



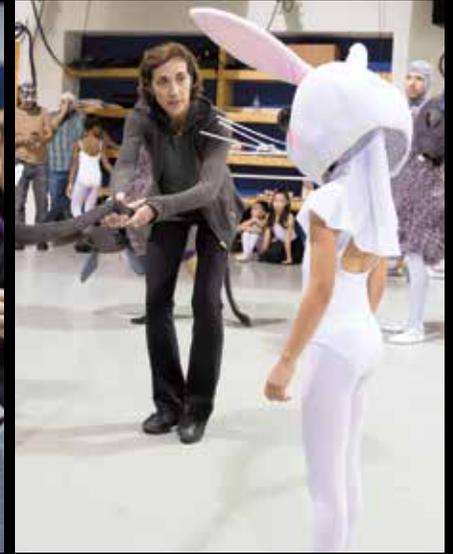
ANNUAL REPORT

2017/18 SEASON



LOURDES LOPEZ

MIAMI CITY BALLET ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



"For many families, *Nutcracker* is their first introduction to the transformative power of classical ballet and quickly becomes a favorite holiday tradition. This year, we were proud to have 12 students from our Ballet Bus scholarship program audition and perform with our professional dancers in our new *Nutcracker* production. With Ballet Bus giving opportunities to underserved children in the region, we are paving a solid career path for our next generation of Miami City Ballet stars, all hailing from the diverse tapestry of communities that we have right here in South Florida."

Lourdes Lopez, Miami City Ballet Artistic Director

Above: MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez coached students from MCB's Ballet Bus scholarship program in their Mice, Party Scene and Bunny roles for the Company's new production of George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*. Photos © Alexander Iziliaev.

Right: MCB dancers in "Diamonds" from the full-length ballet *Jewels*. Choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust. Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.

To read more about MCB's unique Ballet Bus scholarship program, please see Pages 30-31.

For a letter from Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez, please see Page 10.

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OUR MISSION

We exist to impact people's lives through the transformative power of dance.

OUR VISION

Deeply rooted in our South Florida community, Miami City Ballet will expand and inspire our audiences locally, nationally, and internationally.

Left: MCB Dancers Katia Carranza and Renato Penteado in "Rubies." Choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust. Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.

Right: MCB Dancers Simone Messmer and Renan Cerdeiro in *Other Dances*. Choreography by Jerome Robbins. Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.



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A HISTORIC OPENING IN THE BERKSHIRES

MCB GLIMMERS AT 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACOB'S PILLOW

Miami City Ballet began its 2017/18 Season to great critical acclaim by opening the 85th anniversary celebration of Jacob's Pillow in June 2017. After a 19-year hiatus in performing at this world-renowned dance festival in Beckett, Massachusetts, MCB glimmered during its week-long engagement. An art lover's paradise, Jacob's Pillow is the oldest continuous annual celebration of dance in the United States. Works on the program showcased MCB's wide-ranging artistry and technical prowess, including master choreographer George Balanchine's challenging *Allegro Brillante*, set to Tchaikovsky's energetic *Piano Concerto No. 3*; Tony Award-winning choreographer Christopher Wheeldon's complex *Polyphonia*, performed to György Ligeti's eerily melodious score; Peter Martin's elegant *Barber Violin Concerto*, created to Samuel Barber's 1941 *Violin Concerto, Opus 14*; and Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Carousel Pas de Deux*, from the beloved 1945 musical by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II.

Miami City Ballet approaches Balanchine's ballets in ways that are "fast, space-devouring, clear, [and] outstandingly musical. ... [Best of all], the Miamians dance with sunshine."

Dance Critic Alastair Macaulay, The New York Times, June 23, 2017, at MCB's opening of Jacob's Pillow



Above: MCB Dancers Jovani Furlan and Kleber Rebello in *Polyphonia*. Choreography © Christopher Wheeldon. Photo © Christopher Duggan. Courtesy of Jacob's Pillow.

Left Below: MCB Dancers Jennifer Lauren and Renan Cerdiero in *Allegro Brillante*. Choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust. Photo © Christopher Duggan. Courtesy of Jacob's Pillow.

Right Below: To great critical acclaim, Miami City Ballet opened the 85th anniversary of Jacob's Pillow in June 2017 after a 19-year hiatus in performing at the world-renowned dance festival in Beckett, Massachusetts. Photos © Christopher Duggan.



COMPANY

PRINCIPALS

Tricia Albertson - Katia Carranza
Renan Cerdeiro - Jeanette Delgado
Jovani Furlan - Rainer Krenstetter
Jennifer Lauren - Simone Messmer
Renato Penteadó - Kleber Rebello
Reyneris Reyes

PRINCIPAL SOLOISTS

Nathalia Arja - Didier Bramaz
Lauren Fadeley - Callie Manning
Alexander Peters

SOLOISTS

Emily Bromberg - Shimon Ito
Ashley Knox - Jordan-Elizabeth Long
Chase Swatosh

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Ariel Rose - Helen Ruiz
Alyssa Schroeder - Christie Scituro
Luiz Silva - Raechel Sparreo
Christina Spigner - Nicole Stalker
Ella Titus - Eric Trope - Ao Wang
Amir Yogev - Damian Zamorano

Below: MCB Dancers in *Concerto DSCH*. Choreography by Alexei Ratmansky. Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.



LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

My first year as chair of the Miami City Ballet Board of Trustees has been busy, challenging, and most of all, rewarding.

In 2016, as part of the interviews and surveying conducted during our strategic planning process, constituents told us that our greatest strength as a Company was our artistic excellence and that our greatest weakness was our administrative organizational capacity.

That was clearly evident in 2017/18 as nearly every administrative leadership role was vacant or in transition.

Lesser organizations might have crumbled under such a challenge, but my fellow board members and I understood that our artistic pursuits remained paramount to the foundation of one of America's leading ballet companies.

As my predecessors can attest, a reputation for excellence is not built overnight, nor is it maintained by a status quo mandate. Artists can only create and grow in an environment that feeds the creative process. They need a culture that nurtures, inspires, and invites artistic risk.

As stewards of this amazing Company, we vowed to provide the necessary environment for our artists to grow and thrive during this time of transition.

I believe we have succeeded. Today, our Company has never been stronger or more virtuous. For that, we owe the utmost gratitude to Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez. Despite the administrative challenges, Lourdes has demonstrated the same strong and humane leadership that she brought to Miami City Ballet the day she arrived seven years ago.



MCB Board Chair Kristi Jernigan

These are important invitations, as they point to our position in Miami and internationally as a world-class ballet company. We continue to export Miami's art and culture to the rest of the nation and the world. Conversely, dance lovers, critics, and students from all around the globe are looking to and coming to South Florida, witnessing and partaking in the magic we are creating.

With an unequalled partner in Lourdes, I have been able to focus my energies on rebuilding our administrative capacity, both as Chair and as acting Executive Director.

I am elated at the progress we've made, thanks to the dedication, patience, and engagement of a committed board of trustees, and the energy (and patience!) of our staff and some key consultants.

Working together, we have not only navigated through administrative challenges but also have seen the Company thrive. I am happy to report that we have concluded our most successful year of fundraising and achieved 90 percent of our earned revenue goal while at the same time having revenues exceed expenses.

Perhaps even more important than our financial results was the impact we had on the lives of families and children in our South Florida community.

For the first time ever in the history of our beloved *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*[®], 2,000 school children were able to experience ballet – most for their first time – during a free performance at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts in Miami.

In 2017/18, our Ballet Bus program completed its third year of providing underserved children with a comprehensive, full-scholarship dance training program as a gateway to the arts.

Children excel in MCB's unique Ballet Bus scholarship program. Learn more on Pages 30-31.



Twelve of the students from the program who auditioned earned coveted roles to perform on stage in our new *Nutcracker* production – a visible and moving testament to the program's success.

The members of the Company and the students in our ballet school have continued to inspire us all, especially our loyal donors. It is the philanthropy of many of you that brought the *Nutcracker* to life on stage. It is you who allowed us to net nearly \$500,000 for scholarships during the 25th anniversary of our acclaimed Miami City Ballet School.

Many of our donors have been with us from the beginning, while others are new to the family. We appreciate you! Our ever-growing artistry and

deepening community engagement would not be possible without you and your belief that this powerful and beautiful art form can impact lives.

Today, as I write this, we are at a wonderful inflection point – a moment in our history when it all starts to come together.

We were inspired to aim high as we searched for a new Executive Director, for a leader whose talents and expertise could quickly transform our administration. We found that in Tania Castroverde Moskalenko. With Tania and Lourdes as partners at the helm, each one of us can be inspired by their vision, prudence, and exceptional ability to turn their dreams for Miami City Ballet into reality.

This combination even has the performing arts world taking note of Miami City Ballet, where our Artistic and Executive Directors are both female and Cuban-American.

Diversity and talent are not only celebrated at the top echelon of MCB's leadership; they are deepening with two more important additions to our administration. This summer, we welcomed Julii Oh as Chief Marketing Officer and AnaMaria Correa as Senior Director of Community Engagement, each bringing a top level of expertise and experience within their disciplines and the performing arts world.

We are, indeed, at an inflection point. In mathematics, this is defined as a point of a curve at which a change in the direction of curvature occurs. In business, it is defined as a time of significant change – a turning point.

Thirty-two years is not young in the ballet world, but certainly not old; it is no surprise that our inflection point has arrived now. It is an exciting time for all of us who love and are invested in Miami City Ballet. I am confident that with incredible artistry, new leadership and talent, deepening engagement of our board, a staff with a renewed energy, inspired donors, and the unprecedented economic growth of South Florida, we will look back at this moment, this inflection point, and we will see a beautiful upward curve that looks, perhaps, like a perfect arabesque.

I look forward to celebrating another beautiful season with each of you.

Kristi Jernigan,
Chair

MCB Artistic Director
Lourdes Lopez



LETTER FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

We have had an incredible year of artistic achievements at Miami City Ballet, from our stunning new production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® and the vibrant centennial celebration of Jerome Robbins' life and work to the world premiere of MCB's first postmodernist ballet in the commissioned piece *One Line Drawn* by Brian Brooks and the growing success of our exceptional community engagement work, which is perhaps best exemplified in our Ballet Bus scholarship program.

The new *Nutcracker* that we launched last fall is a shining example of what we aim for in the dance

world when we talk about collaborating with artists from other disciplines to revitalize our art form. Three very different creative geniuses took Balanchine's 20th century holiday favorite and recast it for a 21st century audience. Keeping the innocence and joy of the original tale, fashion designer Isabel Toledo, artist Ruben Toledo and projection designer Wendall K. Harrington created a new production that is as enchanting as a Harry Potter film.

That their magic works and that classical ballet continues to have a transformative impact on our community is evident from the effect

that our new *Nutcracker* already has had on one young dancer I visited with in our studios last fall. After a long day of rehearsals, I was heading to my office when I saw a wide-eyed girl in a mint-green leotard peering through the windows to watch a class of girls in lavender leotards, just one level ahead of her. I recognized her from our Ballet Bus scholarship program. Chatting with the girl in the mint-green leotard, I asked her the usual questions: "Who are your teachers? Are you enjoying your classes? Do you like ballet?"

She politely answered each of my questions, but never took her eyes off the lavender girls.

Then I asked, "Are you in *Nutcracker*?"

Her face lit up, she looked straight at me and said:

"Yes! I'm in Party Scene."

The Toledos had just been in our studios for costume fittings with the children, so I said: "Congratulations! You will get to wear one of those lovely dresses."

She went on to tell me she also was dancing the role of Fritz and understudying Battle Scene.

"Busy season!" I said.

She then informed me, "Next year, I'll dance in *Polychinelles*, then in *Hoops* the year after that."

Nutcracker had captured this child's imagination, carrying her into the future. With its magic tree, flying bed, gingerbread men, fighting mice, elaborate snow scene and Land of the Sweets, beautiful music and exquisite dancers – this story has nothing to do with Miami ... nothing this girl could relate to in her daily life. Yet there she was, travelling forward in her mind's eye, taking on new challenges each year, and shining each step along the way.

This story of the girl in the mint-green leotard is a true one, and it is also my own. A wide-eyed girl who received a dance scholarship years ago, I now lead one of the world's top ballet companies. In her dreams, I see how mine became a reality, and how hers will, too. Thanks to classical ballet, we both have been forever changed. And so have many of the dancers in our company and countless members of our community, along with those who have seen our performances here in South Florida and on tour. I invite you to take the time to read some of these heartwarming stories and achievements in the pages that follow.

May our future programming have the same transformative power over you – both in MCB's season ahead and for years to come.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming performances.

Lourdes Lopez, Artistic Director

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors."

Terry Pratchett

Miami City Ballet was founded in 1985, the same year that, as a young woman, I left Miami. For 33 years, the company and I have been on divergent but parallel paths, learning, reaching, growing, rising...building our palettes.

Despite my departure and the establishment of my career in various parts of the country, my roots always brought me home to South Florida. Often returning three to four times per year, I would catch performances of Miami City Ballet whenever possible. For years I have been in awe of what the organization has been able to accomplish with talented artists, committed board members, and the support of a vibrant community.

Never in my wildest dreams, however, did I imagine that I would one day return home to lead this great company alongside our inimitable Artistic Director, Lourdes Lopez. It is an immense honor and privilege to assume the role of Executive Director of Miami City Ballet at this critical time in the company's history. It is a role and a responsibility that I take on with great reverence and appreciation.

This past year, under the artistic leadership of Lourdes Lopez and the clear vision of our Board Chair, Kristi Jernigan, the company has reached new heights, garnering rave reviews nationally and internationally.

In addition, the Board of Trustees has made a commitment to continue strengthening the company by investing in its growth and sustainability. Guided by a comprehensive strategic plan that focuses on four distinct areas – artistic excellence, premier training, community engagement, and organizational strength – our leadership is determined that our company rise to the next level, which is demonstrated by the strengthening of our organizational capacity and the focus on our fiduciary responsibilities. What an exciting moment in our company's history!

I am incredibly energized to have come back. To see this amazing company with new eyes and extra colors. Miami City Ballet's palette has been created from the diverse, vibrant, resilient, and inspired communities that make up South Florida. We are a reflection of these communities, and we are proud to export these attributes to audiences across the globe. As we continue to grow and strengthen, I thank you for allowing me to be part of this journey.

Tania Castroverde Moskalenko
Executive Director



MCB Executive Director Tania Castroverde Moskalenko. Photo © Nick Garcia.

A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

GEORGE BALANCHINE'S *JEWELS*

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of *Jewels*, Miami City Ballet opened its 32nd Season with this brilliant full-length ballet by George Balanchine. A choreographic masterpiece, *Jewels* showcases three very different styles that inspired Balanchine to create his own unique form of classical ballet. "Emeralds" re-creates the dreamy lyricism of composer Gabriel Fauré and the French Romantic tradition of Violette Verdy, the witty, supremely musical lead ballerina for

whom Balanchine created the signature solo. "Rubies," originally danced by the sparkling Patricia McBride, conjures up America's exuberant Jazz Age through Igor Stravinsky's vibrant music. And "Diamonds," with the regal Suzanne Farrell serving as its original muse, reflects the grandeur of Tchaikovsky's 19th century Imperial Russia, where Balanchine first began his professional training and career.



Left: MCB Dancers Lauren Fadeley and Jovani Furlan in "Diamonds."
Photo © Alberto Oviedo.

Above: MCB Dancer Emily Bromberg in "Emeralds." Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.

Above Right: MCB Dancers in "Diamonds." Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.
Choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust.

"Nearly every principal role in every cast of *Jewels* was a role debut for that dancer. ... This ballet company is clearly very serious about investing in their dancers' full development of artistic range. ... Undoubtedly, Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez values this and breeds this kind of environment; indeed, MCB is looking exceptional under her discerning and polished vision."

Dance Critic Tara Mitton Catao, Palm Beach Arts Paper



MCB Dancer Jordan-Elizabeth Long and MCB Dancers in "Rubies." Photo © Gene Schiavone.



MCB Dancers in "Emeralds." Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.



Miami City Ballet's "Caribbean-flavored *Nutcracker* ... [is] a production that adds a new and marvel-filled chapter to the ballet's long and evolving history. Notably beautiful ballet dresses for the Waltz of the Snowflakes, all soft, bluish whites, and for the Waltz of the Flowers, all layered, blush pinks, heighten the distinct tones of these two ensemble numbers. The energetic artistry of MCB's female ensemble reveals the former as alive with bolting force; the latter, with lilting shimmer."

Dance Critic Robert Greskovic, *The Wall Street Journal*



NUTCRACKER FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM

Delighting families for decades, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® has become a holiday tradition as beloved as Handel's *Messiah* and Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. To give this ballet a tropical, 21st century flair, MCB had costumes and sets created by world-renowned designers Isabel and Ruben Toledo, with video projections by Wendall K. Harrington for a stunning new production

that belongs exclusively to Miami City Ballet. On December 7, 2017, the work made its world premiere at The Music Center in Los Angeles, where MCB will perform the ballet on tour for the next two years in addition to the Company's regular annual *Nutcracker* engagements in Miami, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.

Left Above: A fashionist's sense of luxury abounded in the Party Scene, with each child wearing a uniquely designed costume.

Center Above: Giving audiences a sneak peek into their work before the world premiere of MCB's new *Nutcracker*, designers Ruben and Isabel Toledo discussed their work with MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez during an Open Barre performance at MCB's studios in Miami Beach.

Center Below: Isabel and Ruben Toledo ensured that each dancer not only looked gorgeous but also could move freely in the new costumes they had designed.



Miami City Ballet's new production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® was made possible by the extraordinary philanthropic investment of the following individuals, foundations, and community leaders. Thank you.

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\$500,000

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COSTUME UNDERWRITING SUPPORT

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Margaret and Mike Eidson

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Jamie and Asha Elias
 Soldiers

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 Sugarplum Fairy

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Angels, Dewdrop, Sugarplum Fairy

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The Adler Family

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Fern G. Rose
 Harlequin

\$1,000 - \$2,500
 Winston Lett and Frank Benoit

Marie (Nightgown)

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In honor of Sara Cooper:

Angel

Ana Martin-Lavielle
 Chinese Tea

Alfred A. Lewis - Marie (Nightgown)

Jo Ann Engelhardt
 In honor of George R. Elder:
 Hot Chocolate

Dr. Elisabeth A. McKeen

In honor of Sara Mullens:
 Angel

Mamie and Tarmo Joeveer

In honor of Sirja Joeveer:
 Polichinelles

Judith and Marvin Weinstein

Bunny Child

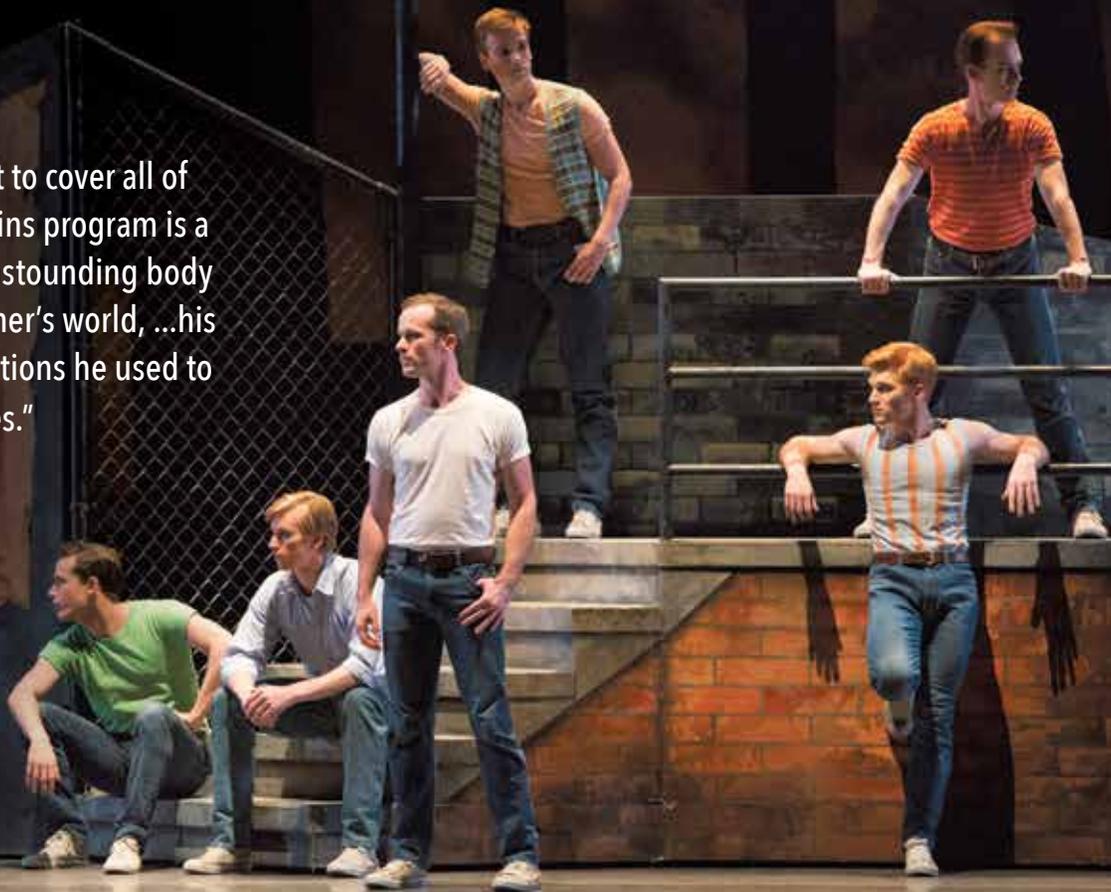
*Deceased

Left Above: MCB Dancers Jordan-Elizabeth Long and Chase Swatosh elegantly portrayed the Sugarplum Fairy and her Cavalier in Act Two.

Left Below: Designer Ruben Toledo captured the vibrant colors of the Columbine costume before MCB Dancer Ellen Grocki performed the variation during the Open Barre series at MCB's studios in Miami Beach.

"After seeing countless ballet programs that attempt to cover all of the dance-genre bases in one evening, this all-Robbins program is a refreshing plunge into the deep end of one artist's astounding body of work. One becomes immersed in the choreographer's world, ...his effortless partnering, and the choreographic conventions he used to communicate the human experience to his audiences."

Susan Fulks, *The Palm Beach Post*



A SCINTILLATING CENTENNIAL

JEROME ROBBINS' 100TH YEAR

For Jerome Robbins' 100th anniversary, Miami City Ballet presented five of his most iconic works in Program Two. Company premieres included *Circus Polka* (1972), featuring 48 students from Miami City Ballet School; *The Cage* (1951), with haunting female creatures undulating to Stravinsky's dramatic score; and *Other Dances* (1976), a pas de deux showcasing Neoclassical ballet's beauty, fluidity, and demanding technicalities. Beloved revivals rounded out this exciting Robbins' lineup, including *West Side Story Suite* (1995), which made its Company premiere

during MCB's 2013/14 Season; and *In the Night* (1970), a set of subtle dance dramas choreographed for three couples of very different temperaments.

Recognized by *The Guardian* as "the first quintessentially American choreographer," Robbins began his career as a dancer with Ballet Theatre, which later became American Ballet Theatre. He quickly became one of Broadway's most successful choreographers and directors, with key works including *On the Town*, *West Side Story*, and *Fiddler on the*

Roof. While working on Broadway in the 1940s and 1950s, he also created pieces for New York City Ballet, where he later worked as associate artistic director alongside George Balanchine. MCB's tribute to Robbins was one of the dance world's most visible ones, with the Company also performing his works at the start of its 2018/19 Season on tour at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, in May and Les Étés de la Danse festival in Paris in June.

Above: MCB Dancers in *West Side Story Suite*.

Joyfully leading MCB School students through their steps, MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez became the first woman that the Robbins Rights Trust has allowed to perform the role of the Ringmaster in *Circus Polka*.

All works on Pages 16-17: Choreography by Jerome Robbins. Photos © Alexander Iziliaev.



MCB Dancer Nathalia Arja as the Novice in *The Cage*.



MCB Dancers Tricia Albertson and Rainer Krensetter in *In the Night*.



A POSTMODERNIST WORLD PREMIERE

BRIAN BROOKS' *ONE LINE DRAWN*

In Program Three of the 2017/18 Season, Miami City Ballet presented the world premiere of Brian Brooks' *One Line Drawn*, a commissioned work created to original music by Michael Gordon, a renowned South Florida alumnus of Miami Beach High School. This pulsating new piece was MCB's first foray into the postmodernist style that earned Brooks the coveted position of inaugural choreographer-in-residence at The Harris Theater in Chicago, where Miami City Ballet will perform the work on tour November 8-9, 2018. Striking minimalist costumes by Karen Young and stunning lighting by Aaron Copp enhanced the dramatic impact of the ballet. Eager audiences got a sneak peek into the work during Open Barre performances January 30-31, 2018, at the Lynn and Louis Wolfson, II Theatre in MCB's state-of-the-art studios in Miami Beach. This intimate 200-seat theater offered the perfect way for balletomanes and newcomers alike to learn more about the commissioned work when MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez discussed the collaborative process with Brooks and Gordon.





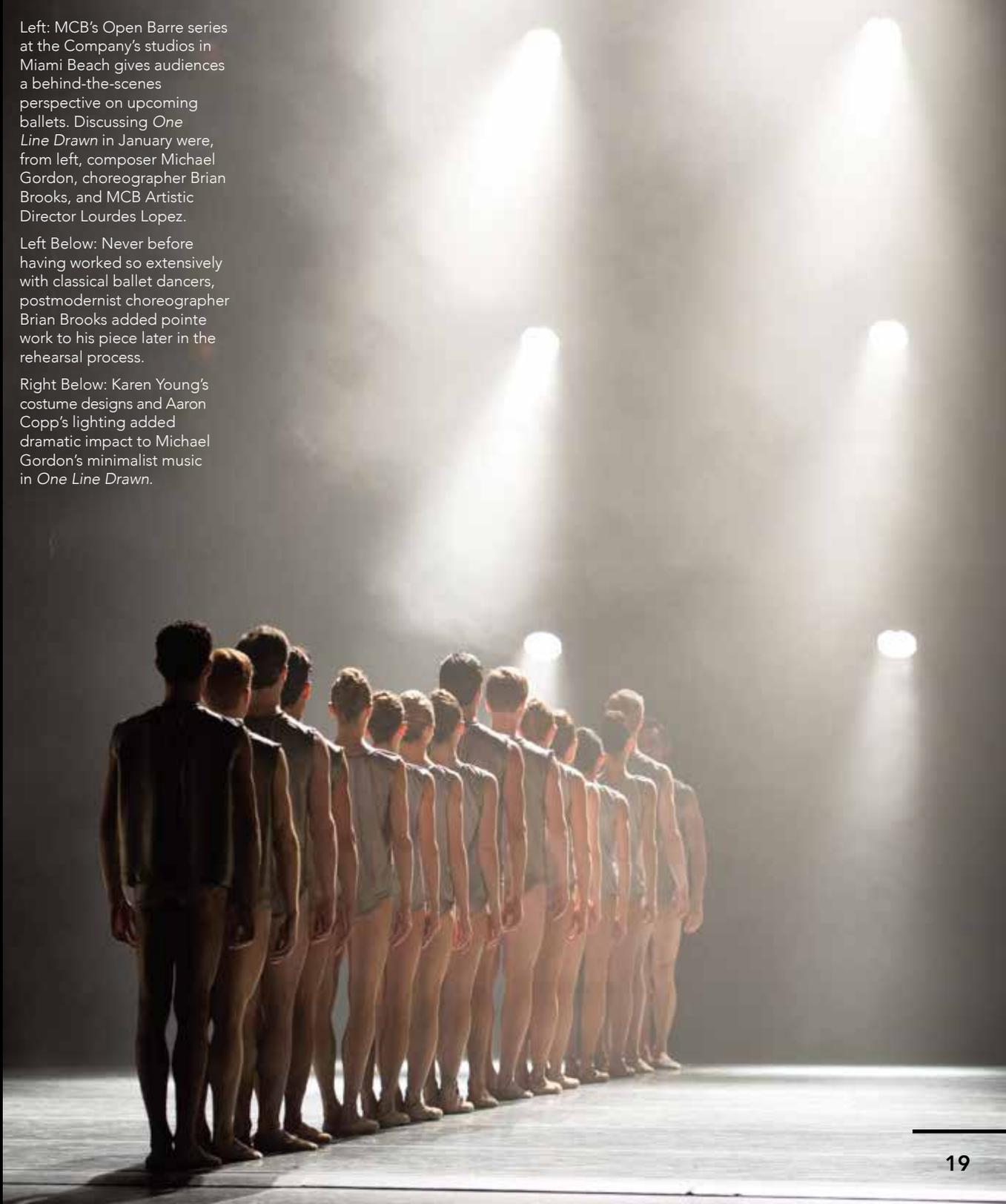
Left: MCB's Open Barre series at the Company's studios in Miami Beach gives audiences a behind-the-scenes perspective on upcoming ballets. Discussing *One Line Drawn* in January were, from left, composer Michael Gordon, choreographer Brian Brooks, and MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez.

Left Below: Never before having worked so extensively with classical ballet dancers, postmodernist choreographer Brian Brooks added pointe work to his piece later in the rehearsal process.

Right Below: Karen Young's costume designs and Aaron Copp's lighting added dramatic impact to Michael Gordon's minimalist music in *One Line Drawn*.

"That the Miami City Ballet is one of the best companies working in North America today is without question. I applaud the company for its bravery, its boldness, and for the precision of its performances. Their third program of this season is not to be missed."

Dance Critic Suzanna James, Sophia News





FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

ALEXEI RATMANSKY'S *CONCERTO DSCH*

Miami City Ballet's talented and diverse roster of dancers has captured the imagination of Alexei Ratmansky, the world's leading choreographer and current Artist-in-Residence at American Ballet Theatre. Successful collaborations with Ratmansky resulted in two critically acclaimed commissioned works for Miami City Ballet: *Symphonic Dances* in

2012 to the music of Sergei Rachmaninoff and *The Fairy's Kiss* in 2017 to the music of Igor Stravinsky. The overwhelming appeal of these ballets inspired MCB to present one of Ratmansky's most popular earlier works: *Concerto DSCH*, with the initials of the title reflecting the German spelling of the name of ballet's composer Dmitri Shostakovich.

During rehearsals of his ballet *Concerto DSCH*, Choreographer Alexei Ratmansky, center, coached MCB Dancers, with Nathalia Arja and Kleber Rebello soaring through a signature lift, at left. At right, MCB Dancers Simone Messmer and Jovani Furlan led the Company in the ballet's "Andante" movement. Choreography by Alexei Ratmansky. Photos © Alexander Iziliaev.

At the work's world premiere in 2008, Alastair Macaulay wrote in *The New York Times* that *Concerto DSCH*'s "dances pour forth in a continuous stream of galvanizing excitement and affectionate intimacy. ... [This is] the most captivating classical ballet I have seen in years."

"Each person carried their role more than substantially with standouts in Nathalia Arja, Renan Cerdeiro, Kleber Rebello, Jovani Furlan, and a sweeping Simone Messmer who is showing a beauty and richness that makes her more accessible with every role. Francisco Rennó delivered the familiar Shostakovich score with witty and frivolous detail. It was exciting to see the audience react in such an immediate exuberant fashion to the festive and difficult piece."

Cameron Basden, MiamiArtZine





HIGH TEA IN THE PALM BEACHES

For the Ballerina in All of Us

On February 1, 2018, the Palm Beach Board of Trustees of Miami City Ballet hosted a lavish Afternoon Tea "For the Ballerina in All of Us." The outreach initiative, chaired by Malka Fingold and Sydell Miller, raised vital funds for educational and engagement activities for children in underserved communities in the Palm Beaches, including MCB's Ballet For Young People free performance series for students from Title 1 Public Schools; MCB School's Palm Beach Summer Dance Camp, which was expanded from two weeks in 2017 to three in 2018; and dance scholarships for talented students of limited financial means. In addition to emphasizing the beauty of ballet, the afternoon focused on the transformative power it has to change lives, providing a key cultural experience for at-risk youth. Attendees at the event enjoyed a runway display of haute couture hosted by Fashion Designer Carolina Herrera and Ken Downing, Senior Vice President and Fashion Director at Neiman Marcus.

Photos © Capehart Photography.





- 1: Sydell Miller, Palm Beaches Honorary Chair, and Karen Krause, Palm Beaches Board.
- 2: Rita Bronfman and Penny Blumenstein.
- 3: Madeline Anbinder, Palm Beaches Board, and Jessica Svensson.
- 4: Nancy Hart and Rosalee Davison, Palm Beaches Board.
- 5: Kristi Jernigan, MCB Board Chair, and Toby Lerner Ansin, MCB Founder.
- 6: Elegant china and crystal graced tables at the Afternoon Tea.
- 7: Lourdes Lopez, MCB Artistic Director; Ken Downing, Neiman Marcus Senior Vice President; and Carolina Herrera.
- 8: Malka Fingold, Palm Beaches Board Chair, and Carole Gigliotti.
- 9: Jennifer Myerberg, Palm Beaches Board; Judy Wyman; and Audrey Halperint.
- 10: Joan Sydell, Jan Hurwitz, Elayne Hurwitz, and Jill Stempler.
- 11: Janna Ronert and Michelle Jacobs.
- 12: Models wore the latest designs by Carolina Herrera.
- 13: Madeline Forbes and Marilyn Wolpin.
- 14: Among the sponsors was Braman Motorcars, which displayed a Bentley at the event.
- 15: Carolina Herrera, Fashion Designer, and Ann Fromer, Palm Beaches Board.
- 16: Patricia E. Lowry, Esq., Palm Beaches Board, and Miriam Flamm, Palm Beaches Board.



PASSIONATELY ON POINTE

MIAMI CITY BALLET SCHOOL FETES ITS 25TH YEAR

Miami City Ballet School celebrated its 25th anniversary with an exciting On Pointe Gala at Faena Forum on March 10th. The star-studded event featured world-renowned alumni, including Honorary Chairs Patricia and Jeanette Delgado, who both trained extensively at the School before rising through the ranks to become principal dancers at Miami City Ballet. MCB Board Chair Kristi Jernigan and her husband, Dean Jernigan, served as Gala Chairs, helping to raise more than \$735,000 for scholarships, education, and outreach programs. With vibrant red décor, the evening paid tribute to the training, passion, and dedication that it takes for dancers to achieve their dreams. A special performance of excerpts from the ballet *Le Petite Danse* showcased the talents of Miami City Ballet School's pre-professional students and the choreography of alumnus Durante Verzola.

- 1: George Skouras, MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez, and MCB School Director of Faculty and Curriculum Arantxa Ochoa with On Pointe Gala Chairs Kristi Jernigan, Chair of the MCB Board of Trustees, and Dean Jernigan.
- 2: MCB Board Director Kathy Guttman, MCB Dancer Emily Bromberg, and Courtney Lord.
- 3: MCB Founder Toby Lerner Ansin, center, with MCB School Alumnae and Principal Dancers Patricia Delgado and Jeanette Delgado.
- 4: Alumnae Jeanette and Patricia Delgado, center, and MCB School Students.
- 5: MCB Dancer Alexander Peters, Michael T. Miller, and MCB Board Director Jeffrey Davis.
- 6: Olivia Flatto and Kinga Lampert.
- 7: MCB Board Director Charles Adelman, MCB Dancer Nicole Stalker, and Deborah Adelman.



3



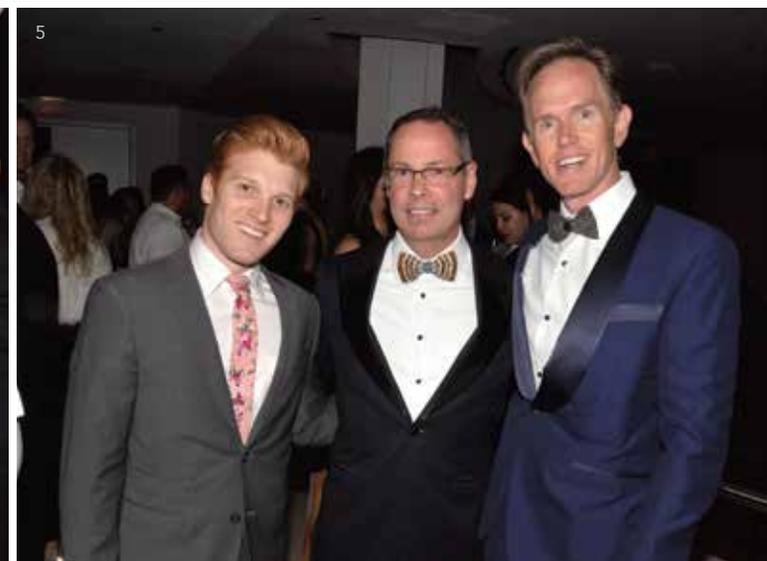
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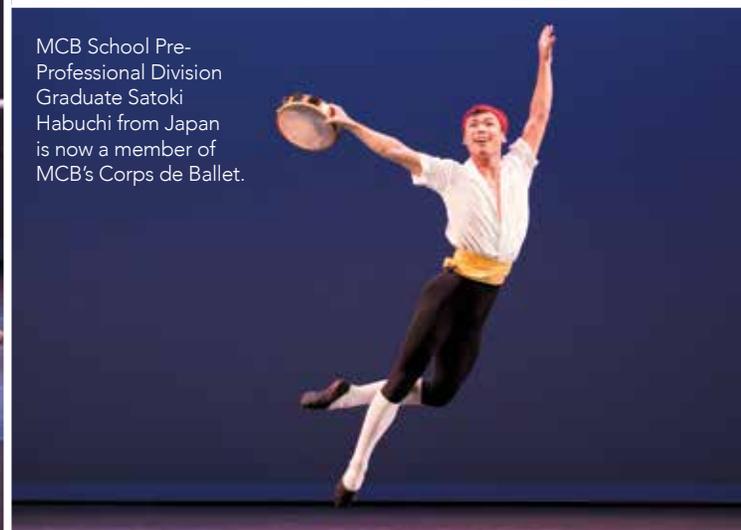
MCB's Ballet For Young People performances for local school children celebrate the diverse origins of MCB School's Pre-Professional Division students. In this photo, Faculty Member Kris Arias, center, introduced, from left: Luis Olivera from Uruguay, Erick Rojas from Mexico, Gregory Molnar from Canada, Santiago Castañeda from Colombia, Tsukino Ishii from Japan, Laura Coelho Ferreira from Brazil, Ling Minucci from New York, and Katharine Stevens from Texas. Photos © Alexander Iziliaev.



The Ballet For Young People series for schoolchildren gives MCB School's Pre-Professional Dancers valuable performance experience.



MCB School Pre-Professional Division Graduate Satoki Habuchi from Japan is now a member of MCB's Corps de Ballet.



BALLET'S GATEWAY TO THE AMERICAS

A vital economic engine for commerce, international finance, and tourism, Miami has long been known as the nation's Gateway to the Americas for trade between the hemispheres. In the realm of classical dance, MCB serves as Classical Ballet's Gateway to the Americas for talented international students who first attend summer training at Miami City Ballet School, then progress into the year-round Pre-Professional Division and eventually employment at Miami City Ballet and other top U.S. and international companies.

To ensure a steady influx of talent from Central and South America, Miami City Ballet School holds a Latin American Audition Tour each spring. Spreading its reach further outside of the Americas, MCB's Ballet Beyond Borders program offers tuition and housing scholarships to gifted international students who otherwise would not be able to pursue their training at Miami City Ballet School's world-renowned academy. In 2017/18, the School had 20 students from Latin America in its Pre-Professional Division and Summer Intensive Program,

with other top dancers originating from countries as far away as Turkey, Switzerland, France, and Denmark. The success of these scholarship recipients is readily apparent in Miami City Ballet's outstanding roster of professional dancers, with the most recent School hires for the 2018/19 Season being Pre-Professional Division Graduates Satoki Habuchi from Japan, who is now a member of MCB's Corps de Ballet, and Santiago Castañeda from Colombia, who is an MCB Apprentice.



Left: A rising star in MCB School, Pre-Professional Student Laura Coelho Ferreira received the 2018 International Student Scholarship.

Right: MCB Dancer Mayumi Enokibara, who grew up in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, completed her training as a scholarship student at MCB School before becoming a Company member.



MCB'S BRAZILIAN LIAISONS

Miami City Ballet is one of the most diverse classical ballet companies in the United States, boasting an eclectic artistic staff hailing from countries throughout Latin America, Europe, and Asia – with a particularly strong contingent from Brazil. Of the 51 dancers in the Company during the 2017/18 Season, 11 were from Latin America, including Mexico, Brazil, Puerto Rico, and Cuba. Seven of those dancers and the company pianist are Brazilians who began their early training in Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Joinville, and Barra Mansa before completing their studies in the United States. These strong bonds create lasting connections between Miami City Ballet, its devoted fans, and its loyal cosmopolitan donors.

In addition to the many scholarship opportunities offered to international students through Ballet Beyond Borders, Miami City Ballet School offers a two-week Brazilian Summer Intensive Program, with 60 Brazilian students participating in the training in July 2018. Generous philanthropic support ensures that talented young dancers receive MCB School's world-class training regardless of financial or geographic constraints that otherwise would limit their career development. Many Ballet Beyond Borders students have advanced to become some of the brightest talents in MCB's professional company, including Nathalia Arja, Renan Cerdeiro, Mayumi Enokibara, Jovani Furlan, Luiz Silva, and Kleber Rebello. Be sure to watch for future developments from Laura Coelho Ferreira, a Pre-Professional Division student from Brazil who received the 2018 International Student Scholarship from Miami City Ballet

PREMIER TRAINING

MIAMI CITY BALLET SCHOOL

Marking its 25th year in 2017/18, Miami City Ballet School was founded in 1993 as the official academy of Miami City Ballet. In recent years, the School's reputation has soared under the leadership of MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez, who serves as the School's Chair, and Arantxa Ochoa, longtime principal dancer with Pennsylvania Ballet and former director of The School of Pennsylvania Ballet, who joined MCB School in 2016 as Director of Faculty and Curriculum. This strong leadership from outstanding ballerinas who thoroughly embody the Balanchine training and aesthetic has ensured the success of both MCB School and the Company.

As one of the nation's premier classical ballet academies, MCB School prepares dancers for careers with Miami City Ballet and other top U.S.

and international companies. Each year, extensive audition tours across the country and abroad attract more than 1,500 students. Drawing from such a wide pool of talent has helped make Miami City Ballet one of the most diverse companies in the United States, with more than half of the Company's professional dancers having trained extensively at MCB School. As an added benefit of these strong international connections, MCB School is able to offer local students unique opportunities to interact with talented youth from around the globe.

Students who first attend MCB School's demanding five-week Summer Intensive Program and demonstrate exceptional talent, potential, and commitment are invited to join MCB School's Pre-Professional Division, a rigorous year-round program

for aspiring dance professionals ages 14-18. To ensure that gifted students are able to pursue the training they need to prepare them for rewarding ballet careers regardless of financial or geographic limitations, MCB School offers a generous scholarship program that provides \$550,000 in tuition and housing scholarships to more than 130 students each year.

Extending the beauty and joy of classical dance to everyone in the region, Miami City Ballet School also offers a complete roster of classes open to the community, including Adult Ballet and Jazz, and Toddler and Me workshops.



MCB School's rigorous programs are led by Arantxa Ochoa, Director of Faculty and Curriculum.



8 Programs offered at MCB School, including the Children's Division, Student Division, Pre-Professional Division, Community Division, Summer Intensive, Children's Summer Dance, Choreographic Intensive, and Spring Break Workshop

10 Countries represented at Miami City Ballet School

153 Classes offered per week during the five-week Summer Intensive

699 Adults taught through Miami City Ballet School's recreational Community Division

6,225 People reached in six outreach performances danced by Miami City Ballet School's Pre-Professional students

24,000 Unique views on Facebook and YouTube for MCB School's *En Face* series

Pre-Professional Dancers master pas de deux techniques that lead to jobs at MCB and other companies. In July, Heather Duncan, front left, graduated from MCB School and now dances with Carolina Ballet.



Student Showcase Performances at the end of the school year give budding dancers an opportunity to share their talents with family, friends, and peers.



Families get a peek inside the rigors of the classroom during Parent Observation Week at MCB School.



Children and parents are introduced to the joys of dance in Toddler and Me classes.



BALLET BUS

A NATIONAL MODEL FOR EXCEPTIONAL ARTS EDUCATION

Ballet Bus is MCB's landmark long-term scholarship program serving as a national model for exceptional arts education. Leveling the playing field for children from low-income backgrounds, Ballet Bus eliminates two of the largest barriers to their participation in the arts: the cost of training and the challenges of securing reliable transportation in a city limited by its public transit infrastructure. Created in partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Superintendent Alberto Carvalho, Ballet Bus is a comprehensive, full-scholarship program offering 34 weeks of training at Miami City Ballet School to talented students from Title I schools, where more than 80 percent of children receive free or reduced-price lunch.

The Ballet Bus scholarship program offers a holistic approach to arts education. Ballet Bus provides not only transportation to MCB's state-of-the-art studios and full scholarship support, but also free dance attire, healthy snacks, homework assistance, and mentoring for up to 10 years of support for each child who progresses

MCB's innovative scholarship program is "a great equalizer. ...Through Ballet Bus, students will be immersed in the professional standards of performing arts as they continue to develop skills that are fundamentally important to their success in the classroom and beyond."

Alberto Carvalho, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools

in the program, all the way through high school graduation. Launched in 2015, Ballet Bus has grown each year since its inception, serving 17 students in Year 1; 29 in Year 2 (with 15 returning from the pilot year); and 40 in Year 3. Also in Year 3, all children in the program were invited to participate on full scholarship in MCB School's demanding five-week Summer Intensive Program.

In the 2017/18 school year, 12 Ballet Bus students auditioned and were selected to perform in *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® alongside MCB's professional Company dancers. These talented children shared their growing talents with more than 30,000 audience members in 19 performances offered throughout South Florida. In addition, for MCB's Jerome Robbins Centennial Celebration in Program Two in 2018, nine Ballet Bus students performed in 10 performances of *Circus Polka* for more than 15,000 audience members.

All Ballet Bus students develop poise, confidence, discipline, artistic expression, and teamwork, showcased in year-end School performances for families and peers. These experiences in the classroom and on the stage give students exposure to wide-ranging career possibilities in the performing arts, from costume designers and lighting technicians to orchestra musicians, box office managers and arts administrators. No other art form so fully encompasses these varied job opportunities. Ballet Bus infuses students with the transformative power of classical ballet, so even those who might not eventually become professional dancers will be forever changed, possibly working in the performing arts, as many of MCB's administrative and artistic staff have done.

Below: Children in the Ballet Bus program receive homework help and mentoring in addition to free bus transportation, full scholarships at Miami City Ballet School, and free healthy snacks and dance attire. Photos © Alexander Iziliaev and Brenda Krebs.

Right: Kiara McDonald Watson has progressed rapidly through MCB's Ballet Bus scholarship program. In December, she performed with the Company's professional dancers in *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*®, where she got a behind-the-scenes perspective on haute couture when world-renowned designers Isabel and Ruben Toledo created new costumes and sets for the beloved MCB production.



"With the Ballet Bus, it's awesome. She gets on the bus, she's doing her homework, and by the time she gets home, her homework is done. And she is meeting a whole new set of people. It was really important for me that my daughter is exposed to the arts. ... I've always told her, 'you want to learn from people who are better than you. If you are interested in something, hang out with the people who are better than you because it's going to rub off on you.' And that is what has happened with her, within a year's time. It's amazing. ... It's just a great environment for my daughter to be in, and there is not a day that goes by that I don't talk about it."

Stan McDonald, father of Ballet Bus Student Kiara McDonald Watson



MCB's many community engagement initiatives include, from left below, the Palm Beach Summer Dance Camp interactive Ballet For Young People performances that bring public schoolchildren by the busload to the theater where they receive beautiful study guide posters, and Touch Tours for those with visual impairments.



SHARE THE DANCE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

At the heart of everything Miami City Ballet does is our deeply-held belief in classical ballet's power to uplift our souls and unite our region's diverse tapestry of communities through the transformative beauty of our multifaceted art form. To ensure that everyone in the region has access to great art, MCB's Share the Dance: Community Outreach and Educational Programs are as varied as the audiences we serve. Each year we touch the lives of nearly 19,000 youth, seniors, and other traditionally underserved people through a growing array of Share the Dance initiatives.

BALLET BUS

Ballet Bus is MCB's one-of-a-kind scholarship program. To learn more about how Ballet Bus has quickly become a national model for exceptional arts education, see Pages 30-31.

EXPLORE DANCE

Explore Dance brings MCB School's outstanding faculty into local classrooms to teach ballet to 1st and 2nd graders in Miami-Dade County Title 1 Public Schools, where more than 80 percent of children receive free or reduced-price lunches. Students take weekly dance classes, at no cost to their schools, then showcase their talents in a year-end performance for their parents and peers. They are also invited to audition for Ballet Bus scholarships.

BEHIND THE BALLET

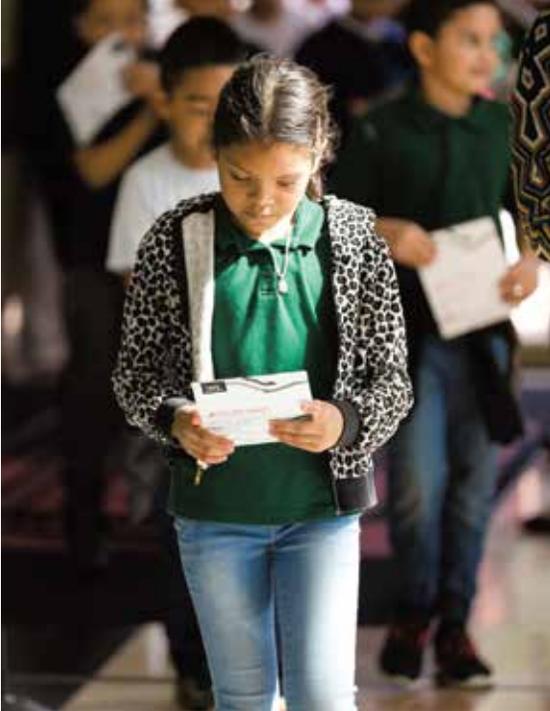
Behind the Ballet pre-performance talks introduce audiences to a wide range of topics with insights from dancers, choreographers, musicians, conductors, and MCB Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez.

OPEN BARRE

Open Barre performances in the intimate 200-seat theater at MCB's state-of-the-art studios in Miami Beach provide a sneak peek into upcoming productions with Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez discussing the creative process and artistic collaborations that go into developing new works for Miami City Ballet.

PALM BEACH SUMMER DANCE CAMP

Palm Beach Summer Dance Camp offers free classes to Title 1 public schoolchildren in underserved communities in the Palm Beaches. Launched in 2017 as a two-week program, the Camp was such a success that it was expanded to three weeks in 2018, with classes taught by renowned faculty from Miami City Ballet School.



MCB'S COMPLIMENTARY TICKET PROGRAM

MCB's Complimentary Ticket Program gives more than 6,100 free tickets to nonprofit organizations in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties so that underserved audiences can attend the MCB's regular season programming. Through this program, Miami City Ballet has distributed more than 70,000 tickets to community agencies over the past six seasons at a total value of more than \$1 million. Next year, MCB will add two more free performances at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts: *The Nutcracker* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

BALLET FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Ballet For Young People brings free performances to more than 7,100 school children in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. Fleets of school

buses bring students to theaters in their school districts where they participate in an interactive educational experience, learning ballet steps and theater etiquette from advanced students in Miami City Ballet School's Pre-Professional Division. For many children, this is their first exposure to dance in a theater setting. They leave the event with a colorful educational guide that opens out to a beautiful poster for displaying at home or in their classrooms. A sensory-friendly performance accommodates children with autism spectrum disorders.

TOUCH TOURS

Touch Tours are tailored to patrons with visual impairments, giving participants a tactile, discussion-guided exploration of costumes, props, and sets before select performances, with special earphones providing a live narration of the performance.

681 People attending Open Barre lectures

1,002 Broward County students participating in MCB's SEAS (Student Enrichment Through the Arts)

6,225 Children learning about dance through Ballet For Young People

8,267 Patrons benefiting from Behind the Ballet pre-performance talks

20,248 Community members reached through Share the Dance initiatives

MIAMI CITY BALLET, INC. STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

APRIL 30, 2018 AND 2017

Assets

Current Assets	2018	2017
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,077,627	\$ 852,652
Pledges, Grants, and Other Receivables	2,779,027	3,325,258
Prepaid Expenses	64,821	66,738
Other	335,647	341,947
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 4,257,122	\$ 4,586,595
Non-Current Assets		
Restricted Cash	\$ 20,013	\$ 302,871
Investments	1,485,922	1,155,087
Pledges Receivable	1,451,758	1,337,499
Contribution Receivable from Remainder Trusts	169,513	607,394
Property and Equipment	2,697,535	1,712,103
Other	365,879	458,486
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 6,190,620	\$ 5,573,440
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 10,447,742	\$ 10,160,035

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	2018	2017
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 1,159,881	\$ 1,126,112
Deferred Revenue	2,500,010	2,226,951
Notes Payable	1,175,000	375,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 4,834,891	\$ 3,728,063
Non-Current Liabilities		
Notes Payable	\$ 750,000	\$ 1,121,418
Lease Liability	119,041	125,368
Accrued Expenses	71,079	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 940,120	\$ 1,246,786
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 5,775,011	\$ 4,974,849
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ (385,391)	\$ (1,383,127)
Temporarily Restricted	3,263,896	4,774,087
Permanently Restricted	1,794,226	1,794,226
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 4,672,731	\$ 5,185,186
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 10,447,742	\$ 10,160,035



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEARS ENDED

APRIL 30, 2018 AND 2017

Unrestricted Net Assets

Revenues	2018	2017
Performance Revenues	\$ 5,878,558	\$ 5,479,869
Contributed Income		
Contributed Income	\$ 7,609,958	\$ 6,309,896
Major Events	1,023,152	1,166,521
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	3,296,299	1,294,560
TOTAL CONTRIBUTED INCOME	\$ 11,929,409	\$ 8,770,977
Less: Major Event Expense	(503,400)	(326,778)
NET CONTRIBUTED INCOME	\$ 11,426,009	\$ 8,444,199
Other Revenues		
Dance School	\$ 1,821,387	\$ 2,318,413
Investment Income	115,119	99,616
Other	99,683	204,873
Contributed Services and Materials	253,688	185,174
TOTAL OTHER REVENUES	\$ 2,289,877	\$ 2,808,076
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 19,594,444	\$ 16,732,144

Expenses

Program Services	2018	2017
Ballet Production	\$ 11,402,444	\$ 9,586,390
Dance School	1,946,402	2,368,630
Contributed Services and Materials	61,234	103,149
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 13,410,080	\$ 12,058,169
Supporting Services		
Marketing	\$ 2,162,020	\$ 2,524,184
General and Administrative	1,421,527	1,132,203
Development	1,410,627	1,071,451
Contributed Services and Materials	192,454	82,025
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$ 5,186,628	\$ 4,809,863
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 18,596,708	\$ 16,868,032
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$ 997,736	\$ (135,888)
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets		
Special Events	\$ 52,452	\$ 180,500
Contributed Income	1,807,445	3,160,953
Change in Present Value Discount	(86,508)	11,130
Change in Value of Remainder Trusts	12,719	14,467
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(3,296,299)	(1,294,560)
CHANGE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	\$ (1,510,191)	\$ 2,072,490
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ (512,455)	\$ 1,936,602
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 5,185,186	\$ 3,248,584
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 4,672,731	\$ 5,185,186

JEWELS SOCIETY

We acknowledge the incredible generosity of friends who have made cumulative gifts of \$100,000 or more during Miami City Ballet's 32-year history. You are our "Jewels" — and invaluable to our success! †

PRICELESS JEWELS \$5,000,000 and above

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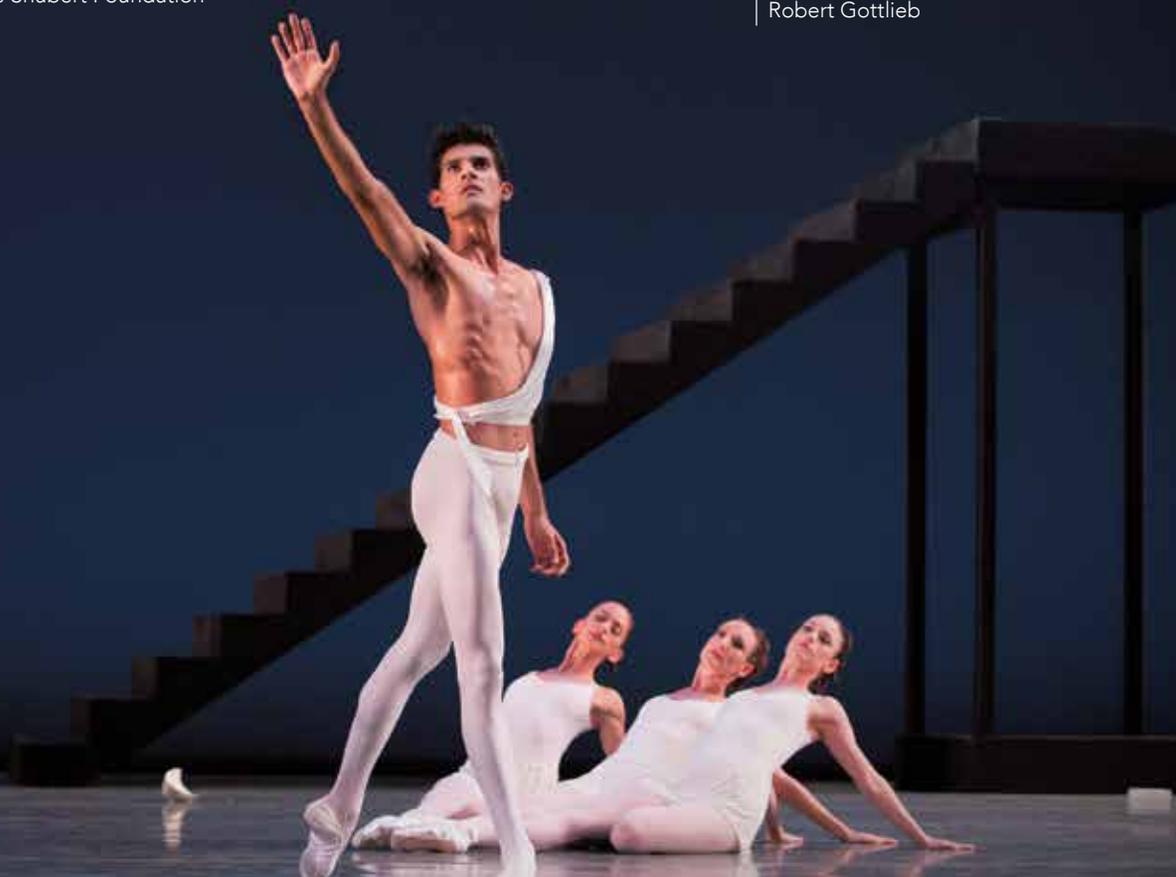
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MCB Dancer Renan Cerdeiro in the title role in *Apollo*. Choreography by George Balanchine © The George Balanchine Trust. Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.

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On December 21, 2017, more than 1,200 children from Miami-Dade County Public Schools received an early holiday gift when they saw a free performance of MCB's new production of *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*[®], with brilliant costumes and sets by Isabel and Ruben Toledo and video projections by Wendall K. Harrington. For many children that day at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, this was their first introduction to a live classical ballet in a state-of-the-art theater. Each child left with an informative education guide that opened into a beautiful full-color poster for displaying at home or in the classroom. Miami City Ballet thanks the following members of its Corporate Council for their generous support of this transformative performance:

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- 3: Members of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs witnessed firsthand how MCB is building the next generation of performing arts lovers through free performances for schoolchildren.
- 4: The schoolchildren's enthusiasm was contagious for Jeff Davis, the Development Committee Chairman on MCB's Board of Directors.

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MCB's Ballet Bus is a national model for exceptional performing arts education that provides talented children from underserved Title 1 Public Schools in Miami-Dade County with free bus transportation, full-tuition scholarships at Miami City Ballet School, free dance attire, healthy snacks, homework assistance, mentoring, and more for up to 10 years per child through high school graduation. Photo © Alexander Iziliaev.



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