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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MIAMI CITY BALLET PRESENTS
“SUNDAY FAMILY FUNDAYS WITH HERMAN PAYNE”**

Three super fun classes for the entire family:

Sunday, May 31 at 1:00pm – HIP HOP

Sunday, June 7 at 1:00pm – JAZZ/FOSSE

Sunday, June 14 at 1:00pm – BALLET



Miami, FL – [Miami City Ballet](#) (MCB) is pleased to announce **Sunday Family Fundays with Herman Payne** – a series of three super fun, family-oriented classes for dancers of all ages and ability. Each class is led by famed Miami-based dancer and MCB School resident faculty instructor, Herman Payne. The approximately 45-minute classes will consist of warm-up exercises followed by easy to follow choreography. Learn the routine then host your very own dance party. The theme here is “FUN” so parents, leave your workweek woes behind, gather the kids, clear some space, and get ready to feel the joy of dance. Each Sunday Family Funday class will premiere at 1:00pm EST on MCB’s [Facebook](#) page.

A beloved resident faculty member at MCB School in both the Pre-Professional and Community Class divisions, Herman has been seen on stages across the globe. His long list of accolades include the touring production of the hit Tony Award winning show *Fosse*, New York City Centre Encores! production of *The Wiz*, *9 to 5: The Musical* choreographed by Tony Award

winner Andy Blankenbuehler, Hinton Battles' acclaimed *The Id of Bob*, and a 13 year run (2000-2013) with the world famous *Radio City Christmas Spectacular*. He danced in Michael Jackson's 30th Anniversary Special and has shared the stage with pop music's biggest stars, including Mariah Carey, Deborah Cox, Whitney Houston, Usher, Destiny's Child and countless others. His formal dance education includes a BFA from Julliard, Interlochen School of the Arts, Houston Ballet, Boston Ballet, Alvin Ailey, and more. He is an Adjunct Professor at New World School of Arts.

At [MCB School](#) you'll find him teaching Contemporary and Jazz as well as igniting a passion for dance in children and adults as part of the organization's [Community Engagement](#) programs.

Sunday Family Fundays with Herman Payne Calendar:

*Classes Eastern Standard Time

Sunday, May 31 at 1:00pm: HIP HOP

Move and groove in a class that celebrates the sights and sounds that make Miami the vibrant, colorful, and wonderfully diverse city of Magic.

Sunday, June 7 at 1:00pm: JAZZ/FOSSE

Get ready for some fun, some laughs and a good time in this jazz class inspired by legendary choreographer Bob Fosse. As Fosse famously said, "Dance expresses joy better than anything else."

Sunday, June 14 at 1:00pm: BALLET

This class puts the "all" in ballet. We encourage *all* to join in on this family-friendly ballet class. People sometimes think ballet is intimidating. This class aims to squarely put that myth to rest.

ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET

Miami City Ballet, celebrating its 35th anniversary season, has a diverse roster of 53 dancers and a repertoire of more than 130. As one of the most renowned ballet companies in the country, Miami City Ballet performs for nearly 125,000 patrons annually during its South Florida home season in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and tours to major cities domestically and internationally, including recent visits to New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles and Paris.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is one of the most respected ballet training academies in America. The School trains students, ages 3-18 year-round and grants more than \$650,000 in scholarships annually.

Miami City Ballet's Community Engagement programs and initiatives touch the lives of more than 14,000 young people, seniors and community members, annually.

Executive Director Tania Castroverde Moskalenko and Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez lead the company. Lopez was recently awarded the prestigious Dance Magazine Award in 2018 and was named

one of “The Most Influential People in Dance Today.” She is on the Ford Foundation Board of Trustees, the first artist to ever serve on its Board.

Miami City Ballet was founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin and Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella. It is headquartered in Miami Beach, FL, at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm, Arquitectonica.

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Major funding for Miami City Ballet is provided by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, a national foundation with strong local roots, investing in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. The Foundation’s goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which they believe are essential for a healthy democracy.

Major funding is also provided by the Ford Foundation, working with visionaries on the frontlines of social change worldwide.

Miami-Dade County support is provided by the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor, and the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners.

Performances and programming in Miami Beach is provided with the generous support of the City of Miami Beach and the Cultural Arts Council.

Support for Miami City Ballet in the Palm Beaches is generously sponsored in part by the Board of County Commissioners, the Tourist Development Council and the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

Broward County funding is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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