

EAST FORWARD



NEW
ballet

HAMMER
THEATRE CENTER

MARCH 27-28, 2026



2026/2027 SEASON

Symphony San Jose and New Ballet are joining forces once again for our very special 25th Anniversary Season.

In addition to our beloved *Holiday Spectacular* and *The San Jose Nutcracker*, Symphony San Jose and New Ballet are excited to collaborate on a spring ballet — join us next year for *Sleeping Beauty*.

Explore our full lineup and make the most of your season! Save and subscribe with our *Create Your Own* package by selecting three or more concerts to unlock exclusive perks, including an early bird special for our movie in concert, *Star Wars: A New Hope*.



SUMMER BALLET TRAINING THAT WORKS FOR **YOUR** SCHEDULE! A variety of programs offered for ages 2.5 and up!



NEW ballet

Register at newballet.com/summer



presents

FAST FORWARD

CREATIVE TEAM

<i>Artistic Director</i>	Dalia Rawson
Fast Forward <i>Choreographers</i>	Natasha Adorlee Lyla Davey Julio Hong Deborah Le Erica Patton Joseph Phillips Dalia Rawson Mariana Sobral Jay Torres
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Deborah Lund
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Anthony Sutton
<i>Head Electrician</i>	Nick Hintzman
<i>Head Sound</i>	Michael Webster
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Rebecca Kang-Gray

Front and back cover photos by Tony Abello.



This performance was funded in part by support from an operating grant from the City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs.

PERFORMANCES

March 27, 2026 at 7:00 PM • March 28, 2026 at 2:00 PM



Hammer Theatre Center, 101 Paseo De San Antonio, San Jose, CA 95113

Please note the location of all exits and turn off your electronic devices. Please respect the audience and the performers on stage. Photographing, videotaping, or recording this production is strictly prohibited.

EXECUTIVE AND ARTISTIC STAFF

<i>Artistic & Executive Artistic Director</i>	Dalia Rawson [°]
<i>School Director</i>	Le Mai Linh*
<i>School Principal</i>	Elizabeth Hutter**
<i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	Laura Burton
<i>Pianists</i>	Peter Colclasure Svetlana Elenkova Daniel Gautier Irene Long
<i>Company Artists</i>	Ty Danzl, Delaney Ewert, Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez, Mikey Desai-Knight, Naomi Thien-Kim Le, Jazlyn Quezada, Stefana Seizovic, Sorcha Tate
<i>Studio Company Dancers</i>	Jolie Alonso, Grace Clements, Emily Cobb, Lilian Cross, Lyla Davey, Izela Espinoza, Anouk Haffner, Samantha Ladner, Daniel Le, Deborah Le, Isabella Martinez McGrath
<i>Studio Company Apprentices</i>	Olivia Ballard, Nicholas Edwards, Jacey Harris, Dylan Tobias, Mackenzie Welch



FACULTY

Jolie Alonso	Joseph Phillips
Laura Burton**	Dalia Rawson [°]
Caelyn Carlson	Andre Reyes
Grace Clements	Mariana Sobral*
Michelle D'Alo*	Sorcha Tate*
Ty Danzl*	Mackenzie Welch
Linh Mai Le**	Erin Yarborough
Naomi Thien-Kim Le*	Jing Zhang*

* ABT Certified Teacher ** ABT NTC Fellow ° ABT Artistic Board of Examiners

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

<i>Development and Communications Coordinator</i>	Jennifer Burton
<i>Accounting Manager</i>	Vivian Do
<i>Administrative Associate</i>	Emily Concordia
<i>Senior Student Services Representative</i>	Caelyn Carlson
<i>Senior Student Services Associate</i>	Sorcha Tate
<i>Student Services Receptionist</i>	Lilian Cross
<i>Administrative Coordinator</i>	Delaney Ewert
<i>Interns</i>	Morna Grace Tan Kylie Chao Dania Barrera
<i>Publicist</i>	Shannon Atlas
<i>Physical Health Advisor</i>	Katie Bell, NP
<i>Wellness Team Advisor</i>	Katrina Lee, DPT
<i>Company Physician</i>	Selena Shah, MD, FACP, FAMSSM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Samuel Cortez • Elizabeth Gummere • Mike Lee • William Perry • Raul Peralez
Dalia Rawson • Elizabeth Striebeck • Virginia Wright • Lourdes Yashar

FEATURED ARTISTS



JOLIE
ALONSO**



OLIVIA
BALLARD***



GRACE
CLEMENTS**



EMILY
COBB**



LILLIAN
CROSS**



TY
DANZL*



LYLA
DAVEY**



MIKEY
DESAI-KNIGHT*



NICHOLAS
EDWARDS***



IZELA
ESPINOZA**



DELANEY
EWERT*



TANGO HAYATO
FUJITA-GOMEZ*



ANOUK
HAFFNER**



JACEY
HARRIS**



SAMANTHA
LADNER**



DANIEL
LE**



DEBBIE
LE**



NAOMI THIEN-KIM
LE*



ISABELLA
MARTINEZ McGRATH**



ERICA
PATTON****



JAZLYN
QUEZADA*



STEFANA
SEIZOVIC*



SORCHA
TATE*



DYLAN
TOBIAS**



MACKENZIE
WELCH**

COMPANY ARTIST*

STUDIO COMPANY**

STUDIO COMPANY APPRENTICE***

GUEST ARTIST****

WELCOME!

Fast Forward is an evening of bold contemporary ballet, where commissioned choreographers explore new ideas without limits on content, length, cast, music, or theme. This creative freedom challenges New Ballet dancers artistically and technically, helping them grow through works made specifically for them. Since September, our choreographers have been shaping tonight's performances, and they'll share insights into their creations throughout the evening. Your presence directly supports the evolution of ballet. Thank you for championing new works and the future of the art form.

.....

ACT I

The Thinks

Choreographer: Lyla Davey

Music: *Pocket Calculator • Aria • Model* by Alexander Balanescu

Jolie Alonso, Grace Clements, Emily Cobb, Lilian Cross, Ty Danzl, Anouk Haffner, Samantha Ladner, Naomi Thien-Kim Le, Isabella Martinez McGrath, Jazlyn Quezada, Sorcha Tate, Dylan Tobias

Generously underwritten by Margaret Lum, Ayla Bell, and jory bell

.....

Bodies of Traffic

Choreographer: Deborah Le

Music: *Sombras • Tema 1 • Triade;*" by Divan Gattamora

Mikey Desai-Knight, Nicholas Edwards, Izela Espinoza, Delaney Ewert, Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez, Jacey Harris, Daniel Le, Erica Patton, Stefana Seizovic, Mackenzie Welch

.....

3/4

Choreographer: Joseph Phillips

Music by Evgeniy Doga, Moscow Chamber Choir

Main Couples: Delaney Ewert & Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez
Stefana Seizovic & Mikey Desai-Knight

with Olivia Ballard, Emily Cobb, Lilian Cross, Izela Espinoza, Samantha Ladner, Deborah Le, Naomi Thien-Kim Le, Isabella Martinez McGrath, Jazlyn Quezada, Sorcha Tate

.....

Concrete Cultura: Latizmo Rhythm with New York Grit

Choreographer: Jay Torres

Lisa Henderson, Justin Mancuso, Jenni Pencer, Jay Torres

Latizmo Hip Hop Productions is an inclusive dance organization committed to empowering dancers of all abilities through dynamic choreography, passion, and purpose. Concrete Cultura: Latizmo Rhythm with New York Grit is inspired by the energy and resilience of New York City, blending raw street influence with refined movement to celebrate unity, culture, and bold self-expression.

.....

Helium

Choreographers: Dalia Rawson & Erica Patton

Music: *Hotel Aurora • Ana Ivanovic • Nickel Mountain • Helium* by Tin Hat Trio

Ty Danzl (Friday Cast) • Erica Patton (Saturday Cast)

with Mikey Desai-Knight, Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez, Sorcha Tate, and full company with Giovanni Storti,

understudy Rafael Wong-Solis courtesy of New Ballet School

Generously underwritten by Sharon Mandel

.....

INTERMISSION

ACT II

Disquiet

Choreographer: Mariana Sobral with cast collaboration

Music by Peter Colclasure

Ty Danzl, Mikey Desai-Knight, Delaney Ewert, Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez,
Stefana Seizovic, Sorcha Tate with full company

Chopin

Choreographer: Julio Hong

Music: Frederic Chopin played by Ariel Chien

Ty Danzl, Mikey Desai-Knight, Nicholas Edwards, Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez,
Daniel Le, Dylan Tobias


Enraptured

Choreographer: Natasha Adorlee

Music: **4 139** by Michael Wall • **Le Lac** by Jean-Michel Blais
Wedding by Kinan Azmeh • **roses** by Jean-Michel Blais

Jolie Alonso, Emily Cobb, Grace Clements, Ty Danzl, Lyla Davey, Mikey Desai-Knight,
Nicholas Edwards, Izela Espinoza, Tango Hayato Fujita-Gomez, Anouk Haffner,
Samantha Ladner, Deborah Le, Naomi Thien-Kim Le, Daniel Le, Erica Patton,
Stefana Seizovic, Sorcha Tate, Dylan Tobias

Generously underwritten by Margaret Lum, Ayla Bell, and jory bell



*Adult classes for
absolute beginners
and beyond.*

*Discover your
artistic side
with New Ballet.*

NEW
ballet





**NATASHA
ADORLEE**



**LYLA
DAVEY**



**JULIO
HONG**



**DEBORAH
LE**



**ERICA
PATTON**



**JOSEPH
PHILLIPS**



**DALIA
RAWSON**



**MARIANNA
SOBRAL**

CHOREOGRAPHER BIOGRAPHIES

NATASHA ADORLEE

Natasha Adorlee is an Emmy Award winning choreographer, filmmaker, composer, and creative leader based in San Francisco. Natasha began choreographing in 2016 while maintaining an award winning performance career with ODC Dance, Kate Weare and Company, Robert Moses' Kin, and the San Francisco Symphony. She attended SUNY Purchase and graduated from UC Berkeley. Natasha has been commissioned by Joffrey Ballet's Winning Works, Kansas City Ballet, Nevada Ballet Theatre, Richmond Ballet, BalletX, Oklahoma City Ballet, Ceprodoc in Mexico City, Kawaguchi Ballet in Japan, Ballare Carmel, Ballet22, Jacob's Pillow, and Imagery. Beyond the concert stage, she has created original work for Pixar Animation Studios, Oculus, National Geographic, The New Yorker, YouTube, and Cricket Wireless, bringing choreographic and movement based thinking into cinematic, commercial, and technological environments. Her work has been recognized with an NEA Grant, a Dresher Fellowship, a Jacob's Pillow Choreographic Fellowship, and the 2024 Grand Prize at the Palm Desert Choreography Festival and has received an Isadora Duncan Dance Award for Performance.

LYLA DAVEY

Born in Southern California, Lyla found her love for ballet when she was three years old. For most of her adolescence, Lyla trained at Huntington Academy of Dance in the Cecchetti method, completing her Cecchetti Grade 10 major examination in 2021. She then spent a year as a trainee with BalletMet and two years as a trainee at Ballet Idaho where she experienced a diverse mix of repertoire and discovered a passion for not just ballet, but contemporary dance. Now based in San Jose, Lyla has been a studio company member with New Ballet since the fall of 2024. Here, she has performed classical roles, such as California Poppy in Dalia Rawson's *The Nutcracker*, and a variety of contemporary works. Alongside her passion for the stage, Lyla has discovered a new love for choreographing and is excited to debut her first major choreographic work in New Ballet's 2026 production of *Fast Forward*.

JULIO HONG

Julio Hong was born in Havana where he absorbed the rich dance traditions of Cuba. After completing the core dance curriculum in International dance, Latin American Folkloric Dance, and Popular Cuban dance, he earned a Diploma in Classical Ballet from the National School of Arts (ENA). In 1994, Julio Hong earned a Masters degree in Dramaturgy and Theatre from the Superior Institution of Art (ISA) in Cuba. He was the principal dancer in the ballet of Cuban television; created five dance programs in international, folkloric and popular dance for the Allegro Resort Company; and danced for six years with Compagnie Marie Chouinard, followed by Rubberbandance Group. He was a choreographer during the entire run of the popular television show, *Les Match des Étoiles*. Julio is the Artistic Director for the: Gala Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ), since 2011; Cuban Fiesta at Les weekends du Monde, and since 2010 Afro Cuban Association of Montreal, and since 2016 he's a Choreographer and artistic director for the Cirque du Soleil and the Chinese association of Montreal Group Phoenix and consultant for Canada art council until present.

DEBORAH LE

Deborah started ballet lessons at the age of 4 at Ballet San Jose. She continued her training, eventually joining New Ballet first in the Senior Pre-Professional Division and then becoming a Studio Company Apprentice and now Studio Company Dancer. She

also studied contemporary dance within both organizations, gradually noticing that contemporary dance suited her movement qualities quite well. This led her into exploring movement concepts on herself as a dancer and eventually choreographing on fellow dancers. She is thrilled to present a piece to be performed in this year's Fast Forward program!

ERICA PATTON

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Erica Patton started her training at Dance 1 Redondo learning ballet, tap, contemporary and jazz. During high school she expanded her vocabulary and began training at the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, expanding her training into Dunham, Graham and flamenco and worked with teachers and choreographers such as Debbie Allen, Karen McDonald, Jason Samuels Smith and Lauren Anderson. With additional training at the Westside School Of Ballet under Martine Harley, Erica proceeded to train with State Street Ballet in their Professional Track Trainee program and also started her love of teaching and choreographing. While living in Santa Barbara she started teaching choreography in both tap and contemporary and set pieces on students and peers. Since then she has choreographed for showcases and competitions throughout California. This is Patton's first collaborative piece and is very excited to expand her journey as a dancer and choreographer!

JOSEPH PHILLIPS

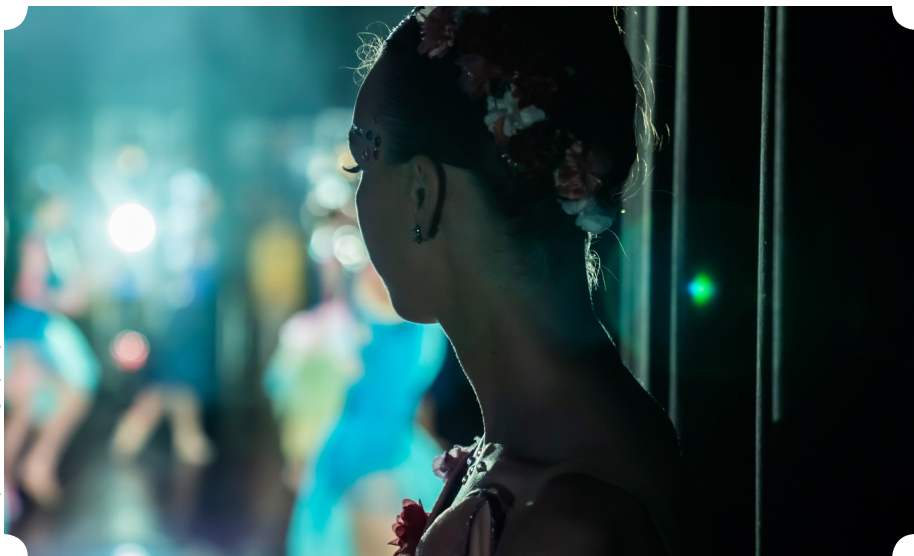
As the holder of more gold medals than any other American dancer, Joseph has accredited the title of the "golden boy of ballet." He was a laureate of Les Etoiles de Ballet 2000 Critic's Award in both Cannes and Paris in 2009 for being named "Best Young Male Dancer" of the year. He is currently co-directing El Camino Ballet with his wife, Irene and is the newly appointed director of Columbia Classical Ballet. Joseph danced with American Ballet Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, and Miami City Ballet. During his time, he worked with choreographers like William Forsythe, Alexei Ratmansky, Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, and Edward Villella, among others. He is also one of a handful of American dancers to become a premier principal dancer in Russia under Mariinsky Theatre's umbrella and was a regular principal dancer at Ballet Philippines, Philippine Ballet Theatre, and Ballet Manila.

DALIA RAWSON

Dalia Rawson is the Director, Founder and primary choreographer of New Ballet. From 1991 to 2006, Dalia Rawson performed a wide variety of leading roles as a dancer with Ballet San Jose. She began teaching at BSJ School in 2000, was named Ballet Mistress in 2007, Principal in 2012, and Director in 2014. In 2013 Rawson was awarded a Fellowship from the New York Choreographic Institute, an affiliate of New York City Ballet. An ABT Certified Teacher, who has successfully completed the ABT Teacher Training Intensive in Primary through Level 7 of the ABT National Training Curriculum, Rawson is also a member of the ABT Artistic Board of Examiners. In 2016, Rawson's production of The San Jose Nutcracker premiered to sold out houses and critical acclaim. About the work, Tad Malone of The San Jose Metro said, "Ultimately, this show's captivating success comes down to the meticulous and inspired vision of New Ballet's executive director and choreographer, Dalia Rawson. The routines were intricate, graceful - oftentimes unfurling into each other in remarkably fluid transition." Since then Rawson has created a repertory of ballets for New Ballet's professional company, including the story ballets "Cinderella," "Sleeping Beauty," "Swan Lake," "La Boutique Fantasque," as well as the contemporary sleeper hit "Less than Three."

MARIANA SOBRAL

Mariana Sobral is the Artistic Director of eMotion Arts. Born in Argentina, her career as Soloist and Principal Dancer includes roles in classical and contemporary works like "Giselle", "The Sleeping Beauty," "Coppelia," "La Bayadere," and "Who Cares?" among many others. Upon moving to the USA, Mariana developed ballet programs and created award-winning choreographies for studios and companies throughout the Bay Area, teaching ballet and directing students of all ages and experience levels. She is also an ABT Certified Teacher. As a choreographer her work has been seen in San Francisco as part of the RAW Artist residence at SAFEhouse Arts, San Francisco Arts Movement, The DanceWright Project, and also in Regional, National, and International competitions where they earned her many choreography awards. Most recently she was nominated for an Izzy award for her piece Season(s) from the 2025 Fast Forward production.



ABOUT NEW BALLET

New Ballet elevates the art of ballet in San Jose. Founded in 2016 by Dalia Rawson, the organization moved to a new downtown location in the Corinthian Ballroom building in early 2020. New Ballet artists, faculty, and staff are devoted to the pursuit of excellence and thrive in an environment of inclusivity and creativity. The organization provides vibrant performances and unparalleled instruction and is revolutionizing the way professional ballet training happens in the South Bay community.

The Professional Company at New Ballet offers a full season of ballet performances in San Jose. Described by critics and audience members as “entertaining,” “mesmerizing,” and “the area’s leading ballet organization,” New Ballet performances entertain audiences from across the Bay Area, including The San Jose Nutcracker and our annual Spring classical ballet. Don’t miss Giselle, May 16 - 17, which will complete the 2026-2027 season. And save the date for our 10th anniversary Gala on October 17, 2026!

New Ballet School offers expert training to students ages two-and-a-half and up with performance opportunities available for students at levels Primary A and up. Training at New Ballet prioritizes individual students, and teaches ballet in an inclusive environment with a focus on dancer health and child development. The school is proud to feature the American Ballet Theatre National Training Curriculum, and is one of only five schools nationwide designated as an American Ballet Theatre Certified School.

MISSION STATEMENT

The New Ballet’s mission is to celebrate, promote, and practice the art of dance, to spark creativity, and to strengthen community connections by providing our city with exemplary classical ballet training and performance. We achieve excellence by providing inclusive ballet training with a focus on dancer health and individual development, and by providing engaging ballet performances that appeal to families that reside in San Jose and beyond.

At a time when traditional funding sources are in jeopardy, your gift means more than ever.



DONORS

New Ballet is grateful to the people and organizations whose generous donations make possible the art we create with our community.

Donations listed below were made between 11/18/2024 and 2/18/2026.

LEADING FUNDER: \$100,000 AND ABOVE

City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs
State of California
Office of the Small Business Advocate

BALLETOMANE: \$15,000-\$99,999

Anonymous Unknown
Robin & Stephen Ching
Kimberly & Howard Gore
John Heineke & Catherine Montfort
Gareth Hughes & Dalia Rawson
Geoff & Qian Mendal
Rotary Club of San José Foundation
Gordana Seizovic
Leo M. Shortino Family Foundation
Warmenhoven Family Foundation
Nadine Weil
Elizabeth, Eric, Nate, & Theo Werness
Mark Young

ANGEL: \$10,000-\$14,999

Mimi & Eric Carlson
Charles Hanes
Jasmin & Richard Perkins
Robert Weil

IMPRESARIO: \$5,000-\$9,999

Sandra & Richard Conniff
Jill Escher
Sharon Mandell
National Endowment for the Arts
Henry E. Piazza
Lourdes & Frank Yashar

PARTNER: \$1,000-\$4,999

AMD
Allworth Financial & Jerry He
Apple, Inc
Kristen Bautista & Sean Tyan
Stephen Boisvert
Joseph & Susanne Cellura
The Gloria & Michael Chiang Charitable Fund
Steve & Jamie Clements
Carol & Michael Cobb
Sandi & Richard Conniff
Suzy & Abe Darwish
Jonah Deitz
Udbhav Desai
Marilyn Devito
Alexander Fler
Google, Inc
Elmer & Manola Garduno
Intuitive Foundation
Sherry Lee
Mike Lee
Zenobia Leung
Marie Lopresto
Margaret Lum

Mei Ma
Kirsten Matyjasik
Brian McGee
Steven & Juanita Mink
Kendra & Joshua Nasser
Raul Peralez
Bill & Martha Perry
Repechage Group, Inc.
Sentara Health
Daniel Snyder
Zivile & Eric Rawson
Caitlin & Sean Samenfeld-Specht
Elizabeth & Mark Striebeck
Camilo Viecco

FRIEND: \$500-\$999

Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area
Ayla Bell
Eleen Kamas
Ravi Ghadia & Manisha Shah Ghadia
Xi Gao
Glen Gould
Thomas Hassing
IBM
Fiona Kaufman
Chinh & Anatasia Le
Robert & Kathryn Lindo
Diana Morabito & Keith Ball
Catherine Pike
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Repechage Group, Inc.
May Rogers
Aya Saeki
Marianne & Carl Salas
John Salas
Salesforce
Debbie Sharratt
Angel Emiliano Solis Perez
Sheela Sukhdeo
John Thomson & Lyra Eugenio-Thomson
Boris Vulovic
Emilee Wilhelm-Leen
Ted Zanella
Tahia Zannat
Yuke Zhou
Angelique Zuluaga

SUPPORTER: \$350-\$499

Adobe
Shannon Atlas
Judith Dunham
Annette Eldredge
Joshua Glenn
Alison Higuera
Rita Horiguchi
Christie Laborin
Jeanne Torre
Peijun Zhang
Rong Zheng



THE NEW
ballet

Giselle

MAY 16-17, 2026
newballet.com/spring

HAMMER
SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY