



THOMAS ARMOUR YOUTH BALLET

ALUMNI UPDATE 2017





TAYB DANCE CENTERS

South Miami est. 1951

Little Haiti

Morningside K-8 Academy est. 2000

Perrine

Robert Russa Moton Elementary est. 2004

West Coconut Grove

Frances Tucker Elementary School est. 2005

Miami Gardens

Miami Gardens Elementary est. 2011

- Over 1,000 youth studied dance at one of five sites this year. Over half of our students were on full scholarship, receiving dance instruction, shoes, clothing and audition coaching free of charge.

- TAYB completed its second year of expanded, after-school programming, offering dance, homework assistance and reading classes at all four satellite locations. Students' reading levels were evaluated, using evidence-based tools, throughout the year. We are happy to share that 95% of participants made meaningful improvement. Additionally, 95% of students who began the year reading below grade level finished the year either at or above grade level.

- This summer, TAYB helped advanced students participate in Summer Dance Intensives in prestigious schools, including Dance Theatre of Harlem Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Joffrey Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and National Ballet of Cuba. Locally, students participated in daily summer camp at each of TAYB's five locations.

- Over 8,000 attended TAYB's 2016 production of the Nutcracker, including an inclusive, sensory-friendly performance geared toward families with children that have autism spectrum disorders.

- The 2017 Spring Concert was themed around the dance styles and history of the 1900-1950 era, and featured choreography and performances by several outstanding alums.

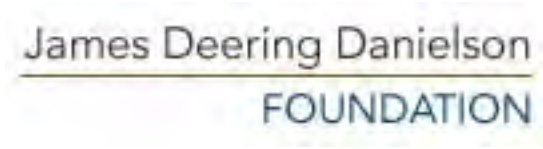
WE CELEBRATED THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NUTCRACKER
— IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE TO THE NUTCRACKER SET CAMPAIGN! —



There's still time to give to the new Nutcracker sets that were made to celebrate the 40th anniversary! By donating \$500 and above you will get two "A" tickets to our performance of the Nutcracker and your name engraved on an ornament hanging from the growing Christmas Tree.

Make your contribution by visiting TAYBballet.org

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE SPONSORS!



Each year we proudly celebrate the accomplishments of TAYB students past and present. The photo below was taken in 1997. Twenty years later, we lead off this year's "Alumni Update" with news about the boys from this photograph. The remainder of the "Alumni Update" is organized by the year the participant graduated from High School or College.

Back Row, Left to Right:
Nate Stokes, Christopher Rudd, Randolph Ward, Dawhone Perry,
Ty Hodges, Quashone Perry, Anton Sterling



Front Row, Left to Right:
Andrew Taft, Raymond Alvarez, Miguel Angel Quiñones III , Kris Carruthers, Xavier Cave,
George Manolopolus, Joshua Winzeler, Andrew List

Raymond Alvarez earned a degree from Penn State University in 2005. He works as a psychologist at Family Counseling Services of Greater Miami.



Kris Carruthers is a real estate agent in Florida.



George Manopolus was a dancer and entertainer with Jimmy Jamz Productions and Y100 in Miami, and studied physical and massage therapy.



Dawhona Perry is a teacher and choreographer in Oviedo, Florida. Among his most accomplished students are those who have gone on to the School of

American Ballet, been accepted into the Juilliard School, appeared on national television, been accepted into professional companies and have toured in national Broadway shows.



Miguel Angel Quiñones III was a company member of David Parsons Dance for six years, and was recognized as outstanding alumnus of New World School of the Arts in 2010. He started his own Company in Philadelphia in 2015 with fellow Parsons dancer Steven Vaughn, with whom he made guest appearances at TAYB's Spring

Concerts in 2015 and 2017. He toured last year with Sharp Dance, and taught for the Philadelphia Arts in Education Partnership's after school program. He plans to continue teaching and performing in the coming year, including as a guest artist with David Parsons Dance.



Nate Stokes is working for Kelly's Janitorial Services and is the owner of "The Dream Clean Team."

Xavier Cave was a soloist with the Boston Ballet.

Ty Hodges is working as an actor and film director in Los Angeles. He has written and directed four feature films, which have been seen on the film festival circuit and on television. He is currently developing projects for his production company, Art Farm Entertainment. He is also collaborating with fellow alum Chris Rudd on a dance project called "Witness" to debut in 2018. He directed a film about [Bobbi Kristina](#), the daughter of Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown, which will debut on TV One this fall.



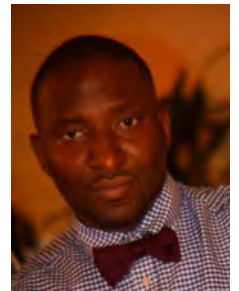
Andrew List graduated from NWSA High School, and earned a BS in engineering from Florida State University. He is working as a civil engineer for a highway design firm.



Quashona Perry is a law clerk at the Dabdou Law Firm in Miami. He has been a member of the TAYB Board of Directors since 2003, and was featured in a TIME Magazine profile in 2005.

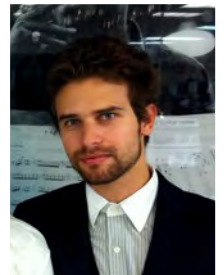


Chris Rudd founded his own Company, RudduR Dance, in 2015. He had a residency at STREB Lab for Action Mechanics where he was awarded the GO! Emerging Artists Commissioning Program grant last year. He had a six week choreographic residency in France in preparation for his new work, entitled "Witness." "Witness" will premiere in 2018 at the Hostos Center for the Arts in the Bronx, New York. He is a finalist for a June Jordan Fellowship, and a Knight Arts Challenge Finalist through Dance Now! Miami. He received the Inspiration Grant from the New World School of the Arts Foundation in 2016.



Anton Sterling is a photographer and is a real estate agent in New York City.

Andrew Taft was promoted to Principal Dancer at Ballet Idaho in 2015, where he has danced for several seasons. He has made several guest appearances in and around New York, Pittsburgh, and Hawaii, among others.





Randolph Ward recently returned to Miami after dancing for six seasons as a member of the contemporary ballet company Donlon Dance Company/Saarlandisches Staatstheater in

Saarbrücken, Germany. Retiring after fifteen years as a professional dancer, he plans to study massage therapy at Educating Hands, and is engaged to be married this year.

Joshua Winzeler started his ballet training with TAYB. He then continued his training with Miami City Ballet during the falls and spring seasons and the School of American Ballet during the summer. Upon receiving his BFA from New World School of the Arts in 2011, he signed with New York's Ballet Hispanico, where he would spend six years performing with the company and teaching in their School of Dance. Starting in the Fall of 2017, Joshua will take on the role of Rehearsal Director for Ballet Hispanico's second company, BHDos. He continues to teach and mentor outside of Ballet Hispanico in the hopes of connecting communities around the United States to the mission of Ballet Hispanico.



2017



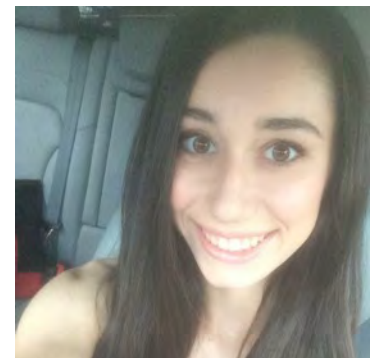
Sophie Corugedo graduated from New World School of the Arts High School and will be attending the University of Florida's Innovation Academy. She will major in sustainability and the built environment, and plans to pursue a "4+1 year" master's degree in landscape architecture.

She has a Bright Futures Medallion Scholarship, and hopes to join a dance group at UF where she can continue exploring choreography.

Leslie Benaudis graduated from Gulliver Preparatory Academy and will be attending the University of Miami.



Bianca Herlory graduated from Coral Gables High School and will be attending the Vanderbilt School of Music.



Dahlia Despradel graduated from New World School of the Arts and will be attending Temple University.



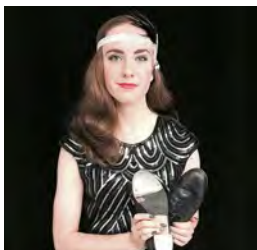
Victoria Jackson was a founding member of the TAYB TAP Team, and graduated from Miami Arts Charter. She will be attending FIU to study literature.





Isabel Jarmel has a medical internship with Camillus Health Concern, and will be attending Florida State University.

Seidy Ortiz graduating from Michael Krop High School and will be attending Miami-Dade College studying business.



Victoria Smith was a founding member of the TAYB Tap Team, and graduated from Riviera Preparatory School. She is attending the FIU Honors College and is studying psychology.

Mya Wright graduated from Ransom Everglades School and will be attending Mount Holyoke College. She is the recipient of a Posse Scholarship. She was a member of the TAYB Tap Team since its inception. Her inspirational story of academic success despite hardships was profiled in a Miami Herald article this year.

[Mya Wright Article.](#)



Tarina Touret graduated from Carrollton and will be attending Georgetown University.

2016

Krystyn Abood-Vicente graduated from Palmer Trinity High School and will be attending Vanderbilt University.

Aliane Douyon graduated from New World School of the Arts High School. She was awarded a Posse Scholarship, and is attending Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, majoring in pre-med/public policy.



Raina Levin graduated from Coral Reef High School's International Baccalaureate program. She received a full tuition scholarship from Northeastern University in Boston, where she is beginning her second year studying psychology and biology.



Joshua Noel graduated from New World School of the Arts High School and is a Sophomore BFA dance major at SUNY Purchase. He's taken an interest in choreography and plans to explore that more this year. He's teaching at a new studio hoping to gain more experience in that field.

Anastasia Padron graduated Summa Cum Laude from Miami Senior High in the top 2% of her class. She is attending the University of North Carolina, pursuing a BFA in dance.



Monica Alvarado graduated from New World School of the Arts High School and attended Miami-Dade Honors College this year.

Ashley Newsome graduated from New World School of the Arts, and is attending the University of Florida.

Mia Pennekamp graduated from Coral Reef High School, is attending Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. She is the winner of a Posse Scholarship.

Maria Isabel Soñé is currently in her first year at Heartland Community College in Normal, IL working towards her associates degree in art. She made the Dean's List for the Spring 2017 semester at Heartland Community College and plans to pursue a BFA in animation and game design alongside her dancing. In the winter of 2016 she competed in the Youth America Gran Prix ballet competition and in the summer of 2016 participated in the World Youth Day pilgrimage to Poland followed by an internship at the U.S. Bishop's Visitors Office in Rome, Italy.



2015



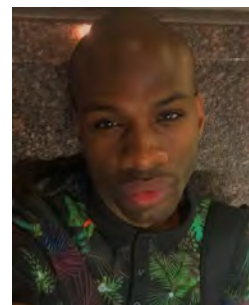
Michelle Anduiza is beginning her Junior year at the University of South Florida.

Arike Babalola graduated Cum Laude from Mast Academy at Homestead, and was a member of the National Honor Society. She will earn her AA in nursing this fall, and is now pursuing her BS in nursing at Miami-Dade College.



Alexandra Caffrey is a Junior at Harvard University, studying global health and government, and is the Harvard Ballet Company director. She represented the Harvard Model Congress in Hong Kong this year, and was an intern for the Hillary for America Campaign and the Vail International Dance Festival. This summer she shadowed doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital, and interned for a US Congressman in Boston.

Puma Del Monte earned his BFA in Dance from New World School of the Arts College, and was a member of Garth Fagan Dance for one season. He recently moved to South Africa, where he has a contract with a large African modeling agency.



Kristen Galeri is attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with a double major in nutrition and public policy.

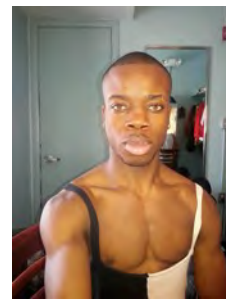
Mary Kerr is beginning her third year at the University of South Florida, majoring in performing arts and social issues, with concentrations in dance and management.



Julia Martorell is beginning her Junior year at Boston University, majoring in cultural anthropology. This summer she worked with the University's Community Service Center as a Coordinator for the First-Year Student Outreach Project, a social justice program for

incoming students. She is participating in numerous theater projects at school, as well as Latinx cultural organizations as part of the leadership team.

Marcus McCray graduated from New World School of the Arts College in 2015. After the summer with a contemporary dance company in Mexico, he entered the pre-professional training program at Alonzo King's LINES Ballet. At the end of that training, he was encouraged to audition for professional companies, which he is now doing in New York City and Europe.



Marcel Mejia is beginning his Junior year at George Mason University. This summer he trained at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance. He looks forward to working with Douglas Varone at George Mason University this fall, where he will also be performing a piece with Varone's company,

Marielle Ogilby is attending the University of Florida.

Alyssa Perez graduated Cum Laude from New World School of the Arts High School, and received a full scholarship to attend Webster University.

Hope Sotolongo-Miranda is a third year student at the University of Florida, where she is pursuing a dual degree in biology and zoology.



Zoey Needham is completing her Junior year at Georgetown University, where she will be studying Justice & Peace Studies, Philosophy, and Music. She has just completed a rewarding summer internship at Best Buddies, International and will return to school in the fall to implement her proposal for a music program within the DC Department of Correction. Upon graduation, she is hoping to attend law

school and specialize in civil rights and entertainment Law.

*At TAYB, I learned to be brave enough to go after something that other people with my economic standing do not often partake in. But the leap of faith has paid off and I'm truly excited, grateful, and honored to know that I have you in my corner. Your efforts to make sure every TAYB student has what she/he needs to succeed after graduation is admirable. **ZOEY NEEDHAM***

2010 - 2014



Bianca Allanic graduated from Indiana University with a bachelor of science in ballet. She will be joining Ballet Theatre of Maryland as an Apprentice for the 2017-2018

Ashley Anduiza graduated with Honors from Florida State University in 2013 with a BFA in dance. She danced with the Nashville Ballet, and is now in her second season with Ballet Hispanico.



Aminah Angrand recently graduated from Miami-Dade College, and is currently teaching tap dancing at a local dance studio. She plans to pursue a bachelor's degree next fall.

Melissa Anduiza is the Director of Community Outreach for Ballet Hispanico. She danced for five years with the Charlotte Ballet, and for one season with Complexions Contemporary Ballet. An accomplished



choreographer, she has also served in school systems, women's detention centers, and as an Ambassador for the US Embassy educating children about the arts in Tunisia.

Yolomar Armas graduated from NWSA High School and is attending the London School of Design.



Clara Auguste recently graduated from CUNY Hunter College with a BA in dance. This past year she interned with the New York State Assembly through Hunter College's Public Scholar Service Program and with the Brooklyn Arts Exchange. She is the founder of Aeternus Dance

Javier Aranzales graduated in December 2016 from Harvard University with a degree in Government and a minor in Swahili language. After graduation, he interned in Washington D.C. with Turnaround Arts, the school-reform-through-arts-education program formerly headed by Michelle Obama. Javier then spent the summer in Nairobi,



Kenya working with arts program in two of the largest slums in Africa and studying Swahili. In September 2017, Javier will be starting work at Microsoft in Seattle as a Product Marketing Manager for Windows Education. He is thrilled to experience the private sector side of the education sector.

Company, and performed for Dance Caribbean Collective this Summer. She now lives in New York, working with Aeternus, teaching yoga and dance at Hebrew Educational Society, and participating in Public Allies New York, a 10-month apprenticeship program that allows individuals to work with nonprofits.

Josie Berman graduated from Palmetto High School, and attended Bates College.

Daniella Bernal studied at Florida International University Honors College, majoring in physics and mechanical engineering.

*"And this all started at the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet. [My] commitment [was] sparked by the financial and emotional support that the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet provided me with when I walked in to try this thing called ballet. The following months will bring about the next chapter of my life and I am guided by the power and magic that TAYB brought into my life as I embark on this next chapter. Thank you again for your support for the arts and for helping bring the arts into the lives of students like me."***JAVIER ARANZALES**

Victoria Bradford graduated from New York University with a BA in politics. She was heavily involved in NYU's Model United Nation's club, and was the Under-Secretary General of Operations for Media and Public Relations for the 7th NYU's Model United Nation Conference (NYUMUNC).



Caitlyn Elie graduated this year with a BFA from the University of South Florida and is now teaching at two studios in the Tampa area. She is submitting choreography to festivals, residencies and Tampa area dance companies. Her goal is to pursue an MFA in the coming years.

Krista Flood graduated from New World School of the Arts High School and is studying musical theater at the Boston Conservatory.



Jean Floradin graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a BFA in acting/music theater. He completed work on an album of original music, and has appeared in a mini-series and a movie. He is currently appearing in the Chicago company of "Hamilton."

Emma Fonte is studying journalism and mass communication at Miami-Dade College.

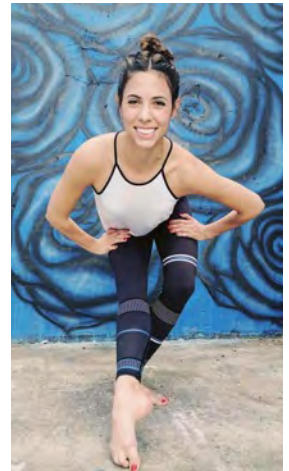
Caroline Friedhoff graduated from Carleton College in the spring of 2016, having studied philosophy and cognitive science. She is currently interning for *On Being* — a podcast and radio show that explores concepts of meaning — and dancing when she can!

Jovahnie Funderburk graduated this year from New World School of the Arts College with a BFA in dance. She joined Miami based Mosaic Dance Project in September, 2015.

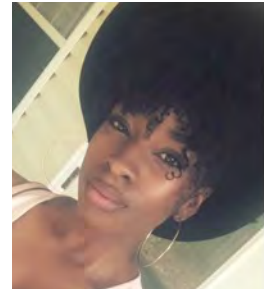
Isaura Echeveste graduated from Coral Reef High School and attended Florida International University.

Annelise Fiad is in Florida International University's five year accelerated masters program of interior architecture, and is about to study abroad in Italy to receive a certificate in cruise ship and yacht design. She is also a full time intern at the Gettys Group interior architecture firm in Coral Gables.

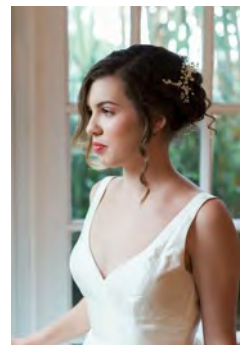
Diana Figueroa graduated last year from Point Park University in Pittsburgh with a BFA in dance, and danced one season with Roxey Ballet. She recently returned to Miami as a company member of Dimensions Dance. She plans to enter graduate school this fall and teach dance when time allows.



Georgette Fogle graduated from Florida State University with a BS in anthropology. She is now in Pensacola, enrolled in a post baccalaureate biology program, shadowing a local health clinic dentist, and preparing for dental school admission.



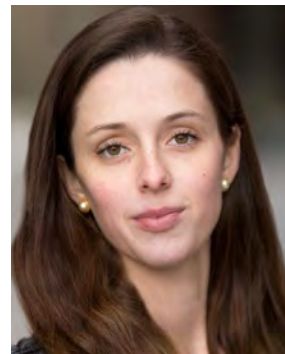
Addyson Fonte was married this year, is currently attending Miami Dade College, and is planning to transfer to Florida International University after receiving her associate's in art. She now works as the Marketing Director at Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, and also provides freelance graphic design and social media work for several businesses.



Stephanie Fuentes is beginning her fourth year as a faculty member of Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, leading the Miami Gardens Outreach Center. She has also introduced a modern dance curriculum at other TAYB sites and launched the new TAYB Modern Dance team last year. She has also founded a new project based dance company, Fuentes Stephanie Dance Project.

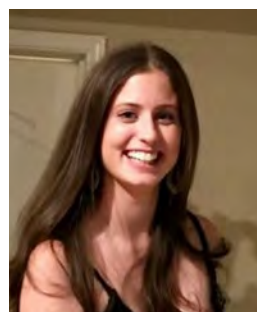
Rachel Galt graduated from the University of Virginia, where she majored in psychology with a minor in dance. She performed in or choreographed several dance and theater productions while at UVa, and studied dance therapy for Parkinsons patients at the Mark Morris Dance Center. She plans to attend graduate school.

Harper Garcia is a theatrical performer, working professionally at various theaters throughout the United States. She is also the secretary for a new nonprofit arts organization that brings arts to underserved youth in high risk areas, called PenArts Inc., in Pensacola, FL.



Alexis George is attending the University of Central Florida studying journalism, and has joined Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, where she is the journalist for her chapter. She is also the Director of Fundraising this year for the National Panhellenic Council. She hopes to have an internship with a magazine this year.

TAYB is absolutely one of the reasons I wanted to help bring arts to youth that might not be exposed to it, because I saw all of the amazing opportunities TAYB brought to so many kids in various communities. And I appreciate all that everyone at TAYB did for me as well! - **HARPER GARCIA**



Victoria Gilbert graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX last year with a degree in marketing. She is working as a finance analyst in Dallas. She continues to take ballet class, and has recently taken up yoga.

Rachel Ginsberg is living in New York City and working for Columbia Business School as the Coordinator of Special Projects and Operations. When she is not at work, she spends her time training at the Krav Maga Academy and volunteering for Broadway Cares Equity Fights AIDS and Dancers Responding to AIDS.



Illadys Gonzalez graduated from Young Women's Preparatory Academy and is studying at the University of South Florida.

Mariana Izquierdo is attending Massachusetts University, studying medicine, with the goal of becoming an oncologist.



Kaylee Grippando is at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music double majoring in ballet and the media school. She is the recipient of the Premier Young Artist Scholarship as well as the Music Faculty scholarship. This summer she was one of 18 professional dancers participating in the 2017 Jacobs Pillow's 85th Anniversary Gala and Ballet program (pictured).

Caitlin Javech recently graduated from Juilliard with a BFA in dance. She was awarded a Juilliard Career Fellowship based on her work in dance and as a student leader throughout my time at school. This summer she was in Alberta Canada for a dance residency at The Banff Center titled "The Noetic Project". She is looking forward to beginning her professional career as a dancer and choreographer post graduation.



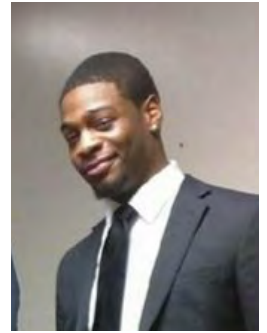
Marta Hogstead earned her AA in business, and is now studying music.

Odessa Lewis is studying dance at New World School of the Arts College.

Abigail Jonekheune studied at Florida State University, majoring in psychology and anthropology, with minors in social welfare and French.

Nicholas Losada apprenticed at San Francisco Ballet for two years before winning a Heinz-Bosi Foundation scholarship to apprentice with the Bavarian State Ballet in Munich (Bayerisches Staatballet). He is now a soloist in the first company.

Josh Lester lives in Macon, Georgia, where he is working as a Certified Nursing Assistant while in nursing school. He also teaches ballet and conditioning at a local dance studio and takes dance classes in Atlanta.



Diana Lopez recently returned from a six week stay in Peru, working as a medical and teaching volunteer with Hands on Peru. She is drafting a workbook to enable Peruvian teachers to teach English. She now begins her senior year at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, completing her double major in Biology and Hispanic Literature and Cultures, with a minor in

Neuroscience. She is also the Co-Director of the Carolina Style Ballet Company, where she also performs.

Priscilla Martinez is working at Jackson Memorial Hospital in the laboratory while going to school to be a medical technologist. She founded "Gotta Dance," a dance company focused on students two to eleven years old. She was a Miami Heat dancer, and has performed on film and in television, as well as on stage at events including the Flo-rida Splash Concerts in 2015 and the 2 Live Crew Reunion Tour in 2015 and 2016.



Francesca Martoccio graduated in 2016 from SUNY Purchase where she received her bachelor of fine arts in dance with a ballet concentration. After graduating, Francesca joined Colorado Ballet's Studio Company for their 2016-17

season. She will be joining Colorado Ballet as a company member this season.

Paris Olkes graduated from Coral Reef High School, and is studying at the University of Florida.

Olympia Reboli graduated from Coral Gables High School and is attending Miami-Dade College.

Emily Rivera graduated from Hamilton College, majoring in government and Chinese. She now works as an Americorps Paralegal at Legal Aid Society of Hawaii in Honolulu.

Angela Martoccio is now attending Baruch College, majoring in journalism and creative writing. She lives in Brooklyn, where she is the assistant manager of a coffee shop.



Devaugn McGann completed one year in the Dance Theater of Harlem professional training program, and two seasons with the second company of the Pennsylvania Ballet. He was invited by Opera National de Paris to attend their recruitment competition, and has returned to Miami to prepare for auditions.

Annellyse Munroe performed for two seasons with Alvin Ailey II, and was featured on the cover of Dance Spirit Magazine in February, 2015. She is currently dancing with Bloc Talent Agency and teaching dance. She begins pursuing a master of non-profit management at Columbia University this year.





Jacoby Pruitt graduated from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University and danced for two seasons as a member of Ailey II. He is now working with the Séan Curran Company, based in NYC.



Jay Reimers is beginning his fourth season with Ballet Met in Ohio, where he appeared in Ballet Met's video "Becoming Violet."



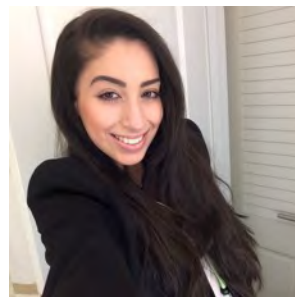
Anabelen Rivero graduated from the dance honors program at Colombia College in 2015. She is now dancing as an apprentice with Deeply Rooted Dance Theater in Chicago, and teaching Pilates at a studio near Cubs Stadium. She credits Pilates with helping her come back to dancing after injuries, so she plans to expand her Pilates

training to help others become aware of their bodies and overcome injuries and discomfort. She currently works at One Hundred, a fitness company, and teaches dance at Recycled Bar in Miami.

Jordan Shapiro graduated from Coral Reef High School, and is studying at Penn State University.

Ebony Smith graduated from Young Women's Preparatory Academy, and begins her fourth year at Dartmouth this Fall with a full scholarship. She interned this summer at a biotechnology firm in New Hampshire.

Melanie Ramos is beginning her fourth year at SUNY Purchase, and continues to be on the Dean's List. She continues to focus on numerous choreography commissions and projects, attending Ballet Hispanico's first summer intensive "Choreo Lab" this year. She won a second opportunity to present work at the Young Choreographer's Festival in 2017. She also performed at the NYLA theatre with SUNY Purchase in May where she was showcased in Norbert De La Cruz III's work "Talsik."



Sharyn Richards graduated from Florida State University with a BFA in dance. She is working in Miami, preparing to pursue further education in the field of physical therapy.

Gaby Rosario is studying communications and advertising at Florida International University, and works at Madewell.

Shade St. Juste is attending the Lines Ballet/ Dominican University of California program. She is a member of the Black Student Union, The Environmental Club and is a Dominican University Penguinette Cheerleader.

Thryn Saxon graduated from Florida State University, and is dancing with the Kate Weare Company. They toured the American Dance Festival and other festivals last summer. This summer she headed to Santa Barbara, CA for the month of August in residency with Kate Weare Company and Union Tanguera tango company on a new collaborative piece between the two artists. She plans to pursue her Pilates certification in the Fall.



Merina Seidel graduated from Emerson College with a film and television production major. She has worked on several film and television projects, including this year's Golden Globes and the upcoming HBO series "Sharp Objects." She has also completed several feature and short films as a script supervisor.





Smita Sen graduated Magna Cum Laude from Columbia University with a BA in the visual arts. After completing two design internships, she was accepted into the prestigious NYU ITP Camp, providing the opportunity to explore digital technologies. In her art career, she created new sculpture, video, and performance pieces, and worked on six short

films, this year. Moreover, her poetry was published by the Academy of American Poets.

As I continue to learn and grow, I am grateful for the continued support of the TAYB community. With the guidance, interest, and support of the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet community, I have developed key skills that guide me in every professional endeavor. The Thomas Armour Youth Ballet gave me discipline, organizational skills, responsibility, a passion for the arts, and a desire to give back. With institutions like TAYB, young artists and dancers receive the kind of support that guides us for a lifetime. I hope in the future I am able to offer similar levels of guidance and mentorship to young artists and dancers like myself and my peers." - **SMITA SEN**

Keiko Shivers is attending Miami Dade College, studying to become a physical therapist.



Imranda Ward attended New World School of the Arts and graduated in 2014. She attended and graduated from Miami Dade College Kendall Campus in 2016, where she obtained her associates in arts degree in physical therapy. Beginning in Fall 2017, she will attend Florida State University to

Hanna Williams graduated from Barnard College/Columbia University after majoring in English literature, concentrating on creative writing. She has had internships with the New York Observer, the British Consulate General and Wine & Spirits Magazine, and is working as a sommelier.

Lina Stepick graduated from Dartmouth College in 2010 with high honors in sociology and anthropology, modified with women and gender studies. She completed her MA in sociology in 2014, and is now a PhD student at UCLA.

Dara Tannenbaum graduated from the Florida International University School of Architecture with a Bachelors in Interior Design. Since 2013 she has worked as Project Designer for an Italian furniture company in the Miami Design District where she specializes in high-end kitchen and closet design. She currently resides in Coconut Grove."

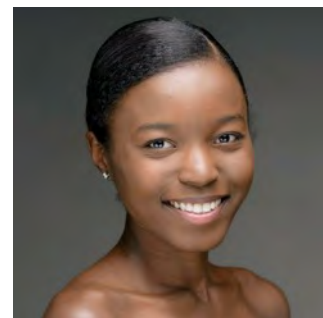


Chiara Tejidor completed her senior year of high school in the pre-professional program at Miami City Ballet. She is now a senior at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music as a ballet major. She looks forward to graduating and auditioning this year.

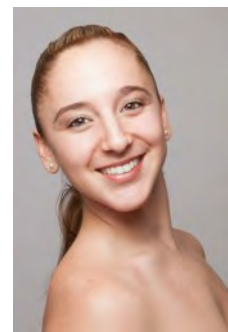


Jessica Torres majored in radiology at the University of Miami, and teaches at Miami Shores Community Church School.

Jasmine Ward graduated last year with a BFA in dance performance with a minor in strategic communication from Butler University. She recently completed her first season with the New York Theatre Ballet, and is enjoying taking advantage of all the dance opportunities New York City has to offer.



Kristina Zaidner is currently a modern dance teacher in the Professional Division of The Ailey School Summer Intensive. She was most recently performing as a member of the ballet company of the Metropolitan Opera, as well as project based companies RudduR Dance under the direction of fellow alum Christopher Rudd and Arch Dance under the direction of Jennifer Archibald among others. She will be traveling to Florence, Italy this year to perform with Opus Ballet.



2004-2009

Darryl D'John Abraham graduated from New World School of the Arts High School, and attended Miami-Dade College.

Shelby Buxton attended Florida International University and the University of Kentucky studying biology. She now lives in Georgia.

Chelsey Alvarez graduated from Florida International University, with a bachelor's degree in hospitality management. She continues to dance, and currently teaches several dance forms at Prestige Dance Academy, where she also leads the competition/performing team.

Tyquan Barnard graduated from Florida State University with a dual major in accounting and finance. He currently works in the Human Resources Department at Target Corporation.



Brittany Oliver Arquart received her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from University of Miami, and is working as a Physical Therapist for Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami. She and her husband welcomed their first child in January 2017.

Caroline Betancourt graduated from the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music in 2010, and danced with the Louisville Ballet for three seasons. She danced two seasons as a demi-soloist with Ballet du Capitole in Toulouse, France. She joined the Royal Danish Ballet in Copenhagen in August of 2015, and has returned to TAYB as a guest star Sugar Plum Fairy in the Nutcracker.



Jamal Campbell graduated from the American Musical Dramatic Academy in 2010, and has appeared in numerous touring Broadway shows, Disney productions and commercials. He was recently featured in DisneyWorld's commercial for the new Harambe Theater's "Festival of the Lion King" show in Animal Kingdom. He now lives in New York City.

Rivkins Christopher, a member of the TAYB family since 2004, earned his BFA from New World School of the Arts College in 2014. He has performed with several Miami companies, and for two seasons with Gaspard and Dancers in New York. He is now dancing with Syren Modern Dance in New York City. He was featured in Tajj Magazine Volume 10, and he recently walked in Rainbow Fashion Week for 4Leaders clothing brand.



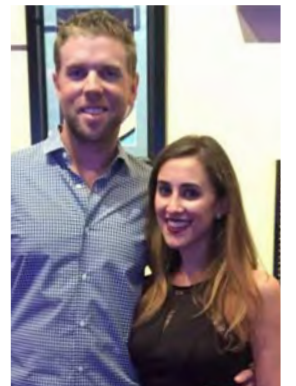
Masha Ciampittiello graduated from FSU with a BA in art history in 2012. She graduated from University of Miami School of Law, and is now working as an Associate with an Orlando law firm, specializing in representing doctors and hospitals in malpractice claims. She was an

extern for Florida Supreme Court Justice Peggy Quince.

Debra Bazile Elonne graduated from NWSA College in 2008, and danced for four years in Texas with Dallas Black Dance Theatre 2. She was an elementary school teacher for four years, and is now enrolled in Florida International University pursuing a master's degree in reading.

Caroline Ho Warner graduated from University of Florida with a degree in finance, and is now a Senior Auditor with Raymond James financial firm in Clearwater, Florida.

Lauren Delgado Hardegree graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine last year, and is now a Resident Doctor in radiology in Memphis. She and her husband recently celebrated their one year anniversary by taking a honeymoon trip to Italy. Lauren's mother, Jacquelyn Calderin, recently joined the Board of Directors of TAYB.





Liony Garcia graduated from NWSA College in 2008, and has since been an active fixture in the local and national dance community. As a dancer, he appeared last year with Brigid Baker & WholeProject in "Big Beautiful." He presented a solo at The Miami International Performance Festival '17, and led a choreographic workshop at Ignite Summer Intensive in Toronto this summer. He's

excited to be working in Miami, and is looking forward to fun new projects in the Fall and Winter.



Camila Gil holds a master's degree of global governance and public affairs from Florida International University, and a bachelor's degree in international studies and political science from the University of Miami. She is currently the Director of Arts

Education and Outreach at Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, and was married in 2016.



Benicka Grant is beginning her third season with Dance Now! Miami, and is the Resident Choreographer for Theater South in Pompano Beach. She studied dance at Southern Methodist University. She has performed with iLuminate, from

"America's Got Talent," and Six Flags Over Texas.



Julia Headly graduated from the Juilliard School. She has recently begun her fifth season dancing with Ballet National Theater Mannheim. She also launched her own line of accessories called [Sebaga Creations](#).

Gentry George graduated from the Juilliard School in 2012. He was a member of Ailey II, and founded Zest Collective Contemporary Performance Art. He currently teaches Ballet and Composition at USDAN Summer Camp for the Arts, and at Brooklyn's Spoke The Hub. Last year he taught at Northern Manhattan's Dance Project of Washington Heights, and created a new work this summer that included both members of ZEST Collective and students from the Dance Project. IN 2017 ZEST had appearances in South Florida, Ulster Ballet's Festival of Dance, Dixon Place, the Higher Ground Festival, and Artists For World Peace Dance Concert. To learn more visit: www.zestcollective.org

Dance Photo by ROBERT CHURCH



Nadege Green

is a journalist who covers social justice issues for WLRN, South Florida's NPR affiliate. For her, journalism is about seeking out the voices



we don't hear from and telling those stories. In 2016 she was recognized by the National Association of Black Journalists with three first place awards for investigative reporting, long form and short form radio reporting on policing in Miami-Dade's black communities. The Florida AP Broadcaster Awards and the National Edward R. Murrow Awards have also honored Green's work. Green was one of 16 people selected for the Miami Foundation's Miami Fellowship Class IX. The fellowship identifies Miami's future leaders and trains them to identify the issues facing Miami through community level engagement. She lives in Miami with her two magical sons (and possible future dancers) Noah and Jacob.

Hassan Ingraham graduated from NWSA High School, and achieved his BFA in dance from the Juilliard School of the Arts in 2012. He danced last year with TU Dance in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and now teaches and choreographs at DelMonico Dance in St. Paul.

Rashad Ingraham was featured on the Starz Network series "Magic City." He danced with Miami Contemporary Dance and is the dance master at Armano Danz Studio. He is also a dance coach with the Girl Power after school program.

Bruno Jacques-Louis is a Company Member/Actor at Area Stage Company, and is an Operations Management Assistant at True-Blue Hospitality in Miami.



Mindy Joo graduated from Duke University in 2009, and is living in NYC. She works in mutual fund sales at Prudential Investments. She has been a volunteer with the New York City Ballet since 2010.

Giselle Lopez is currently the school social worker for the Georgia School for the Deaf. She obtained her bachelor's degree in social work from Barry University and her master's of social work at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. She is also a soccer coach, cheerleading coach and dance instructor for the step team.



Alexandria Love graduated with a BFA in dance, with a minor in theology, from Fordham University in 2008. She is an entertainer, host, model and professional dancer. She has been the emcee and host of the Brooklyn Nets Basketball games, and is the founder of

SpreadsomLove.com, a non-profit organization that acts as a financial aggregator for fundraising initiatives. She is represented by Wilhelmina Modeling Agency for Fashion and Fitness, and has appeared in numerous ad campaigns. She is a Certified Health Coach from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition. You are invited to enjoy her blog at aLovesquad.com, and to visit AllyLove.com and SpreadsomLove.com.

Charity Metzger graduated from Howard University in 2008, and danced for three seasons with the Garth Fagan Dance Company. She is currently a dance teacher in the District of Columbia Public Schools.

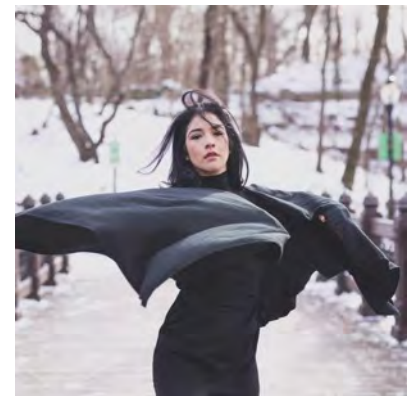
Erin Jester graduated from the University of Florida in December 2012 with a journalism degree and a minor in dance. After spending three years working as a newspaper reporter, she joined the staff of the Hippodrome State Theatre as a costume shop apprentice. In August 2017, she will begin an MFA program in costume design and technology at the University of Southern Mississippi. She has also been performing with the Mischievous Madams Burlesque Troupe since 2013.



Rony Lenis is currently working with Nimbus Dance Works, a contemporary dance company in New York City, while also auditioning for other projects. He spent three years in the Joffrey Ballet Trainee Program in New York City, two seasons with the Colorado Ballet Studio Company in Denver, and two seasons with City Ballet of San Diego.



Andrea Murillo graduated from New World School of the Arts College in 2009, and immediately joined the Martha Graham Dance Company, where she danced as a company member for several years. She performed in "Sleep No More" in New York City, performed in theatrical and dance collaborations around the world, and created numerous theatrical events. She has been a Master Teacher with Young Arts, is studying towards her Gyrotonic Expansion System Teacher Training, and works with an event designer to expand her knowledge of production design. She is currently in post-production for her dance film "Conduit for a Dream," and in pre-production of her latest film project, "Waves."





Behroz Nowrojee-Redhead graduated with honors and awards from the University of Florida with a master's in special education, bachelor's in elementary education, and a minor in dance. She is currently on leave from her teaching job as she and her husband recently welcomed a baby boy to their family.

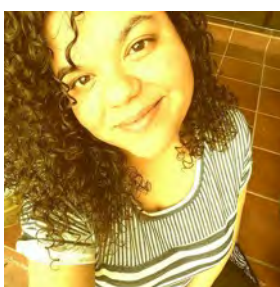
Kiera O'Rourke graduated from Stanford University with a degree in comparative literature. She is currently working as an editor for a publishing company.



Nathaly Prieto studied dance at New World School of the Arts College and with the Joffrey Ballet trainee program, both on full scholarship. She begins her sixth season with the Dayton Ballet this year. She was a guest artist at the 2016 TAYB Spring Concert.



Vee Rene attended St. Thomas University, and joined the United States Army in 2017. She completed training and earned her wings as an aviation operation specialist in June of this year.



Inger Rivas graduated from NWSA High School and Miami-Dade College. She now works for Fannie May, managing properties and HOAS across the country.

Justin O'Ferall graduated from NWSA College with his BFA in dance and has performed with Dance Now! Miami.

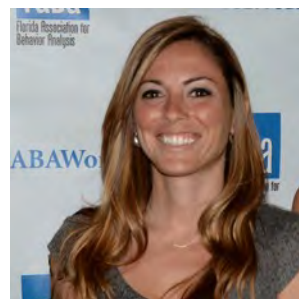
Colleen O'Malley graduated with a BS from George Washington University School of Nursing. She is now working as a pediatric nurse at Children's National Medical Center in Washington D.C.

Florencia Pradere-Guerrier earned a BFA in dance from Marygrove College, and a master's of education in educational leadership from Concordia University. She is the Dance Department Chair for the Longleaf Performing Arts School in Raleigh, NC.

Gary Rawls graduated from NWSA High School, and was a member of Dance Theatre of Harlem Ensemble for several years. He is now a Personal Trainer at Equinox Gyms.

Jessica Quintana graduated with a BFA in dance from New World School of the Arts in 2011, and is currently dancing with Peter London Global Dance. She works for Happy Holidays Travel, where she choreographs Quince celebrations, and at Baptist Hospital.

Catalina Rey completed her PhD in behavior analysis at Florida Institute of Technology last year. She was in Baltimore for a post doctorate fellowship at Kennedy Krieger Institute, performing research and working with children with severe behavioral problems. She is currently at the University of Vermont, working to increase the use of contraception to decrease pregnancy in opioid-maintained women.



Dayme Sanchez graduated from Harvard Law School in 2015, and is practicing at Holland and Knight, Miami in litigation and international arbitration. She was also a law clerk for a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of Florida last year.



Lourdes Rodriguez performed five years as a member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem, and then was a member of Armitage Gone! Dance and the Connecticut Ballet. She is pursuing a career in Physical Therapy at Hunter College.



Shadae Ringo Smith graduated from Fordham University with a BFA in theater in 2008. He earned his MFA in film directing from UCLA. After directing Kristen Wiig and Jimmy Kimmel in the film "Miss Famous" in 2014, he began working as a content director for

will.i.am and his company i.am+. In 2017 he shot will.i.am's video "fiyah," his first music video for a major artist at a major label. He is currently writing two feature films and developing my music video and commercial content.

Lilli Tai was awarded first prize in Contemporary Dance at the Seoul International Dance Competition in 2008. She received a BFA with honors from Ailey/Fordham University in 2009. She danced for four years with Evidence Dance Company, and has toured with the National Company of "The Lion King."



Yara Travieso is a Creative Capital Fellow, a PS122 RAMP Artist and a recipient of The National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures Award via the Ford Foundation. At the cross-section of cinema, dance and theater, Travieso's work takes the form of films, music videos, fashion shorts, and live performances. Her 2017 live feature film, "La Medea" was performed and

broadcast for thousands of viewers. It later screened with Film Society of Lincoln Center and SXSW. She has created numerous short films and is internationally recognized for her direction of opera productions and hybrid film projects. She currently resides in Brooklyn NY and is an artist in Resident with HERE Arts where she is developing a new script for a musical feature film. You are invited to visit

www.yaratravieso.com

Melissa Wong graduated from New York University, where she studied economics, marketing and psychology. She now works in marketing and advertising for Alexander Wang in New York City.

Michelle Russell graduated from Florida State University with an honors degree in dance and minor in business. She is currently an Apprentice Trainer at AKT Motion in New York City.

Leslie St. Jour graduated from New York University with a double major in dance and African studies. She works at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, and was a Teaching Artist at Arts For All in New York City. She recently completed her MA in applied physiology at Teachers College Columbia University. She continues to teach dance and fitness in New York City.



Julie Travers graduated from New World School of the Arts High School and earned her bachelor's degree from Emerson College in Boston. She works as an Account Manager for Red Cap in Miami, and is also a volunteer blogger for the Arts & Business Council of Miami, producing articles for the Miami Dances initiative.

Cedric Walker worked for several years in public relations with St. John Knits in New York City. He got married in 2016, and completed an internship with Details magazine. His goal is to secure a position in market editing.



Ayla Weisz studied at the Boston Conservatory, Carolina Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, the Nederlands Dance Theater in Holland and the Peridance Capezio Center in New York City. She is a member of the NYC circus community and most recently

performed with ABCirque and Only Child Aerial Theatre. She has also worked as producer for creative agency Visual Country for the last two years, managing the creative team and creating video campaigns for brands around the world. Photo Credit: **Different Trains, created by ABCirque. Andrew T. Foster Photography**



1996- 2003

Colleen Rydland Amaya earned a bachelor's of music in vocal performance in 2002. She taught voice at the University of Miami's Theater Department, as well as at her private voice studio. She has enjoyed a prolific career in South Florida's musical theater community, and is married with one daughter.

Taylor Barker received a degree in theater from Florida State University, and graduated from NWSA College with a BFA in dance in 2011. She lives with her husband and daughter in Portsmouth, VA, where he is stationed with the U.S. Navy. She performs with the Virginia Opera, and choreographs seasonally in New York City and Miami for special performances and musical theater showcases.



Jacqueline Bulnes danced for eight seasons with the Martha Graham Dance Company, and is now living in London working as a director, choreographer, dancer and filmmaker. The Company she founded 'TwisTinkers,' performed in Scotland last year. She worked on several dance theatre and film projects

pieces in Italy, where she has also directed and choreographed commercials, films and music videos. She was a choreographer for two seasons with Robert Cohan's "Cohan Collective" in London. She is thrilled to join the Jose Limon Dance Company in September 2017. Visit www.jacquelinebulnes.com, where you can find trailers, music videos and special video projects.



Ina Charles This past year has brought a lot of new changes for Ina. After living in New York for the past 10 years, she moved back home to Miami to be closer to family. In September she began working as a Program Administrator for the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet. She has been working very closely with the staff and students at all four outreach

locations. She is thrilled to be able to give back to the same organization that provided her with such a strong foundation.

Gina Tiffany Alemán lives in Orlando. She completed her master's degree program in instructional design and diversity education at Nova Southeastern University in 2010, and has started a statewide event planning business, Array Event Design. She and her husband have a four year-old son, and a newborn baby girl. www.arrayeventdesign.com



Diego Blanco and partner **Ana Padron** each graduated from NWSA High School and College, and are well known Tango performers and instructors in New York City. They founded the tango outreach for the blind program at Miami's Shimmy Club. Their Company, Tango For All, recently launched an initiative to provide Tango instruction, creation and performances for broader audiences and artists in New York. Tango For All also offers [community outreach](http://communityoutreach.com) components for children and seniors. Please visit www.tangoforall.com.



Rachel Carroll continues to perform as a member of Jenny Larsson's newly founded Wild Beast Collective. Last year they performed in the Everglades as part of the AIRIE residency, in the FIU nature preserve as part of the site specific GRASS STAINS, and twice in FAT Village arts district. She also continues to perform with the interactive performance troupe Circx, as well as model for fine art photographer Raquel Glottman.



Stacey Clark is the founder of a fashion company named Lili Inc., which launched a new online component last year called Stacey's Styling. You are invited to visit: <http://staceysstyling.com/> and Lifestyle Blog: <http://lilyincstyled.blogspot.com>. She recently moved to Redding, CA

where she continues to teach, dance and choreograph on the side.



Kassandra Crook studied dance at both NWSA and Florida State University. She currently lives in Memphis, Tennessee where she is a Rental Sales Manager for a truck leasing company.

Ronald Duncan graduated from DePaul University in 2002. He danced with Hubbard Street Dance in Chicago, and was in the Las Vegas cast of "Mamma Mia!" He was in the national touring company of "Dreamgirls," and appeared on television in "Smash."



Alexis Graber transitioned from toe shoes to tassels, currently performing/producing shows as Trixie Minx, New Orleans' own burlesque Queen.

She has been at the forefront of the New Orleans Burlesque Revival as a leader in the

preservation & innovation of the art of tease. She is the producer of four New Orleans burlesque shows, in addition to providing custom designed entertainment for events and parties through her company Trixie Minx Productions. Beyond producing & performing throughout the world, she also works as an advocate for affordable performer healthcare with the New Orleans Musicians Clinic.



Selina Terpischore Hall is currently a Dean of Instruction for Yes Prep Public Schools in Houston, where she coaches and evaluates teachers, and provides professional development. Additionally, she is a course leader, writing English curriculum for the entire district. She is in her eighth

season with Houston City Dance, and spent this past summer teaching ballet, African, and modern at the Houston City Dance intensive.

"I remember the summers when we would travel to New York on scholarship and we would write you thank you letters for helping to give us that opportunity. I'm still appreciative of those opportunities even at the age of 33." - **SELINA HALL**

Zach Law Ingram danced four seasons with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, two years with Dallas Black Dance Theatre, and in the Las Vegas production of "The Lion King."

Jessica Dandridge Davis received a bachelors degree from Florida A & M University with a double major in Spanish and education. She lives in Tallahassee with her three children, and is very excited to be opening her own dance studio, the Tallahassee Academy of the Dancing Arts, or **T.A.D.A.**, this year.



Eduard Forehand has danced as a company member with the Richmond Ballet, August Ballet and Dayton Ballet. He danced for eight seasons with the Louisville Ballet in Kentucky. He will be attending the University of Iowa on full scholarship and with a fellowship pursuing a master's in fine art this year. Upon graduation he hopes to find a professorship with a University.



Ebony Haswell Frazier danced for several years with the Dance Theater of Harlem, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Complexions. She also taught at the Debbie Allen Dance Academy, and is the mother of a little boy.

Chevon Haswell Rariy is a Harvard trained, board certified Internal Medicine and Endocrinology physician, researcher, educator, and healthcare advocate with over 10 years medical experience. She is the founder and president of Specialty Telemedicine Physicians, PLLC which focuses on utilizing endocrine telemedicine to provide access to quality sub-specialty healthcare to those living in under-served areas, often associated with rural communities or urban ethnic and racial populations nationally and internationally. She currently lives in Melbourne, Australia with her husband and their two boys.



Paunika RhoShawn Jones is a former Principal Dancer with Dance Theatre of Harlem and Complexions Dance Company. She is now the Director of Paunika Jones Dance Company, performs as a freelance artist and ballerina, and is an apprentice Gyrokinesis instructor. She lives in New York City. In this photo, Paunika poses with TAYB students in New York for this summer's dance intensives.





Lloyd Knight was inducted into the Miami-Dade College Hall of Fame this year, and is beginning his twelfth year as a member of the Martha Graham Company. A highlight of the year was touring in Spain, where he also taught classes. He taught classes in Iowa and New York City, and was recently featured in a full page article in the March issue of Dance

Magazine titled "Why I Dance?".

Anya Knoblock received her BFA in dance from NWSA College in 2007, and a master's in international administration from the University of Miami in 2008. She worked at the Democratic National Committee in Washington D.C., followed by tenures at a public affairs firm, the Russian American Foundation and the Hillary for America Presidential Campaign. Currently, Anya volunteers for local arts and political organizations in Queens, where she resides with her husband, a musician and teacher. Anya's mother, Marina Ilinskaya, is the Registrar at TAYB.



Matthew Leddy is currently living in Los Angeles where he works as an actor, filmmaker and media producer. His company, Leddy Set Go Productions, recently produced a comedy pilot, a short film, a podcast, a documentary and a series of informative web videos. You can enjoy their work at [Facebook.com/LeddySetGo](https://www.facebook.com/LeddySetGo).

Riolama Lorenzo became a member of New York City Ballet in 1995, dancing in countless works in that company's repertoire. Ms. Lorenzo joined the Pennsylvania Ballet in 2002, becoming a Principal Dancer with that company in 2005. She returned three times to dance the role of Sugar Plum Fairy for TAYB's production of "The Nutcracker." Since retiring from the stage she has concentrated on the role of mother and teacher, and is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Houston. In addition, she will also start teaching at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA) this year.



Sarah Lozoff is currently completing her fifth season as a choreographer and movement director with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. She danced professionally with Ballet Rosario Suarez, while teaching for Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, until 2005. Since then, Sarah has taught ballet in Miami, Los Angeles and Ashland, OR for

private dance schools, public schools, and outreach programs. She is currently teaching in Ashland, Oregon, as well as teaching as a guest artist for contemporary companies around the nation.

Mariya Dashkina-Maddux

is working at Wake Forest Arts and the Town of Wake Forest to create the first outdoor free and open to the public Wake Forest Dance Festival. She danced with the Martha Graham Company for nine year, and now lives in Greensboro, North Carolina. She participated in the NYC Dance Project in 2015, and her photograph was selected for the cover of the photography book resulting from that project. She has been a frequent guest star at TAYB's annual spring concert.



Sparkle Malone earned her PhD in Biology from the University of Alabama. She had previously earned her master's in forest biometrics from the University of Florida in 2010. She was recently engaged as Professor of Ecology at Florida International University. Her research evaluates how climate and disturbance regimes influence natural ecosystems. You are invited to learn more [here](#).



Tarell Alvin McCraney earned the Academy Award for the screenplay of "Moonlight," based on his play "In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue." He graduated from New World School of the Arts High School before receiving his BFA in acting from the Theater School at DePaul University. In 2007 he graduated from Yale School of Drama's play writing program, where he received the Cole Porter Playwriting Award. He received the MacArthur

Genius Fellowship and the Windham-Campbell Prize for Literature in 2013. He provided historical commentary for the TAYB 2015 Spring Concert, and was the advisor for Miami City Ballet's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in 2016. The past two summers he has directed the Youth Artist Leadership Summer Program in Miami.

Randall Pollard is a fitness instructor at the Exhale Spa. He has danced professionally with Dance Now! Miami.

Candace RJ Twiggs holds a BFA in Dance and an MS in Communication from Florida State University, and currently lives in Atlanta, GA. She is the Vice-President of Client Services for AppVault. After concentrating on being mother to her new baby girl, she is easing back into dance training with eye towards performing again, and becoming involved in the Gwinnet County Board of Commissioners on Arts and Development.

Karell Williams graduated from the Juilliard School, and danced for six seasons with Les Grands Ballet Canadiens de Montreal.



Natalie Wright is the owner and Director of Ballet Conservatory West (BCW) in Los Angeles, California. With 150 students enrolled, and four additional faculty members, including TAYB Alum Yusha Marie Sorzano, students learn modern dance, tap and classical ballet utilizing the same syllabus as the Thomas Armour Youth Ballet, continuing in it's tradition.

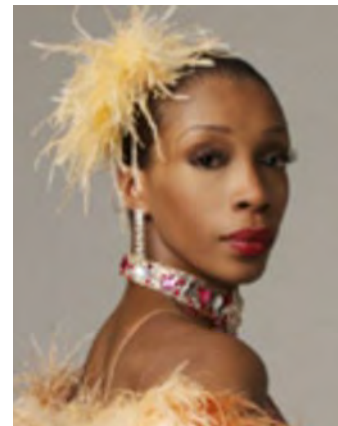
Maggie Mejia is a surgical technician at Jackson South Community Hospital, specializing in robotics and bariatric surgery.

Michelle Mendez-Youell received a BA in psychology in 2005 from Florida State University. She lived in Asheville, North Carolina, where she launched the city's first eating disorder treatment clinic. She now lives in Jupiter, Florida with her husband and two sons, and is a consultant for treatment centers, coach, and trainer for the prevention of eating disorders in youth and adults.

Alex Stepick graduated from New World School of the Arts High School, and from the University of Chicago in 2006 with a degree in law, letters and society. He received a JD from Washington University in St. Louis School of Law in 2010. Alex has worked for the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Immigration on Comprehensive Immigration Reform. He is now lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Tyrell Rolle is currently living in Las Vegas and teaching dance full-time. He founded the Rolle Project, a non-profit dance company and arts programming organization. He worked for three years with Cirque Du Soleil. He was in the Las Vegas cast of "The Lion King," and has performed with numerous dance companies including Deeply Rooted in Chicago, and Miami Contemporary Dance, Dance NOW! Miami and Brazz Dance in Miami. www.tyrellrolle.com.

Yusha Sorzano has been a member of Complexions and Ailey II, and was a member of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for three years. She has performed with Morphoses, TU Dance, and BodyTraffic. She is currently on hiatus from Camille A. Brown & Dancers as she recovers from an ankle injury. She was a guest artist at TAYB's Spring Concert in 2016, and is teaching and choreographing as a free-lance artist.



Kevin Whitaker can be seen in numerous music videos and commercials, and is currently editing music videos, including those of Jennifer Lopez.

Pre - 1996

Leo Javier Alvarez danced with Rutaruo Ballet and Southern Ballet Theater, as well as for the Disney Company in Tokyo and Orlando. He has toured with several Broadway shows, including *Damn Yankees*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Starlight Express* among many regional and international theater credits.

Dierdre Carberry is a professor at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music Dance Division. She enjoyed a long, spectacular career as a Principal Dancer with American Ballet Theater, appearing on television and stages worldwide with Mikhail Baryshnikov. She has since been in demand as a teacher, and adjudicator of dance competitions.



Erika Johnson is a freelance dancer, actor and teacher in Miami. She teaches ballet to the competitive ice skating team at Kendall Ice Arena, and works as a Healthy Humor "Red Nose Doc" (previously a division of Big Apple Circus). She was married this

year to David Solomon, the head carpenter at Miami-Dade County Auditorium, who is on the TAYB Nutcracker crew every year.



Lara Murphy graduated from NWSA High School, and holds a BA from New York University and an MA from the University of Miami. She is currently a professor and choreographer at NWSA. She has performed with several professional companies, most recently with Maximum Dance Company and Miami

Contemporary Dance Company. She is the Co-Artistic Director of TAYB's annual production of "The Nutcracker." Her work was presented at the 2015 Dance USA national conference in Miami.

Sally Ann Kennedy was a founding Company member of Miami City Ballet, and rose to the rank of Principal Dancer during her career with that Company. She then performed with Cirque du Soleil, Maximum Dance Company and Ballet Gamonet. She is currently a Ballet Mistress with Miami Youth Ballet, and is married with one son.

Robert Battle is the Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. He is a graduate of the New World School of the Arts and holds a BFA in dance from The Juilliard School. He was a member of the Parsons Dance Company from 1994 to 2001, where he began setting his work in 1998. He founded Battleworks Dance Company in 2001.



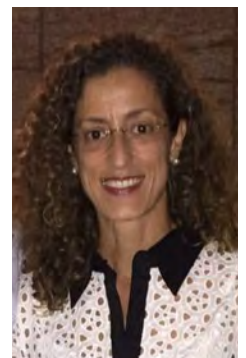
Kristen Dodd was a part of the TAYB family from the age of six until the age of eighteen. She graduated from Harvard University in 2003, and the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in 2007. She is currently an Internal Medicine/Hospitalist Physician at Baptist Hospital.

Jessica Shults-Figueroa was a member of the Miami City Ballet for 10 seasons. After leaving the company she danced with Miami Contemporary Dance Company in both a full time capacity and then later as a guest artist from 2007- 2015. In 2007 Jessica joined the faculty at TAYB where she has continues to teach today. She is married, and has 3 lovely children.



Heather Fryxell was a Principal Dancer with the Orlando Ballet for several years, and then danced with Ballet West. She is now on the principal faculty at Ballet West Academy, where they recently adopted her Adaptive Movement Mentor program. This program will reach over 100 students of special abilities in the Salt Lake and neighboring regions in the coming year.

Ivonne Labrada-Leichtling danced professionally with The Dance Theatre of Harlem and holds a BA from the University of Miami. Following her dance career, she became a public relations executive specializing in the entertainment, hospitality and restaurant industry. Currently, she is married and a full time mother of two daughters.



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