

JEUNESSE CLASSIQUE BALLET
PRESENTS

The Nutcracker

Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre
Medicine Hat, AB

December 1 2023 - 7:30pm

December 2 2023 - 2:30pm & 7:30pm

December 3 2023 - 2:30pm

University Theatre
Calgary, AB

December 8 2023 - 7:30m

December 9 2023 - 2:30pm & 7:30pm

December 10 2023 - 2:30pm

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, JACIEL GOMEZ



Harry & Martha
Cohen
Foundation



THE CITY OF
CALGARY



Jaciel Gomez

Artistic Director



Jaciel trained at the National Ballet School in Cuba and graduated as a professional ballet teacher. As a Principal Dancer with the Cuban National Ballet Company and the Alberta Ballet Company, Jaciel worked with many choreographers including George Balanchine, August Bournonville, Alicia Alonso, Igal Perry, James Kelly and Jean Grand-Maitre among others. He has toured around the world and performed many roles including Swan Lake, Don Quixote, Giselle, The Magic Flute, Prolongo Para Una Tragedia, Nocturno, Othello, The Nutcracker, The Four Temperments and Divertiment No. 15, Mozart's Requiem, to name just a few.

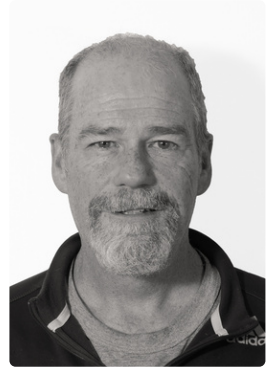
He has been a guest dancer for many Jeunesse Classique Ballet productions, as well as running rehearsals. Jaciel became artistic director in 2023 following the retirement of JCB founder Umran Sumen.

Jaciel Gomez is featured in our cast of
The Nutcracker as Snow King, and Cavalier

Message from the Chairperson

Dear Members and Supporters,

As the chair of the Jeunesse Classique Ballet Society, I am thrilled to announce our enchanting 2023 production of "The Nutcracker." Join us for a magical journey into the world of dance and wonder, where our talented performers will bring this timeless classic to life on the stage. Your support is invaluable, and we look forward to sharing the beauty of this ballet with you this holiday season.



Mike McCreadie, Chair

This season is full of new things. First of all, at our spring production this year we bade a sad farewell to our Founder and Artistic Director, Umran Sumen. She created Jeunesse and laid the foundation for all that we are and all that we do. We also were given the great opportunity to hand the reins over to a strong supporter of Jeunesse and Mrs. Sumen's vision – Mr Jaciel Gomez. Watching him lead our company dancers through his new choreography has been rewarding and inspiring. These changes are exciting and fresh and seem to have breathed new life into our cherished Nutcracker. I hope you enjoy the performances.

Our Spring production is a brand new adventure for Jeunesse. La Fille Mal Gardee tells the story of Lise and her mis adventures as she tries to marry the love of her life Colas, despite her mother's intentions to have her marry the son of a wealthy nobleman – the simpleton Alain. Chickens, clogs, a maypole. One of Classical Ballet's earliest comedic ballets it has been performed the world over, but never before in Calgary. We are excited to add this new ballet to our extensive repertoire.

I truly hope that you enjoy our production of the Nutcracker. As a not For profit and charitable society, we rely on the support of our government granting agencies and supporters of the arts to help this organization continue to be able to deliver full length classical ballet productions to audiences across Alberta and perhaps beyond. Please consider a donation to Jeunesse. All contributions over \$25 will be issued a tax receipt. Thank you. Please enjoy the performance.

Mike McCreadie is featured in our cast of
The Nutcracker as Herr Drosselmeyer

Message from the Chair-Elect

Dear JCBS Members and Supporters,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits during this holiday season. It is with great excitement and gratitude that I will be stepping into the role of Chair for our beloved company. As we navigate the intricate choreography of the upcoming season, I am honoured to lead this ensemble of passionate individuals behind the scenes.



Anne Copeland, Chair-Elect

First and foremost, I extend my deepest appreciation to my predecessor for their dedicated leadership and tireless efforts in advancing the artistry and impact of our organization. The stage they have set is truly inspiring, and I am committed to building upon that foundation with creativity, collaboration, and a deep respect for the art of ballet

As we embark on this new journey, my vision for the JCBS is one of inclusivity, innovation, and excellence. I believe that the beauty of ballet lies not only in its timeless traditions but also in its ability to evolve and captivate new audiences. Together, we will explore new dimensions of expression and push the boundaries of our art form.

I invite each and every one of you to join me in this dance of transformation and growth. Your passion, dedication, and unique perspectives are the threads that weave the vibrant tapestry of our organization. Let us embrace diversity in all its forms and create a harmonious symphony that resonates with the hearts of all who experience the magic of ballet.

I look forward to engaging with each of you, hearing your ideas, and collaborating on the exciting initiatives we have in store. Together, we will elevate JCBS to new heights and continue to be a beacon of artistic excellence in our community. Thank you for entrusting me with this honor. I am confident that, with your support, we will create a spectacular performance that will be remembered for years to come.

With grace and anticipation,
Anne Copeland

The History of Jeunesse Classique Ballet



Jeunesse Classique Ballet was founded in 1987 by Umran Sumen as a classical ballet company for young and talented dancers. The essence of Jeunesse Classique is to preserve, promote and present the cultural aesthetic of classical ballet. Live performance experience prepares young dancers, for the rigours of a professional career in dance.

Over one hundred dancers are selected by a yearly audition and those who are accepted are trained in the true classical repertoire. Each year Jeunesse Classique performs two major full length ballet productions. Members of the company also support community education by performing in benefit performances at various schools, senior citizens homes, special arts or cultural events, and fundraisers.

Umran Sumen retired from her Artistic Director Role with Jeunesse in June 2022, passing Artistic direction to Jaciel Gomez.



MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the Jeunesse Classique Ballet Society's annual production of *The Nutcracker*. This classic ballet has become a cherished Christmas tradition for many Albertans, and it is a wonderful way to get in the festive spirit. I hope everyone enjoys this visit to an enchanted world of sugarplums and toy soldiers, brought to life by the artistry of talented young dancers.

Jeunesse Classique Ballet has been inspiring Albertans for more than three decades. I deeply appreciate the company's commitment to classical ballet and contributions to arts and culture in our province. Congratulations to the artistic staff and dancers on another successful production, and best wishes for continued success.



Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta



Greetings



From Mayor Linnsie Clark

I am thrilled to welcome the Jeunesse Ballet Company to our beautiful City. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to witness the elegance and splendor of dance.

The arts, particularly the captivating world of ballet, play an instrumental role in cultivating a vibrant and flourishing community. Through the medium of art, we collectively explore and interpret our culture and heritage, uniting us in shared appreciation. Tonight's performance not only celebrates the transformative power of creativity but also highlights the dedication and artistry of the Jeunesse Ballet company and its members.

Id like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to the Jeunesse Ballet for bringing this remarkable production to our community and for enriching our lives with their talent and passion.

Thank you for joining us on this mesmerizing journey of artistic expression. Enjoy the performance!

Linnsie Clark
Mayor, City of Medicine Hat



Nutcracker Synopsis

ACT I: It is Christmas Eve. The wealthy Dr. Stahlbaum is giving a party for his friends and their children. The children are dancing and playing in excited anticipation of the approaching Christmas festivities and of their presents. Suddenly, the beautiful Seraphim's appear and with a magic touch, they light the huge Christmas tree. Drosselmeyer, an old friend of the family, arrives bringing the children gifts and amuses them by conjuring tricks. He gives Clara, his favourite, a Nutcracker doll which delights her. Clara's brother, Fritz, spitefully breaks it but Drosselmeyer mends it for her. After the party, the guests all leave and Clara becomes very tired and falls asleep with her new doll, the Nutcracker. In her vivid dream a pack of mice appear trying to capture the Nutcracker, but Clara hurries to his rescue in an effort to distract them. An army of toy soldiers lead by the Nutcracker, who has come to life, battle against the mice and their leader, the Mouse King. The Nutcracker falls. Clara, desperate to help, flings her shoe at the Mouse King and strikes him. He falls dead. Suddenly, a transformation takes place, revealing the Nutcracker as a handsome prince.

Act II: Together the Nutcracker, now changed into a Prince, and Clara are carried away to the enchanted Land of Sweets which magically changes into Clara's own toy theatre, where she finds many of her favourite dolls brought to life. The mood changes to one of happiness and everyone dances. As Clara's dream closes, she is found still sleeping with her favourite doll, the Nutcracker. Drosselmeyer awakens her. All the guests have already left and the party has come to an end. Clara is left alone enthralled by the memories of her adventures.



Act 1: The Party Scene



DR STAHLBAULM: Brian Babish

FRAU STAHLBAULM : Celia Xing

HERR DROSSELMAYER: Michael McCreadie

FRAU DROSSELMAYER: Eden Tonne

GRANDMOTHER: Carling Pretty

GRANDFATHER: Andre Pretty

MAID: Jayme Laughy

CLARA: Yihan Huang (Dec.2s), Saffren Heneghan (Dec.2m), Evangeline Jacobs (Dec.1, Dec.3)

FRITZ: Juliet Mayer

LOUSIA: Evangeline Jacobs (Dec.2m), Tove Lawrence (Dec. 2s), Yihan Huang (Dec.1, Dec.3)

PARTY GUESTS: Kim Tyers, Tomas Mayer, Tyler Rolheiser, Mark Shaw, Natasha Lawrence,

PARTY GIRLS: Tove Lawrence (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.3s), Evangeline Jacobs (Dec.2s), Fennella Shaw, Sloane Rallison, Saffren Heneghan (Dec. 1, Dec.2s, Dec.3), Yihan Huang (Dec. 2m)

PARTY BOYS: Noelle Bird, Cordelia Blewett, Bianca Torgersen, Lexie Tyers, Genevieve Rolheiser

CELESTIALS: Skye Serbu, Kinsley Seefried, Marigold Bird, Eralely Hauk, Greta Wagner, Imogen Sameshima, Jury Moser, Eowyn Erikson, Opale Parasiuk, Taeva Plato, Khloe Sharp, Chloe Dietrich, Halle Reinheller, Elodie Phillipson

SERAPHIM: Charlee Moser

MINATURES

SUGAR PLUM FAIRY: Iveryn Hauck

SPANISH: Opale Parasiuk

ARABIAN: Eralely Hausk (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Imogen Sameshima (Dec.2m, Dec.3)

CHINESE: Eowyn Erikson, Greta Wagner (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Iveryn Hauck (Dec.2m, Dec.3)

MICE: Jury Moser, Taeva Plato, Marigold Bird

SOLIDERS: Chloe Dietrich, Halle Reinheller, Khloe Sharp

DOLLS

HARLEQUIN: Brianna Black (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Emily McNally (Dec.2m, Dec.3)

COLUMBINA: Liv Dietrich (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Svea Wagner (Dec.2m, Dec.3)

RUSSIAN DOLL: Jocelyn Bullock (Dec.1), Irelyn Seinke (Dec.2m), Ella Bostock (Dec.2s), Emma Collins (Dec.3)

Act 1: The Battle Scene



THE NUTCRACKER: Lukian McCrank*

MOUSE KING: Reese Lahey (Dec.2m, Dec.3), Paytan Tatoulis (Dec.1, Dec.2s)

MOUSE GUARDS: Luka Lawrence, Summer Chew

MICE: Noelle Bird, Bianca Torgersen, Reese Lahey (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Paytan Tatoulis (Dec.2m, Dec.3), Isabel Rallison, Olivia Louie (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Evia Hayter (Dec.2m, Dec.3), Ada Maclean, Emmeline Phillipson, Hannah Wock, Audrey Farrar, Elliana Jacobs

TOY SOLDIERS: Marigold Bird, Eralely Hauck, Greta Wagner, Imogen Sameshima, Jury Moser, Eowyn Erikson, Opale Parasiuk, Taeva Plato, Chloe Dietrich, Halle Reinheller, Khloe Sharp, Iveryn Hauck

DRUMMER SOLDIER: Elodie Phillipson

FLAG CAPTIAN: Isabelle Rolheiser

ROYAL GUARD: Charlee Moser, Skye Serbu, Kinsley Seefried

ANGELS : Juliet Mayer, Tove Lawrence, Yihan Huang (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.3), Saffren Heneghan (Dec.1, Dec.2s, Dec.3), Evangeline Jacobs (Dec.2m, Dec.2s), Fennella Shaw, Sloan Rallison, Lexie Tyers, Genevieve Rolheiser

Act 1: The Snow Scene



SNOW QUEEN: Sophie Zilke (Dec.1), Vienna Daugela (Dec.2m), Tia Mackie (Dec.2s), Olivia Louie(Dec.3)

SNOW KING: Jaciel Gomez

SNOW FLAKES: Liv Dietrich, Jocelyn Bullock, Svea Wagner, Brianna Black, Emily McNally, Emma Collins, Ella Bostock, Cordelia Blewett, Irelyn Hauck, Jayme Laughy, Tia Mackie (Dec1, Dec.3), Celia Xing (Dec.2m, Dec2s), Vienna Daugela (Dec.1, Dec.2s, Dec.3), Sophie Zilke (Dec.2m)

*Special Guest Artsist

s= soriee m=matinee

Act 2: The Magic World



SUGAR PLUM FAIRY: Evia Hayter (Dec.1, Dec.2s), Sophie Zilke (Dec.3), Olivia Louie (Dec.2m)

CAVALIER: Jaciel Gomez

SUGAR FAIRIES: Audrey Farrar, Olivia Louie (Dec.1, Dec.2s, Dec.3), Evia Hayter (Dec.2m, Dec.3), Elliana Jacob (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.2s), Summer Chew

CANDY CANES: Evangeline Jacobs (Dec.2m, Dec.2s), Yihan Huang (Dec.1, Dec.3), Tove Lawrence, Sloane Rallison, Fennella Shaw

CAKE PRINCESS: Elliana Jacobs (Dec.3), Sophie Zilke (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.2s)

CANDLES: Audrey Farrar, Olivia Louie (Dec.1, Dec.2s, Dec.3), Evia Hayter (Dec.2m, Dec.3), Elliana Jacobs (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.2s), Summer Chew

SPANISH: Liv Dietrich

ARABIAN

ARABIAN PRINCESS: Celia Xing (Dec.2m, Dec.3), Vienna Daugela (Dec.1, Dec.2s)

ARABIAN: Jocelyn Bullock (Dec.1, Dec.2s, Dec.3), Emma Collins (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.3), Ella Bostock (Dec.1, Dec.2m, Dec.2s), Irelyn Seinke (Dec.2m, Dec.2s, Dec.3)

CHINESE: Svea Wagner, Brianna Black

s= soiree m=matinee





RUSSIAN: Reese Lahey, Isabel Rallison, Paytan Tatoulis, Hannah Wock, Emmeline Phillipson, Luka Lawrence, Ada Maclean, Celia Xing (Dec.1, Dec2s), Vienna Daugela (Dec.2m, Dec.3)

MAMA GIGONE: Brian Babish

BONBONS: Eralely Hauck, Greta Wagner, Eowyn Erikson, Chloe Dietrich, Khloe Sharp, Iveryn Hauck, Lexie Tyers, Genevieve Rolheiser, Saffren Heneghan (Dec.1, Dec.2, Dec.3), Yihan Huang (Dec.2m)

WALTZ OF THE FLOWERS

FLOWERS: Cordelia Blewett, Emily McNally, Liv Dietrich, Jocelyn Bullock, Emma Collins, Ella Bostock, Svea Wagner, Brianna Black, Irelyn Seinke, Noelle Bird, Bianca Torgersen, Eden Tomme, Ada Maclean, Jayme Laughy, Tia Mackie

s= soriee m=matinee



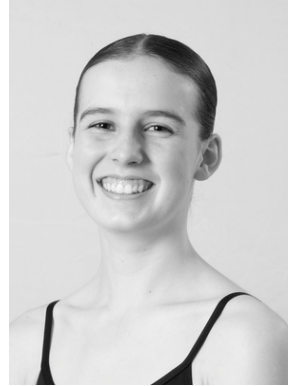
Meet the Soloists



Evia Hayter
Sugar Plum Fairy



Olivia Louie
Sugar Plum Fairy
Snow Queen



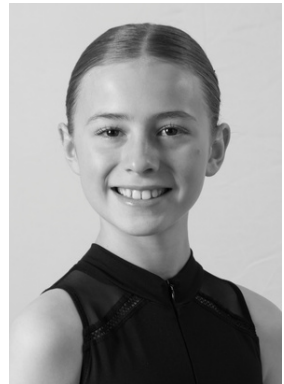
Sophie Zilke
Sugar Plum Fairy
Snow Queen



Saffren Heneghan
Clara



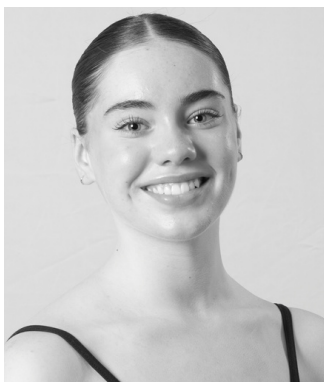
Yihan Huang
Clara



Evangeline Jacobs
Clara



Juliet Mayer
Fritz



Tia Mackie
Snow Queen



Vienna Daugela
Snow Queen

Meet the Medicine Hat Dancers



Lukian McCrank
The Nutcracker



Brianna Black



Chloe Dietrich



Cordelia Blewett



Ella Bostock



Emma Collins



Emily McNally



Eowyn Erikson



Eraleay Hauck

Meet the Medicine Hat Dancers



Iveryn Hauck



Irelyn Seinke



Halle Reinheller



Imogen Sameshima



Jocelyn Bullock



Greta Wagner



Jury Moser

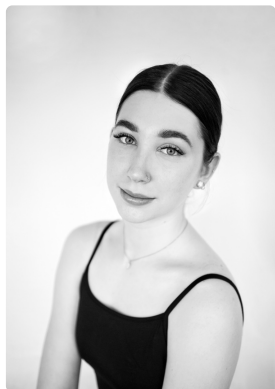


Kinsley Seefried



Khloe Sharp

Meet the Medicine Hat Dancers



Liv Dietrich



Skye Serbu



Opale Parasiuk



Noelle Bird



Svea Wagner



Marigold Bird



Taeva Plato



Bianca Torgersen



Charlee Moser

Meet the Party Parent Dancers



Brian Babish



Tomas Mayer



Martina Mayer



Ann Mallory



Chris Cunningham



Mark Shaw



Stephanie D



Tyler Rolheiser



Pam Galler



Carling Pretty



Andre Pretty



Kim Tyers





Thank You to our Donors

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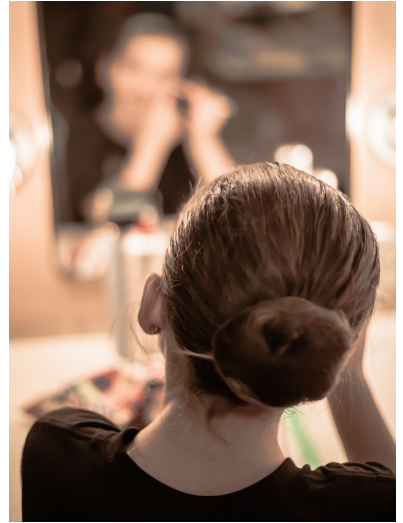
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Mahogany Dance Arts
Medicine Hat School of Performing Arts
Rhythmic Soles Dance Academy
Starchevskis School of Ballet
Tanya's DanceWorx



Behind the Scences



Artistic Director: Jaciel Gomez

Rehearsal Mistresses: Yairelys Sosa, Rachel McLean, Jerredi Hauck

Rehearsal Assistant: Lauren Saunders

Founding Choreography: Umran Sumen, M. Petipa,

Libretto: E. T. A. Hoffman "Nussknacker und Mausekönig"

Staging and Choreography: Jaciel Gomez

Music Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Production Team

Lighting and Sound Consultant: Steve Isom

Wardrobe Director: Carling Pretty

Wardrobe Team

Promotions Director: Megan Lahey

Promotions Team

Fundraising Director: Kim Tyers

Fundraising Team

Tour Coordinator: Natalie Tonne

Present Photography: Larry Doucet photography, Bob Johnson,

Pixielinks Photography

Past photography: Brian Purdy, Peter Cromer,

Brittany Doucet-Lewis Photography

Program: Brielle Mitchell, Anne Copeland, Megan Lahey

Board of Directors: Michael McCreddie, Anne Copeland, Mark Shaw,

Vicky Tatoulis, Kim Tyers, Carling Pretty, June Farrar, Rae Bailey, Megan Lahey

The JCBS Tutu Legacy Project

Jeunesse Classique Ballet is pleased to present the JCBS Tutu Legacy Project. The Tutu Legacy Project Gives you the opportunity to have a lasting legacy with JCBS. For a Donation of \$2000, a Tutu will be hand-crafted, dedicated with the name of your choosing and used to bring Future JCBS Performances to life.



Nola E. Rintoul
The Yanke Family
The Brandt Family
Jean Van Wert (Two Tutus)
The Sumen Family

Please contact jeunesseclassiqueballet@gmail.com for more information,
Tax receipts are available upon request.

Thank You to our Volunteers



We are extremely proud of the dedication and commitment of our many volunteers. Our entire Production is dependent on the support, help and talent of our community. From costumes to sets, from back stage coordination and quick change to cuing dancers to stage, we could not do it without you.





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Dancer- Camryn Visser

Photographer- Amber Hunt

JEUNESSE CLASSIQUE BALLET PRESENTS

La fille mal gardée

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JANUARY 13TH & 14TH



JCBS.CA