



ARKANSAS  
ACADEMY  
OF DANCE

*Ignite your passion for dance.*

presents

**Student Spring Demonstration**

**May 2, 2026**

**5 pm**

**Center for Performing Arts  
UALR Campus**

**Director, Rebecca Miller Stalcup**

**Instructors: Trent Montgomery, Farah Stalcup, Louisa Utley  
Meredith Zachritz**

**Arkansas Academy of Dance works in partnership with Arkansas Festival Ballet**  
*“Developing the next generation of accomplished dancers.”*

# Arkansas Academy of Dance Student Spring Demonstration

## *Program Order*

### **Special performance by Arkansas Festival Ballet Performing Company “Fleeting, not Forgotten”**

*Debut April 2026 at RDA Southwest Festival*

Music: Love Across Worlds, The Music Anthology of His Dark Materials/ Series 3  
Composer: Lorne Balfe    Choreographers, Holland Stalcup & Rebecca Miller Stalcup

*Amelia Alexander, Avery Head, Lucy Scott, Mary Olive Smith,  
Farah Stalcup, Lanphia Tarawally, Maggie Wippo*

### **Creative Movement Monday & Saturday Classes**

Music: Ballet des Flocons de Neige: Polka    Composer: Jacques Offenbach  
Artist: Gulbenkian Orchestra    Instructors: Rebecca Miller Stalcup & Farah Stalcup

*Monday - Sam Aronson, MaryAnn Dodge, Arthur McCoy, Cece Pickell, Rowan Pickell*

*Saturday - Lily Aaron, Celeste Riggs, Nora Xu*

### **Graduating Seniors**

Music: The Sleeping Beauty, Op. 66: No. 3, The Lilac Fairy  
Composer: Pyotr Ilych Tchaikovsky    Artist: Orchestra Victoria    Instructor: Trent Montgomery  
*Dancer: Avery Head*

Music: La Cigarette, Nomouma: Valse de la Cigarette  
Composer: Edouard Lalo    Artist: Royal Philharmonic Orchestra    Instructor: Trent Montgomery  
*Dancer: Mary Olive Smith*

### **Outstanding Soloists**

Music: The Pharaoh’s Daughter, Le Talisman  
Composer: Cesare Pugni    Artist: Kim Ji Hyun    Instructor: Trent Montgomery  
*Dancer: Lanphia Tarawally*

Music: Coppelia, Act 3, No. 20 Fete de la cloche, Allegro, Girl’s Variation  
Composer: Leo Delibes    Artist: Saint Petersburg Radio Orchestra    Instructor: Trent Montgomery  
*Dancer: Farah Stalcup*

## **Pre-Ballet 1-2 Tuesday & Wednesday Classes**

Music: Bella Bocca Polka op. 163    Composer: Emil Waldteufel  
Artist: Cincinnati Pops Orchestra    Instructor: Rebecca Miller Stalcup

*Tuesday – Camilla Burns, Sierra Dugas, Nichola Hinn, Boden Marshall, Ila Marshall*  
*Wednesday–Alma Baker, Sloane Davis, Zhuri Lindsey, Naomi McDougal*

## **Modern/ Contemporary**

Music: Time of the Seasons    Artist: The Zombies  
Instructor: Trent Montgomery

*Amelia Alexander, Olivia Beachboard, Cru Carter, Avery Head,*  
*Nora Lancaster, Izabella McCallum, Jayden Nelson, Ellery Owen, Lenore Shumake, Lucy Scott,*  
*Mary Olive Smith, Farah Stalcup, Lanphia Tarawally, Clara Wall, Maggie Wippo*

## **Ballet 1-2**

Music: Les Sylphide Ballet, V. Mazurka in D Major Op 33, No. 2  
Composer: Frederic Chopin  
Artist: The Philadelphia Orchestra    Instructor: Rebecca Miller Stalcup

*Ballet 1: Ana Best, Guinevere Carter, Nora Gibbs, Hollis Hays, Isabella Hurst, Iqra Panjwani*  
*Ballet 2: Zuri Brown*

## **Ballet 2-3**

Music: Swan Lake, Waltz    Composer: Pyotr Tchaikovsky  
Artist: Symphony Orchestra of the Russian State TV    Instructor: Rebecca Miller Stalcup

*Ballet 2: Virginia Jones, Lily Stowe*  
*Ballet 3: Sam Alexander, Maria Best, Evie McVay, Sarah Kent Robinson, Kaitlin Stowe,*  
*Willamina Wilson*

## **Teen Ballet**

Music: Les Sylphide Ballet, No. 1 in e Flat Major Op. 18-1, Grande Valse Brillante  
Composer: Frederic Chopin  
Artist: Moscow International Symphonic Orchestra    Instructor: Rebecca Miller Stalcup

*Mary Cano, Eliza Shumake, Carli Turner, Evie White, Bella Wiley*

### **Soloist**

Music: The Sleeping Beauty, Op 66, Act 3 Cinderella    Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Artist: Czecho-Slovak State Philharmonic Orchestra    Instructor: Trent Montgomery  
*Dancer: Amelia Alexander*

### **Ballet 4-5**

Music: Waltz No. 19 in A minor    Composer: Frederic Chopin  
Artist: Peter Jablonski    Instructors: Trent Montgomery & Rebecca Miller Stalcup

*Ballet 4: Olivia Beachboard, Margaret Grobmyer, Avery Shipley, Clara Wall*  
*Ballet 5: Cru Carter, Ellery Owen, Lenore Shumake, Piper Stowe*

### **Ballet 6-8**

Music: Les Sylphides, Grande Valse Brilliante, Op. 18    Composer: Frederic Chopin  
Artist: Philharmonia Orchestra    Instructor: Trent Montgomery

*Amelia Alexander, Avery Head, Nora Lancaster, Izabella McCallum, Lucy Scott, Mary Olive Smith, Farah Stalcup, Lanphia Tarawally, Maggie Wippo*

### **Thank You**

Technical Director - Mike Stacks, Theatre Staff, Volunteers, UALR Theatre Arts  
Teaching Subs: Avery Head, Mary Olive Smith

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## **Congratulations 2026 Summer Intensive Scholarship Recipients**

### **AMELIA ALEXANDER**

- AMDA – Callback
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### **IZABELLA McCALLUM**

- Texas Ballet Theatre – Acceptance

### **LUCY SCOTT**

- AMDA – Callback

### **LANPHIA TARAWALLY**

- Burklyn Ballet Theatre – Full Tuition with Room and Board.
- Dallas Ballet Company – Full Scholarship

### **FARAH STALCUP**

- Dallas Ballet Company – Full Scholarship

## **Congratulations Seniors**

We celebrate our high school graduating seniors, **Avery Head**, and **Mary Olive Smith** who have grown up with us! We are so proud of their accomplishments, academically, in the studio and on the stage. We have shared many years with these talents and like all former students, we will continue to embrace and support them as they journey along new paths. As anticipated, these talents have set their future goals high and have everything it takes to succeed.

As a company member with Arkansas Festival Ballet, **Avery Head** has performed the principal role of Gretel in “Hansel and Gretel”, Spanish and Mirlitons in “The Nutcracker Ballet” with Conway Symphony Orchestra, and Queen of Hearts & Carabosse in “Once Upon a Time”, to name a few. She has also enjoyed her leadership role in the academy as a substitute teacher. Avery sings in 3 choirs at Joe T. Robinson. She will attend University of Missouri in the fall, as a double major in Constitutional Democracy and Business.

**Mary Olive Smith** began dancing with Arkansas Academy of Dance at the age of 3 when she attended one of the summer dance camps. What started as a great way to keep her busy a couple of weeks after her baby brother was born, turned into a life-long passion. In addition to being a student at the Academy for 15 years, she has danced in over a dozen productions starting as a Sweet Angel in her first Nutcracker in 2015 to dancing the part of Wendy most recently in Once Upon A Time. In 2025, she was awarded a scholarship to and attended the National Choreographers Institute in Dayton, Ohio. This Spring, Mary Olive graduates from Little Rock Central High with Honors where she has been active in the Theatre Department. Last Fall, she was one of the student choreographers for Little Shop of Horrors. After spending the summer as a CIT at Camp Mitchell, Mary Olive will attend Loyola University in Chicago where she hopes to major in Theatre and Dance.

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### **2025-2026 AFB Company Dancers**

Performing Company - Amelia Alexander, Avery Head, Nora Lancaster, Lucy Scott, Mary Olive Smith, Farah Stalcup, Lanphia Tarawally, Maggie Wippo.

Apprentice Company - Oliva Beachboard, Cru Carter, Margaret Grobmyer, Izabella McCallum, Ellery Owen, Lenore Shumake, Avery Shipley, Clara Wall

Junior Company: Sam Alexander, Evie McVay, Willamina Wilson

***On May 19, we are calling all academy students Age 9+ to audition for the 2026-2027 AFB Company. Find Info at <https://arkansasfestivalballet.org/auditions>***

## **Arkansas Festival Ballet (AFB)**

*in partnership with Arkansas Academy of Dance*

Arkansas Festival Ballet, under the direction of Artistic Director Rebecca Miller Stalcup, is a pre professional ballet company made up of dancers training at Arkansas Academy of Dance. Company auditions are held annually for ages 9 +.

AFB contributes to the cultural community in central Arkansas through quality performances featuring local and guest artists. Through a partnership with Arkansas Academy of Dance, Arkansas Festival Ballet encourages formal classical ballet training to promote a love of dance, and prepare talents for extensive training programs at major companies and schools

Arkansas Festival Ballet's Performance Season includes full-length storybook ballet productions, *The Nutcracker Ballet*, a mixed bill performance, and collaborative projects with local arts organizations.

Arkansas Festival Ballet has performed the classic ballets, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella* and *Coppelia*, in addition to storybook ballets *The Princess and the Frog*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Aladdin*, *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, *Snow White*, *Peter and the Wolf*, and *Hansel & Gretel*. Additional works include grand scaled collaborative productions of *Carmina Burana*, *Peter Grimes*, *The Magic Flute*, *Dido & Aeneas*, *Dracula Unearthed* and *Romeo & Juliet*.

Arkansas Festival Ballet strives to strengthen arts education in the community through its collaborative partnerships with organizations in Central Arkansas. As a featured guest artist, Arkansas Festival Ballet has appeared with the Conway Symphony Orchestra, South Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, Pine Bluff Symphony Orchestra, University of Arkansas Music Department & Concert Choir, Wildwood Park for the Arts, Collin County Ballet Theatre, Opera in the Rock, Argenta Community Theatre, Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Arkansas Children's Theatre, Praeclara Arts, and The Clinton Foundation.

AFB is a non for profit 501 (c)3 organization.

## This Month's Upcoming Events

**May 11-16, Evaluation Week** - Be in attendance for classes this week, every student receives a report card with level placement for next dance year. This is one of the many ways we praise and encourage our academy students.

**May 19, AFB Company Auditions** - Academy students are encouraged audition for Arkansas Festival Ballet Performing Company. Junior Company for Ages 9-11, and Apprentice & Performing Company for Ages 11- up. Go to [ArkansasFestivalBallet.org](http://ArkansasFestivalBallet.org) for details.

**May 23, Last Day of Academy Classes** –Have a wonderful summer! We hope to see you this summer in one of our summer dance programs: Summer Intensive, Summer Classes, and Summer Dance Camps!

**May 26-30, Make Up Classes** – We will hold make up classes from inclement weather days. Look for upcoming email with details.

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## Regional Dance America (RDA)

Arkansas Festival Ballet Performing Company is a performing member with RDA/Southwest. Dancers attended Regional Dance America Southwest 2026 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Participation in RDA offers dancers an extension to their current training. Over the course of the three-day festival, talents take classes from world renown instructors with top ranked accompanists, perform, and audition for college scholarships, summer training scholarships and year-round dance programs. **Congratulations to this year's participants – we applaud your outstanding achievements:** Amelia Alexander, Olivia Beachboard, Avery Head, Izabella McCallum, Ellery Owen, Lucy Scott, Mary Olive Smith, Farah Stalcup, Lanphia Tarawally, Maggie Wippo.

We would love to have our academy students and parents join us for RDA Festival in 2027. Are you interested in participating in RDA with Arkansas Festival Ballet? See the following location and dates:

- RDA/ SW Festival 2027 is in Monroe, Louisiana, March 18-20. Arkansas Academy of Dance students age 11+ encouraged to attend. We encourage family members to attend too!
- Learn more at [RegionalDanceAmerica.org](http://RegionalDanceAmerica.org)

## **Dance for Life - Dance for Parkinson's**

*Dance classes for people living with Parkinson's*

Arkansas Festival Ballet & Arkansas Academy of Dance have teamed up to host a beautiful program. This internationally acclaimed program offers dance classes, community, love, and support to people living with Parkinson's. Classes are free and take place in our studio home at 518 Main Street – Downtown Little Rock; offering a nurturing, safe and easily assessable venue. We are encouraging people with Parkinson's, their family members, and care partners to join the class. Classes meet every Monday 10:30 am & Thursday 1:30 pm. Sponsored in part by Jon and Sandra Marbaise, Bank OZK and a grant from the Parkinson's Foundation.



**Parkinson's Dance**  
arkansasfestivalballet.org

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### **Adult Ballet Class**

We believe ballet classes should be available to everyone, including adults with little to no experience. Join our dance community and take Adult Ballet Class with us. Class meets on Tuesday 9 am, Tuesday & Thursday 7 pm & Wednesday 5:30 pm. Believe us when we say, you will love this class and will feel immediate results. Find inclusion in this fun community of parents and grandparents, sharing this time together - we dance, we talk, and we laugh.

Don't wait, just try it!

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### **AFB's Ballet in the Ballroom - Reveal Party**

We would love for our academy parents to be a part of the excitement that is happening in our artistic community. We are always creating new ways to engage our families in our artistic endeavors. Make sure to attend the August 2026 - *Reveal Party* - a family friendly event that includes mini performances, light bites, performance season announcement, and more. Event location is Dreamland Ballroom, one of Little Rock's most beautiful, and historic venues. Details, Available soon at [ArkansasFestivalBallet.org](http://ArkansasFestivalBallet.org)

## 2026 Summer Dance Programs

### Summer Intensive

June 1-13  
Ages 5 & Up

### Tiny Tot FULL DAY Dance Camp

June 15-26  
Ages 3-5

### Midsummer FULL DAY Dance Academy

July 6-31  
Ages 3-11

### Summer Ballet Classes

July 6-31  
All Ages, Teen Ballet

### Adult Ballet

June-August  
Age 18 & up

Register online [ArkansasAcademyofDance.com](https://ArkansasAcademyofDance.com)



Arkansas Academy of Dance works in partnership with Arkansas Festival Ballet to provide a charming and safe environment for your dance experience.

All classes are taught by professional faculty.

### **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

**Register for SUMMER @ [ArkansasAcademyofDance.com](https://ArkansasAcademyofDance.com)**

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### **Thank you to Academy Families**

*from Arkansas Academy of Dance instructors, Trent Montgomery  
Farah Stalcup, Rebecca Miller Stalcup, Louisa Utley, Meredith Zachritz*

“We cherish the time spent with our students each week. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to teach and nurture your children, sharing with them our love and joy of dance, and helping them build confidence, strength, knowledge, and creativity. We are so proud of them and applaud their accomplishments. We look forward to encouraging their future growth and progress!”