

★  
**GRAINGER ACADEMY  
OF THE JOFFREY BALLET**

GRAINGER ACADEMY OF  
THE JOFFREY BALLET PRESENTS THE  
**SPRING PROGRAM**

★  
May 3–30, 2026  
Joffrey Tower | 10 E Randolph Street | Chicago, IL



## Dear Families, Friends, and Students,

### **Welcome to the 2026 Spring Program, featuring the students of the Grainger Academy of The Joffrey Ballet.**

The students participating in this year's performances range in age from 5 to 22, all at different points in their artistic journey. Whether they're stepping onto the stage of our Gerald Arpino Black Box Theater for the first time, or perhaps are graduating this year with us, we celebrate our students' accomplishments. In all disciplines of dance, it takes hours in the studio working on technique, artistry, musicality, posture, and expression to achieve this moment on stage, all the while trying to make it look effortless. However, we know the effort it takes from our incredible faculty who teach at the highest caliber to the families who juggle schedules to get their children here on time and ready for class. We appreciate you as we sit and watch the dedication of our students and their joy of dance. This is a special moment for all of us, and we share in your pride as you watch the next generations of dance.

Thank you for being here and enjoy the performance!

With gratitude and pride,



Suzanne Lopez,  
Abbott Academy Director  
Grainger Academy of The Joffrey Ballet



# SPRING PROGRAM



## WEEKEND ONE | MAY 3

Adaptive Program: May 3 at 3:00 PM

## WEEKEND TWO | MAY 7-10

Dance Lab Program: May 7 and 8 at 7:30 PM

Children's Program — Pre-Ballet and Boys' Dance A: May 9 at 10:30 AM

Children's Program — Pre-Ballet B: May 9 at 1:30 PM

Children's Program — Pre-Ballet C: May 9 at 4:30 PM

Children's Program — Ballet I, Ballet II, and Boys' Dance B: May 10 at 12:00 and 2:00 PM

## WEEKEND THREE | MAY 16-17

Pre-Professional Program: May 16 and 17 at 1:00 PM


Professional Training Programs: May 16 and 17 at 6:00 PM


## WEEKEND FOUR | MAY 29-30


Young Moves: May 29 at 7:30 PM

Contemporary Motions: May 30 at 1:00 and 3:30 PM

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# SPRING PROGRAM: WEEKEND FOUR

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## YOUNG MOVES

### ★ *May*

Choreography by Amelie Rose Clyde

Music Composition by Max Richter

Performed by Ella Champion, Koko Chang, Elsa Herr, Meghan Ong

### ★ *Tintinnabuli*

Choreography by Rose Grimm

Music Composition by Arvo Pärt

Performed by Ireber Bilbao, Savannah Gibbs, Devin Griffith, Millicent Huang, Madeline Kobayashi, Elena Martinez Santamaria, Julia Pack, Ashlie Rohan

### ★ *The Reveal*

Choreography by Meghan Gutowski

Music Composition by Nils Frahm

Performed by Aiko Arakaki, Sophia Castellano, Sophie Jacqueline Dupressoir, Leah Hillman, Olivia Jalandon, Audrey Lyons, Kross Michaels

### ★ *Dancing in the Dark*

Choreography by Skyler Jarman

Music Composition by Bruce Springsteen

Performed by Jiyoung Kang, Cassidy Leishman, Paul Rivard, Lorraine Robinson, Emma Terry

### ★ *The Stars Look Very Different Today*

Choreography by Hannah Kreft

Music Composition by David Bowie

Performed by Charlotte Deike, Alexiane Fivaz, Hannah Kreft, Georgia Neal, Zosia Penhershki, Max Prince-Rosenberg, Emma Tomlinson

## ★ *Not That Simple*

Choreography by Abby Sanchez

Music Composition by Yann Tiersen

Performed by Makenzie Agdeppa, Jacob Anderson, HannahJane Case, Jennifer Firschein, Rowan Lindamood, Natalie Moon, Claire-Elise Villaflor

## ★ *Direct Voice*

Choreography by Reilly VerSchure

Music Composition by Origamibiro

Performed by Talula Estes, Aria Geye, Sophia Longid, Tatiyana Subotnik

## ★ *Beauty in Blur*

Choreography by Ivy Zigler

Music Composition by Philip Glass, Carducci String Quartet

Performed by William Hanford, Ava Kinzler, Rowan Lindamood, Max Prince-Rosenberg, Allyson Schmitt-Vallejo, Rachel Zwieschowski

# SPRING PROGRAM: WEEKEND FOUR

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## CONTEMPORARY MOTIONS

### ★ *Birds of Paradise*

Choreography by Mekeba Malik

Music Composition by Brent Lewis

Performed by Victoria Adoni, Aracelie Aguilar, Stella Caliendo, Elaine Culloton, Sofia Gonzalez, Erika Hasbun, Alisha Hopkins, Yoon Kim, Elin Kranz, Mckenzie Martin, Spencer Martinez, Paulina Paner, Mia Quant, Amelia Wang, Sarelle Yang

### ★ *Fractals*

Choreography by James Gowan

Music Composition by Hanna Ekström

PERFORMED BY THE CONTEMPORARY BALLET TRAINEE PROGRAM

**1:00 PM Performance:** Sophia Castellano, Koko Chang, Amelie Rose Clyde, Aria Geye, Skyler Jarman, Lorraine Robinson, Abby Sanchez, Emma Terry

**3:30 PM Performance:** Ella Champion, Koko Chang, Sophie Jacqueline Dupressoir, Talula Estes, Savannah Gibbs, Skyler Jarman, Hannah Kreft, Tatiyana Subotnik

### ★ *Gen X Teen Spirit*

Choreography by Keesha Beckford

Music Composition by The Countours, The Trampps, Bonnie Tyler

Music mixed by Michelle Skiba

Performed by Sofia Amara, Elizabeth Andric-rossi, Tala Dresser, Hannah Fischel, Mae Jakska, Kate Kitching, Madeleine Leonard, Luna Li, Glayden Mcquade, Jordan Roloff, Grace Tilley, Alexandra Riley Tukker, Isabella Morgan Tukker, Etta Winston

### ★ *Still in Overdrive*

Choreography by the Dancers

As staged by Keesha Beckford and Jenna Barber

Music Composition by Nebojsa Jovan Zivkovic

Performed by Aracelie Aguilar, Alexa Akkurt, Jenna Barber, Stella Caliendo, Elaine Culloton, Lyla Foster, Sofia Gonzalez, Gabriella Greco, Cora Hakim, Erika Hasbun, Alisha Hopkins, Kiara Szajda, Andrea Tollinche

## ★ *Dancin' in the City*

Choreography by Michelle Skiba

Music Composition by Soundsmack; Ensemble — Tarzan, Chester Gregory II

Performed by Mairani Avila, Bella Batista, Ana Sofia Calucin, Litzzy Cardoso, Abigail Galindo, Elena Guereca, Galileah Guerrero, Alexandra Isaacson, Mckenzie Martin, Jaziel Peralta, Caroline Roccasalva, Emilia Rosenberg, Avery Smith

## ★ *Truth Is...*

Choreography by Katlin Michael Bourgeois

Music Composition by RemyyyBeatz

PERFORMED BY THE CONTEMPORARY BALLET TRAINEE PROGRAM

**1:00 PM Performance:** Amelie Rose Clyde, Charlotte Deike, Sophie Jacqueline Dupressoir, Hannah Kreft, Lorraine Robinson, Tatiyana Subotnik

**3:30 PM Performance:** Sophia Castellano, Koko Chang, Aria Geye, Savannah Gibbs, Skyler Jarman, Emma Terry

## ★ *Twistin' the Night Away*

Choreography by Olivia Lemmenes

Music Composition by Sam Cooke

Performed by Aracelie Aguilar, Camiah Beal, Suraya Cruz, Lyla Foster, Coco Garcia, Cora Hakim, Alisha Hopkins, Beatrice Kawashima, Elin Kranz, Jade Perez, Colette Rozier, Danielle Weiche

## ★ *Iyalorde*

Choreography by Mekeba Malik

Music Composition by Fela Kuti

Performed by Stella Caliendo, Sofia Gonzalez, Erika Hasbun, Inaya Lian Abdul Malik

## ★ *Night at the Museum*

Choreography by Keesha Beckford

Music Composition by Andy Monroe

Performed by Elizabeth Andric-rossi, Graziella Bernacchi, Parker Cade, Cora Hakim, Madeleine Leonard, Nina Madeja, Eden Parmer, Jaziel Peralta, Meve Pizana, Jordan Roloff, Neva Rosenthal, Solomon Rosenthal, Mira Swanson, Etta Winston

## ★ *Jubalee*

Choreography by Katlin Michael Bourgeois

Music Composition by Florence B. Price

**PERFORMED BY THE CONTEMPORARY BALLET TRAINEE PROGRAM**

**1:00 PM Performance:** Amelie Rose Clyde, Hannah Kreft

**3:30 PM Performance:** Skyler Jarman, Tatiyana Subotnik

## ★ *Rockin' Robins*

Choreography by Olivia Lemmenes

Music Composition by Bobby Day

**Performed by** Elizabeth Asnis, Sloan Bhayani, Francesca Cardella, Dante Chavez Mejia, Myralah Godston, Nathaniel Kawa, Celine Kumar, Neva Rosenthal, Alora St Gerard, Madelyn Takata, Cynthia Zhao

## ★ *The Nest*

Choreography by Keesha Beckford

Music Composition by Brad Mehldau

**Performed by** Aracelie Aguilar, Alexa Akkurt, Jenna Barber, Stella Caliendo, Elaine Culloton, Lyla Foster, Sofia Gonzalez, Gabriella Greco, Cora Hakim, Erika Hasbun, Alisha Hopkins, Kiara Szajda, Andrea Tollinche

## ★ *Heartstrings*

Choreography by Sophie Minouche Allen

Music Composition by Dexter Britain; Billie Holiday, Irving Hahal, Sammy Fain

**Performed by** the Contemporary Ballet Trainee Program

# SPECIAL THANKS



THE JOFFREY BALLET WOULD LIKE TO THANK  
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# 2026 FALL AND YEAR-ROUND REGISTRATION

Priority Registration Begins June 24 | Open Registration Begins July 8



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## 2026 ADULT SUMMER INTENSIVE

AUGUST 21-23  
AGES 18+

★ Register for Beginner or  
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for more details

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\*Discount excludes price level E and closing performance on June 14. Not valid on previously purchased tickets. Restrictions apply.  
Joffrey Company Artists Victoria Jaiani and Alberto Velazquez. Photo by Todd Rosenberg.



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Joffrey Company Artist Gayeon Jung in *The Sleeping Beauty*. Photo by Carolyn McCabe.

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