

DANCECleveland Would Like to Thank the
Following 2026-2027 Season Sponsors



2937 WEST 25TH STREET, SUITE B-23, CLEVELAND, OH 44113



JULY 25, 2026

ALLEN THEATRE • PLAYHOUSE SQUARE



Welcome!

DANCECleveland, one of the oldest dance presenting organizations in the U.S., is thrilled to present the 2026 Northeast Ohio Student Showcase at the remarkable Playhouse Square. Our founder, Lillian Weisberg passed away earlier this year at the age of 106, and we honor her with our 70th Anniversary Season. She was a woman who believed in the power of movement and dance education throughout her entire life and never stopped moving. We continue to believe in the importance of giving young dancers in northeast Ohio opportunities to learn from visiting artists, perform alongside each other and grow in their art form.

Northeast Ohio is truly lucky to have such a wonderful array of dedicated dance studio owners, teachers, student groups, afterschool programs and performing arts schools embodying a wide variety of dance genres. These special places for movement are filled with eager students who show up each week with their talents, supported by amazing parents and families who encourage their young movers to pursue the art form of dance. We are thankful that today we will get to see performances by fourteen different schools from across our community and that we will experience their love of dance together.

As the second largest performing arts district in the country, second only to New York City, Playhouse Square is a gem of a theatre district. We hope the students participating in the showcase today will cherish their experience performing onstage at Playhouse Square and meeting fellow students throughout the day in the community classes. Whether the students performing today go on to become professional dancers, arts advocates, administrators, lighting designers or theatrical technicians, or they decide to pursue a completely different path, becoming our nurses, teachers and more, the art form of dance teaches our young people many valuable skills that will be carried on throughout their lives. The confidence, determination, perseverance, organization, spatial awareness, and spirit of collaboration will be part of who they are. No matter what path they choose to pursue, they will always be dancers at heart. Thank you for sharing your students with us today.

Enjoy the performance!

Sarah Sumbrum
Artistic Director
DANCECleveland

Theresa Remick
Executive Director
DANCECleveland

Fire Burning

DANCERS

Maci Ackerman, Jenna Bing,
Kaylynn Carpenter, Abriell Dowdy,
Bethany Feller, Madi Gansel, Maisyn
Judy, Adrienne Kail, Eric Lenzy,
Dahlia Maier, CJ McAfee, Izzie
Mellon, Baylee Moore, Madyson
Moore, Katie Rizzo, Layna Sanor,
Mila Welling, Makenzie Wheeler

CHOREOGRAPHER

Hannah McCallister

MUSIC

"Fire Burning" by Sean Kingston

Revival Dance Complex fosters a love for dance through a supportive, high-energy environment, blending passion, creativity, and professionalism to inspire growth and confidence in every dancer.

Gesture 7

DANCERS

Maggie Dunstan, Sadie Greene,
Christina Langer, Vanessa Langer,
Jillian Salzer, Mina Turcinov

CHOREOGRAPHER

Ahna Bonnette

MUSIC

"Gesture 7" by Valgeir Sigurosson &
Liam Byrne

The Dance Centre, founded in 1989 in Rocky River, Ohio, the mission is to create a space that emphasizes high quality dance instruction while also encouraging giving back to the community, leadership skills, and wellness education. This performance ensemble, Core Creative, focuses on the principles of collaborative creation, innovation, and improvisation.

Malia O'tea & Logo Te Pate

DANCERS

Isla Showalter, Lilu Heredia, Lena Heredia, Luna Heredia, Kaia Rosado, Gianna Garcia, Alana Garcia

CHOREOGRAPHER

Malia Tafua and Audrey Godoy

MUSIC

"Hura Tahiti" by Malia Tafua and "Logo Te Pate by Te Vaka" (combination Tahitian O'tea and Aparima)

Pacific Paradise Entertainment along with their hula school, Halau Ka Pua Mae'ole Kuikanani, is a Polynesian entertainment and performing arts group founded in 2019. Under the leadership of Audrey Godoy and co-instructor Jeanie Seagraves, and their mentors, Kumu Kau'i Dalire-Boyd and Malia Erena Tafua, their mission is to nurture the community by sharing the songs, dance, and beauty of Polynesia.

La Fille Mal Gardée pas de deux

DANCERS

Maria Ambrosia, Charlie Sears

CHOREOGRAPHER

Jean Dauberval

MUSIC

Pas de Deux from *La Fille Mal Gardée* by Ferdinand Hérold and John Lanchbery

The exquisite artistry of **Cleveland Ballet** has been capturing the hearts of patrons in Northeast Ohio and beyond since 2015. Recognized for its commitment to innovation and creativity, Cleveland Ballet is dedicated to nurturing the next generation of ballet enthusiasts through the Academy of Cleveland Ballet. Cleveland Ballet is proud to be among the prestigious ranks of Playhouse Square's resident companies.

Stitches

DANCERS

Juliana Fatica, Emma Olesen, Ruby Neff, and Anastasia Wittler

CHOREOGRAPHER

Natalie Orr-Andrea

MUSIC

"Stitches" by Shawn Mendes

Creative Motion Studios CMS Company is the competition and performance team at Creative Motion Studios, a dance studio located in the Akron/Fairlawn area. Creative Motion Studios offers classes for all ages and abilities and strives to provide a welcoming space for anyone who wants to dance. Providing competitive and recreational programs, CMS offers classes in several styles, including ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, and acro – as well as aerial silks. CMS staff are certified by Youth Protection Association for Dance and work hard to maintain the highest standards of age-appropriate dance education while ensuring a fun and positive experience for their families.

Skipping Stones

DANCERS

Baylie Bennett, Sadie Drozd, Taylor Fusek, Lanii Hitchcock, Katarina Rich, Naomi Sanford, Liviana Severino

CHOREOGRAPHER

Amaris LaSalle

MUSIC

Antonio Vivaldi, *Violin Concerto in E-Flat Major, Op.8, No.5, RV 253, "La tempesta di mare:"* I. Presto

Ballet Theatre Ashtabula provides students with a strong technical foundation in ballet via expert instruction and personal attention, in a professional nurturing environment. Welcoming students of all levels as well as providing preprofessional training. Aspiring students participate in YAGP and have been accepted to prestigious programs including Juilliard, the Ailey School, George Mason University, North Carolina School of the Arts, and Wright State among others. Annual performance opportunities for all student levels, including *The Nutcracker* and Spring Dance Concert.

Let It All Go

DANCERS

Claire Michaelis, Alexis Mooney,
Haley Nickoli, Jocelyn Ryan,
Abby Synowka

CHOREOGRAPHER

Alyssa Heater

MUSIC

"Let It All Go" by Birdy and RHODES

NorthStar Dance Center is a vibrant and welcoming hub for dancers of all ages and skill levels in Norwalk, Ohio. Whether you're a complete beginner looking to take your first steps, an intermediate dancer eager to refine your technique, or a seasoned performer with a passion for the stage, NorthStar offers a supportive and inspiring environment to help you achieve your goals. Northstar's philosophy is to teach dance and tumbling in a fun, secure, creative environment while making every child feel like a star!

Pure – Cosmic Energy

DANCERS

Tanvi Malankar, Vanshika
Maineni, Vidya Regadamilli,
Swarika Totapally, Tanvi Yerroju,
Yashwitha Bodepudi, Sanhitha
Pillarisetti, Pranhitha Pillarisetti,
Sriyani Tallapareddy

CHOREOGRAPHER

Sudha Kiranmayi Totapally

MUSIC

Hindola Tillana

Nartanam Dance Academy (NDA) Established by Smt. Sudha Kiranmayi Totapally, Nartanam Dance Academy is a sanctuary for students to discover their passion for the arts, hone their technical talent, and evolve into graceful, creative dancers. NDA imparts rigorous training in two Asian dance forms Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam, emphasizing discipline, posture, rhythm, and balance.

Today, NDA stands as one of the leading Indian classical dance academies in Ohio. For the past three years, Nartanam has also hosted the annual Siddhendra Aradhana Festival, bringing together diverse Gurus and dancers for insightful lecture-demonstrations and workshops.

Sudha Kiranmayi Totapally holds a Master's degree in Performing Arts and Communication from the University of Hyderabad, with a major in Kuchipudi. Her dedication to these art forms has been widely recognized, including the "Empowered Woman Award" from Ideate Technologies and the "Unsung Hero Award" from FICA. Her primary mission remains the promotion and propagation of Indian classical dance through her Nartanam Dance Academy.

Smt. Sudha Kiranmayi Totapally believes that *dance is the language of the soul — a profound medium for expressing the full spectrum of human emotion*

Peace in All Things

DANCERS

Annabelle Boarman, Emma Bowles,
Louisa Dennée, Kennedy Gaines,
Drew Kirkbride, Karissa Piunno,
Ellie Salisbury, Kennedy Wainwright,
Thea Wall

CHOREOGRAPHER

Tammy Treen

MUSIC

"Arrival of the Birds" by The
Cinematic Orchestra

Martell School of Dance is a non-competition, philanthropy-based dance studio located in Akron, OH. Our mission is to provide a fun and professional dance education for children, adolescents, and adults. We are dedicated to sharing the joy of dance and movement through involvement within our local communities with the hope of making a difference throughout Northeast Ohio and beyond.

Liberty Bells

DANCERS

Sydney Evans, Mikayla Gainor,
Giuliana Martin, Aria Risling,
Elizabeth Seddon

CHOREOGRAPHER

Courtney J. Laves-Mearini

MUSIC

"The Liberty Bell March" by
John Philip Sousa

Cleveland City Dance, home to City Ballet of Cleveland Since 1965, Cleveland City Dance has inspired generations of dancers by providing a welcoming place to discover the joy, confidence, friendships, and artistry that dance brings. Students of all ages are encouraged to grow at their own pace in a nurturing environment where quality training, creativity, and a lifelong love of dance are valued. Liberty Bells is both a celebration of dance and our nation's 250 birthday.

In 2009, City Ballet of Cleveland became an important part of that mission, offering dedicated dancers advanced training and meaningful performance opportunities while contributing to Northeast Ohio's vibrant arts community through productions such as *The Uniquely Cleveland Nutcracker*. Auditions for the 2026–2027 season will be held on September 6 and are open to dance students from across the region.

Together, Cleveland City Dance and City Ballet of Cleveland are committed to strengthening arts education throughout Northeast Ohio through exceptional instruction, community engagement, and inspiring live performances. Dancers develop strong technical skills alongside perseverance, creativity, confidence, and self-expression. Since 2013, students have represented the school at the Youth America Grand Prix, and many alumni have continued their training with respected collegiate and professional programs, including as professional dancers with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and New York City Ballet. While these accomplishments are a source of pride, the greatest measure of success is helping every dancer discover their potential and develop a lifelong appreciation for the art of dance.

Something New

DANCERS

Emma Olesen, Ruby Neff, Sophie Klinger, Anna Keppler, Elliana Ilko

CHOREOGRAPHER

Natalie Orr-Andrea

MUSIC

"Something New" by Nikki Yanofsky

Creative Motion Studios CMS Company is the competition and performance team at Creative Motion Studios, a dance studio located in the Akron/Fairlawn area. Creative Motion Studios offers classes for all ages and abilities and strives to provide a welcoming space for anyone who wants to dance. Providing competitive and recreational programs, CMS offers classes in several styles, including ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, and acro – as well as aerial silks. CMS staff are certified by Youth Protection Association for Dance and work hard to maintain the highest standards of age-appropriate dance education while ensuring a fun and positive experience for their families.

Concerto for Seven

DANCERS

Noelle De Monte, Keira Gaebelein, Nina Leon, Maya Makhoul, Rosalie Rubino, Kayleigh Saunders, Gwendolyn Wunderle

CHOREOGRAPHER

Kerry Skuderin

MUSIC

Concerto in C Minor, BWV1060:
3. Allegro, J.S. Bach, performed by by Hilary Hahn, Allan Vogel, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Jeffrey Kahane

The Cleveland Ballet Conservatory is a center for dance education dedicated to providing professional training for students of all ages and levels. CBC offers a welcoming, vibrant, and engaging environment with a nurturing faculty who encourage students to discover their passion for dance. CBC offers a wide variety of classes with a strong emphasis and foundation in classical ballet.

Blue Everywhere

DANCERS

Viana Antongiorgi, Mason Burns, Kalani Castro, Marie Clark, Norian Navarro, Jha'Nasia Robinson, Jadiel Velez

CHOREOGRAPHER

Kenya Woods

MUSIC

"Blue World" by John Coltrane

Bard Dance Company Bard Dance Company is an ensemble based group at Bard High School Early College. The objective behind this company is to cultivate original works that are inspired by their surroundings and express their discoveries in new and dynamic ways. Students study the art of choreography and performance through technique, rehearsal, movement composition, performance, and production.

Turning Tables

DANCERS

Maci Ackerman, Abriell Dowdy, Madi Gansel, Eric Lenzy, Izzie Mellon, Baylee Moore, Madyson Moore, Makenzie Wheeler

CHOREOGRAPHER

Hannah McCallister

MUSIC

"Turning Tables" by Adele

Revival Dance Complex Copy to come

Run

DANCERS

Paige Burns, Sadie Drozd, Taylor Fusek, Zoey Koller, Lanii Hitchcock, Claire McMurtrie, Katarina Rich, Naomi Sanford, Liviana Severino

CHOREOGRAPHER

Amaris LaSalle

MUSIC

Samples from 'Fixated' and "Above Water" by Christophe Filippi

Ballet Theatre Ashtabula provides students with a strong technical foundation in ballet via expert instruction and personal attention, in a professional nurturing environment. Welcoming students of all levels as well as providing preprofessional training. Aspiring students participate in YAGP and have been accepted to prestigious programs including Juilliard, the Ailey School, George Mason University, North Carolina School of the Arts, and Wright State among others. Annual performance opportunities for all student levels, including The Nutcracker and Spring Dance Concert.

Golden

DANCERS

Brinley Adamich, Emma Maiure,
Victoria Miller, Aislyn Toulouse,
Sophia van der Oord, Josie Wall

CHOREOGRAPHER

Heidi Glynias

MUSIC

"Golden" by Huntrix (Ejae, Audrey
Nuna, and Rei Ami)

Tap Artistry Project is a rhythm-driven company founded by Heidi Glynias, whose 40 years of teaching experience fuel its mission. Where Technique meets Tradition, Artistry meets Authenticity, and Passion meets Purpose, we celebrate tap's rich legacy while inspiring dancers to infuse tradition with contemporary artistry.

We are thrilled to share the stage with dancers from across Northeast Ohio!
www.tapartistryproject.com ~ group classes, private lessons, special events

DANCECleveland Staff

Theresa Remick, Executive Director
Sarah Sumbrum, Marketing & Artistic Director
Alison Kamis, Education & Engagement Coordinator
Vanessa Lange, Institutional Giving Manager
Jennifer Lehane, Production Manager
Priscilla Florin, Operations Manager
Dayna MacDonald, Database & Community Events Intern

Thank you to all of our volunteers, Playhouse Square Staff, Teachers, Studio Group Leaders, and families that have helped make today possible!

Your support ensures we can
continue to provide
meaningful dance
performances, artists, events
and experiences to Northeast
Ohio. We need your support
now more than ever!

DONATE TODAY



DANCECleveland.org

TAP ARTISTRY PROJECT



Bright Artistry Bold Rhythm



TECHNIQUE



ARTISTRY



PASSION



tapartistryproject.com



@tapartistryproject on Instagram & Facebook

Cleveland Ballet

The Nutcracker

2026

AUDITIONS

FOR STUDENT ROLES
AGES 5-18

SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

VISIT
CLEVEBALLET.ORG



70TH DANCE CLEVELAND

ANNIVERSARY

In Partnership with Cuyahoga Community College



Career Day for Dancers

Designed for high school aged dance students and their parents to explore topics such as careers on and off the stage, resume and college preparation, branding and social media best practices, careers in concert dance, commercial dance, parent only sessions, career "speed dating" and two masterclasses to fill your whole day with dance!

OCTOBER 24 at Tri-C Metro Campus

Instructors Include:

- Samuel McIntosh
- Erika Rogers
- Grace Whitworth
- Christina Lindhout
- Antonio Brown
- Clover Robinson
- Heidi Glynias
- Anna Cerveny
- Kate Webb Burke
- Sarah Carey
- Janet Schroeder
- Hannah Kristoff
- and more!



Learn more and register:

216-991-9000
www.DANCECleveland.org
akamis@dancecleveland.org



About DANCECleveland:

As one of just a handful of stand-alone, dance-only presenting organizations in the United States, DANCECleveland has a storied, seven-decade-long history of curating distinguished, boundary-pushing seasons of modern and contemporary dance, and bringing nationally and internationally acclaimed professional dance companies to the stages of northeast Ohio. In addition to our presenting series, DANCECleveland provides educational experiences by bringing visiting dance artists into schools, community centers, libraries, public spaces and provides free masterclass opportunities for dancers in our region. Our Read to Learn...Dance to Move Kindergarten and Pre-school program connects literacy to movement in an 8-week course that is taught throughout the Cleveland Metropolitan a School District and Lorain School Districts. Our new initiative, Northeast Ohio Dance Collaborative (NEODC), aims to serve the local dance ecosystem through meetings and gatherings, shared planning and event calendars, provides opportunities to work with visiting artists and more. Learn more at DANCECleveland.org.

OUR MISSION:

DANCECleveland aspires to be a national model for how a presenting organization serves its community, leveraging the world's best modern and contemporary dance to inspire and educate audiences, local dancers, and community members.

Thank you to all of our 2026 Playbill Sponsors.

DANCECleveland has opportunities for Corporations, Businesses and Individuals to Sponsor our upcoming performance series and events.

Inquire to learn more about becoming a performance sponsor by emailing tremick@dancecleveland.org.

70TH DANCE
ANNIVERSARY CLEVELAND

CELEBRATING SEVEN DECADES OF DANCE

In honor of our founder, Lillian Weisberg



Free
Special
Event!

Community Dance Day & the Northeast Ohio Student Showcase!

Saturday, July 25, 2026
Classes: 10 am - 2 pm
Showcase Performance: 3 pm
Across the Playhouse Square District



Free
Outdoor
Event!

Dominic Moore-Dunson: *Black by Nature*

Sat., Sept. 19 & 26, 2026, at 1 pm & 4 pm
Summit County Metro Parks
Cascade Valley Metro Park



SCAN TO
LEARN MORE

Charlotte Ballet

Sat., November 7, 2026
at 7:30 pm
Mimi Ohio Theatre

Petite Mout, photo by Taylor Jones

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

Sat., January 23, 2027
at 7:30 pm
Mimi Ohio Theatre
Co-presented with
Playhouse Square

Sweet Dawn Suite, photo by Michelle Reid

Pilobolus

Sat., February 27, 2027
at 2 pm & 7:30 pm
Mimi Ohio Theatre

Blindness, photo by Aaron Hudson

GALLIM

Sat., April 17, 2027
at 7:30 pm
Mimi Ohio Theatre

GALLIM, photo by Rachel Papp

SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES ON SALE NOW!

DANCECleveland.org • 216-991-9000

Single performances on sale July 1st. Discounts for groups of 10 or more!

