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BalletX Celebrates 20 Years With Monumental 2025-2026 Season

Featuring extraordinary world premieres, reunions, and collaborations showcasing the company's illustrious past, present, and future.

Philadelphia, PA - June 10, 2025: [BalletX](#), Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet, invites audiences to experience a once-in-a-lifetime journey in celebration of [its 20th Anniversary Season](#).

In conjunction with Philadelphia's year-long celebration of America250, BalletX will present a season of carefully curated performances that embrace the company's innovative and ambitious beginnings, industry-leading artistic collaborations, and the promise of its exhilarating future.

"It is a momentous 2025-2026 season for BalletX, as we celebrate 20 years as Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet company," says **Artistic & Executive Director, Christine Cox**. "We started as a young, passionate group of artists with a profound sense of adventure and a shared vision to create bold new ballets. I am filled with gratitude to reach this milestone together, still passionate about the core mission and vision, while supporting hundreds of artists and inspiring our community through dance. This season, we want to celebrate everyone who has come along for the ride – while at the same time, honoring the incredible community around us and our amazing future ahead."

20th Anniversary Performance Season Highlights

BalletX's 20th Anniversary Season will feature five performance series, ten world premieres, twenty-plus community initiatives, and educational programs that celebrate a commitment to artistic excellence and underscore the company's role as a catalyst for contemporary ballet in America.

- **The Joyce Theater, NYC**
September 24–28, 2025
 - *A selection of 20th Anniversary excerpts and the NYC premiere of Gregory Dawson’s “Sojourner”*
- **20th Anniversary Retrospective at the Suzanne Roberts Theatre**
October 29–November 9, 2025
 - *Featuring two programs spanning a single decade of BalletX with highlights from choreographers including Jorma Elo, Nicolo Fonte, Jodie Gates, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Edwaard Liang, Caili Quan, Dwight Rhoden, Nicola Wills, and more*
 - *Oct. 29–Nov. 2, Program A, The First Decade: 2005-2014*
 - *Nov. 5-9: Program B, The Second Decade: 2015-2024 featuring a World Premiere by Keelan Whitmore*
- **BalletX in Bryn Mawr 2025**
December 12-14, 2025 at Bryn Mawr College
 - *3 World Premieres, featuring new work by Choreographic Fellow Christian Denice, and BalletX dancers Lanie Jackson and Itzkan Barbosa*
- **Petrushka w/ Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and ensemble 132 at the Perelman Theater**
January 8–9, 2026
 - *Premiere of Amy Hall Garner’s Petrushka in collaboration with PCMS and ensemble132*
 - *Tickets available through PCMS starting Aug 1*
- **Spring Series 2026 at the Suzanne Roberts Theatre**
March 18–22, 2026
 - *Matthew Neenan Retrospective, including “Broke Apart” (2006), “Show Me” (2015), and a World Premiere with composer Scott Ordway and set/lighting design by Christopher Ash*
- **Festival at the Mann 2026**
June 2026
 - *Part of the America250 celebration and co-commissioned by ArtPhilly and the Mann Center for the Performing Arts*
 - *Vivaldi’s Four Seasons, reimagined by Dan Deacon and performed live*
 - *4 World Premieres by choreographers Trey McIntyre, Morgann Runacre-Temple, Jamar Roberts, and Penny Saunders*
- **Summer Series 2026 at the Suzanne Roberts Theatre**
July 15–19, 2026
 - *The return of choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa’s “The Little Prince” featuring an original composition played live by Peter Salem*

Highlights of the season include the NYC premiere of Gregory Dawson’s acclaimed *Sojourner*, leading a selection of 20th Anniversary excerpts at The Joyce Theater in September. BalletX will present a

first-of-its-kind two decade retrospective in two different parts, over two separate weeks, at the Suzanne Roberts Theatre in fall 2025.

A full length world premiere collaboration, years in the making, with choreographer Amy Hall Garner, the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and ensemble132 will showcase a new take on the legendary classic *Petrushka* at the Perelman Theater in January. A retrospective of Matthew Neenan classics, plus a world premiere from the BalletX co-founder, will take over Spring Series 2026.

Vivaldi's Four Seasons will be reimagined by legendary composer, indie-rock and electronic musician and BalletX collaborator, Dan Deacon, with four world premieres at Festival at the Mann 2026 as part of Philadelphia's America250 celebration and the ArtPhilly 2026 festival. And the highly touted return of Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's full length, *The Little Prince*, will arrive at Summer Series 2026.

Prioritizing Education and Expanding Community Outreach

In addition to this expansive performance slate, the company will embark on an unprecedented year of community engagement, presenting free Pop-Up Performances across the Philadelphia region.

"An enormous part of BalletX's first 20 years in Philadelphia has been a mission to expand access to the arts and bring ballet to every corner of the community," says **Community Liaison and Rehearsal Director, Keelan Whitmore**. "This mission has expanded to become just as integral to the identity of the company as its artistic vision and will be on full display for the 20th Anniversary Season."

As part of the 2025-2026 initiative, the company will appear in various iconic public locations, bringing live performance, interactive experiences, and educational moments throughout Philadelphia that highlight 20th Anniversary Season programming.

In tandem with this tour of Pop-Up Performances, the company has announced a monthly First Friday event series at the BalletX Studio – offering a diverse range of dance classes and experiences for all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

BalletX's dedication to community will also grow beyond the stage in its 20th year through initiatives such as Dance eXchange, its in-school education program. The company has announced an expansion of the Dance eXchange program to include a 6th partner school in its 2025-2026 season: Olney Elementary.

BalletX season subscriptions go on sale July 14. For subscriptions, tickets, support and more information on BalletX and its 20th Anniversary, please visit: balletx.org

MEDIA CONTACT:

Dan Bruskwicz
717-451-5795

About BalletX:

BalletX expands the vocabulary of contemporary ballet for all audiences through innovative performances, world premiere choreography, dance education, and community programs. Founded in 2005 and led by Artistic & Executive Director Christine Cox, the company has commissioned over 80 choreographers from around the world to produce 150 world premieres that are “fresh, inclusive, and connect to what people want” (*Philadelphia Citizen*). With a versatile and diverse ensemble of 16 dancers, hailed as “among America’s best” by *The New York Times*, BalletX pushes the boundaries of classical ballet to tell today’s stories with passion, creativity, and exuberance. As a vibrant global incubator for artistic talent, the company makes ballet accessible and inviting, captivating audiences at prestigious venues including The Kennedy Center, Vail Dance Festival, The Joyce Theater, and Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival. Through performances, international touring, and meaningful community outreach, BalletX creates extraordinary dance experiences that inspire human connection.

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