

*Juneau Dance Theatre's Spring Showcase*

# Alice in Wonderland

*A story ballet by Lori Grooters and Serkan Usta*



April 19, 7pm

April 20, 2pm & 7pm

April 21, 2pm

JDHS: Yadaa.at Kalé auditorium



*Sponsored in part by the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council, the City and Borough of Juneau, Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company, SEARHC, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

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# PRODUCTION NOTES

## *Alice in Wonderland*

Choreography by Lori Grooters and Serkan Usta

Music by various composers: Carl Davis, after Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Leon Jessel, Christian Nottingham, Grigoraş Dinicu

**Artistic Director:** *Zachary Hench*

**Rehearsal Director and Ballet Master:** *Catherine O'Day*

**Producer:** *Bridget Lujan*

**Young Dancer Coordinator and Choreographer:** *Janice Hurley*

**Stage Manager:** *Emily Fergusson*

**Auditorium Manager:** *Bo Anderson*

**House Manager:** *Ruth Banaszak*

**Costumes:** *Lori Grooters, Serkan Usta, the School of Classical Ballet and Dance; Emily Fergusson, Katlyn Fergusson, Bridget Lujan, Robin Marks, Julie Mitchell, Deborah Rakos, Hannah Sofhauser*

**Make-up Design:** *Dawn Jouppi, with Mya Baird, Melissa Patterson*

**Props:** *Lori Grooters, Serkan Usta, and the School of Classical Ballet and Dance; Victor Banaszak, Emily Fergusson, Katlyn Fergusson, Zachary Hench, Jessica Liska, Bridget Lujan, Chris Lujan, Jess Lujan, Ben Patterson*

**Sets:** *Bo Anderson, Victor Banaszak, Zachary Hench, Ben Patterson*

**Backstage Lead:** *Jessica Liska*

**Backstage Dancer Support:** *Romy Barrett, Tara Bay, Ashley Landi, Rachael Lavigne, Julie Mitchell, Onnalee Odom, Ashley Porter, Jocelyn Ramirez, Tracy Woodrow*

**Stage Crew:** *Sydney Bennett, Katie Fergusson, Luke Fergusson, Robin Marks, Aimee McMillan, Dan McMillan*

**Giant Alice Handler:** *Katlyn Fergusson*

**Lighting Design:** *Bo Anderson, Felix Campbell, Emily Fergusson*

**Light Board Operator:** *Bo Anderson*

**Sound Board and Projection Operator:** *Chris Lujan*

**Poster Design:** *Jessica Liska*

**Promotion/Publicity:** *AK Grafix onscreen ads, AK Litho, Katlyn Fergusson, G-Force Productions, Ron Gile Photography, Juneau Arts & Humanities Council, KINY Radio, KTOO, Jessica Liska, Bridget Lujan, Chris Lujan, McDonalds*

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## *Message from the Artistic Director*

Welcome to Juneau Dance Theatre's *Spring Showcase 2024!*

We are so proud of our students and faculty, and what they have accomplished over the course of the year. We're thrilled to celebrate their hard work and growth with you!

Our performance opens with two pieces from our youngest dancers, choreographed by Janice Hurley in the spirit of *Alice in Wonderland*. The perfect prelude to the main event!

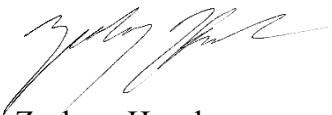
We are incredibly excited to be presenting the full-length ballet, *Alice in Wonderland* for this year's run of spring performances, choreographed by Lori Grooters and Serkan Usta. Ms. Grooters and Mr. Usta are former professional dancers and current Artistic Directors for the School of Classical Ballet & Dance in Des Moines Iowa. With a familiar cast of characters, the choreography challenges our dancers both technically and artistically. Telling a story through movement and expression is no easy task and we applaud our dancers for not only their technical capabilities but also their acting abilities.

We are delighted to present two talented professional guest artists for these performances. Juan Castellanos will perform the role of Knave of Hearts (the prince), and Katie Drozd will dance the role of Princess Alice. Patrons may remember Mr. Castellanos from our 2019 production of *Snow White*. We welcome Ms. Drozd to our stage and welcome back Mr. Castellanos. Both are currently dancing with Alabama Ballet.

A huge thank you to all our staff, faculty, students, families, volunteers, Board of Directors, crew, and guest artists! None of this would be possible without you.

We hope you enjoy the performance and look forward to seeing you at future JDT events.

Thank you for your support,

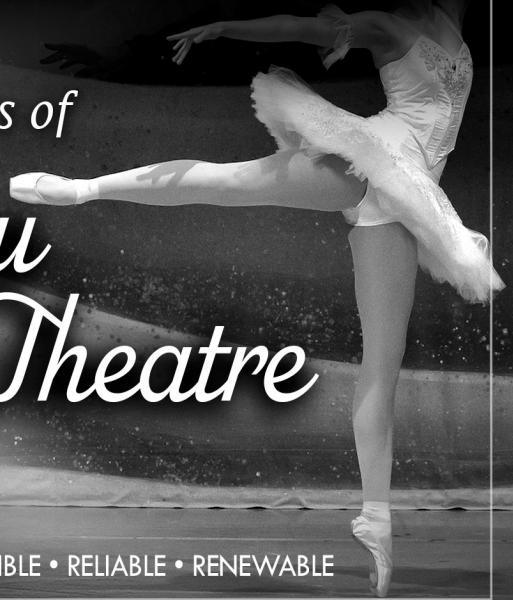


Zachary Hench

JDT Artistic Director

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## *About Juneau Dance Theatre*

Juneau Dance Theatre (JDT) was founded in 1975, by a small group of individuals, committed to dance education. Until then, no formal dance training had been available to Juneau residents. JDT, then known as Juneau Dance Unlimited, hosted inspiring workshops and provided professional dance instruction.

In 1977, the Juneau Dance Festival was created, bringing guest artists to Juneau to teach a month of technique and repertory classes to children and adults. In 1990, visual arts classes were added and the next year, music and theatre classes were also offered. Over the next several decades, this program evolved into the popular and beloved multi-disciplinary, *Juneau Fine Arts Camp*, offered each June, to K-6 graders.

JDT changed its focus in 1992, moving towards the establishment of a permanent, non-profit dance school taught by local instructors. JDT began offering year-round dance training, and the studio grew in size and scope, eventually moving from a downtown location at the Scottish Rite Temple, to its current location in the valley above Alaska Litho.

In 2021 the organization took a step toward realizing expansion goals envisioned by its leadership, by leasing a second studio space, hiring additional instructional faculty, and creating four distinct divisions of the school. JDT combined resources with the former Fusion Dance Company, to establish a Dance Team Division, Recreational Division, and Adult Division, complementing its existing Professional Ballet Division. Today, JDT serves approximately 160 students with classes in all levels of ballet, a full progression of young dancer classes, multiple dance teams, and adult and recreational classes. In addition to its own performance season, JDT proudly collaborates with other community arts organizations and artists, including Orpheus Project, Theater Alaska, the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council, Juneau Symphony, and Juneau Lyric Opera.

### *Our Mission*

JDT's mission is to nurture artistry, confidence, discipline, and mental and physical strength through quality dance training and performance.

Through our outreach programs, we strive to bring dance into the community, encouraging education and appreciation. Each year JDT provides elementary school students the opportunity to attend free performances. Our robust scholarship program for our year-round classes, workshops, and summer programs, ensures all children have the opportunity to participate, regardless of their ability to pay.



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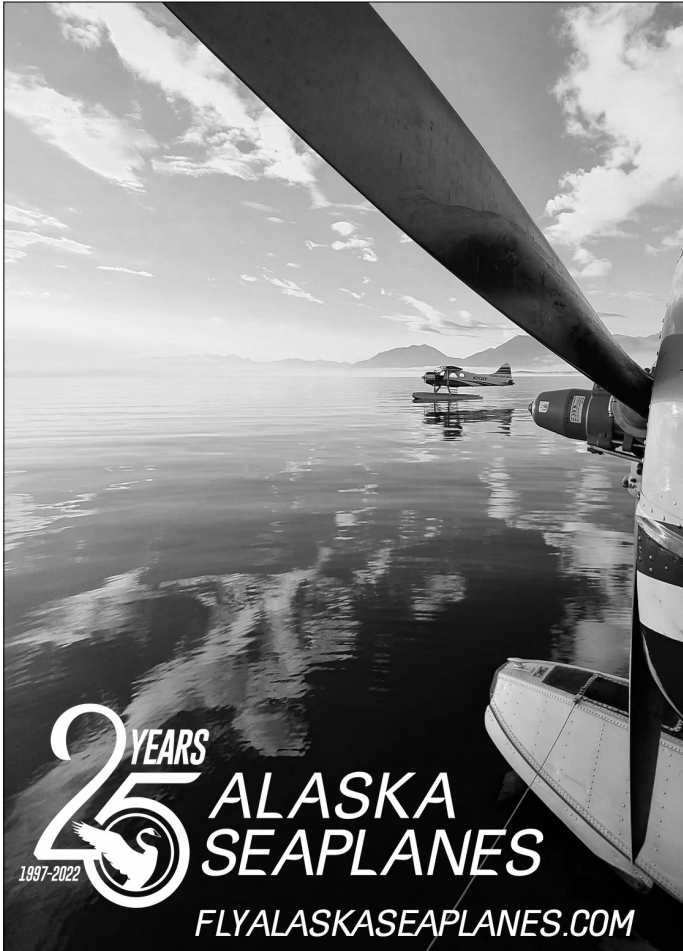
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Kate Vulstek, *Member at Large*



### ***Dates to Know!***

- June 3-28:  
Juneau Fine Arts Camp at Harborview Elementary
- July 15-20:  
Young Dancer Program
- July 21-Aug. 3:  
Summer Intensive
- July 13: JDT Annual Picnic
- Aug. 3:  
Summer Dance Concert

# PROGRAM

## *Prelude*

### *I'm Late (from Alice in Wonderland)*

Composer: Danny Elfman

Arranged and conducted by: Jonathan Tunick

Singer: Barbara Hendricks

Choreography: Janice Hurley

Assistants: Sabine Auger and Ginger Patterson

Performed by: Adaline Kot, Olivia Miller, Eleanor Ott, Amelia Stapp

### *Tea for Two*

Composers: Vincent Youman and Irving Caesar

Arranged and Conducted by: Annuzio Paolo Mantovani

Choreography: Janice Hurley

Assistants: Lyra Culbreth and Elizabeth Eriksen

Performed by: Lucia Atienza, Grace Bauer, Elsie May Carrillo, Audriana Fagerstrom, Noa Gamulo, Daryl Lagundino, Isla Liska, Yara Lumba, Clara Malueg, Melody Nolan, Magnolia Norton, Josephine Pantiskas, Eliana Porter

<< *Pause* >>

## *Alice in Wonderland*

### *Act 1 - In Order of Appearance*

Little Alice - Allison Gornik

Alice's Sister - Elizabeth Eriksen

White Rabbit - Kensey Jenkins

Rabbits - Scotlyn Beck, Zoe Bliss, Kyla Harralston, Sevyn Jefferys, Juliette

McMillan, Gretta Stearns, Taylor Steele, Madeline Tingey, Radar Araujo

Cheshire Cat - Georgia Post

Doors - Sammara Apango, Radar Araujo, Stella Asplund, Autumn Banaszak,

Abigail Gornik, Khloe Guevarra, Tori Jacobson, Calli Peterson

Tiny Alice - Sachiko Marks

Giant Alice - Catherine Lujan

# PROGRAM

Fish - Andie Reid  
Frog Footman - Brigitte Ouellette  
Jellyfish - Alisha Falberg, Hannah Sofhauser  
Waves - Radar Araujo, Scotlyn Beck, Zoe Bliss, KYlia Harralston, Sevyn Jefferys,  
Juliette McMillan, Gretta Stearns, Taylor Steele  
Owl - Lyra Culbreth  
Eaglet - Shaina Fernandez  
Lory (Parrot) - Ginger Peterson  
Dodo Bird - Baila Ouellette  
Duck - Sabine Auger  
Mouse - Abigail Gornik  
Caterpillar - Abigail Portiles  
Caterpillar Legs - Naomi Coppin, Ayla Henry, Averie Heumann-Wythe, Aamie  
Jagodensky, Isabelle Porter, Emma Rowan, Leighton Walling  
Lead Flower - Elizabeth Eriksen  
Flower Soloists - Sabine Auger, Shaina Fernandez  
Flowers - Sammara Apango, Stella Asplund, Autumn Banaszak, Abigail Gornik,  
Khloe Guevarra, Dani Hayes, Tori Jacobson, Ginger Patterson, Calli  
Peterson  
Young Flowers - Lucena Delcastillo, Lylah Habeger, Kynley Jackson, Sadie  
Lavigne, Adelaide Ljungberg, Jaila Ramirez, Evelyn Woodrow  
Dragonflies - Ari Hoke, LeaDonna Castillo, Minuet Cryderman, Emily  
Feliciano-Soto  
Lady Bugs - Devlin Dalman, Sienna Mueca, Ellenora Odom  
Butterflies - Neeka Liska, Gabriela Vallejo, Mayumi Steinke  
Frog - Ari Bay  
Bumble Bees - Elsa Barker, Sophie Barker, Arielle Galorport, Claire Mitchell  
Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum - Lyra Culbreth, Baila Ouellette  
The Cook - Danielle Cadiante  
Chefs - Debbie Driscoll, Hannah Sofhauser  
The Duchess - Abigail Gornik  
Baby Pig - Sachiko Marks  
The Dormouse - Ginger Patterson  
March Hare - Lyra Culbreth  
Mad Hatter - Sabine Auger

# PROGRAM

<<Intermission>>

## **Act 2 - In Order of Appearance**

White Rabbit - Kensey Jenkins

Little Alice - Allison Gornik

Cards of Hearts - Sammara Apango, Radar Araujo, Khloe Guevarra,  
Gretta Stearns

Cards of Spades - Stella Aslund, Autumn Banaszak, Calli Peterson, Sydney Truitt

Knave of Hearts (Prince) - Juan Castellanos

Flamingos - Dani Hayes, Tori Jacobson, Andie Reid

Jester - Baila Ouellette

King - Shaina Fernandez

Queen of Hearts - Abigail Portiles

Duchess - Abigail Gornik

Cheshire Cat - Georgia Post

Frog Footman - Brigitte Ouellette

Princess Alice - Katie Drozd

Alice's Sister - Elizabeth Eriksen



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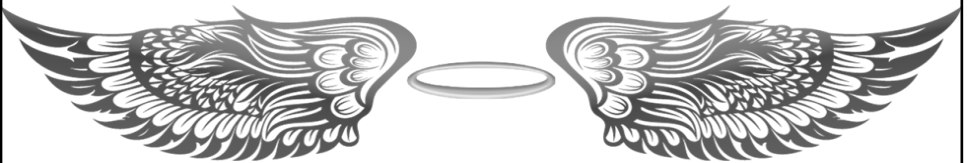
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# SPECIAL THANKS

Juneau Dance Theatre would like to thank our dancers, families, and friends who gave their time and talents to make our *Spring Showcase* possible! These individuals and affiliates are deserving of that extra-special shout out! JDT is blessed and fortunate to have such an amazing team!

*Alice* truly is an ensemble production. Our cast would not be complete without the talents of our adult volunteer performers - several of whom are JDT board members or faculty - who have given their time and energy, to help us create this beautiful production. Thank you to Danielle Cadiente, Debbie Driscoll, Alisha Falberg, Catherine Lujan, Hannah Sofhauser, and Sydney Truitt.

Thank you to Jessica Liska for coordinating and leading our backstage volunteers, and for our amazing poster designs. Thank you to Emily Fergusson, for stage managing, and to the crew, for ensuring that our production runs smoothly, and our dancers have lights, sounds and sets! Speaking of sets - Ben Patterson and Victor Banaszak generously lent their skills and talents, to create our set pieces and props.

Thank you, to our tireless “Tea Party” committee chairs, Alexis Howard (Alpenglow Cakes), and Andrea Mueca. Before the dishes were even dry from hosting the delightful *Land of Sweets Tea and Tour at The Nutcracker*, these two amazing humans jumped at the chance to create a new, imaginative and whimsical experience for our VIP guests at the “Mad Hatter Tea Party”. They give a million percent, one-hundred percent of the time. Then they give some more. Good luck keeping up with this dynamic duo!

Thank you to our rehearsal photographer, Ron Gile, who has captured the beauty of our dancers; and to Gabe Strong, with G-Force Productions, for recording our performance.

We would like to thank our Board of Directors, as always, for their support; especially President Dawn Jouppi, who you can find behind the scenes as the make-up and hair designer for *Alice*.

Thank you to all of JDT’s dedicated faculty, for their effort and commitment to providing high quality training and performance opportunities to our students: Christa Baxter, Viktor Bell, Danielle Cadiente, Debbie Driscoll, Alisha Falberg, Logan Holst, Janice Hurley, Catherine O’Day, Jamie Shanley, and Sydney Truitt.

Thank you to Community Schools (Bo Anderson and Melissa Patterson), The Juneau Arts and Humanities Council, and the businesses advertising in this program, who believe in JDT and our mission; especially our Principal Season Sponsors: Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company and SEARHC; and Corps de Ballet Season Sponsors: Alaska Seaplanes, Malia Hayward State Farm Insurance, and Juneau Emergency Medical Associates.

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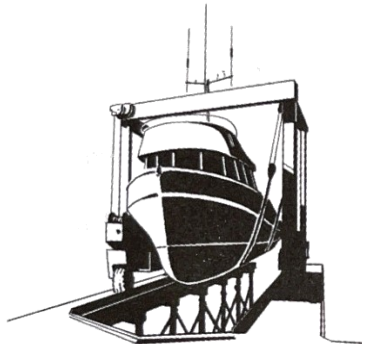
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*Devlin,  
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of the dancer you have  
become! Love you more  
than the universe!  
-Mom*



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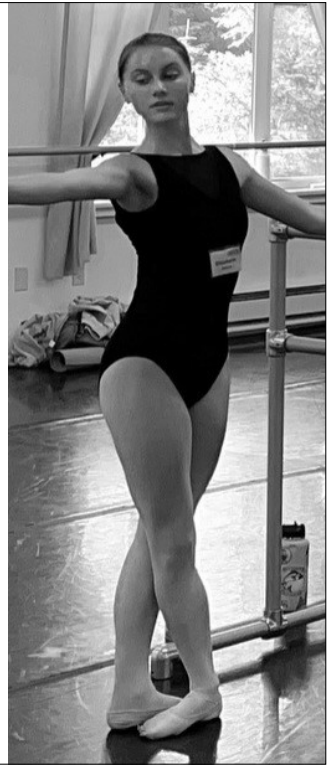
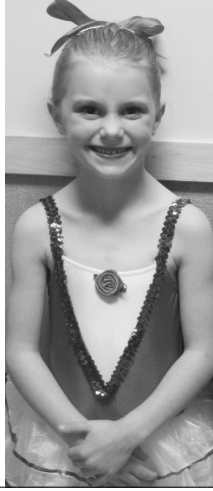
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*Elizabeth,  
Your dedication and passion for ballet inspires us all. As  
you take this final bow, know that your hard work and  
love for dance have touched all our hearts.  
Thank you for sharing the beauty of ballet with us.  
May you continue to dance through life with grace,  
passion, and an uncontainable spirit.  
With Great Love,  
Grandpa & Grandma Rakos, Mom, Luke, Nick*



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# BIOGRAPHIES



## **ZACHARY HENCH** **Artistic Director**

Originally from Loysville, Pennsylvania, Mr. Hench began his training at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet where he studied for eight years. He attended summer intensives at the School of American Ballet in New York and completed his pre-professional education at the Kirov Academy of Ballet in Washington D.C. Mr. Hench danced as a principal with Boston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, and Pennsylvania Ballet. Over the course of his 22 year career, he performed leading roles in ballets such as *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, *Le Corsaire*, *La Sylphide*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cinderella*, and *La Fille mal gardée*. His extensive neoclassical and contemporary repertoire included works by George Balanchine, William Forsythe, and Nacho Duato, among many others. Mr. Hench originated roles in ballets by choreographers such as Christopher Wheeldon, Twyla Tharp, and Helgi Tomasson, and performed throughout the world as a guest artist. He has coached students for performances and competitions, and has been invited to teach master classes and summer intensives across the country.

Mr. Hench served as a union delegate while dancing at Pennsylvania Ballet, facilitating communication between dancers and management and representing his colleagues during contract negotiations. The company then invited Mr. Hench to join the artistic staff as Ballet Master, and he successfully led the organization through a critical period of internal transitions. Mr. Hench now leads JDT as Artistic Director, and can be credited for much of the organization's growth since 2015, including establishing a boys' scholarship program, in an attempt to recruit and retain more male dancers wishing to study ballet. He regularly invites world renown guest artists and faculty, to travel to Juneau to work with, and alongside JDT's students.

He is married to Julie Diana, Executive Director of American Repertory Ballet, and the Princeton Ballet School, with whom he has two children.

# BIOGRAPHIES

## **BRIDGET LUJAN** **Executive Director**

Bridget Lujan earned a BFA in Theatre from Niagara University, in New York, and has a deep connection to the arts in Juneau which includes performing with Perseverance Theatre, Juneau Lyric Opera, Juneau Douglas Little Theatre (now known as Juneau Ghostlight Theatre). While her responsibilities at JDT primarily fall under her role as Executive Director, she loves teaching tap - especially to children - and has been thrilled



to be back in the studio for the last year as an instructor. Bridget has choreographed musical theatre productions with Theater at Latitude 58, the JDHS Drama Department, and other schools and arts groups.

Bridget has led the organization alongside Artistic Director, Zachary Hench, since 2018, and is responsible for daily operations, including management of assets, finance, public relations, administrative staffing, and event production.

Prior to accepting the Executive Director position, Bridget served as JDT's board treasurer from 2013-2017, and many different volunteer prior to that, including costuming (which she still enjoys, but only because of the amazing volunteers and friends who lighten the load!), and fund development efforts. "Way back when", she began her journey as an instructor with the organization (then Juneau Dance Unlimited), upon arriving in Juneau in 1995.

Outside of JDT, Bridget is a licensed CPA who specializes in tax planning and preparation, and business consulting. Throughout her career she has gained expertise in accounting and compliance in the private and non-profit sectors. In 2018, Bridget started her own accounting firm, Bridget Lujan, CPA (formerly R. Daniel MacLeod, CPA). She is a past trustee and treasurer for the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council and a long-time member and past president of the Rotary Club of Juneau; and was active as a parent volunteer with Boy Scouts, Alaska Youth Choir, Southeast Alaska Gymnastics Academy and of course, JDT, for many years. Bridget is married to Jess Lujan (who also happens to adore volunteering for JDT, as do their adult children, and extended family members, etc.)

# BIOGRAPHIES



## **CATHERINE O'DAY** **Principal Teacher and Ballet Master**

Catherine is JDT's Principal Teacher and Ballet Master. Prior to coming to Juneau in 2017, Catherine served as associate artistic director of Central Texas Youth Ballet and was on the teaching faculty for Eglevsky Ballet in New York, under the direction of Laszlo Berdo. Catherine trained with Leslie Hench at Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, in addition to attending programs at Virginia School of the Arts and University of

North Carolina School of the Arts. She teaches Level 2 through Level 6, and all levels of pointe and variations. Catherine regularly choreographs original pieces for our Spring Showcases. She is responsible for rehearsing all ballet choreography for JDT performances, and works closely with the Artistic Director on curriculum and programming needs. As JDT's Outreach Coordinator, Catherine develops interactive and educational materials, and plans for school classroom visits. School visits have included those conducted as part of an arts excursion for sixth-graders, in partnership with Any Given Child.

## **JANICE HURLEY** **JDT Faculty, Young Dancers, Contemporary**

Janice Hurley received her teaching credentials from the University of Minnesota and her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from Jacksonville University in Florida. She has taught in both academic and performing arts venues. She has performed, choreographed, and directed in a variety of dance art styles. A Juneau resident since the mid-nineties, Janice has participated in projects with Northern Lights Junior Theatre, Theater at Latitude 58, Juneau Lyric Opera, Perseverance Theatre, and the Juneau School District. She was the Assistant Director of Gold Creek Child Development Center from 2001-2004. She was the Artistic Director of Juneau Dance Theatre from 2004 through June of 2011. Janice continues to teach the children's dance program for JRC-The Alaska Club and work with various educational and performing groups in Juneau. In May, 2015, Janice received her Master of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Development in the Performing Arts from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



# BIOGRAPHIES

## **JUAN CASTELLANOS** Guest Artist

Juan Rafael Castellanos is very excited to be returning as a guest artist for Juneau Dance Theater's (JDT) production of "Alice in Wonderland"! Juan's JDT debut was in 2019 as the role of Prince Charming in Laszlo Berdo's "Snow White". Juan's dance training began in Dublin, Ireland, where he was born and continued in the U.S. at Metropolitan Ballet Academy in Jenkintown, PA under the Direction of Lisa Collins Vidnovic. As a member of their nationally acclaimed Boys' scholarship Program, Juan's 11 years of study there included access to many world-class teachers and the opportunity to perform a variety of principal roles in both classical ballets and contemporary. After graduation in 2019, Juan then joined the Charlotte Ballet Pre-Professional program under the Direction of Laszlo Berdo, Kati Mayo and Patricia McBride. Over the span of four years with Charlotte Ballet, Juan was promoted to Charlotte Ballet II under the direction of Hope Muir and Christopher Stuart, and eventually received a promotion to the first company under Alejandro Cerrudo. With Charlotte Ballet he had the opportunity to perform pieces from innovative choreographers, the likes of Christopher Stuart, Helen Pickett, Jennifer Archibald, George Balanchine and Matthew Hart. Juan currently is in his first season as a company dancer with the Alabama Ballet under the direction of Christopher Stuart. Since moving to Alabama Juan has danced many famous works and ballets from "Giselle" to Twyla Tharp's "Sinatra Songs".



## **KATIE DROZD** Guest Artist

Katie Drozd's passion for dance was sparked at a young age when she began ballet classes at a local dance studio in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She continued her training at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) for both their high school and college program. She worked extensively with Susan Jaffe, Jennet Zerbe, Jared Redick, Laura Martin, and Eva Draw before dancing with Alabama Ballet under Christopher Stuart, Tracey Alvey, and Roger VanFleteren. At UNCSA Katie performed



# BIOGRAPHIES

works such as *Don Quixote (Bridesmaid Soloist)*, *Sleeping Beauty (White Cat)*, *Serenade* by George Balanchine, and various roles in Ethan Stiefel's *The Nutcracker*. In 2019 she participated in Prix de Lausanne's Partner School's Choreographic Project dancing in Didy Veldman's world premiere of *Is To Be*.

At Alabama Ballet she originated a role in Alex Swader's contemporary duet *Those who Change Us*, as well as performed Lead Marzipan in *Balanchine's Nutcracker*.

In 2024 Katie completed her comprehensive Classical Pilates certification, and currently practices and teaches in Alabama. Her eager curiosity to grow both as an artist and a human propel Katie to keep learning and gaining new experiences in and out of the studio.

## *Juneau Dance Company*

Juneau Dance Company is comprised of Level 6 dancers at Juneau Dance Theatre (JDT). These advanced students earn positions as Company members because of their dedication, talent, and tremendous work ethic. They maintain a positive and respectful attitude and consistently set a great example for all other students.

Company members have expanded performance opportunities and more individualized coaching throughout the year. They serve as mentors for younger students, help with outreach efforts in the community, and act as JDT ambassadors outside the studio.



### **Sabine Auger**

Sabine is a 15 year-old student at Juneau Douglas High School: Yadaa.at Kalé. She is inspired by the amazing technique, performance and expressiveness of professional ballet dancers, such as PNB, that draw her into the dance and make her feel a part of the story. Sabine likes all aspects of performing, but really enjoys watching the younger dancers backstage. Seeing their eyes light up when they learn something new, or trying to mimic the older dancers' choreography, is especially gratifying. Something Sabine loves about training at JDT, is the welcoming community, and knowing she is receiving great training. Sabine is dancing the roles of Duck, Flowers demi-soloist, and Mad Hatter, in *Alice in Wonderland*. She would like to thank her parents for making it possible for her to dance at JDT, and Bridget for everything she does for all of the dancers and JDT.

# BIOGRAPHIES

## Mya Baird

Mya is a 17 year-old junior at Juneau-Douglas High School: Yadaa.At Kalé. She draws inspiration for her dancing, from professionals and classmates alike. She believes there is always room to grow, and you can learn from anyone. Mya loves the backstage experience at performances; and enjoying the performance and dancing on stage with the people you have spent so much time rehearsing with. Mya appreciates JDT for its supportive, caring community. She has attended several summer intensives at JDT, and hopes to again, this coming summer. Mya thanks the amazing teachers and network of support she has received throughout her dancing career - she couldn't do it without you!



## Aneeyah Bohulano

Aneeyah is a 13 year-old student at Floyd Dryden Middle School. Amazing dancers inspire her to work hard and improve. She wants to be the best dancer she can be, so watching those who are stronger, and more accomplished, motivates her to keep working hard. Aneeyah loves dancing on stage, being able to forget about everyone and everything. Dancing what she feels is her escape from the real world, even if just for two minutes. Aneeyah likes training at JDT because her instructors really push her to get better, especially as she gets older; she appreciates how much they've helped her improve. Aneeyah thanks her parents, family, and friends, for always supporting her, especially through times of struggle and disappointment.

## Lyra Culbreth

Lyra is a 15 year-old ninth-grader, at Juneau-Douglas High School: Yadaa.at Kalé. She is performing the roles of Owl, Tweedle Dum, and the March Hare, in *Alice in Wonderland*. Lyra is inspired by all of the guest teachers and choreographers she has worked with at JDT summer intensives. It is an honor to be able to meet and work so closely with such amazing, professionals in the industry. Lyra's favorite part of the performance experience is being able to dance with her friends on stage, and hearing the audience's enthusiasm after the show. The close and supportive community is her favorite thing about training at JDT. Lyra wishes to thank her family for always supporting her in dance, and for always coming to her shows.



# BIOGRAPHIES

## Elizabeth Eriksen

Elizabeth is an 18 year-old senior with Raven Homeschool. She is dancing the roles of Alice's sister, and Lead Flower, in *Alice in Wonderland*. Elizabeth is inspired by the girls dancing alongside her. Watching them work hard motivates her to do the same. What she likes best about the performance experience, is getting ready back stage with her friends, and the enchanting feeling of standing in the wings before an entrance. Elizabeth has trained at JDT since she was three, and truly appreciates her many years learning and growing up in the studio. She thanks her mom, Nick and Grandpa, for all of the love and encouragement over the years. She also wishes to thank Bob Fagen, for supporting her dancing.



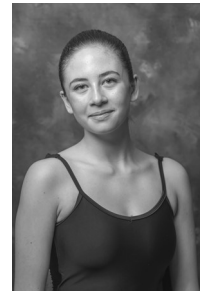
## Shaina Fernandez

Shaina is a 16 year-old tenth-grader at Juneau-Douglas High School: Yadaa.at Kalé. She inspired by the strength and expressiveness of professional ballerina, Marianela Nunez, and hopes to achieve the same level of greatness in her own dancing. Shaina's favorite part of the performance experience is being able to express herself, because her goal as a performer is to make an impact on the audience. She will be dancing the Eaglet, Flower Soloist, and King/Judge, in *Alice in Wonderland*. Something Shaina loves about training at JDT, is the quality training, and knowing all of the faculty really care about the students, and want to help. She wishes to thank her family and friends for their encouragement and support.



## Kensley Jenkins

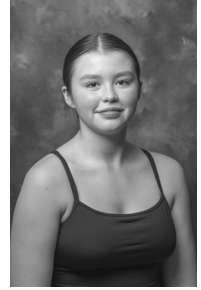
Kensley is a 16 year-old junior, at Juneau-Douglas High School: Yadaa.at Kalé. She is dancing the role of the White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*. Kensley is inspired by Natalia Osipova, because she is one of the greatest ballerinas of her generation. Kensley's favorite aspect of the performance experience is seeing all of the hard work pay off, and spending time back stage with her friends. She loves training at JDT because everyone there is like a big family, having grown up together in the studio, and forming lifelong friendships. Kensley plans to attend JDT's summer intensive, in July. Later this month, she will perform a Vivaldi violin concerto with her teacher, Steve Tada, and members of the Juneau Symphony Orchestra.



# BIOGRAPHIES

## Baila Ouellette

Baila is a 14 year-old student at Floyd Dryden Middle School. She is dancing the roles of Dodo Bird, Tweedle Dee and the Jester, in *Alice in Wonderland*. She is inspired to dance by the artistry and movement she feels; and the way she can express herself without words. Baila's favorite part of the performance experience is the adrenaline rush of dancing on stage, and having fun with her friends. Baila likes training at JDT because she appreciates how much effort the instructors put into helping you get better, and more advanced. Baila is looking forward to traveling to Honolulu, in May, to compete with the dance team.



## Ginger Patterson

Ginger is a 14 year-old student at Juneau Montessori Borealis. She is dancing the roles of the Lory, Flower corps, and the Dormouse. Ginger is inspired watching professional dancers, especially live. Seeing their technique, charisma and emotion, gets her excited about what can be achieved with hard work, dedication, and motivation. Ginger loves the anticipation and atmosphere at performance time. She enjoys being surrounded by supportive friends, encouraging each other, and preparing for the performance together. Ginger is grateful for her training at JDT, and always feels supported by students, teachers and staff. It's like a second home! Ginger wishes to thank Catherine, Zak, Bridget, and all of the JDT staff.



## Abigail Portiles

Abigail is a 16 year-old tenth-grader at Juneau-Douglas High School: Yadaa.at Kalé. She is dancing the roles of Caterpillar and Queen of Hearts. Abigail admires New York City Ballet principal, Tiler Peck, citing her energy and presence as inspiration for her own dancing. Abigail's favorite part of the performance experience, is the anticipation and thrill she feels before going on stage. She also loves the excitement and being with her friends, back stage because it brings everyone closer together. What Abigail loves most about training at JDT, is sense of family everyone has. She is looking forward to attending Cincinnati Ballet and JDT intensives, this summer.



# BIOGRAPHIES



## Georgia Post

Georgia is a 17 year-old senior at Thunder Mountain High School. Georgia is dancing the role of Cheshire Cat, in *Alice in Wonderland*. Georgia admires the guest artists and faculty that come to JDT, and draws inspiration from these successful, working professionals in the industry. She is also inspired by her peers, whom she dances with for so many hours each week. In her years with JDT, Georgia has come to appreciate and enjoy the routine and structure of training received. She knows she can always count on it! Georgia wishes to thank her family for supporting her dancing and her pursuit of all her other endeavors, as well.



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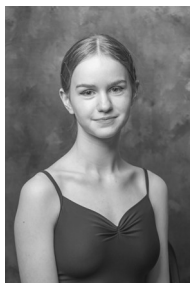
# LEVEL 5 STUDENTS



Sammara Apango



Stella Asplund



Autumn Banaszak



Romy Barrett



Abigail Gornik



Allison Gornik



Khloe Guevarra



Dani Hayes



Tori Jacobson



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Brigitte Ouellette



Calli Peterson



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***Shaina,***

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Yzza, Sofia, Alfie, and Ollie*

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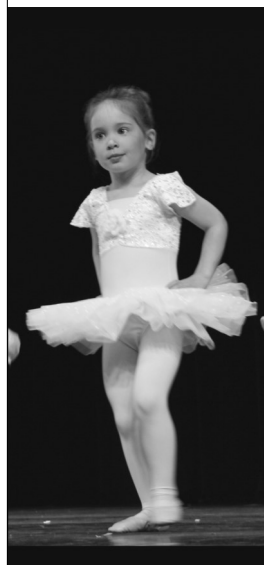


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come. You are  
amazing & we  
love you!*

*Love, Mom, Dad  
& Henley*



**We love you so much,  
Autumn Bug!!**

Keep enjoying every step of this  
journey. You have worked hard  
and it shows. Keep dancing and  
finding the joy in each turn and  
behind every new door. We're  
proud of you!

**Love always, Mom, Dad, Erin,  
Midnight, & Tuffy**



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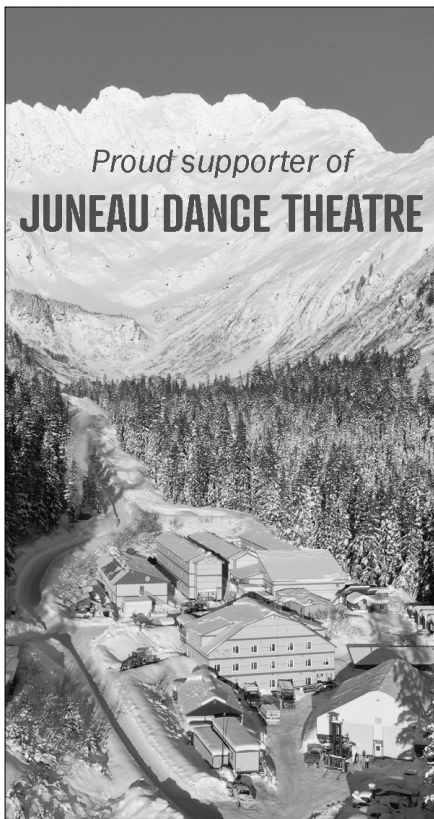
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craft of dance!*

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*We love you, Mom,  
Dad, Hunter  
& Bella*



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***Juliette Annabelle,***

*What an amazing year it has been! Daddy and I are so incredibly proud of you. Stay sweet and compassionate and always know you CAN do it. We will always be here cheering you on.*

*Liebe Dich meine kleine Maus,  
Mama und Daddy*





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*of all your*  
*dedication and*  
*focus this year!*

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*Love, Dad, Mom,*  
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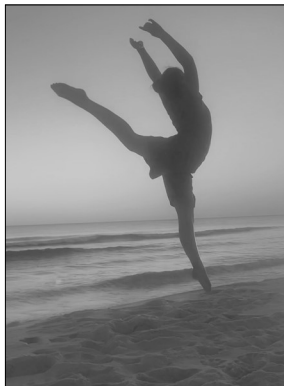
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*proud of you!*  
  
*Love,*  
*Mom & Dad*





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The BaDavis family*

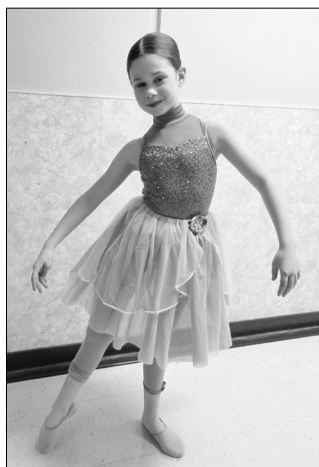




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through in every  
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Keep on dazzling!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad*



*Sadie,  
We have had so much fun  
watching you dance this  
year. Keep shining!*

*Love,  
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You are a beautiful dancer  
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Love, Grandma Monique*

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Love, Mom*



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*Love, Mom*



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