SAINT LOUIS BALLET





Cover photos (L-R) SLB's Ethan Maszer in "By Any Other Name" by Amy Seiwert Feb 2023, Mark David Bloodgood and Julia Heiss in "Of Note" by Wheeldon Oct. 2022, and Zoe Middleton in "Swan Lake" by Horiuchi April 2023 TABLE OF CONTENTS

Above: SLB Dancers at Touhill PAC in "Within the Golden Hour" by Christopher Wheeldon, October 2022. Photos by Kelly Pratt

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Saint Louis Ballet is indebted to the following major season sponsors:















from THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Thank you for helping Saint Louis Ballet continue its mission of presenting world-class classical ballet to the St. Louis area. Your support and dedication have helped make the arts an essential part of life in our community. The Saint Louis Ballet's 22nd season just ended, and it was our most successful to date, drawing recordbreaking attendance for our productions of The Nutcracker and our live music performances of Of Note with The Chamber Music Society of St. Louis and Swan Lake with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra.



Saint Louis Ballet has a long tradition of producing classical ballets that have won the hearts of audiences in St. Louis and beyond. Thanks to you, there are now more people in the St. Louis region who can enjoy professional ballet.

Thank you for supporting Saint Louis Ballet all season with your unwavering enthusiasm. It is greatly appreciated that you have given us this opportunity to perform for you. We hope you had as much enjoyment watching us as we did performing for you. You are an integral part of our success, and we are grateful for all of your support. Your donations have allowed us to hire talented musicians to perform at our performances, which is something our dancers and audience truly appreciates.

I am humbled by the trust that has been placed in my leadership by the Board of Directors. Your generosity to our communitysupported organization is deeply appreciated. Thank you for all that you have done to help us spread the joy and wonder of ballet to the region.

Gen Horiuchi Executive and Artistic Director Saint Louis Ballet

in Nowah -

MISSION

The mission of Saint Louis Ballet Company is to provide metropolitan St. Louis with a permanent, professional, resident ballet company capable of performing classical and contemporary works of the highest quality for the cultural enrichment and enjoyment of the entire community.

VISION

With the vision of supporting artists and dancers, celebrating expression and engaging the community, Saint Louis Ballet will be the preeminent institution in the region for creating, performing, and teaching ballet.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pictured above front/center L-R: Tom Voss, Board President, Carol Voss, and Blanche Touhill with Saint Louis Ballet Company Dancers

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Gen Horiuchi
Saint Louis Ballet Executive & Artistic Director

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*Saint Louis Ballet was pleased to welcome these new members to the Board of Directors in 2022-2023



SAINT LOUIS BALLET COMPANY

Top Row

Mark David Bloodgood | Joined 2016 from Seattle, WA Michael Burke | Joined 2016 from Mexico, MO Lauren Christensen | Joined 2013 from Kansas City, MO Olivia Cornelius | Joined 2020 from Melrose, MA

Middle Row

Rebecca Cornett | Joined 2014 from Simsbury, CT Charles Cronenwett | Joined 2022 from St. Louis, MO Colin Ellis | Joined 2017 from McHenry, IL Emily Fugett | Joined 2018 from Tinley Park, IL

Bottom Row

Abby Hannuksela | Joined 2022 from Seattle, WA Rachel Harrison | Joined 2019 from Arlington, MA Julia Heiss | Joined 2020 from Dallas, TX Amy Herchenroether | Joined 2013 from Pittsburgh, PA



SAINT LOUIS BALLET COMPANY

Top Row

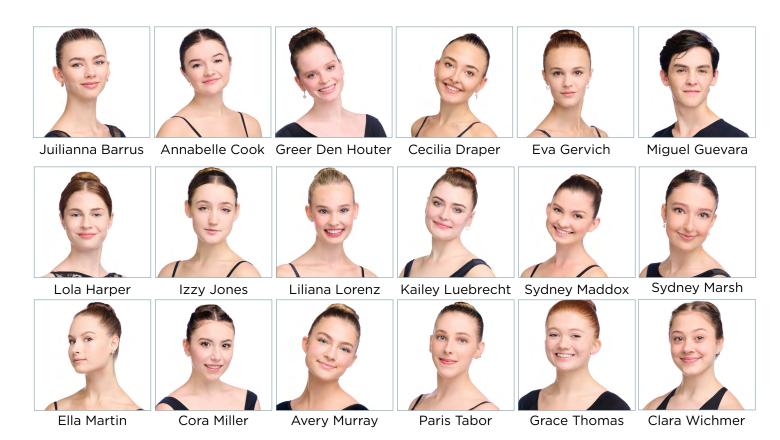
Lauren Kot | Joined 2019 from Howell, MI Ethan Maszer | Joined 2021 from Andover, MA Zoe Middleton | Joined 2021 from Oak Park, IL Elaine Rand | Joined 2020 from West Lafayette, IN

Middle Row

Matthew Rusk | Joined 2016 from Tucson, AR Sean Sessions | Joined 2018 from Columbia, MD Roxy Shackelford | Joined 2019 from Macon, GA

Bottom Row

Fletcher Weld | Joined 2021 from Seattle, WA Lori Wilson | Joined 2008 from Lubbock, TX



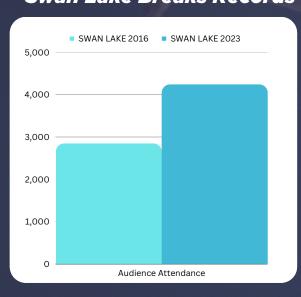
SAINT LOUIS BALLET TRAINEES

28 weeks	21
dancers' contract	COMPANY DANCERS
19	23
TRAINEES	PERFORMANCES
3 TOUR PERFORMANCES	260 POINTE SHOES

2022-2023 SEASON

The biggest accomplishment for the 2022-2023 season was the introduction of two live music performances. Our season's opening performance, *Of Note*, featured the Chamber Music Society of St. Louis, and our spring production of *Swan Lake* featured the Springfield Missouri Symphony Orchestra. Audience enthusiasm hit a record level, with the number of post-performance surveys doubling. *The Nutcracker* broke all sales and attendance records to date, surpassing last year's numbers with attendance of 13,038 and revenue of \$618,613, compared to 11,389 and \$509,899 last year. SLB also had the largest crowds to date attending the company's *The Nutcracker: A Shorter Tale* for young audiences with a sell-out performance. *Swan Lake* broke all previous sales and attendance records to date with an audience attendance of 4,236 and revenue of \$239,185, compared to 2,842 and \$113,806 back in 2016. Artistic Director Gen Horiuchi also introduced a new work *Moment* with original music by Tokyo-born and New York City based composter Atsushi TOYA Tokuya during our first ever Kirkwood PAC February program, *Do It For Love*. It was their third collaboration and was well received by the new audience Saint Louis Ballet found at Kirkwoood Performing Arts Center.

Swan Lake Breaks Records





The enthusiastic feedback for the season was evident from audience members!

"Strong dancing, great choreography and music, and beautiful costumes! I love having live music. It takes the whole experience to a new level!" - Jannette

"The choreography was fresh and exciting, the costumes were beautiful, the dancing was sublime, and I LOVED the live music! A wonderful production through and through." -Christine

"The ballet was beautiful! The orchestra was fantastic, the ballet dancers were so incredibly graceful, and the set was great. I definitely want to go to more performances in the future!" -Deidre

"The ballet itself was incredible. On top of that, the live orchestra made for an even more enthralling experience." -Christopher

"I left Swan Lake with tears in my eyes. I was so impressed with how the dancers told the story, especially at the end. My mother had never attended a ballet. She couldn't believe how she could follow the story being told through dance. A great performance! Very moving!' -Rachel

> Saint Louis Ballet is grateful to Kelly Pratt, whose photos of Saint Louis Ballet dancers and all productions grace this report.



With the Chamber Music Society of Saint Louis

"Within the Golden Hour":

Music by Ezio Bosso and
Antonio Vivaldi
Performed by
Chamber Music Society of St. Louis
Choreography by Christopher Wheeldon

"Romantique":

Music by Claude Bolling Performed by Chamber Music Society of St. Louis Choreography by Gen Horiuchi Touhill Performing Arts Center | October 1-2, 2021

Attendance: 725

Saint Louis Ballet started the season with Tony Winner Christopher Wheeldon's rarely performed ballet *Within the Golden Hour* made its Saint Louis debut October 1-2 at the Touhill as 14 dancers performed with inspiration from Gustav Klimt's shimmering gold paintings. Most recently recognized as the best choreographer for Broadway's MJ the Musical, Wheeldon set his ballet to music by Vivaldi—performed here live by the renowned Chamber Music Society of Saint Louis. Gen Horiuchi also revived his ballet *Romantique* also withe same Chamber Music Society sharing the stage with the dancers. Saint Louis Ballet raised funds last year to support the inclusion of live music.

Twenty-two string players, under the baton of Darwin Aquino, demonstrated what the Saint Louis Post-Dispatch in 2019 called their "instrumental brilliance". Many are members of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.



Choreography by Gen Horiuchi Music by P. Tchaikovsky Touhill Performing Arts Center | Nov 26-27, Dec 16-23 Attendance: 13,038

Saint Louis Ballet performed its grandest program of the year beginning Thanksgiving weekend. Gen Horiuchi's *The Nutcracker* employs the talents of its professional company, the new pre-professional dancers from around the country, ballet students from the Saint Louis Ballet School and professional character actor/dancers who have participated in the production for decades The production boasts spectacular sets, hundreds of colorful costumes, special effects, and beautiful dancing - set to Tchaikovsky's classic score. Artistic Director Gen Horiuchi kept the choreography fresh with enhancements this year, including some new costumes and choreography which included mice throwing cheese to the audience, an expanded cast for the Chinese Tea dance and Arabian Dance and a large Chinese dragon prop to enhance Act 2.







Touhill Performing Arts Center | February 12-13 Attendance: 1,316

"By Any Other Name"

Music by J.S. Bach, Sonata for Violin Solo No. 2 in A Minor Choreography by Amy Seiwert Lighting Design by Maureen Berry Costumes by Susan Roemer, C-Curve Apparel and Design

"Allegro Brillante"

Music by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Piano Concerto No. 3
Choreography by George Balanchine
Staged by Nilas Martins
Lighting Design by Maureen Berry
Costumes Courtesy of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre
Costume Design by Janet Campbell

"Moment"

Music Composition and Arrangement by Atsushi TOYA Tokuya Choreography by Gen Horiuchi Costumes by Susan Erhart and Amy Soll Lighting Design by Maureen Berry

The beautiful Kirkwood Performing Arts Center is the new home for Saint Louis Ballet's February program, this season featuring outstanding choreography and live music in a program entitled *Do It For Love*.

Just in time for Valentine's Day - the weekend demonstrated LOVE and the powerful combination of music and movement. Located in the heart of Kirkwood's bustling downtown, the Kirkwood Performing Arts Center is a state-of-the-art facility featuring the Ross Family Theatre, where the ballet performed.



Above: SLB dancers in "By Any Other Name", Choreography by Amy Seiwert Below: SLB dancers in "Allegro Brillante", Choreography by George Balanchine





Above: SLB dancer Roxy Shackelford in "Moment", Choreography by Gen Horiuchi



Choreography by Gen Horiuchi Music by Tchaikovsky Touhill Performing Arts Center | April 28-30 Attendance: 4,236

Saint Louis Ballet presented Swan Lake, the world's most popular ballet, April 28-30 on the Touhill stage. With themes of beauty,magic, love and betrayal, it has been an audience favorite since its premiere with Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet in 1877.Last performed by Saint Louis Ballet in 2016, Swan Lake featured a mix of traditional and imaginative choreography by director Gen Horiuchi. The story of princess Odette, turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse, is lovingly represented on stage, and set to a glorious Tchaikovsky score.

Saint Louis Ballet, established in 1975, is renowned for its presentation of grand story ballets. This was the first time the company performed a large-scale classical ballet with live music. The Springfield (MO) Symphony Orchestra accompanied the dancers for all four performances of Swan Lake.



Attendance: 173

Saint Louis Ballet showed what's "new" and "next" in its annual performance series at the Grandel Theatre. New York-based choreographer Christopher D'Amboise set Everything is Clapping for the company. With music by Ravel (Piano Concerto In G Major), D'Amboise dedicated it to his late father, Jacques d'Amboise, former principal dancer with New York City Ballet. It was a lyrical work with "quotes" from ballets Jacques danced when in NYCB.Former New York City Ballet dancer Nilas Martins created a romantic pas de deux that is playful and challenging with its many tempo changes and difficult partnering sequences. The piece alternated between pas de deux and short solos.

Rehearsal directors CiCi Houston and Christine Settembrino premiered two new works that include dancers from Saint Louis Ballet and SLB's Professional Training Program. Horiuchi revived *Wake Up* with music by Joe Morra, a fun ballet he first choreographed in 2010.

Without fancy costumes, sets or special effects, the talent and creativity of the dancers and choreographers took center stage. Audience members were invited to meet the dancers and creative team in the lobby bar following the performance.



Above: SLB Dancer as Odette in "Swan Lake" with SLB dancer and partner Mark David Bloodgoood. Below both dancers in the Black Swan Pas de Deux From "Swan Lake"





2023 GALA KICKOFF March 10 | Holman Motorcars

Holman Motorcars' Chesterfield showroom served as the site of the En Pointe Spring Gala's kick-off celebration. Dancers in Roaring Twenties-themed outfits from The Vault mixed and mingled with guests as they enjoyed appetizers and drinks among the fleet of ultra-luxurious automobiles. The Saint Louis Ballet had staff on hand to take table reservations for the elegant Spring Gala at The Chase Park Plaza on May 13th. Those who purchased a table that night were eligible to win a

test drive in a Bentley.



Saint Louis Ballet dancers (Front L-R) Mark David Bloodgood, Sean Sessions, Emily Fugett, Colin Ellis, Rebecca Cornett, Julia Heiss Roxy Shackelford, Rachel Harrison, Elaine Rand (Front L-R): SLB Dancers Lauren Christensen and Amy Herchenroether



Above: Patti B, Jan Kosmal and Christopher Tucker





At the En Pointe Gala, which paid honor to Blanche Touhill, Chancellor Emerita of UMSL University and the driving force behind the Saint Louis Ballet's performance location, the Touhill Performing Arts Center, the ballet raised an astounding \$227,000. Saint Louis Ballet performs for tens of thousands of locals every year, all because of Blanche's tireless advocacy for the theater that would be named after her. This successful event provided much-needed resources for continuing live music ballet performances and covered the rising expense of transporting Title I schools to the annual matinee performances of "A Shorter Tale" for surrounding schools. At the Chase Park Plaza, guests were treated to a live performance by dancers

from the company and an auction with ultra-luxury items, hotel stays, excursions, and more.



Above (L-R): Laurie Lock, Advisory Chair Allison Benney, Chair Patricia Whiteside, Chair Sarah Glasser, Advisory Chair



Above: Margie Ellisor of Fox 2 as Event Emcee

Major Sponsors:

Ameren, Chase Park Plaza, Ernest & Young, Greensfelder, Heartland Coca-Cola, Mann Family Foundation Holman Motors, Novus International



Blanche M. Touhill, honoree, speaks to the Gala attendees







280 GALA ATTENDEES \$227,000 RAISED

THE COMMUNITY

POINTE TO SUCCEED

heartland

The Pointe to Succeed program gives underserved students in the St. Louis area the opportunity to experience the joy, wonder, and discipline of ballet. This is accomplished by a dual strategy.

IN THE THEATER

Qualifying Title 1 Schools and teachers are given free tickets and transportation to Touhill Performing Arts Center ballet performances through the Pointe to Succeed Program. Saint Louis Ballet provides these students with a meaningful and enriching experience that they would not have had otherwise.

"Saint Louis Catholic Academy is grateful to Saint Louis Ballet for making art accessible to all communities. Our students loved attending the ballet. many of whom where attending for the first time. It was an unforgettable experience for our students, parent chaperones, and staff alike. We're thankful for expanding our horizons and allowing the timeless story of The Nutcracker to be part of our school's tradition."

~Christy Toben, Principal at St. Louis Catholic Academy

230 **ATTENDING**



We are grateful to Heartland Coca Cola for its support of SLB's Pointe to Succeed Program. This transformative experience would not have been possible without their generous sponsorship.

IN THE CLASSROOMS

Students learn about the world of ballet through this virtual program of Pointe to Succeed.

This year, almost 12,000 students watched "Alice in Wonderland", "Romeo and Juliet", and/or "The Nutcracker" ballets virtually through our "Streaming For Teachers" content. Additional study guides are available including Ballet 101 to accompany the accessible virtual ballets. These resources introduce the world of ballet and educate our young audiences on this art form and allow Saint Louis Ballet to bring the beauty and wonder of ballet to students when coming to the theater is not an option.

11,842 STUDENTS SERVED VIRTUALLY



THE COMMUNITY

or the first time in our company history, Saint Louis Ballet is proud to partner with the Washington University Graduate Professional Council to help garner awareness and access to ballet.

barreSLB, a diverse group of young professionals who are committed to supporting Saint Louis Ballet, was excited to introduce a graduate student division to our young professionals organization. During the year, the University Graduate Program partnered with Saint Louis Ballet to provide discounted tickets



and pre-performance receptions in which Saint Louis Ballet Rehearsal Director, CiCi Houston, provided on site question and answer sessions as well as introductions to Saint Louis Ballet Professional Dancers and Professional Training Program students. The program is designed to educate graduate students in the art of ballet, provide a pre-performance synopsis, and invite students to take an active role in supporting Saint Louis Ballet through volunteering opportunities such as the Gala. In addition to partnering with Saint Louis Ballet, Carley Yanuck, the Vice President of Social Programming, was able to promote upcoming performances and ticket opportunities to students through the Social Programming Newsletter as well as through rush rate tickets.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT: Jennifer and Jim Cunnane

"Our family's introduction to Saint Louis Ballet came in 2006, when we took our daughter Victoria and her friends to see The Nutcracker. At the time, she was only five years old. Before the performance, we took her and her friends to a Sugar Plum Fairy Tea. At the Sugar Plum Fairy Tea, Victoria was awe-struck by the opportunity to meet a professional dancer up close and personal.

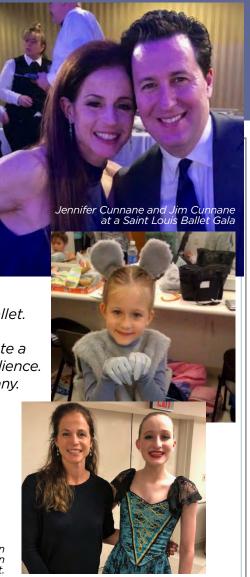
The precise combination of creativity and athleticism displayed by each of the dancers is what has most struck us about Saint Louis Ballet.

Only professionals can use movement to convey a story and communicate a feeling while performing extremely difficult pieces in front of a huge audience. We are extremely grateful to be in a city with a world-class ballet company. The addition of live music elevates Saint Louis Ballet performances to a whole new level, and we could not be more excited about it.

In today's fast-paced and technologically saturated world, it is truly refreshing to be moved by storytelling through dance in a live and full-length performance. We strongly encourage everyone to support Saint Louis Ballet because it is one of the best ways to bring a diverse group of people in the community together for family-friendly entertainment."

~ Jennifer and Jim Cunnane

Daughter, Victoria Cunnane as a young mouse in The Nutcracker and later as a Spanish Dancer in The Nutcracker as an advanced level student.



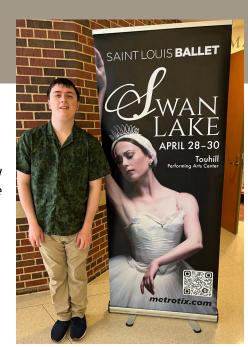
AUDIENCE SPOTLIGHT:

The mother of a young autistic man who saw Swan Lake this season shared a heartwarming story with us.

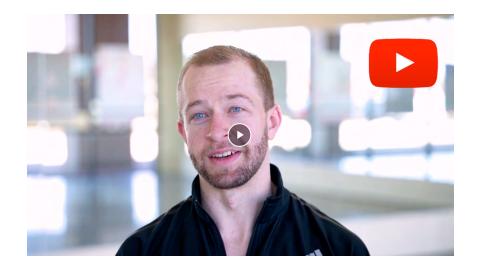
"We loved every minute! We have a son with autism, and he likes classical music. He enjoyed the Nutcracker so much that we purchased tickets for Swan Lake! He was very excited to see the orchestra, and he loved the performance. He has a difficult time processing language, so being able to just enjoy the music and dance is perfect for him. We have already purchased tickets for next season, and he has memorized the dates! Thank you!"

-Cathy Foust

The Saint Louis Ballet has a profound impact on people in our community.



the ballets BEHIND THE SCENES



"Dancing the lead of Swan Lake" Featuring SLB Dancers Lori Wilson, Rebecca Cornett, Amy Herchenroether, Michael Burke, Mark David Bloodgood, and Matthew Rusk



"Amy Seiwert on creating
"By Any Other Name"
Featuring SLB Dancers as the cast of By Any Other Name



"Balanchine Repetiteur,
Nilas Martins on teaching the ballet
'Allegro Brillante"
Featuring SLB Dancers as the cast of
Allegro Brillante



23 + 3 Tour PERFORMANCES



31,038
TICKETS SOLD



8 ST. LOUIS PREMIERES



415
GENEROUS
DONORS









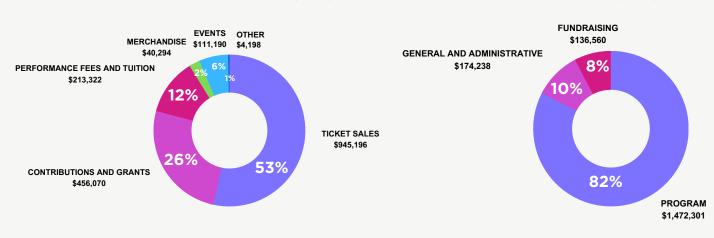
SAINT LOUIS BALLET

FINANCIAL REPORT



TOTAL REVENUES AND SUPPORT \$1,770,269

TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,783,099



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

KEVENUES AND SUPPURI	VENUES AND SUPPOR'	T
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Ticket Sales \$945,196 Contributions

and Grants \$456,070

Performance Fees

and Tuition \$213,322

Events \$111,190 Merchandise \$40,294

Other \$4,198

Total Revenues and Support: \$1,770,269 **EXPENSES**

Program \$1,472,301 General and

Administrative \$174,238

Fundraising \$136,560

Total Expenses

\$1,783,099

Net Assets, Beginning of Year

\$690,388

Change in Net Assets

(\$12,831)

Net Assets, End of Year

\$677,557

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash and Investments \$547,223 Accounts Receivable \$29,303 **Prepaid Expenses** \$77,691 Property & Equipment \$78,044

\$732,260 **Total Assets:**

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses \$6,169 \$48,573 Deferred Revenue

Total Liabilites: \$54,742

NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions \$639,557 With donor restrictions \$38,000 **Total Net Assets** \$677,557

TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

\$732,299



S ANNUAL FUND S

July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

Saint Louis Ballet is indebted to the individuals, foundations and corporations that support annual operations.

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\$25,000 and up

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> Rehearsal Director CiCi Houston Sudholt

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Lighting DesignerMaureen Berry

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