

METROPOLITAN

BALLET ACADEMY AND COMPANY

Dear Metropolitan Ballet Parents, Students, Alumni and Friends:
Happy 4th of July! Before we jump into our Summer Intensive and the new year and season ahead, the faculty and I wish to thank you again for a wonderful, productive and memorable 2017-2018. Enjoy reading these fantastic student accomplishments and see you soon! Sincerely, Ms. Collins

Metropolitan Ballet Salutes Graduating Seniors!

One of the most rewarding aspects of directing Metropolitan Ballet is the opportunity to work with our students throughout their childhood years. Each spring brings a graduation or two, but this year, it was five! Please recognize our graduating senior dancers: Eoin Daly, Hannah Henderson, Michael Jastrzebski, Caleb Mansor, and Natalie Valko.

These amazing students have been role models not only on the stage, but also in their generosity to the younger dancers, their camaraderie in the classroom, and their ability to juggle demanding school responsibilities with the rigors of classical training and commitment to the performing company. Congratulations Dancers! We will miss you, and wish each of you every well-deserved success. Stay in touch, and visit often!



Photo of 2017-18 Metropolitan Ballet Company graduating seniors by ccwolfe

Eoin Daly

was accepted to
Drexel University,



Northeastern University, University of Pittsburgh, Boston University and Penn State University.

He will attend Northeastern University to pursue studies in Electrical Engineering.
Photo by ccwolfe

Hannah Henderson

was accepted to Florida State University School of Dance and remains undecided.

She will attend Montgomery County Community College this fall.

Photo by Eduardo Patino.NYC



Michael Jastrzebski

was accepted to Boston Ballet School (fulltuition merit scholarship), Pacific Northwest Ballet School (full tuition merit scholarship), Washington School of Ballet (full tuition merit scholarship), San Francisco Ballet School (full tuition merit scholarship), Charlotte Ballet School (full tuition and housing merit scholarship), Ballet Met (full tuition and housing merit scholarship),



Milwaukee Ballet School (full tuition and housing merit scholarship), Colorado Ballet School (full tuition and housing merit scholarship). In addition to the summer scholarships, Michael also received 3 Year Round offers from Ballet Met, Charlotte Ballet & Colorado, all with full tuition merit scholarship. He will attend Washington School of Ballet for the summer and will pursue a career in dance.

Photo by Eduardo Patino.NYC

Caleb Mansor

was accepted to SUNY Purchase, Ailey / Fordham University and George Mason University. He will attend the Boston Conservatory at Berklee with full scholarship this summer, as well as Gallim Dance in NYC, and attend George Mason University this fall to pursue a career in dance.

Photo by Eduardo Patino.NYC



Natalie Valko

was accepted to Penn State Schreyer Honors College (with scholarship), Northeastern University College of Engineering (with scholarship), Miami University of Oxford, Ohio University (with scholarship). She will attend Ohio



State University to pursue studies in Electrical and Computer Engineering with a minor in Business and Dance.

Photo by
Nicole Vangen

Metropolitan Ballet Students Win Summer Study Opportunities!

MBA is proud to announce the accomplishments of MBA's many talented students in our Advanced / Pre-Professional Division and Boys' Scholarship Dance Program who will represent our school in programs across the country, as well as participate in Metropolitan's 2018 Summer Intensive:

- **Micaelina Carter:** accepted to Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, attending The Ailey School (full tuition merit scholarship)
- **Juan Castellanos:** attending San Francisco Ballet School (full tuition and housing merit scholarship)
- **Aedan Daly:** accepted to Bolshoi Ballet School (scholarship), attending San Francisco Ballet School (full tuition and housing merit scholarship)
- **Sarah Fedders:** attending Cincinnati Ballet School
- **Jacey Gailliard:** accepted to Charlotte Ballet School (full tuition merit scholarship), attending both San Francisco Ballet School (full tuition and housing merit scholarship) and Bolshoi Ballet (scholarship)
- **Maria Karakousis:** accepted to Boston Ballet School, attending Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida
- **Tino Karakousis:** accepted to School of American Ballet NYC Junior Session (scholarship), attending Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida (full tuition merit scholarship)
- **Bethany Latham:** accepted to Colorado Ballet School (scholarship), Bolshoi Ballet School (scholarship), attending Ballet Met
- **Lexi McDonald:** attending Colorado Ballet
- **Madison Menale:** accepted to Boston Ballet School, attending Charlotte Ballet School (scholarship)
- **Emma Morrison:** attending Colorado Ballet
- **Emma Plinke:** attending Cincinnati Ballet
- **Devon Reid:** accepted to Washington Ballet School (scholarship), Charlotte Ballet School (full tuition merit scholarship), Bolshoi Ballet School (scholarship), Orlando Ballet School (scholarship), attending Ballet Met (full tuition merit scholarship)
- **Jadyn Reid:** accepted to Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, attending The Ailey School
- **Micah Sell:** accepted to Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, attending Colorado Ballet (full tuition merit scholarship)
- **Gemma Smith:** attending Cincinnati Ballet School

- **Sophia Whittaker-Inserra:** attending Bolshoi Ballet School
- **Jay Wray:** accepted to Boston Ballet, Florida and Bolshoi Ballet (scholarship), attending North Carolina boys camp and Princeton Ballet (full tuition and housing merit scholarship).

Metropolitan Ballet Academy Student Dancers Take Top Honors at 2018 YAGP; Metropolitan Ballet Wins 2018 Outstanding School Award

Metropolitan Ballet Academy and its students again achieved great success in the 2018 Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP), winning high

honors at the annual competition's regional Semi-Finals held in Philadelphia.



Metropolitan Ballet Academy was honored to receive YAGP's Outstanding School Award for the fourth time, and 47 MBA dancers, including 14 young men from MBA's renowned Boys' Scholarship Program, continued on to compete at the prestigious YAGP Finals in New York City in April 2018.

In 2018, MBA earned the following awards at the YAGP Regional Semi-Finals:

- **2018 Outstanding School Award:** Metropolitan Ballet Academy
- **1st place, Ensemble:** *Bukovinian Lark*: Micaelina Carter (15, Horsham, PA), Juan Castellanos (17, Philadelphia, PA), Aedan Daly (12, Philadelphia, PA), Eoin Daly (17, Philadelphia, PA), Sarah Fedders (14, Jenkintown, PA), Jacey Gailliard (13, Philadelphia, PA), Sophia Hallquist (13, Jenkintown, PA), Hannah Henderson (17, Huntingdon Valley, PA), Ekaterina Hulayev (12, Abington, PA), Michael Jastrzebski (17, Philadelphia, PA), Maria Karakousis (13, Philadelphia, PA), Tino Karakousis (11, Philadelphia, PA), Bethany Latham (17, Bethlehem, PA), Tana Liu (13, Rydal, PA), Caleb Mansor (17, Hatboro, PA), Alexis McDonald (16, North Wales, PA), Madison Menale (15, Feasterville, PA), Emma Morrison (15, Doylestown, PA), Anastasia Mykich (12, Jenkintown, PA), Giulia Pascucci (15, Doylestown, PA), Emma Plinke (16, Souderton, PA), Anna Portis (15, Abington, PA), Bryson Reid (12, Perkasio, PA), Devon Reid (17, Perkasio, PA), Jadyn Reid (15, Perkasio, PA), Micah Sell (15, Philadelphia, PA), Gemma Smith (14, Jenkintown, PA), Margot Stern (15, Meadowbrook, PA), Gabrielle Straface (12, Abington, PA), Emily Warden (16, Wyncote, PA), Sophia Whittaker-Inserra (14, Moorestown, NJ), Isabella Wu (16, Chalfont, PA), and Lily Zeller (15, Warrington, PA)
- **2nd place, Senior Classical Soloist:** Michael Jastrzebski (17, Philadelphia, PA)
- **2nd place, Senior Contemporary Soloist:** Devon Reid (17, Perkasio, PA)
- **3rd place, Junior Classical Soloist:** Jacey Gailliard (13, Philadelphia, PA)
- **Top 12, Senior Contemporary Soloist:** Savannah Quiner (15, Long Valley, NJ)
- **Top 12, Junior Contemporary Soloist:** Jacey Gailliard (13, Philadelphia, PA)
- **Top 12, Junior Contemporary Soloist:** Aedan Daly (12, Philadelphia, PA)
- **Invitation to perform in New York Finals:** *Children's Dance from La Fille Mal Gardee*: George Arendt (11, Levittown, PA), Abigail Bergson-Conklin (11, Fort Washington, PA), Lucy Cullen (11, Glenside, PA), Ella Eaton (11, Hatboro, PA), Anabella Castellanos (12, Philadelphia, PA), Aedan Daly (12, Philadelphia, PA), Aisling Daly (10, Philadelphia, PA), Evan Gualtieri (10, Abington, PA), Madeline Jamieson (12, Jenkintown, PA), Tino Karakousis (11, Philadelphia, PA), Dennis Lyons (11, Philadelphia, PA), Mark Podolsky (12, Abington, PA), Giada Pontillo (10, Flourtown, PA), Bryson Reid (12, Perkasio, PA), Matthew Thorsen (12, Elkins Park, PA), and Miranda Vega (9, Jenkintown, PA)

