

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Kirby Jane Landry and Casey Giltner

klandry@houstonballet.org | cgiltner@houstonballet.org | press@houstonballet.org

Houston Ballet Announces 2026–27 Company Roster

A World-Class Company Built on Homegrown Talent and Global Excellence

HOUSTON, TX — July 29, 2026 — Houston Ballet, one of the nation's leading ballet companies, is pleased to announce its Company roster for the 2026–27 season, featuring new apprentices and dancer promotions. The roster reflects the Company's dual identity: a home for homegrown talent and a destination for exceptional artists from around the world. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Julie Kent and Stanton Welch AM and Executive Director and CEO Sonja Kostich, Houston Ballet continues to advance both classical and contemporary ballet while developing artists who will shape the future of the art form.

Houston Ballet Academy, which trains more than 1,000 students annually under Academy Director, Jennifer Sommers, continues to serve as a primary pathway into the Company. This season, Houston Ballet proudly welcomes three new apprentices from across the country, including one from Houston. All three advanced through Houston Ballet Academy and Houston Ballet II before earning their place in the Company.

Apprentices:

- [Nathaniel Geis](#) (Charlotte, NC)
- [Lexi Utz](#) (Lancaster, OH)
- [Garrett Yut](#) (Houston, TX)

Season Promotions:

Principal

- [Danbi Kim](#)

Corps de Ballet

- [Quinton Brooks](#)
- [Kieryn Brophy](#)
- [Yeva Hrytsak](#)
- [Olivia McBain](#)
- [Edouard Wormser](#)

These promotions reflect the artistic growth and excellence demonstrated by the dancers throughout their time with Houston Ballet.

As Houston Ballet looks ahead to the new season, the Company also recognizes the following artists as they depart, thanking them for their contributions on stage and in the community:

- Alyssa Springer
- Jordan Long
- Abigail Brent

See [here](#) for the complete Company roster and bios.

ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET

Founded in 1969, Houston Ballet is one of the nation's leading ballet companies — an artistic force and an important business leader and partner in the Houston region — inspiring audiences through artistic excellence, bold choreography, and a commitment to the future of dance. Under the artistic leadership of Artistic Directors Julie Kent and Stanton Welch AM and the chief administrative leadership of Executive Director & CEO Sonja Kostich, the Company is home to the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance, the largest professional dance facility in the country. Houston Ballet operates with a \$47 million annual budget (FY27) and a \$134.5 million endowment (as of February 2026), presents a diverse repertory of classical and contemporary works, and tours internationally with a global reach spanning 116 countries.

Houston Ballet Academy serves as a leading pipeline for emerging dance talent, training more than 1,000 students annually—most on scholarship. Through complementary Education and Community Engagement programs, the Company reaches more than 85,000 people annually, expanding access to dance across the Houston region.

###