer, and sweets! Exchange your green for wizard's gold at the wizard's bank and enter your name in the goblet of fire to win prizes!



You won't want to miss  
this MAGICAL event!!

**Scan to buy tickets**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

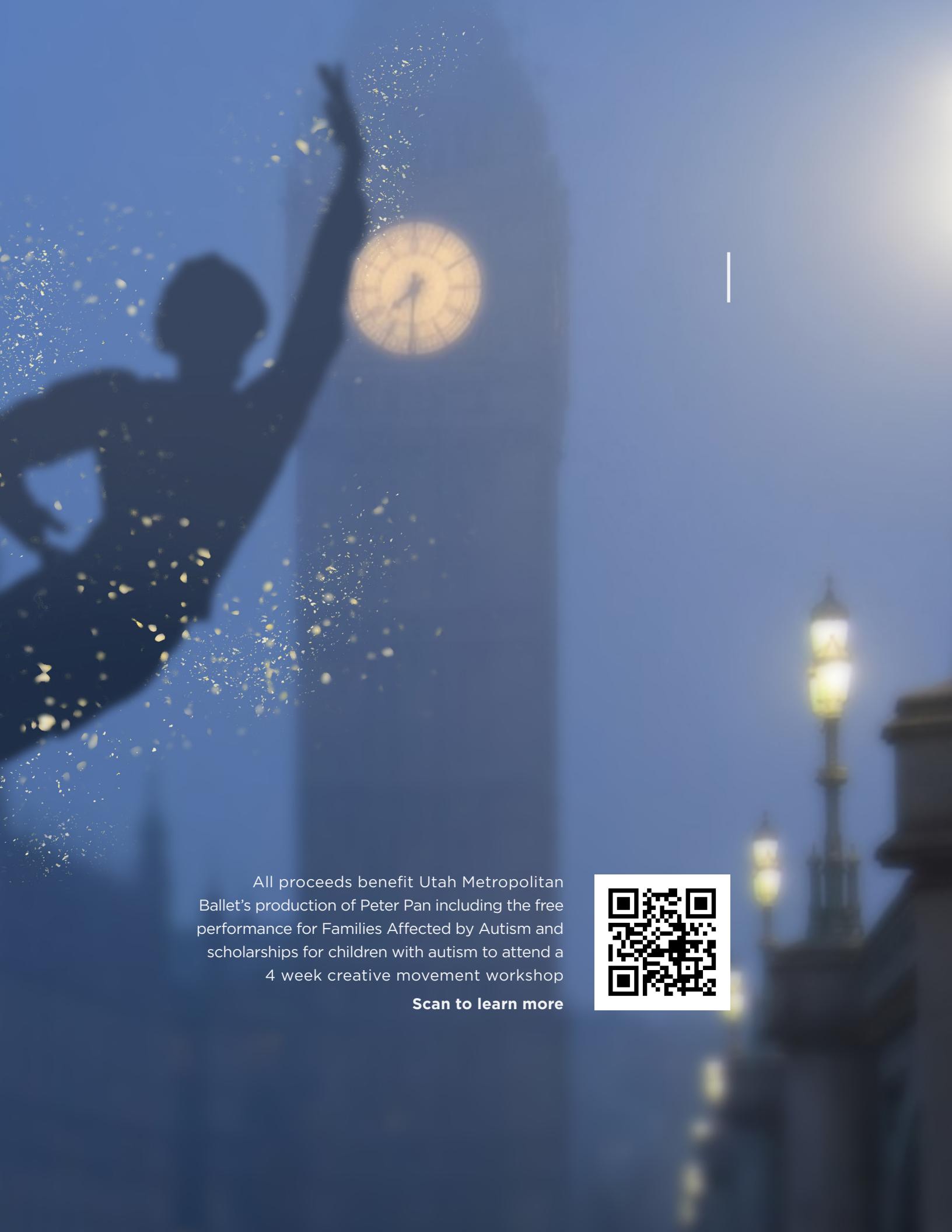
OUR MOST POPULAR EVENTS OF THE SEASON ARE BACK!

# COME FLY WITH US AT OUR NEVERLAND GALA

**NOVEMBER 18  
6:30-9 PM**

Think happy thoughts, grab some pixie dust and be swept away in an evening of elegance and glamour!

Enjoy an unforgettable evening under the beautiful chandeliers of the castle at Wadley Farms beginning with hors d' oeuvres and an exquisite meal catered by Jason Merryweather, followed by an unforgettable performance by the Utah Metropolitan Ballet company dancers, and culminating with some fun and lively activities and a live auction!



All proceeds benefit Utah Metropolitan Ballet's production of Peter Pan including the free performance for Families Affected by Autism and scholarships for children with autism to attend a 4 week creative movement workshop

**[Scan to learn more](#)**





# DONOR HIGHLIGHT

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# LANA JARDINE

**Lana Jardine** grew up in the Mt Olympus area in Salt Lake City. She met her husband, Stan, at Skyline High School. She attended the University of Utah and Brigham Young University and graduated from BYU in Elementary Education with a minor in music. Her many interests include music, calligraphy, photography, church service, and civic volunteering. Lana's first love and dominant interest is her dear husband Stan, her three wonderful children and their spouses, and her nine adorable grandchildren. In her own words she said, "My family is my true joy in life".

**During some of Utah Metropolitan Ballet's early years, (then called Utah Regional Ballet) Lana served as president of the ballet guild.** This organization supported the ballet through educational outreach, special events, fundraising and community engagements. Lana's vision, her tenacity, and her love for the arts helped to create a community of volunteers that gave great assistance to the ballet. After serving for many years in the capacity of guild president, Lana served for an additional six years as the president of the board of directors. Of this time and service Lana shared, "My years associated with Utah Regional Ballet are some of the dearest to my heart as I gained a love and appreciation for ballet and developed wonderful, lifetime friendships! I had the incredible opportunity to watch my beautiful daughter and the extraordinary company perform in numerous

inspiring ballets under the direction of Jacqueline College, to whom I owe so much for her own love and devotion to the arts. She has inspired thousands of young dancers and countless audiences and continues to bring talent and joy to Utah Valley University, our community, and other areas of the world."

**During Lana's tenure as board president, the company grew and gained significant prominence.** Lana's contributions did not end with her term's expiration. She continues to serve on UMB committees and is a fierce supporter and loyal advocate for the arts in our community. She currently serves on the UVU School of the Arts Advisory board and the UVU Women's Success Center advisory board. She believes firmly that we, in Utah County, have extraordinary, even world class talent.

Lana said, "**I will promote and support the arts for the rest of my life.** I can't begin to express my gratitude for the goodness and loveliness that has come into my life through my association with the ballet. My list is too long! I want to thank everyone who is involved with keeping the arts alive! The dancers, teachers, parents, musicians, technicians, stage crews, the audience and those who continue to support and to donate time and means. You are doing a great, worthwhile, and much needed work. Thank you to everyone involved in any way!"

A photograph showing a young girl with a blue hair tie, wearing a floral dress, sitting at a table with two men. One man, in a green shirt, is resting his chin on his hand and looking down thoughtfully. The other man's face is partially visible on the right. They appear to be in a home setting, possibly having a meal.

# SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT

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# FIRST PURPOSE WEALTH

## **FIRST PURPOSE WEALTH IS HERE TO HELP YOU FIND AND FUND YOUR PURPOSE**

First Purpose Wealth helps business owners, executives, retirees and others clarify their purpose and create the financial means to fulfill it. Because achieving purpose-driven goals is more satisfying than chasing empty numbers, we first help clients clarify their purpose, so they know their why. Then we create and execute an integrated financial plan including traditional and private investments, tax strategies, estate planning, and charitable giving. We work best with clients who will collaboratively create and co-pilot a long-term financial plan. Working together, we strive to build wealth, minimize taxes, optimize transactions, manage outlier years, plan for financial independence and implement successful retirement income strategies.

## **PUTTING YOURSELF IN A POSITION TO HELP OTHERS**

We help our clients come to understand what enough means for them so they can live a more abundant life.

## **YOUR VALUES CAN BE OUR GUIDE**

Clarifying your values is an inspirational process. You may find rewarding ways to give as you learn new forms of philanthropy.

## **KEEPING IT REAL**

Reaching financial goals is important, but so is enjoying the process. Our people are real and relatable, so you can relax and be yourself.

## **WE PLAY WELL WITH OTHERS**

And we partner well with other firms. It would be our pleasure to work with any pre-existing relationships you want to maintain.



# MEET OUR SPONSORS





## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

**ELLEN CHRISTENSON**

The 2022-23 Utah Metropolitan Ballet season promises to be a season to remember! We will not only be presenting exceptional productions and events but are excited to announce that we will be expanding our outreach to include 2 free performances of Nutcracker, 1 free performance of Peter Pan for families affected by autism and with additional funding we plan to also give scholarships to our “Come Fly With Me” creative movement workshop for children with autism. In addition to our autism programs we will also be expanding our educational outreach for elementary age students to include two of our productions, Nutcracker and Peter Pan.

I am so pleased to announce the addition of several new board members this season.

**President-elect:** Angella Vernon

**Grant Director:** Michael Ellis

**Education Outreach Director:** Janika Evans

**Autism Program Directors:** Ryan Richardson and Paul Richardson

**Hospitality Director:** Jennifer Bumgardner,

**Board Members:** Carol Bell Lemke and Jeff Beck.

All of our board members volunteer countless hours to help make the incredible performances, community events, and outreach events possible.

Thank you to everyone... sponsors, donors, artists, professionals, community volunteers, and especially our patrons for joining together in the joy of all the incredible experiences that Utah Metropolitan Ballet offers. I look forward to being with you during this Season of Favorites!

**WANT A BACKSTAGE PASS?**

# VOLUNTEER

Get to know the ballet community on a personal level and experience what it's like to be back stage and behind the scenes with Utah Metropolitan Ballet.

Opportunities include, but are not limited to, committee assignments, staffing events and performances, and assisting in many behind the scenes tasks. Volunteer opportunities vary in hours, requirements, knowledge, and skill level. Volunteers will be sent more information about opportunities to serve throughout the year as needs arise.





Help promote the  
beauty of the arts in our  
community - sign up today!

**Scan to learn more**



**SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS**

# DONATE



Your generosity can help support giveback initiatives across the state each year through our education and outreach programs as well as making it possible to bring the beauty of world-class ballet to our community through:

- More free performances for families affected by autism
- Scholarships to creative movement workshops for children with autism
- Free workshops and performances for high school students throughout the state
- Free and discounted performances and education for elementary age school students
- Opportunities for young dancers to perform in professional ballets
- Bringing live orchestra to every production
- Affordable pricing for all



Help promote the  
beauty of the arts in our  
community - sign up today!

**Scan to learn more**



**PHOTOS PROVIDED BY:  
BEAU PEARSON PHOTOGRAPHY**

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For tickets & other information, please  
scan QR Code above to visit [umballet.org](http://umballet.org)

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