

Lourdes Lopez
Artistic Director

Juan José Escalante
Executive Director

Toby Lerner Ansin
Founder

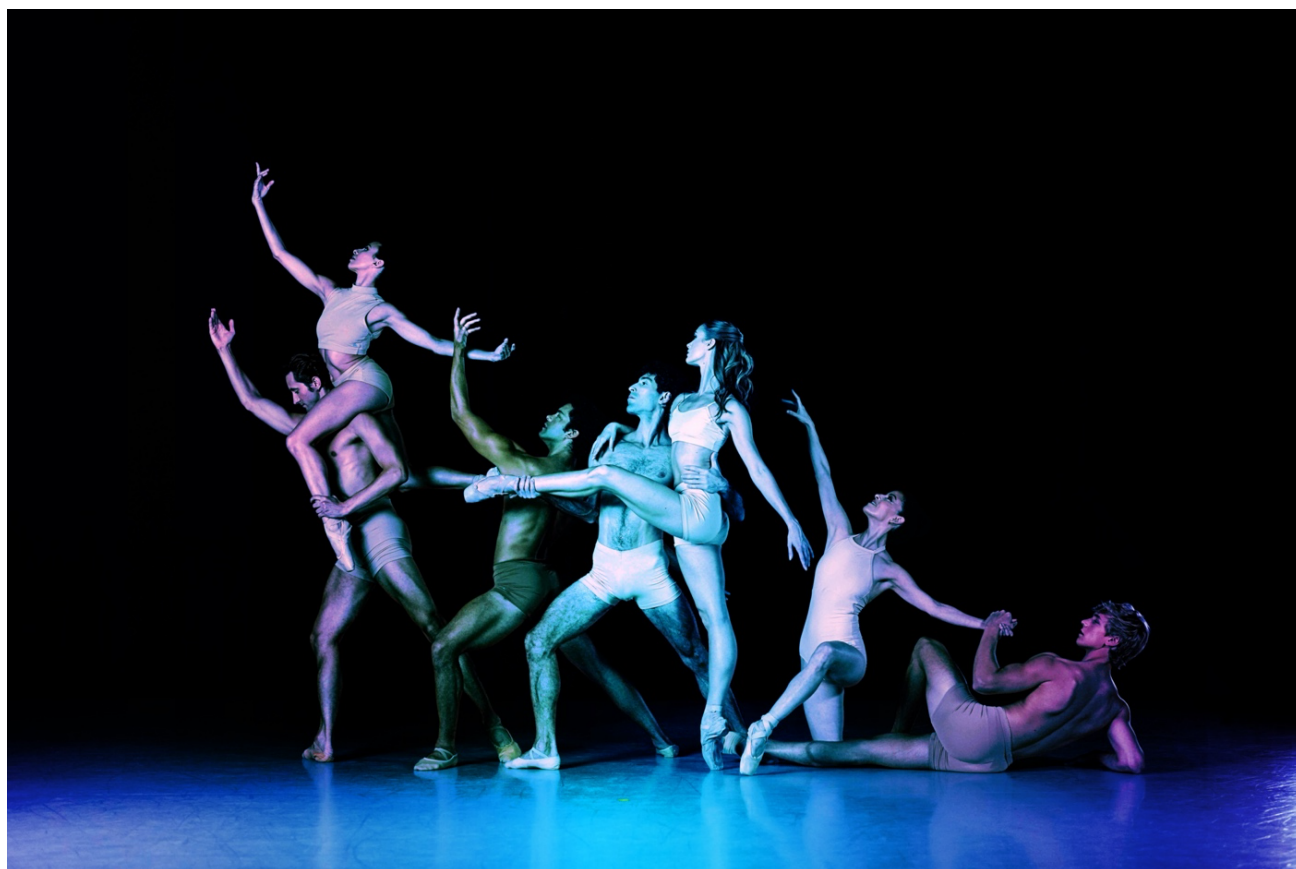
Edward Villella
Founding Artistic Director

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PUBLICITY CONTACTS

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**The Miami City Ballet Celebrates Promotion of Seven Dancers
and
Welcomes Two New Company Members**



(Miami Beach, FL)- Miami City Ballet (Lourdes Lopez, Artistic Director; Juan José Escalante, Executive Director) is delighted to announce the promotion of seven exceptional dancers within the company ranks and the exciting addition of two new company members entering its 38th season. MCB continues to be a leader in artist innovation, as one of the largest employers of the performing arts in Florida.

Entering the newest ranks are Principal dancers **Dawn Atkins, Hannah Fischer, Chase Swatosh, and Damian Zamorano**; Principal Soloist **Jordan-Elizabeth Long**; and Soloists **Cameron Catazaro and Nicole Stalker**.

The fresh faces joining a roster of world-class dancers are **Anna Greenberg** and **Jasmine Perry**.

The promotions and new company members mark an exciting chapter in the company's journey, highlighting its dedication to nurturing talent and creating extraordinary dance experiences.

[About the Artists](#)

Dawn Atkins, Principal

Dawn began her dance training in Rutland, Vermont and upon moving to Virginia, continued her dance training with The School of Richmond Ballet. She attended North Carolina School of the Arts on scholarship, under the direction of Ethan Stiefel. Dawn joined Boston Ballet School as a trainee in 2011 and Boston Ballet II in 2012. In 2013, she was a Princess Grace Award nominee and was promoted to Artist of the Company. Dawn was promoted to second soloist at Boston Ballet in 2019. Atkins joined Miami City Ballet in 2021.

Hannah Fischer, Principal

Hannah was born in New York City, New York and trained at Canada's National Ballet School. She joined The National Ballet of Canada as an apprentice in 2012 and was promoted to first soloist in 2017. Her many roles at The National Ballet of Canada include Mother/The Queen of Hearts in Christopher Wheeldon's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and leading roles including Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake* choreographed by James Kudelka, O.C., Myrtha, Queen of the Willis in Sir Peter Wright's *Giselle*, Tall Girl from George Balanchine's *Rubies*, among many more.

In 2016, Ms. Fischer was awarded the Rolex Dancers First Award for her role as Hermione in *The Winter's Tale*. In 2015 she was awarded the Patron Award of Merit and won The Eleventh International Competition for The Erik Bruhn Prize. She received the RBC Emerging Artist Apprentice Award in 2013. Fischer joined Miami City Ballet in 2020.

Chase Swatosh, Principal

Chase grew up in Westlake Village, California, and began his dance training at Retter's Academy of Dance with Darryl and Linda Retter when he was eight years old. In 2007, he became a trainee at the Joffrey Ballet School in New York City, where he trained for two years before attending the summer and winter terms of the School of American Ballet (2009-2010). He also attended numerous ballet summer intensives from 2005-2010, including American Ballet Theatre, Joffrey Ballet School, San Francisco Ballet School, School of American Ballet, Miami City Ballet School, and Pacific Northwest Ballet School. Swatosh joined Miami City Ballet in 2010.

Damian Zamorano, Principal

Damian was born in Havana, Cuba. He started taking ballet classes at the age of nine at the Provincial School of Ballet “Alejo Carpentier”. He moved to Mexico City when he was 11 with his parents where he continued his training at the Escuela Nacional De Danza Clásica y Contemporánea. At 13 he participated in The First National Dance Competition “Attitude” in Mexico City where he won a gold medal in his category. At 15 he received a full scholarship to American Ballet Theater’s Summer Intensive in Austin, Texas. At 17 he joined Compañía Nacional De Danza in Mexico City as an apprentice, was promoted to corps de ballet member at 18, and was promoted to coryphée at 19. That same year, Zamorano left the company to participate in a reality show of ballet for two months, where he got 2nd place and a scholarship from FONCA institution. In 2012, he received a full scholarship to attend Miami City Ballet and was awarded the Toby Lerner Ansin Scholarship Award in 2012. Zamorano joined Miami City Ballet 2013 as a corps de ballet member.

Jordan-Elizabeth Long, Principal Soloist

Jordan-Elizabeth was born in Blacksburg, Virginia. She began her ballet training with Carol Crawford Smith and continued with Terri Post at the Southwest Virginia Ballet. In high school, she moved to South Florida to train with Magaly Suarez. During this time, she appeared in many performances in the area, including the International Ballet Festival of Miami. Upon completion of high school, she was invited to join the Dutch National Ballet as a demi-soloist. In 2010 she joined the Royal Swedish Ballet, where she was promoted to soloist. During her time in Europe, her repertoire included Sugarplum and the Snow Queen in *The Nutcracker* (Par Isberg), Pas de Trois and Neopolitan solo in *Swan Lake* (Natalia Conus after Marius Petipa), the First Sylphide in *La Sylphide* (August Bournonville), the Peasant Pas de Deux and Moyna in *Giselle* (Natalia Makarova), and in ballets by contemporary choreographers such as Alexander Ekman, Christian Spuck, Mauricio Wainrot, Nils Criste, and Sharon Eyal. Long has been awarded the Gold Medal at the World Ballet Competition USA, has been a finalist at the Shanghai International Ballet Competition, and was recently awarded the Louis Gallodier Prize at the Royal Swedish Ballet. She has appeared in galas and festivals in the USA, Dominican Republic, Russia, Romania, and Hong Kong. In 2014, Long joined Miami City Ballet as a Soloist.

Cameron Catazaro, Soloist

Cameron was born in Canton, Ohio and began his dance training at the School of Canton Ballet under the tutelage of Cassandra Crowley, Angelo Lemmo and his mother, Jennifer Catazaro Hayward. In 2017, he began training with Darla Hoover at Ballet Academy East in New York City on full scholarship. There he was awarded the prestigious David Howard Foundation Scholarship and performed the lead in George Balanchine’s *Walpurgisnacht*. In 2018, Catazaro was accepted into Miami City Ballet School on a full scholarship, where he had the opportunity to perform a lead role in George Balanchine’s *Serenade*. He joined Miami City Ballet as a corps de ballet dancer in 2019.

Nicole Stalker, Soloist

Nicole was born in St. Petersburg, Florida and began her dance training at the age of three at Cheryl Lee Studio of Dance. She spent summers training at The Chautauqua Institute, American Ballet Theatre and The Rock School for Dance Education before moving to Philadelphia in 2005 to attend The Rock School's year-round program. She spent her final summer at the School of American Ballet in 2007 before moving to Miami to join Miami City Ballet School's Pre-Professional Division. In 2008, Stalker joined Miami City Ballet as an apprentice and was promoted to the corps de ballet in 2009.

Anna Greenberg, Corps de Ballet

Anna was born in New York City, New York, and began her training at the School of American Ballet. She continued at the Joffrey Ballet School under the mentorship and direction of Era Jouravlev and graduated from the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at American Ballet Theater. Her first professional experience began at 17 years old at the Bayerisches Junior Ballet in Munich, Germany, under the leadership of Ivan Liska, where she worked as an apprentice with the Bayerisches Staatsballett. During her two seasons there she toured Europe dancing works by George Balanchine, Jiří Kylián, Hans van Manen, Richard Siegal, Jörg Mannes, and more. She then spent two seasons in Innsbruck, Austria dancing with the Tiroler Landestheater's Tanzcompany under the direction of Enrique Gasa Valga performing ballets of his works as well as works by Nacho Duato, Jiří Kylián, and Alexander Ekman.

Jasmine Perry, Corps de Ballet

Jasmine was born in Charlotte, North Carolina. Jasmine's formal ballet training began at North Carolina Dance Theater under Patricia McBride, and Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux. At age fourteen, Jasmine was awarded a full scholarship by the School of American Ballet to move to New York City and further her ballet training. There she was taught by renowned faculty, including Suki Schorer, Kay Mazzo, Susan Pilarre, Jock Soto, and Darci Kistler. After training at SAB, she attended various summer programs such as Pacific Northwest Ballet, Houston Ballet and Miami City Ballet. She joined the Corps de Ballet of Los Angeles in 2014. During her nine seasons with the company she led roles in Balanchine ballets, classical story ballets, and various contemporary works. In 2019, Jasmine was promoted to the position of Soloist, making her the first African American to rise within the ranks of Los Angeles Ballet's history. Jasmine has also performed as a guest artist with many companies, including Raiford Rogers Modern Ballet, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Black Iris Project, and the Luminario Ballet. She recently traveled to India with Luminario Ballet as a US cultural ambassador to perform works at the Kala Ghoda Arts Festival and led master classes.

The Miami City Ballet 23/24 Season begins in October with Fall Mix 1 including George Balanchine's *Serenade*, and Twyla Tharp's *In The Upper Room*. Season highlights include the company premiere of Alonzo King's *Following the Subtle Current Upstream*, the triumphant return of Alexei Ratmanský's *Swan Lake*, Jerome Robbins's and George Balanchine's reimagined *Firebird*, alongside four new commissioned works by Jamar Roberts, Margarita Armas, Durante Verzola, and Ricardo Amarante. [Season Subscriptions](#) are now on sale starting at \$136.

ABOUT MIAMI CITY BALLET

Miami City Ballet has a diverse roster of 47 dancers and a repertoire of more than 130 works. 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 \$600,000 in scholarships annually.

Miami City Ballet's Community Engagement programs, serving more than 12,000 people annually in schools and communities; our free programs use the power of dance to uplift, teach and bring joy.

Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez leads 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.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has been a generous supporter of Miami City Ballet with over \$11 million in cumulative giving since the company's founding. Knight Foundation is a national foundation with strong local roots. We invest in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. Our goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which we believe are essential for a healthy democracy. For more, visit KF.org.

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



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