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**Houston Ballet Presents: *An Evening with the Stars***  
*A Mixed Repertory of Three Distinct Dance Works Exploring Human Connection*  
May 28 – June 7, 2026

**PHOTOS & VIDEOS [HERE](#)**

**HOUSTON, TX – April 28, 2026** – What happens when people simply come together?

That question sits at the center of Houston Ballet’s Series III opener, *An Evening with the Stars*, running May 28 through June 7 at the Wortham Theater Center. The mixed repertory program brings together three distinct works by acclaimed choreographers—each exploring connection, resilience, and the quiet moments that shape us.

At the heart of the program is *Tapestry* by Artistic Director Stanton Welch AM, a work that reflects the Company itself. Built on the idea that a ballet company is made stronger by its differences, the piece weaves together dancers, styles, and energy into something collective and constantly shifting.

The program also introduces a world premiere by Australian choreographer Alice Topp, marking her return to Houston Ballet. Inspired by the Finnish concept of “sisu”—a kind of quiet, unyielding resilience—the new work asks how we continue forward in the face of adversity, and what it takes to keep that inner spark alive.

Closing out the evening is *Dances at a Gathering*, a rarely performed masterwork by Jerome Robbins. Both Artistic Directors Julie Kent and Stanton Welch have long admired the ballet for its emotional depth and musicality, and saw a unique opportunity to bring this quietly powerful work to Houston Ballet audiences. Set to piano music by Frédéric Chopin, the ballet has no formal narrative—just a group of individuals sharing space, time, and emotion.

“This program exemplifies the range and talent of our company,” said Artistic Director Stanton Welch AM. “The juxtaposition of a Robbins masterwork being performed in the same program as a new work by Alice Topp shows Houston Ballet’s depth and expertise at bridging tradition and innovation.”

Together, the three ballets offer different perspectives on what it means to endure, to connect, and to create something larger than yourself. Rather than a single storyline, *An Evening with the Stars* invites audiences to experience a range of emotions—sometimes joyful, sometimes introspective, and often deeply familiar.

Performance Details

**An Evening with the Stars, May 28 - June 7, 2026**

*Production underwriting by Marian Wilfert Beauchamp & Gary V. Beauchamp, Jane DiPaolo, and Marguerite Swartz*

**Schedule:** 7:30 p.m. on May 28 & 30, and June 5 & 6, 2026  
2:00 p.m. on May 31 and June 7, 2026

**Venue:** Wortham Theater Center  
501 Texas Avenue, Houston, TX 77002

**Tickets:** Visit [www.houstonballet.org](http://www.houstonballet.org)

**ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET**

Founded in 1969, Houston Ballet is one of the nation's leading ballet companies, 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 Sonja Kostich, the Company is home to the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance, the largest professional ballet facility in the country. Houston Ballet operates with a \$44 million annual budget (FY26) 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.

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