

23/24



ALBERTA BALLET  
CANADA

CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Artist Alexandra Gibson Photo Eluvier Acosta

23/24

## Season Performances

### *Ballet Hispánico in Doña Perón*

CALGARY **SEPTEMBER 14–16**  
EDMONTON **SEPTEMBER 22–23**

### *The Sleeping Beauty*

CALGARY **OCTOBER 26–28**  
EDMONTON **NOVEMBER 3–4**

### *The Nutcracker*

EDMONTON **DECEMBER 6–10**  
CALGARY **DECEMBER 15–24**

### *Beijing Dance Theater in Hamlet*

CALGARY **FEBRUARY 15–17**  
EDMONTON **FEBRUARY 23–24**

### *Hansel & Gretel*

CALGARY **MARCH 7–9**  
EDMONTON **MARCH 22–23**

### *Der Wolf & The Rite of Spring*

CALGARY **MAY 2–4**  
EDMONTON **MAY 10–11**

## *Placing creativity centre stage.*

Creativity is the seed of artistic expression, and creativity will resonate throughout our 2023/24 season. Brimming with bold and daring productions, this new season will captivate your imagination!

We've selected productions with vivid characters and grand adventures - bringing artists, sets, music and storytelling from across the world. We've also reached into our repertoire for some Alberta-infused interpretations. Several works include collaborations with today's most prolific choreographers; works that I know our artists will elevate.

The ambition around next season is what makes 2023/24 stand out. We are striving for new heights with a goal of matching our artistic expression on stage to your incredible enthusiasm for dance.

We've selected these shows just for you, and I hope they inspire your anticipation!

**CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Canada Council  
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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
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23/24 SEASON



## *A portrait of power: Doña Perón brings Evita's emotional story to life.*

Alberta Ballet is pleased to welcome New York-based Ballet Hispánico to the stage with *Doña Perón*. This complex and moving portrait of Argentina's most controversial first lady, Eva "Evita" Perón, instantly captivated audiences across the continent when it premiered in 2022.

Following Evita's story from illegitimate child of a farmer, to dancehall girl, to Argentina's influential first lady, *Doña Perón* presents a portrait of dichotomies. Evita was an activist for the working class who also indulged in high-class opulence. She was a trusted figure among labourers, and an outcast snubbed by those in high-class society. *Doña Perón* presents the emotional story of this historical powerhouse, from her rise as an icon until her untimely death at the age of 33.

Choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa brings her innovative vision to the Jubilee stage once again, following 2022/23's world premiere of *BOTERO*. Showcasing Ballet Hispánico's mission to explore Latin cultures in dance and infusing ballet with tango in this stunning contemporary work, Ochoa brings an exciting new perspective to the story. With lively music, complex costumes and thoughtful stage production, *Doña Perón* embodies power and emotion in an unforgettable masterpiece.

*"She's not a fairy-tale character, she's not a literary character. She's a real woman, and for me, it's interesting to put her on stage because she's difficult to pinpoint. I want to give female dancers real roles, not always the nice roles."*

—Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**

Annabelle Lopez Ochoa

**ARTISTIC COLLABORATION:**

Nancy Meckler

**MUSIC:**

Peter Salem

**COSTUME DESIGN:**

Mark Eric

**LIGHTING, SET AND VIDEO DESIGN:**

Christopher Ash

*"There are few things as instantly captivating as Ballet Hispánico's Doña Perón."*

— BROADWAY WORLD



Ballet Hispánico Artists Photo Paula Lobo

23/24 SEASON



*The spell is cast: This beloved storybook ballet will enchant the entire family!*

Alberta Ballet eagerly anticipates the return of *The Sleeping Beauty*! This classic fairy tale is destined to enchant ballet-goers of all ages. Since 2018, *The Sleeping Beauty* has been a crown jewel in the company’s repertoire, offering a quintessential classical ballet experience.

A beloved story for the ages, Alberta Ballet’s rendition has everything that aficionados treasure, from Tchaikovsky’s symphonic score to the exacting technique in the Rose Adagio. Younger audience members will delight when familiar fairy-tale characters appear as special guests in the final act’s royal wedding. What’s more, this sumptuous masterpiece embraces a unique local spin, as it unfolds against the backdrop of the awe-inspiring landscapes and foliage of the Canadian Rockies.

Staying true to the classic, Marius Petipa’s original choreography inspires Christopher Anderson’s brilliant artistic direction in a new take on a cherished favourite. Don’t miss this grand and breathtaking Alberta fairy tale, guaranteed to charm the whole family.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**  
Christopher Anderson after Marius Petipa  
**MUSIC:**  
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**COSTUME DESIGN:**  
David Heuvel and Peter Cazalet  
**SET DESIGN:**  
Curtis Van Charles

*“It’s genius, all of it, and with exquisite costumes by David Heuvel and Peter Cazalet, set against Curtis Van Charles’ mountain view-inspired digital sets, it all charms incessantly.”*

- CALGARY HERALD



Artists Jennifer Gibson and Eli Barnes Photo Juan Castillo



*Share the magic of live performance  
with a beloved classic.*

What better way to celebrate the holiday season than with Alberta Ballet’s annual production of *The Nutcracker*? *The Nutcracker* is a treasured holiday tradition for audiences of all ages.

In this beloved family tale, Klara and her Nutcracker travel an unknown kingdom, battle the dark magic of the Rat Tsar and dance with the courtiers of the Sugar Plum Fairy. 120 incredible performers bring Klara’s journey to life, decked out in stunning costumes and accompanied by a live orchestra. Join us as the Jubilee stage transforms into an enchanting fantasy world. The magic of live performance has never been as vibrant and dazzling as it is in this production.

*The Nutcracker* is prepared each year with an eye to inspire the youngest audience members and to create cherished memories and traditions for your family that will last a lifetime. New surprises await in this beloved favourite!

**Featuring live music by Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and  
Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra**

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**  
Edmund Stripe  
**MUSIC:**  
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**ORIGINAL SET AND COSTUME DESIGN:**  
Zack Brown  
**NEW COSTUMES (2022):**  
Alberta Ballet, Timberlake Studios  
and Lisa Logan

*“The Nutcracker brims with endless festive delights  
and makes a perfect holiday treat.”*

- BROADWAY WORLD





CALGARY FEBRUARY 15–17

FEBRUARY 23–24 EDMONTON

*Classic Shakespeare transforms into captivating ballet.*

Alberta Ballet welcomes another exciting guest performance to the Jubilee when Beijing Dance Theater's stunning dance-drama, *Hamlet*, takes the stage.

Renowned for showcasing China's best stage artists, Beijing Dance Theater undertakes this brilliant adaptation of a classic Shakespearean tragedy and uncovers an intense, visually stunning unfolding of human experience. Told through the eyes of the prince, this rendition takes audiences inside his troubled head and heart, entwining beauty and darkness as he struggles with themes of power, family and revenge. Although the story is rooted in a classic tragedy, this production also features the compelling flip side: the human potential for love and forgiveness.

To be or not to be? Choreographer Yuanyuan Wang, one of China's leading dance makers, shares there is no singular moment when that speech is delivered, but rather is a question pondered throughout the entire ballet. An original score by Dirk Haubrich provides the musical backdrop for this riveting contemporary ballet, completing the richness of this feast for the senses. You won't want to miss the Canadian debut of this striking masterpiece!

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**

Yuanyuan Wang

**MUSIC:**

Dirk Haubrich

**LIGHTING DESIGN:**

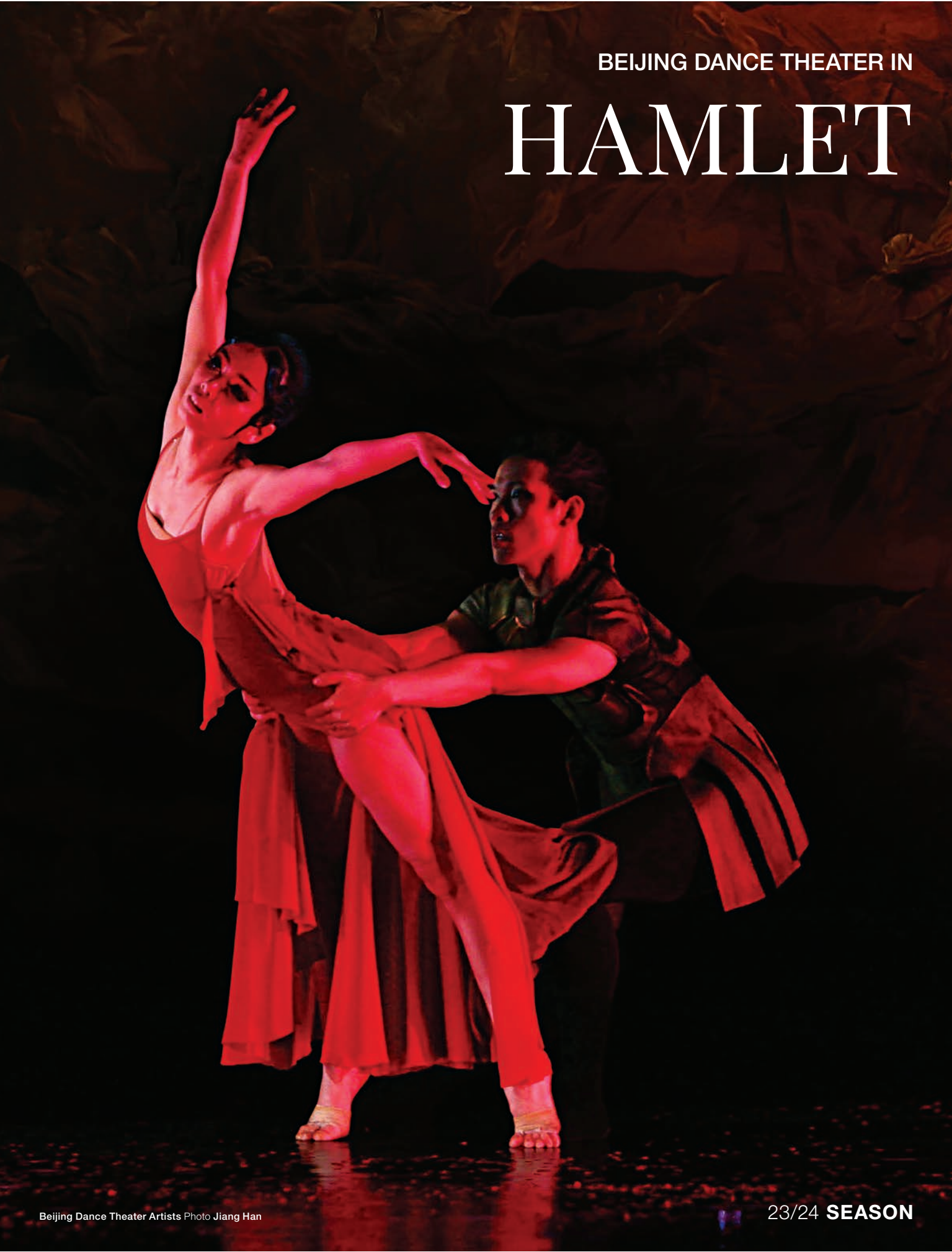
Jiang Han

**COSTUME DESIGN:**

A Kuan

*“An invigorating experience...Sheer visual beauty.”*

- THE WASHINGTON POST





CALGARY MARCH 7-9

MARCH 22-23 EDMONTON

## *So dazzling you can almost taste this sweet adventure.*

Prepare for another world-class treat when *Hansel & Gretel* illuminates the Jubilee stage. Inspired by the charm of old-fashioned black and white movies, with the brilliant energy of a fantastical adventure, this family ballet presents a true feast for the senses.

The memorable lineup of characters creates a delightful trail of surprises, each bringing more magic to the stage. Join Hansel and Gretel as they encounter the mystical Sandman and his sparkling Dew Fairies, the Ice Cream Witch, a sinister chorus line of pink-iced gingerbread men and more. With each new character comes an abundance of sensational visual delights.

Choreographer Loughlan Prior's interpretation of *Hansel & Gretel* provides a brighter take on the original tale, bringing stunning dance, vibrant costumes and outrageous fun. A scrumptious storybook world awaits for audiences to devour! This sweet retelling of the Brothers Grimm age-old fable is a truly wonderful experience for adventure-seekers of all ages.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**

Loughlan Prior

**MUSIC:**

Claire Cowan

**SET AND COSTUME DESIGN:**

Kate Hawley

**LIGHTING DESIGN:**

Jon Buswell

*“Hansel & Gretel has everything a brilliant ballet needs — beautiful choreography and dancing, wonderful music, fantastic costumes and set design and a great story. It is the perfect ballet for audiences of all ages.”*

- THEATRE VIEW NEW ZEALAND





CALGARY MAY 2-4

MAY 10-11 EDMONTON

*This double bill invites you into a dark and curious landscape of folklore, forest and frenzy against hard-hitting visceral scores.*

Alberta Ballet presents two provocative works in a showcase of ballet beyond whimsy and grace.

*The Rite of Spring's* 1913 premiere shocked Paris audiences of the time, evoking more controversy and wielding more influence than almost any other piece of music or dance in history. Nicolo Fonte's 2014 version maintains the power and drama of the original, pairing Stravinsky's iconic score with a libretto that dives into themes of community, ritual sacrifice and birth and re-birth in subtle and abstract ways.

In 2021, Austria's Oper Graz premiered a distorted adult reimagining of the fairy tale, *Little Red Riding Hood*. In an exploration of temptation and threat, our folklore heroine is given three chances to shape the plot of this famous fable. A darker twist on the age-old tale, *Der Wolf* explores the struggle between dominance and devotion as a young woman deliberates on a choice.

#### DER WOLF

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**

Morgann Runacre-Temple

**MUSIC:**

Frank Moon

**SET AND COSTUME DESIGN:**

Kinsun Chan

#### THE RITE OF SPRING

**CHOREOGRAPHY:**

Nicolo Fonte

**MUSIC:**

Igor Stravinsky

**COSTUME DESIGN:**

David Heuvel

**SET AND LIGHTING DESIGN:**

Michael Mazzola

*“This is a truly ambitious and daring program to close our 2023/24 season. Both choreographers are widely celebrated for their unique style and powerful storytelling. Their influence is essential to the continued evolution of our artistic identity, and I am overjoyed to share these works with you.”*

- CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON



Der Wolf image courtesy of Oper Graz Photo Ian Whelan

Artist Alexandra Gibson Photo Eluvier Acosta

23/24 SEASON



*Alberta Ballet School's Professional Division students are an inspirational showcase of talent! Don't miss your chance to see these aspiring artists.*

Students come from all over the world to train with our esteemed faculty. Alberta Ballet School alumni have pursued careers with Hong Kong Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, English National Ballet and, of course, Alberta Ballet.

**Alberta Ballet School stands apart from other Canadian ballet schools, offering:**

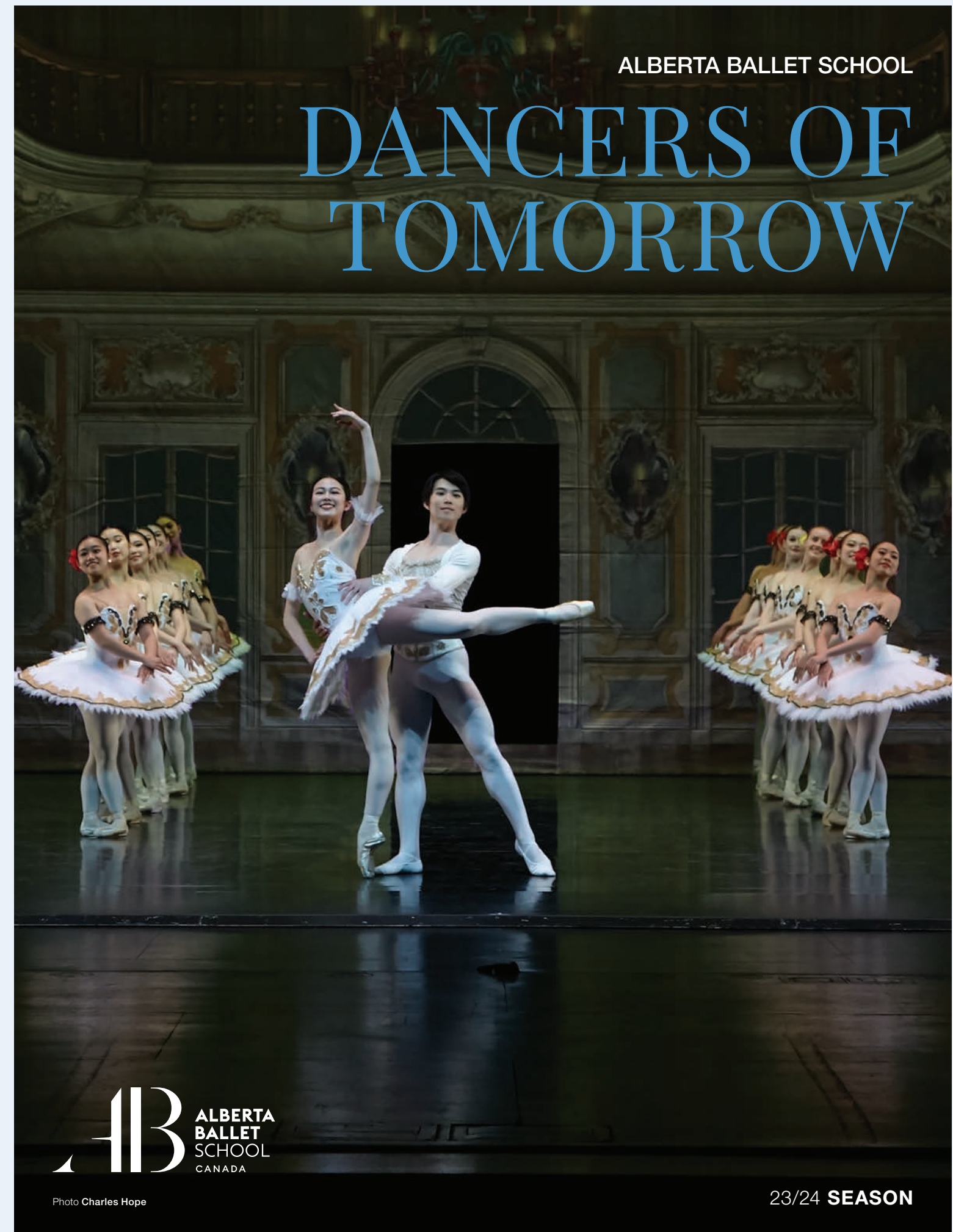
- An internationally recognized ballet and contemporary dance curriculum
- Direct affiliation with a professional dance company with standing artists
- On-site academic programming (accredited by Alberta Education)
- Residence (located at Mount Royal University)

No other ballet school in Canada meets all of these needs in-house the way Alberta Ballet School does, encouraging an integration of artistic practice with equal emphasis on academic achievement and a healthy lifestyle.

*Alberta Ballet School's Dancers of Tomorrow* is a rare opportunity to see this remarkable talent in an evening featuring contemporary and classical works. The artistry on stage is a glimpse of tomorrow's artists, creators and cultural leaders.

*“An abundance of talent and energy will be on display at the end-of-year performance by Alberta Ballet School. Come see for yourself! Three generations of our family attended this event last year, and we all loved the impressive performances.”*

- COLLEEN AND GEORGE BEZAIRE, SUBSCRIBERS AND DANCE CIRCLE MEMBERS





# SUBSCRIPTION BENEFITS

**ALBERTA BALLET SUBSCRIPTIONS OFFER EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS, FLEXIBILITY AND CONVENIENCE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON.**

Our 2023/24 subscription packages include *Doña Perón*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Hamlet*, *Hansel & Gretel* and our season finale: *Der Wolf & The Rite of Spring*.



**Secured Seats**

- Watch all performances from the same great seats at every production
- Keep or upgrade your seats, season after season



**Savings**

- Enjoy a 20% discount on all subscription tickets
- Save 20% on additional tickets, including *The Nutcracker*
- Reduced ticketing fees



**Free Exchanges**

- Exchange your subscription tickets and add-on shows, free of charge
- Ticket exchanges can be applied to any performance in the production



**Early Access**

- First access to *The Nutcracker* and additional tickets to all productions before they go on sale to the general public



**Payment Plan Option**

- Purchase your subscription early and pay in two easy instalments



**Ticket Donation Tax Receipt**

- Unable to attend your scheduled performance? Donate your tickets back to Alberta Ballet for a tax receipt (48 hours' notice required)



**Alberta Ballet Account Manager**

- Purchase, exchange or transfer subscription or add-on tickets through your secure personal account
- Securely resell your tickets online
- Dedicated Patron Services team to assist you

\* Maximum of 4 add-on tickets per account per production, including *The Nutcracker*.

## *Add a donation to your subscription*

**THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF ARTS PARTICIPATION HAVE LIFELONG IMPACT.**

As a registered charity, Alberta Ballet is working to make these benefits accessible to more Albertans. When you round up, you're supporting the community impact in our annual operations.

**DONATE TODAY AND MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO DELIVER THE ART YOU LOVE!**



Artist **Allison Perhach** Photo **Eluvier Acosta**  
Fashions provided by **Paul Hardy** Styling **Carl Abad** (front cover, back cover and page 19)



23/24 Subscription Pricing

5 Pack Evening	\$771.50	\$647.50	\$587.50	\$507.50	\$363.50	\$259.50
4 Pack Evening	\$617.20	\$518.00	\$470.00	\$406.00	\$290.80	\$207.60

23/24 Subscription Package Performance Dates

		DOÑA PERÓN	THE SLEEPING BEAUTY	HAMLET	HANSEL & GRETEL	DER WOLF & RITE OF SPRING
CALGARY	THURSDAY	Sept 14, 2023 7:30 pm	Oct 26, 2023 7:30 pm	Feb 15, 2024 7:30 pm	Mar 7, 2024 7:30 pm	May 2, 2024 7:30 pm
	FRIDAY	Sept 15, 2023 7:30 pm	Oct 27, 2023 7:30 pm	Feb 16, 2024 7:30 pm	Mar 8, 2024 7:30 pm	May 3, 2024 7:30 pm
	SATURDAY MATINÉE	Sept 16, 2023 2:00 pm	Oct 28, 2023 2:00 pm	Feb 17, 2024 2:00 pm	Mar 9, 2024 2:00 pm	May 4, 2024 2:00 pm
	SATURDAY EVENING	Sept 16, 2023 7:30 pm	Oct 28, 2023 7:30 pm	Feb 17, 2024 7:30 pm	Mar 9, 2024 7:30 pm	May 4, 2024 7:30 pm
EDMONTON	FRIDAY	Sept 22, 2023 7:30 pm	Nov 3, 2023 7:30 pm	Feb 23, 2024 7:30 pm	Mar 22, 2024 7:30 pm	May 10, 2024 7:30 pm
	SATURDAY	Sept 23, 2023 7:30 pm	Nov 4, 2023 7:30 pm	Feb 24, 2024 7:30 pm	Mar 23, 2024 7:30 pm	May 11, 2024 7:30 pm

23/24 The Nutcracker Pricing

Subscriber Price	Super Premier	Premier	A Zone	B Zone	C Zone	D Zone
	\$154.30	\$129.50	\$117.50	\$101.50	\$72.70	\$51.90

23/24 The Nutcracker Performance Dates

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY MATINEE	SATURDAY EVENING	SUNDAY MATINÉE
EDMONTON	Dec 6, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 7, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 8, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 9, 2023 1:00 pm	Dec 9, 2023 6:00 pm	Dec 10, 2023 1:00 pm
CALGARY	—	—	Dec 15, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 16, 2023 1:00 pm	Dec 16, 2023 6:00 pm	Dec 17, 2023 1:00 pm
	Dec 20, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 21, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 22, 2023 7:00 pm	Dec 23, 2023 1:00 pm	Dec 23, 2023 6:00 pm	Dec 24, 2023 1:00 pm

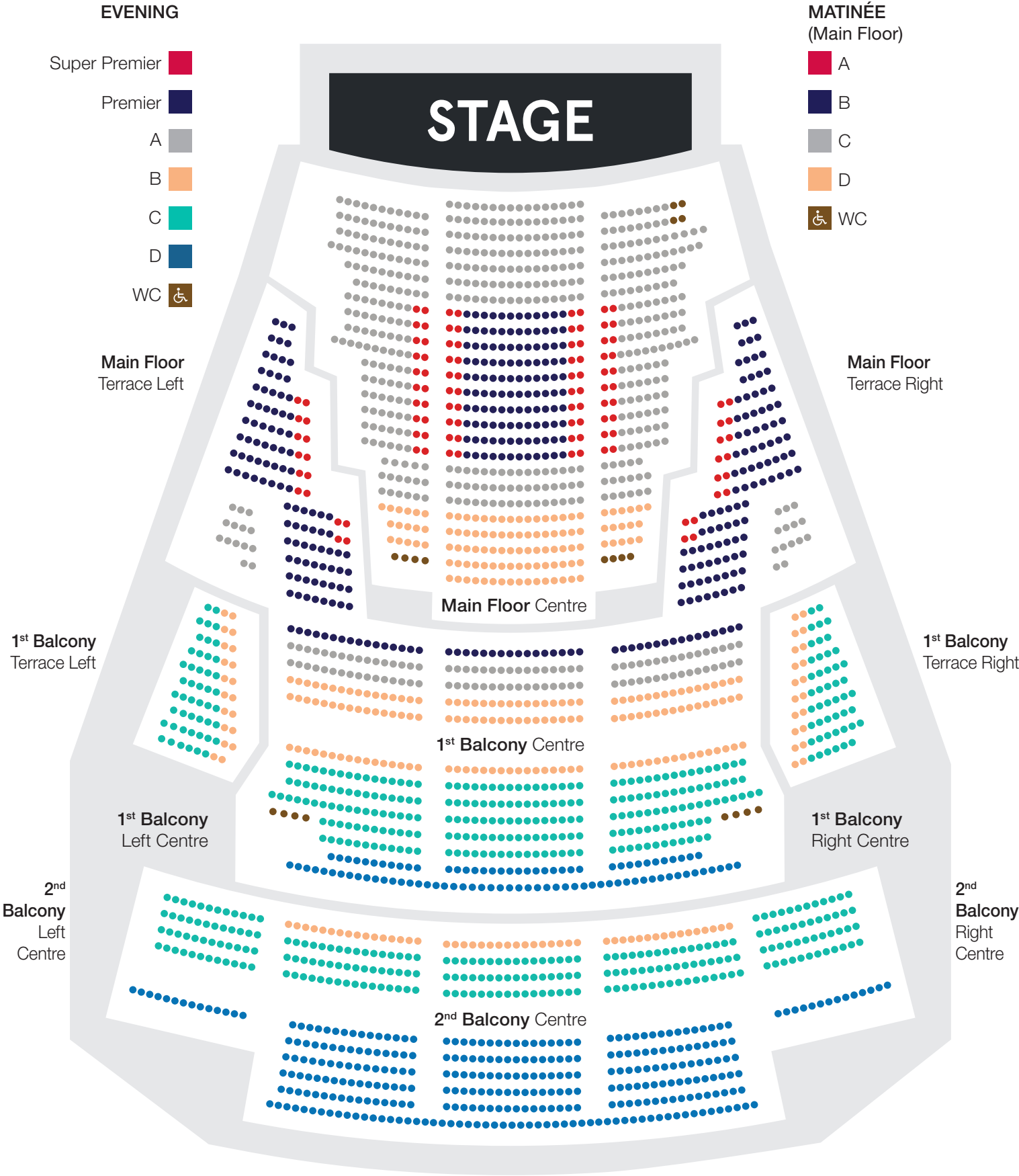
A new offer for those who need more flexibility

INTRODUCING OUR 3-SHOW FLEX PACKS.

100% customizable, this package is built to fit your schedule, your preferences and your wallet. Select three productions, any day in the run, at any price level and for any number of tickets and save 15%. Starting at \$180.75, the options in an Alberta Ballet Flex Pack are endless.

Seating Map

Southern & Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium



Please note: Programming, schedules, pricing, and seating are subject to change. Same seats are not guaranteed for add-on shows. Matinee pricing does not apply to The Nutcracker performances.



BECOME A  
MEMBER

As a Dance Circle member, you help shape the future of Alberta Ballet with voting rights at our AGM and gain a deeper connection to our work.

When you become a Dance Circle member, your ballet subscription is made even more special with performance-night benefits+



Alberta Ballet Lounge



Complimentary Parking



Complimentary Coat Check

To learn more about membership, reach out to [donate@albertaballet.com](mailto:donate@albertaballet.com) or call 403.245.6560.

+Does not apply to The Nutcracker  
\*In accordance with CRA, all membership donations of \$1,500 or more will have a value of advantage removed from their charitable tax receipt determined by the benefits the donor receives with their membership package. All tax receipts for the 2023 tax year will be distributed quarterly.

INTRODUCING ALBERTA BALLET'S  
PATRON PROGRAM

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO GET CLOSER TO THE ART AND ARTISTS YOU LOVE?

Join Alberta Ballet's new Patron Program and elevate your experience, in the theatre and beyond. Our Patron Program includes all the in-theatre benefits of Dance Circle with added flexibility and more.

**TIER 1 | \$5,000**  
Connect with a community of dance lovers at events where you learn more about the artists you see on stage.

**TIER 2 | \$10,000**  
The ultimate behind-the-scenes experience. Gain insights all along the creation journey, from the studio to the stage, through curated events year-round.

We're looking forward to launching this new program.

Call or email to find out more!  
403.245.6560  
[donate@albertaballet.com](mailto:donate@albertaballet.com)

23/24 Donor Program Benefits

BENEFITS	DANCE CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP \$1,500	PATRON PROGRAM TIER 1 \$5,000	PATRON PROGRAM TIER 2 \$10,000
Insider news from the studio	✓	✓	✓
Charitable tax receipt for your donation amount, minus the value of advantage when applicable*	✓	✓	✓
Early bird access to events and sales	✓	✓	✓
Invitation for 2 to in-theatre dress rehearsals	✓	✓	✓
Complimentary parking and coat check at all performances	✓	✓	✓
Access to the Alberta Ballet Lounge during performance intermissions (Excluding The Nutcracker)	✓	✓	✓
Exclusive sneak a peek of the upcoming season	✓	✓	✓
Invitation for 2 to view a company class in studio (YYC) Invitation for 2 to attend a special artist event (YEG)	—	✓	✓
Invitation for 2 to view a company class on stage	—	✓	✓
Invitation for 2 to an in-studio rehearsal	—	✓	✓
Invitation for 2 to attend a backstage tour	—	—	✓
Invitation for 2 to the Creation Experience	—	—	✓
Invitation for 2 to a Choreographer's Chat	—	—	✓
Invitation for 2 to an Artistic Director Presentation	—	—	✓

+Does not apply to The Nutcracker  
\*In accordance with CRA, all donations will have a value of advantage removed from their charitable tax receipt. All tax receipts for the 2023 tax year will be distributed quarterly.





**ALBERTA BALLET**

CANADA

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