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ALICE IN Wonderland



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TBT

TEXAS BALLET THEATER

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COVER PHOTO

Artists: Paige Nyman
Photo by: Steven Visneau

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Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to *Alice in Wonderland*, the final production in our 2022-2023 season. You are in for a treat today with this special ballet choreographed by TBT's Artistic Director Laureate, Ben Stevenson, O.B.E. It's set to a score composed by Joseph Horowitz. Horowitz and his music served as great inspiration for Ben during the creation of this ballet in 1992, and that's evident in the interconnectedness of the choreography and music you'll see throughout the performance.

As you will see in the opening scene, Alice opens the story with dialogue and continues to further the story with the spoken word. This is a unique challenge for the dancers, who are used to expressing themselves through movement. The dialogue is both an exciting venture for the dancers and another layer of storytelling for the audience.

Here at TBT, we recently announced the upcoming 2023-2024 season. It's an exciting mix of productions featuring Ben Stevenson's *Dracula* and *The Nutcracker*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and a mixed repertoire production called *Brilliants*, which includes *Without Borders*, *Grand Pas Classique*, *Le Corsaire Pas de Deux*, and George Balanchine's *Rubies*. I hope you join us for a show next year, or become a season subscriber to enjoy ballet all season long.

Thank you for supporting TBT, and enjoy the show!

Sincerely,



Tim O'Keefe
Acting Artistic Director

2023-2024 Season

Dracula

Dallas | Sept. 15-17, 2023

Fort Worth | Oct. 6-8, 2023

The Nutcracker

Dallas | Nov. 24 - Dec. 3, 2023

Fort Worth | Dec. 8-24, 2023

Brilliants

Fort Worth | Feb. 23-25, 2024

Dallas | March 1-3, 2024

Beauty and the Beast

Dallas | May 3-5, 2024

Fort Worth | May 17-19, 2024

For tickets, visit [texasballettheater.org](https://www.texasballettheater.org)
or call 877-828-9200 Option 1.

Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to story time at the ballet. Our company dancers are thrilled to guide you “down the rabbit hole” with Alice into a land of fantasy and fun. Choreographed by Ben Stevenson, O.B.E., *Alice in Wonderland* wraps you in the wonder of a child’s world where magic, imagination, and humor rule.

As Alice braves her way through the most curious adventures, she encounters a cadre of whimsical characters. We hope you will find a favorite and be inspired to explore your own adventure in dance. Texas Ballet Theater School offers classes for students aged 3 to 103. TBT works to advance the technical mastery of ballet among our students, and this is part of the reason why Texas Ballet Theater School is the pre-eminent ballet school in the Metroplex. *“A well-versed young dancer, one who has experienced and studied many styles of dance, can stand out in an audition and positively impact their future in professional dance.”*¹ We are proud to make these opportunities possible right here in North Texas for every dancer whether recreational or pre-professional.

Thank you for being part of our story. Your continued support and enthusiasm for Texas Ballet Theater make all our ventures possible.

Sincerely,



Vanessa Logan
Executive Director

¹Note. From “The Importance of Mixed Repertory,” by Mary Ashley Ray, 2021, What’s New at TBT (blog).



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Company Profiles

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Tim O'Keefe, *Acting Artistic Director* | Ben Stevenson, O.B.E., *Artistic Director Laureate*
Li Anlin, *Assistant Artistic Director* | Anna Donovan, *Principal Rehearsal Director*

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Allen Olson, *Master of Properties*
Masako Parshall, *Wardrobe Manager*
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Company Profiles



Tim O'Keefe, *Acting Artistic Director*

A native Houstonian, Tim O'Keefe was awarded a scholarship to Houston Ballet Academy in 1981, joined the company one year later, was promoted to Soloist in 1985, and was named Principal Dancer in 1995.

In 1997, Houston Ballet Artistic Director Ben Stevenson created the title role of *Dracula* for Tim. He has choreographed works for Houston Ballet's Cullen Contemporary Series and for Houston Ballet Academy, as well as *Love Thing*, *Ragtime Dance*, and *Violin Concerto in D* for Texas Ballet Theater. Tim joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2002 and was named Acting Artistic Director in 2022.



Vanessa Logan, *Executive Director*

Vanessa Logan has over 20 years of experience in arts administration. For the past five years, she has served as Texas Ballet Theater's Executive Director, overseeing the administrative functions of the organization.

She is a lifelong advocate for community and education arts programs, and is especially committed to building youth engagement in the arts. As a former resident teaching artist for the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, Vanessa authored and implemented several dance and academic syllabi. She has served as the Executive Director of American Repertory Ballet, NJ; Chief of Staff of Boston Ballet, MA; Director of

Education and Community of The Palace Theater, CT; and Administrative Director of CT Dance Theatre, CT.

Vanessa has presented arts administration workshops and guest lectures at the University of Connecticut, Simmons College, Southern Methodist University, and The Juilliard School. She is a member of Dance/USA Constituency Committee and an executive volunteer for the Prison Entrepreneurship Program based out of Dallas. She is also a volunteer for EDGE – Empowering Dignity in Girls Everywhere. Vanessa attended The Juilliard School and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Movement Therapy from Goucher College, Maryland.



Ben Stevenson, *O.B.E, Artistic Director Laureate*

Ben Stevenson, a native of Portsmouth, England, received his dance training at the Arts and Educational School in London. He appeared with the Royal Ballet and English National Ballet where, as a principal dancer, he performed lead roles in all the classics. He has received numerous awards for his choreography, including three gold medals at the International Ballet Competitions. For his contributions to international dance, Mr. Stevenson was named an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.) by Queen Elizabeth II in December 1999. In April 2000, he was presented with the Dance Magazine Award. In 2018, Mr. Stevenson was acknowledged by the

Chinese government as one of the most influential Foreign Experts in the past 40 years since China initiated its policy on Reform and Opening Up. Mr. Stevenson assumed the artistic directorship of Texas Ballet Theater in July 2003. In 2022, Mr. Stevenson was named Artistic Director Laureate in recognition of his lengthy tenure. Previously he served as artistic director of Houston Ballet (1976-2003), elevating the company from a regional troupe to an internationally acclaimed ensemble.

Company Profiles



Li Anlin, Assistant Artistic Director

Mr. Li was born in Nanjing, China. At age 13, he began training with the Beijing Dance Academy and graduated to the Young Dancers Company where Mr. Li first met and worked with Mr. Stevenson. In 1982, he joined the National Ballet of China as a soloist. In 1985, Mr. Li was invited by Ivan Nagy to join Ballet de Santiago in Chile as a Principal dancer. In 1989, Mr. Stevenson invited Mr. Li to join Houston Ballet as a soloist. During his 21-year career, Mr. Li performed classical and contemporary pieces all around the world working with many notable figures of the dance world. Mr. Li retired from the stage in 2000 and became Ballet Master at Houston Ballet

before coming to Texas Ballet Theater in 2003. Mr. Li has been Assistant Artistic Director of Texas Ballet Theater since 2005.



Anna Donovan, Principal Rehearsal Director

A native of Ireland, Anna Donovan won a scholarship to train at the Royal Ballet School in England when she was ten years old. From there she joined the Elmhurst Ballet School. After performing in Kaiserslautern, Germany she joined the Irish National Ballet in 1973 and was rapidly promoted to Principal Dancer. After 17 years with INB, she joined the staff of Ballet Dallas in 1991, serving as Principal Ballet Mistress/Repetiteur and instructor for the Dallas Conservatory of Ballet. She is included in *The Who's Who of Teachers in America* 2000, 2001, and 2005. Anna joined the artistic staff at TBT as Principal Rehearsal Director in 2000.



Thomas Boyd, Director of Production

A native of Kansas, Boyd began his theatrical career as a performer in Chicago. He joined Houston Ballet in 1976, becoming its Production Director in 1986. He comes to Texas Ballet Theater with experience producing and directing productions for Houston Ballet and Queensland Ballet. Boyd's scenic designs have been presented by companies around the world, including Boston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, National Ballet of China, Estonia National Ballet and National Ballet of Santiago. Boyd joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2019.



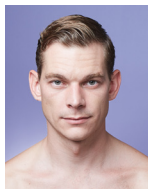
Lyndsey Goode, Company Manager

Lyndsey Goode joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2021 after 16 years working in New York as a Broadway Production Manager, Stage Manager and General Manager. Credits include: *Jersey Boys*, *Matilda*, *A Bronx Tale*, *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*, *I Love You Because*, *Soul Samurai*, and numerous other Off-Broadway and Regional highlights; TV Credits: the upcoming streaming production of *Jersey Boys* with Nick Jonas, *One Night Only: Best of Broadway*, and *Nurse Jackie*. She is a graduate of Abilene Christian University and UC-Irvine where she earned a Masters in Fine Arts. A Farmers Branch native, she and her husband Trey have two daughters, Clara and Alice, both

of whom are thrilled that their own ballets are included in this season!

Company Members

PRINCIPAL DANCERS



Carl Coomer

Coomer began his ballet training in Liverpool at the age of 13 years old. In 1998, he received a scholarship to the Royal Ballet School in London, under the direction of Dame Merle Park and later, Gailene Stock. His professional career started in Houston Ballet in 2001, where he performed for six seasons. In 2007, he joined Texas Ballet Theater. His repertoire includes leading roles in ballets by Ben Stevenson, O.B.E., Christopher Bruce, George Balanchine, Sir Frederick Ashton, Sir Kenneth MacMillan, John Cranko, Jiri Kylian, William Forsythe, Christopher Wheeldon, Hans van Manen, Glen Tetley, Jerome Robbins, Stanton Welch, James Kudelka, Val Caniparoli and many more. He has choreographed several works for TBT: *Evolving* (2012), *Clann* (2014) *Henry VIII* (2018) and *The Story of You* (2021).



Alexander Kotelenets

A native of Kiev, Ukraine, Alexander Kotelenets began his training at the Kiev State Ballet School. After coming to the United States, he continued his training at Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy and was a company member with Houston Ballet before joining Texas Ballet Theater in 2003. Mr. Kotelenets has performed in a number of Ben Stevenson ballets, with favorite roles as Romeo and Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*, Dracula and Frederick in *Dracula*, Peer in *Peer Gynt*, the prince in *Swan Lake*, the prince in *The Sleeping Beauty*, and partnering his wife, Heather Kotelenets who danced with the company for 13 years, in the *Ave Maria* pas de deux. He also has performed in Texas Ballet Theater's premiere of Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries* and George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*. He and his wife Heather have two daughters, Mila and Emma, and are expecting another little one in December.



Alexandra F. Light

Alexandra F. Light, originally from Washington, D.C., began her training at Maryland Youth Ballet and Houston Ballet II. Alexandra has also attended various summer programs, including those offered by the School of American Ballet, San Francisco Ballet School, and Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy. She has performed as Aurora in Ben Stevenson's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Odette/Odile in Ben Stevenson's *Swan Lake*, Svetlana in Ben Stevenson's *Dracula*, Sugar Plum, Snow Queen, and Clara in Ben Stevenson's *The Nutcracker*, Winter Fairy and Cinderella in Ben Stevenson's *Cinderella*, in William Forsythe's *In The Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, Ben Stevenson's *Twilight Pas de Deux*, Ben Stevenson's *Star Crossed*, and Ben Stevenson's *Four Last Songs*. She has also performed leading roles in George Balanchine's *Allegro Brillante* and *Serenade*, Jerome Robbins' *The Concert*, Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, Carlos Acosta's *Carmen*, Christopher Wheeldon's DGV©: *Danse à Grande Vitesse*, Ben Stevenson's *Alice in Wonderland*, Ma Cong's *Firebird*, Jonathan Watkins' *Crash*, Lew Christensen's *Beauty and the Beast*, and Tim O'Keefe's *Violin Concerto in D*.

Company Members



Paige Nyman

Paige Nyman began dancing at the age of three in Kansas City, Kansas. At sixteen, she was offered a scholarship to the Harid Conservatory and studied there for two years under Svetlana Osiyeva, Oliver Pardina, and Victoria Schneider. Since joining Texas Ballet Theater in 2009, favorite roles have included the title role in Ben Stevenson's *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Cinderella*, the Pas de Trois from *Dracula*, the Pas de Trois from *Four Last Songs*, and Laila from *Laila and the Swan*, as well as Waltz Girl in George Balanchine's *Serenade*, The Wife in Jerome Robbins' *The Concert*, and featured roles in Christopher Bruce's *Rooster* and *Ghost Dances*. She has also loved performing in Ben Stevenson's *Romeo and Juliet*, *Peer Gynt*, and *Giselle*, as well as William Forsythe's *In the Middle*, *Somewhat Elevated*, George Balanchine's *Allegro Brillante*, Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, Jiri Kylian's *Petite Mort*, Harald Lander's *Études*, Tim O'Keefe's *Violin Concerto in D*, and as the title role in Carlos Acosta's *Carmen*.



David Schrenk

David Schrenk is originally from Jacksonville, Florida and began his training at the Florida Ballet Training Center under Laurie Byrd. At 10 years old, he started ballet to aid his gymnastics training, but after working with Byrd, he quickly realized dancing was his true passion. He began his professional career by joining Houston Ballet's second company at 17. After spending a year in Houston with teachers from the Ben Stevenson Academy, Schrenk decided to work with Mr. Stevenson at Texas Ballet Theater and joined the company in 2015. Since working with Stevenson, Schrenk has performed many great roles including Siegfried from Stevenson's *Swan Lake*, Prince Florimund from Stevenson's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and the improv solo from Ohad Naharin's *Minus 16*. Texas Ballet Theater also sent Schrenk to the 2018 International Ballet Competition in Jackson, Mississippi, where he won a bronze medal thanks to the coaching of Li Anlin, Tim O'Keefe, Anna Donovan, and Stevenson.



Andre Silva

Andre Silva is originally from Brasilia, Brazil, and began training at Royal Academy of Dance at age four. He continued training at The HARID Conservatory and the Ben Stevenson Academy. From 2003-2009, Mr. Silva performed several leading roles as a Texas Ballet Theater principal. He was the first recipient of the Booz Allen Hamilton International "Rising Star Award" and was a Silver Medalist at the International Ballet Competition in Shanghai. From 2009-2014, Mr. Silva joined Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal and then Germany's Ballet Augsburg. He has choreographed works for Les Grands Ballets de Montréal and Texas Ballet Theater. He is currently a Resident Choreographer for Uptown Dance Company in Houston. Mr. Silva joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2003. @_andreesilva__

Company Members



Nicole Von Enck

Nicole Von Enck is in her 13th season with Texas Ballet Theater. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, she began her professional training with Joanne Hughes Morscher at the Royal School of Ballet. In 2008, she joined North Carolina Dance Theatre for two years as an apprentice, and in 2010 joined the TBT Company. Some of Nicole's favorite roles include Odette/Odile from Ben Stevenson's *Swan Lake*, Cinderella in Ben Stevenson's *Cinderella*, Russian Girl from George Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Esmeralda Pas de Deux* by Ben Stevenson, the Prima Ballerina in *Études* by Harald Lander, Third Pas de Deux in Christopher Wheeldon's *DGV©: Danse à Grande Vitesse*, *Britten Pas* by Ben Stevenson, *Petite Mort* by Jiri Kylian, Flora from Ben Stevenson's *Dracula*, Pas de Trois from Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, Pas de Quatre from Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Gloria*, and My One and Only variation from George's Balanchine's *Who Cares*. Ms. Von Enck is married to fellow Texas Ballet Theater company member Jomanuel Velazquez and they have a two year old daughter.

SOLOISTS



Amanda Fairweather

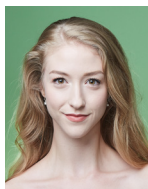
Amanda Fairweather is in her 12th season with Texas Ballet Theater. She is married to fellow company member Riley Moyano. Originally from Orange, California, she began training at the Academy of Dance under Merle Sepel and Rebecca Tsvikkin. Where she studied RAD, completing her solo seal. Amanda attended SUNY Purchase College, graduating cum laude. In 2011 after attending Texas Ballet Theater Summer Intensive she was asked to join as a trainee. Amanda has enjoyed performing Ben Stevenson's *Romeo and Juliet* balcony scene, *Dracula*, Jiri Kylian's *Petite Mort*, Christopher Wheeldon's *DGV©: Danse à Grande Vitesse*, William Forsythe's *In The Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, Harald Landers' *Études*, Ohad Noharn's *Minus 16* and Val Caniparoli's *Without Borders*. @dancersoftexasballettheater



Rieko Hatato

Rieko Hatato began dance training at age five in Japan. She was trained by Yoko Tsukamoto at Yoko Tsukamoto Theater de Ballet Academy in Nagoya. From 2013 to 2015, she performed main roles in *Firebird*, *The Nutcracker*, and *Coppelia* with Artistic Director Hideo Fukagawa. She has won many medals in competitions in Japan, a bronze medal in the Moscow International Ballet Competition in 2013, and was a finalist in the USA International Ballet Competition in 2018. Before coming to the US, she performed as a guest dancer with Russian Ballet Theater in Cyprus in 2017. She then joined Arts Ballet Theater of Florida for the 2017/18 season and Texas Ballet Theater for the 2018/19 season. She has enjoyed performing the Bluebird pas de deux in Ben Stevenson's *The Sleeping Beauty*, Clara in Ben Stevenson's *The Nutcracker*, and Third Pas de Deux in Tim O'Keefe's *Violin Concerto in D*. @7rieko_hatato

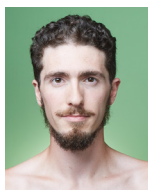
Company Members



Adeline Melcher

Melcher began training in New Orleans, Louisiana, under the guidance of Myra Mier. She attended several summer intensive programs including American Ballet Theater NYC, School of American Ballet, Houston Ballet, and Texas Ballet Theater. At 16, she became a student of Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy. Melcher joined TBT in 2015. She has performed in ballets such as Ben Stevenson's *End of Time* and *Swan Lake*, Ma Cong's *Firebird*, Harald Lander's

Études, William Forsythe's *In the Middle*, *Somewhat Elevated*, Christopher Bruce's *Rooster*, and Alexei Ratmansky's *Seven Sonatas*.



Riley Moyano

Riley Moyano began his training in his hometown of Naperville, Illinois at the school of DanceWest Ballet with his parents Regina and Ricardo Moyano.

He continued his training at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, performing Trey McIntyre's *Blue Until June*. Since joining Texas Ballet Theater in 2011, Moyano has been delighted to perform in Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, Sir Kenneth MacMillan's *Gloria*, Ronald Hynd's *The Merry Widow*, Jiri Kylian's *Petite*

Mort, Val Caniparoli's *Without Borders*, Ohad Naharin's *Minus 16*, William Forsythe's *In The Middle*, *Somewhat Elevated*, Christopher Bruce's *Ghost Dances*, and as Caesar in Ben Stevenson's *Cleopatra*. Moyano is married to fellow Company member Amanda Fairweather. @rymochoore



Dara Oda

Dara Oda, originally from Naperville, Illinois, began her training at the School of DanceWest Ballet under Ricardo and Regina Moyano. She was awarded cash and program scholarships at the Regional Dance America festival and received further training from summer programs at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Joffrey Ballet, and Texas Ballet Theater. In 2014, Ms. Oda graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Belhaven University. Since joining

Texas Ballet Theater in 2014, she has enjoyed performing in Ben Stevenson's *Swan Lake* and *Four Last Songs*, Christopher Bruce's *Ghost Dances*, Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, and Ohad Naharin's *Mabul* duet.



Samantha Pille

Samantha began training with Patty Pille's School of Dance at age two. By eight, she was accepted into The School for Creative and Performing Arts and performed many leading roles. Ms. Pille also trained with San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, and the English National Ballet. At 14, she joined Cincinnati Ballet. After joining TBT, she performed principal roles in DGV©: *Danse a Grande Vitesse*, Tiger Lily in *Alice in Wonderland* and Odette/Odile in *Swan Lake*. She

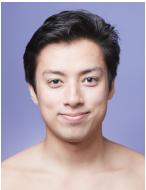
also performed *Esmeralda pas de deux*, *Don Quixote*, and *End of Time* in Germany at the Theater Münster, and was a guest artist with Queensland Ballet in Australia as the Sugar Plum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. She joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2016.

Company Members



Katelyn Rhodes

Originally from Fort Worth, Katelyn Rhodes began her training at North Central School of Ballet and Trinity Valley School of Ballet. She continued training at Texas Ballet Theater School and Texas Christian University, where she was a Nordan Fine Arts scholar. Since joining Texas Ballet Theater in 2013, Rhodes has enjoyed performing roles such as the Snow Queen and the Lead Flower in Ben Stevenson's *The Nutcracker*, the Lilac Fairy in Ben Stevenson's *The Sleeping Beauty*, and the Rooster Girl in Christopher Bruce's *Rooster*. She has also enjoyed performing in Ben Stevenson's *Swan Lake* and *Dracula*, George Balanchine's *Serenade* and *Rubies*, Jiri Kylian's *Petite Mort*, William Forsythe's *In The Middle*, *Somewhat Elevated*, Harald Lander's *Études*, Glen Tetley's *Voluntaries*, Ohad Naharin's *Minus 16*, and Christopher Wheeldon's *DGV©: Danse à Grande Vitesse*.



Kyle Torres-Hiyoshi

Kyle Torres-Hiyoshi is originally from Buffalo, New York, and began his training at the American Academy of Ballet. At age 15, he continued his dance education at The School of American Ballet at Lincoln Center after being offered a full scholarship. He danced with ABT's Studio Company as well as Boston Ballet II. Mr. Torres-Hiyoshi then joined Sarasota Ballet from 2014-2017, where he danced titled roles in George Balanchine's *Rubies* and *Diamonds*, Sir Frederick Ashton's *Sinfonietta*, *Valse Nobles et Sentimentales*, *Scene de Ballet*, and Anthony Tudor's *Continuo*. His favorite ballets include Balanchine's *Stars and Stripes*, Jiri Kylian's *Wings of Wax*, and Alexander Ekman's *Cacti*. He joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2017.



Joamanuel Velazquez

This is Joamanuel Velazquez's 16th season with Texas Ballet Theater. A native of Bayamon, Puerto Rico, he began his training with Ballet Concierto de Puerto Rico. He later attended the Virginia School of the Arts on full scholarship, then joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2007. He has since enjoyed performing in Ben Stevenson's *Don Quixote*, *Dracula*, and *Swan Lake*. He also enjoyed dancing Pinocchio in Will Tuckett's *Pinocchio*. Mr. Velazquez is married to company member Nicole Von Enck and has a two year old daughter.

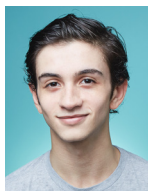


Brett Young

Brett Young is from Houston, Texas, where he began his dance training, studying at Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy and the High School for Performing and Visual Art. Upon graduating high school, he attended the University of Oklahoma where he continued his training in OU's School of Dance under the tutelage of Director Mary Margaret Holt, Steve Brule, and Clara Cravey-Stanely. Upon graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, Young joined the ranks of Texas Ballet Theater where he has performed works by Kenneth MacMillan, Glenn Tetley, Ohad Naharin, George Balanchine, Garrett Smith, Val Caniparoli, and Jerome Robbins. During his time with Texas Ballet Theater, he has most enjoyed dancing in Ben Stevenson's story ballets performing the pas de trois in his *Swan Lake* and the role of Pothinus in *Cleopatra*, Jiri Kilyan's *Petite Mort*, as well as Rooster from Christopher Bruce's *Rooster* and one of the Ghosts in Mr. Bruce's *Ghost Dances*. Young joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2013.

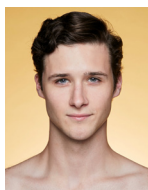
Company Members

CORPS DE BALLET



Valentin Batista

Valentin Batista started ballet at the age of five at a small studio in Buenos Aires with his first teacher Sara Rzeszotko. At age twelve, he began furthering his training at the school of Teatro Colon of Buenos Aires. In 2012, Valentin joined Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy. Three years later, he became a second company member with Orlando Ballet. He has attended summer intensives at Houston Ballet, Ellison Ballet in New York City, Orlando Ballet, and Jacob's Pillow. Valentin has competed in American Dance Competition, and with coaching from Olivier Muñoz, he won first place in the senior classical category. Valentin joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2017.



Jackson Bayhi

Originally from Houston, Texas, Jackson Bayhi started competitive ballroom dancing at age 8. He began his ballet training at age 16 at Uptown Dance Centre in Houston. In 2019, after attending summer intensives at Houston Ballet and Ellison Ballet in New York City, he joined TBT's Studio Training Company. Bayhi joined TBT's professional company in 2022.



Lauren Leb

A native of Colleyville, Texas, Lauren Leb began her training at the Marina Almayeva School of Classical Ballet. After receiving top honors in several competitions, she continued her training at the HARID Conservatory. Leb attended Texas Ballet Theater's Summer Intensive on a full scholarship that she received during the 2019 ADC/IBC competition. She then joined TBT's Studio Training Company for the 2019-2020 season. Leb joined the company as a

Trainee in 2020 and is now a Corps de Ballet member.

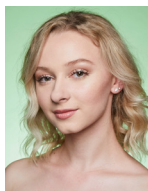


Adam Phillips

Adam Phillips started dancing at age 11 in Dallas, Texas. He trained at the Ballet Academy of Texas under the direction of Lisa Slagle and Allan Kinzie. From 2016-2018, Phillips trained on a full tuition scholarship with the Pacific Northwest Ballet Professional Division, under the direction of Peter Boal. While there, he worked with world-renowned choreographers and performed with the company. In 2016, Phillips won second in the Youth American Grand

Prix Senior Classical Male Division at the Dallas, Texas, semifinals. He has attended many summer intensives including The School of American Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Ballet Austin. He joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2018.

Company Members



Anastasia Tillman

Anastasia Tillman is an alumna of Ballet Conservatory and LakeCities Ballet Theatre. Since the age of nine she has been a laureate of Youth America Grand Prix for several consecutive years. At the age of 14 she went to study at Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow, Russia, where she graduated with a diploma in Performing Arts. Tillman also competed in several international competitions such as World Ballet Competition, Helsinki International Ballet Competition, and Valentina Kozlova International Ballet Competition where she was awarded 2nd place. She danced with Texas Ballet Theater's Studio Training Company for three years, where she enjoyed performing Ben Stevenson, O.B.E.'s ballets including *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Alice in Wonderland*, the role of Clara in *The Nutcracker*, and the Bird in Tim O'Keefe's *Peter and the Wolf*. Tillman joined TBT's professional company as a trainee in 2021. During that season she had the pleasure of performing in two world premieres, *Violin Concerto in D* by Tim O'Keefe and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Ben Stevenson.



Rayleigh Vendt

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, and raised in Dallas, Texas, Rayleigh Vendt began her pre-professional training at the Ballet Academy of Texas under Lisa Slagle. After graduating early, she spent one season as a Trainee at Cincinnati Ballet and two seasons as an Apprentice at Ballet Austin. Vendt then joined Oklahoma City Ballet's Corps de Ballet and danced with the company for five seasons. She has most enjoyed performing Russian Girl in George Balanchine's *Serenade*. Vendt joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2020.



Sophie Williams

Sophie Williams, a California native, began training at Ballet Arte Academy of Classical Ballet in San Diego, before spending one year in Miami City Ballet's Pre Professional Division. Highlights of her professional career include performing as the First and Second Violins in *Concerto Barocco*, Dark Angel in George Balanchine's *Serenade*, and Gamzatti in *La Bayadère*; in the corps de ballet of Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*, with the Richmond Ballet; and in various full length productions, including Alicia Alonso's *Giselle* with Ballet San Jose, and Edwaard Liang's *Don Quixote* and *Cinderella* with BalletMet. In 2020, Williams joined the Corps de Ballet of the Royal New Zealand Ballet, where she had the opportunities to perform in Liam Scarlett's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Ethan Stiefel's *Giselle*. She joined Texas Ballet Theater as a Company Dancer in 2022.

Company Members



Henry Winn

Henry started dancing at age seven in Salt Lake City, Utah, with Ballet West Academy under the direction of Peter Christie, Jan Fugit and Jeff Rogers. While at Ballet West, he performed many roles with the company including *Don Quixote*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella* and *The Rite of Spring*. While at Ballet West, Winn was invited to perform *The Nutcracker* with Ballet West at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Winn attended many summer intensives including The School of American Ballet in New York City, Houston Ballet, and Boston Ballet. From 2017 to 2019, Winn trained with Boston Ballet under the direction of Peter Stark, where he performed with Boston Ballet and Boston Ballet II. Winn joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2019.



Hannah Wood

Hannah Wood began her ballet training at North Atlanta Dance Academy in Alpharetta, Georgia. She spent eleven years training and performing in North Atlanta Dance Theater productions. At age fourteen, she began her studies at The HARID Conservatory of the Arts. Three years later, she joined Houston Ballet's Ben Stevenson Academy, and in 2014 was selected to become a member of Houston Ballet's second company. She joined Texas Ballet Theater in 2015. During her time at Texas Ballet Theater, Ms. Wood has enjoyed performing in many ballets, including Ben Stevenson's *Dracula*, Christopher Bruce's *Ghost Dances*, Christopher Wheeldon's *DGV*©: *Danse à Grande Vitesse* and William Forsythe's *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*.

PRINCIPAL CHARACTER DANCER



Cristian Jimenez

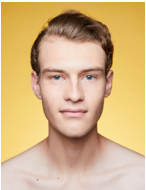
Jimenez began training at Ballet School of Santiago in Municipal Theater and became a part of Santiago Chamber Ballet. After graduating, he joined the Ballet of Santiago for four seasons. In 1992, he received a scholarship from Houston Ballet Academy and performed in *The Nutcracker* and the world premiere of Ben Stevenson's *Alice in Wonderland*. In Paraguay, Jimenez performed principal roles at Classical and Modern Municipal Ballet of Asunción, National Ballet of Paraguay and Ballet Uninorte. In Venezuela, he performed as a principal with Ballet Contemporáneo de Caracas directed by Maria Eugenia Barrios. In 2009, Jimenez joined the Classical Ballet of Venezuela led by Nina Novak. Jimenez is originally from Chile.

Apprentices



Harrison Pickering

Harrison Pickering was born and raised in England until he started his professional training at Canada's National Ballet School at age 12. While at the school he performed in three seasons of *The Nutcracker* with National Ballet of Canada and in the opening of the Pan Am Games in Toronto. Pickering then attended Master Ballet Academy in Arizona from age 15-17, performing annually in *The Nutcracker* with Phoenix Ballet. He also competed in YAGP, placing 1st in the Classical and Contemporary category (Dallas, 2018) and 1st in both Senior Men's Classical and Pas de Deux categories (Phoenix, 2019) before attending the Finals in New York. Pickering attended and received full scholarships for summer intensives at both American Ballet Theatre and San Francisco Ballet. He also trained privately with David King and Raul Salamanca in 2019 before being awarded a full scholarship to SFB's year round program, where he trained for 2 years and performed with SFB in *The Nutcracker*. While in Ballet Arizona's Studio Company, he performed in works such as George Balanchine's *Violin Concerto*, *Slaughter on 10th Avenue*, and *Serenade*, Sir Frederick Ashton's *Les Patineurs*, and Ib Andersen's *The Nutcracker*, *Romeo & Juliet*, and *Juan Gabriel*. Pickering is very excited to be joining Texas Ballet Theater this season as an Apprentice.



Troy Santulli

Troy Santulli is a native of Boston, Massachusetts. He began his training at the age of 4 with Boston Ballet School. He completed the Trainee Program to conclude his 15 years at the school before joining Kansas City Ballet II in 2020. At Boston Ballet, Troy was directed by Peter Stark and Margaret Tracey. He performed in Mikko Nissinen's *The Nutcracker* for 11 seasons including the role of Fritz for 3 years. Troy also performed in Mikko Nissinen's *Swan Lake* and *Giselle* and has taken part in Boston Ballet School's end of year performances of Next Generation where he was cast in original choreography including Igor Burlak's *Double Concerto* and Jaime Sierra's *Legion*. As a member of KCB II Santulli performed a wide range of works with both the main and second company; some of his favorites included roles in Lila York's *Celts*, Michael Pink's *Dracula*, and Tomm Ruud's *Mobile*. Throughout the years, Santulli attended Finnish National Ballet, American Ballet Theater, Pacific Northwest Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Boston Ballet, and The School of American Ballet for their summer intensive programs, receiving numerous scholarships. Troy couldn't be more excited to be joining Texas Ballet Theater for the 2022-2023 season in his first season as an Apprentice!

Trainees



AvaRose Dillon

AvaRose Dillon began dancing at age 9 at the Studio School of Classical Ballet in her hometown of Santa Cruz, California, under Diane Cypher and Robert Kelley. At age 14 she moved to Texas to train at Texas Ballet Theater School, where she spent two seasons as a member of the Studio Training Company. During her time in the Studio Training Company, AvaRose enjoyed performing in many TBT productions including Ben Stevenson's *The Nutcracker* and A *Midsummer Night's Dream*, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, and Tim O'Keefe's *Violin Concerto in D*. She has also attended summer intensives at San Francisco Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and School of American Ballet, as well as at TBT. AvaRose is honored and excited to join TBT as a Trainee this season.



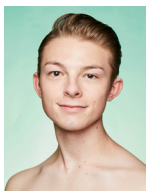
Kayla Fessler

A third-generation dancer from San Antonio, Texas, Kayla Fessler started ballet at age 6. At age 14 she moved to Houston Ballet Academy, where she trained on scholarship for four years. While at Houston Ballet Academy, Kayla trained under many instructors including Sally Rojas, Claudio Munoz, and Susan Bryant, and had the opportunity to perform world-renowned choreography. In 2020 she moved north to continue her training at Texas Ballet Theater School. Kayla joins the professional company this season as a Trainee.



Jordan Lovelace

Jordan Lovelace began dancing in his hometown of Dallas, Texas, at age 13. He has enjoyed performing in many ballets throughout his training, including *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* by Stanton Welch. Jordan danced in Texas Ballet Theater School's Studio Training Company before joining the professional company this season as a Trainee.



Jason McClung

A native of Pearland, Texas, Jason McClung began dancing when he was 8 years old. His training and performance experience have taken him across the country and around the world, including countries such as England, Estonia, and Latvia. Favorite roles include the Butterfly Pas de Deux in Atlanta Ballet 2's *Snow White* and a Joyful Spirit in Otis Sallid's *In Came Bach*. Jason joins the professional company this season as a Trainee.

Guest Artists

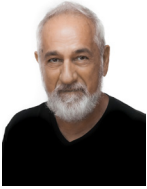
Nadine Baylis, *Set and Costume Design (1940-2017)*

Ms. Baylis studied Theatre Design at the Central School of Art and Design in London. Her first work for theater was with Ralph Koltai on the Royal Shakespeare Company productions of *The Jew of Malta* and *The Merchant of Venice*. Her long-standing association with Ballet Rambert began in 1966 with Norman Morrice's *Realms of Choice*. Since then, she designed over thirty works for the company, including Glen Tetley's *Murderer Hope of Woman*, which was based on Oskar Kokoschka's *Morder Hoffnung Der Frauen* and received the 1983 Tennent Caledonian Award. Ms. Baylis also created designs for the world premiere of Ben Stevenson's *Image* and Glen Tetley's *Lux in Tembris* for Houston Ballet.

Joseph Horowitz, *Composer (1926-2022)*

Joseph Horowitz was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1926 but settled in England in 1938. After receiving a music degree from Oxford, he continued his studies at the Royal College of Music in London and with Nadia Boulanger in Paris. While in Paris, he made his first contact with ballet, playing piano rehearsals for Boris Kochno. He became music director of the Bristol Old Vic Theatre in 1950; after two seasons he was appointed conductor of the Ballets Russes, which was on its final tour of England under the guidance of Serge Grigoriev (Diaghilev's original ballet master). For the Ballets Russes, he composed his first major ballet score, *Les Femmes d'Alger*, premiering at London's Festival Hall in 1952. The following year Anton Dolin commissioned Horowitz to write the music for *Alice in Wonderland*, London Festival Ballet's contribution to the coronation celebrations. In all, Horowitz, who died in 2022 aged ninety-five, composed twelve ballets, including *Concerto for Dancers* for the Edinburgh Festival; *Miss Carter Work Pink* for Britain's Northern Ballet Theatre; and a complete revision of the score for *Giselle* commissioned for the Royal Ballet in 1990. *Alice in Wonderland* has had many international revivals, notably by Houston Ballet in 2007 and 2017 by Texas Ballet Theater with choreography by Ben Stevenson, O.B.E.

Guest Artists



Tony Tucci, *Lighting Designer*

Tucci has served as resident lighting designer/director for Texas Ballet Theater for over 30 years, resident lighting designer for Ballet Austin's repertory and Bruce Wood Dance. Recently designed Flemming Flindt's *Phaedra Ballet* for the Mariinsky Theatre in Vladivostok, Russia. Tucci created the lighting designs for Bernstein's *Mass* at the Long Center in June 2018. In September 2018, Tucci designed a new production of *Cinderella*, choreographed by Ben Stevenson for the National Ballet of China. Tucci has created designs for national and international dance companies: Meija International Ballet, Washington Ballet, Houston Dance Salad, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Colorado Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Ballet West, Cirque Ziva-Golden Dragon Acrobats, Royal Danish Ballet, Winnipeg and Swedish Ballets, Hong Kong Ballet, Singapore Dance Theatre, Ballet Contemporaneo de Caracas, Christopher Bruce's Kingdom- Geneva Ballet, Flemming Flindt's *Caroline Mathilde* and *Lucifer's Daughter*-Royal Danish Ballet. Tucci has designed for musical theater, including Austin productions of *Damn Yankees*, *Carousel*, *West Side Story*, *Annie*, *Gypsy*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma*, *A Chorus Line*, *The Sound of Music*, and productions of *Dames at Sea* in San Francisco and at the Goodspeed Opera House. For 1996 Summer Olympics, Tucci designed for the Cultural Olympiad, showcasing national and international companies. He is the recipient of two Iden Payne Awards and Critics Table awards for lighting in Austin.

Special thanks to Janie Parker, Guest Acting Coach.

Medical Team



Athletico Physical Therapy is proud to be the Official Provider of Physical Therapy for Texas Ballet Theater.

Athletico provides the highest quality orthopedic rehabilitation services to communities, employers, and athletes in more than 900 locations throughout 25 states and the District of Columbia, including over 30 convenient locations throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Athletico's performing arts rehabilitation program provides specialized services to dancers and performing artists with the goal of evaluating, treating, and educating artists in the prevention of performance-related injuries. Their staff is well-trained to address the physical and psychological needs of the artist and stress the importance of balancing athletic abilities with artistic expression through generalized conditioning and technical training. This proactive approach, in collaboration with Dr. Surve, The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, and the Texas Center for Performing Arts Health, promotes wellness with safe and efficient injury management to facilitate prompt return to practice, rehearsal, and performance.



Sajid Surve, DO

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth
Texas Ballet Theater, Medical Director



Dr. Sajid Surve is the Medical Director of Metroplex Performing Arts Medicine and has been the Co-Director of the Texas Center for Performing Arts Health at the University of North Texas since 2014.

Dr. Sajid Surve is also a Professor of Family Medicine and Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, and a clinician in the HSC Health clinic, providing specialized care in performing arts medicine for dancers, musicians, and singers.

He originally apprenticed under Richard M. Bachrach, DO, FAOASM, the renowned PAM physician in Manhattan, New York, and has worked with performing artists in New York, New Jersey, and now Texas for more than 10 years as a clinician. Dr. Surve is the preeminent performing arts medicine provider for the DFW Metroplex, treating performers of all disciplines and skill levels. He is also the Program Director for the world's first physician fellowship in Performing Arts Medicine. His primary interests are musculoskeletal injury management and prevention in the performing arts population.

If you're a performing artist interested in working with Dr. Surve, call 817-735-2455.

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TEXAS BALLET
THEATER

Presents
Ben Stevenson's

Alice in Wonderland

Winspear Opera House

May 19-21, 2023

Choreography by: Ben Stevenson, O.B.E.

Music by: Joseph Horovitz
English Northern Philharmonia,
conducted by the composer; Max Sound
(Leeds) Ltd. 1984

Set and Costume Design by: Nadine Baylis

Lighting Design by: Tony Tucci, after original by Tim Hunter

Lighting Recreated by: Erin Earle Fleming

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Hearing amplification systems are available in the lobby.
The use of cameras or recording equipment is strictly prohibited.

Cast

	May 19, 21	May 20 Evening	May 20 Matinee
ACT I			
Alice	Alexandra F. Light	Paige Nyman	Rayleigh Vendt
Animals	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC
White Rabbit	Riley Moyano	Jason McClung	Adam Phillips
Duchess	Adeline Melcher	Hannah Wood	Hannah Wood
Cook	Nicole Von Enck	Anastasia Tillman	Nicole Von Enck
Caterpillar	Adam Phillips	Harrison Pickering	Harrison Pickering
Father William	Cristian Jimenez	Alexander Kotelenets	Cristian Jimenez
His Son	Elianna Price	Natalie Lubinski	Natalie Lubinski
Cheshire Cat	Brett Young	Brett Young	David Schrenk
Frog Footmen	Artists of TBT	Artists of TBT	Artists of TBT
Butterflies, Dragonflies	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC
Mad Hatter	Alexander Kotelenets	Cristian Jimenez	Alexander Kotelenets
March Hare	Carl Coomer	Riley Moyano	Carl Coomer
Dormouse	Rayleigh Vendt	Rieko Hatato	Rieko Hatato
ACT II			
Lobster Quadrille	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC
Roses	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC	Artists of TBT, STC
Tiger Lily	Rieko Hatato	Nicole Von Enck	Samantha Pille
Gardener	David Schrenk	David Schrenk	Brett Young
Queen of Hearts	Jackson Bayhi	Troy Santulli	Troy Santulli
King of Hearts	Jason McClung	Alexandra F. Light	Alexandra F. Light
Knave of Hearts	Harrison Pickering	Adam Phillips	Harrison Pickering
Executioner	Troy Santulli	Jackson Bayhi	Jackson Bayhi
Playing Cards	Artists of TBT	Artists of TBT	Artists of TBT

Studio Training Company (STC): Camille Anderson, Kiersten Barriss, Avery Brunner, Carolann Byer, Catherine Casey, Annika Chang, Olivia Davis, Alex Diemoz, London Ferre, Eliza Jones, Natalie Lubinski, Claire McKee, Jody Palmer, Elianna Price, Natasha Rader, Alyssa Ramirez, Sydney Ransbury, Abbie Siebert, Mary Spinelli, Brayley Willits

Synopsis

ACT I

A young girl named Alice sits bored on the riverbank until suddenly, a white rabbit darts past her. Curious, Alice follows him down a rabbit hole, landing in Wonderland.

Alice encounters a number of characters in the forest, including a variety of animals, a Duchess and her crying baby, a mellow caterpillar, Father William and his son, and the Cheshire Cat. She admires a swarm of butterflies and dragonflies before stumbling upon the Mad Hatter and his raucous tea party.

ACT II

Alice joins a group of lobsters, turtles, a whiting, and a snail in a quadrille. She continues her journey through Wonderland and discovers a rose garden belonging to the Queen of Hearts. A gardener enters the garden carrying a beautiful tiger lily.

Suddenly, the white rabbit reappears to herald the arrival of the King and Queen of Hearts and their subjects. They have gathered for the trial of a Knave of Hearts, accused of stealing the Queen's tarts. Alice attempts to defend the Knave and angers the Queen even more. After much chaos and confusion, Alice finds herself back on the riverbank. Was the whole adventure a wonderful dream?

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Charlie Flanders

Lou Martin

Mad Hatter

Mrs. Mercedes T. Bass

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Rebecca & Craig Carpenter

and Ambika & Anuj Singhal

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Mad Hatter Continued

Frost

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Kathy Sneed

White Rabbit

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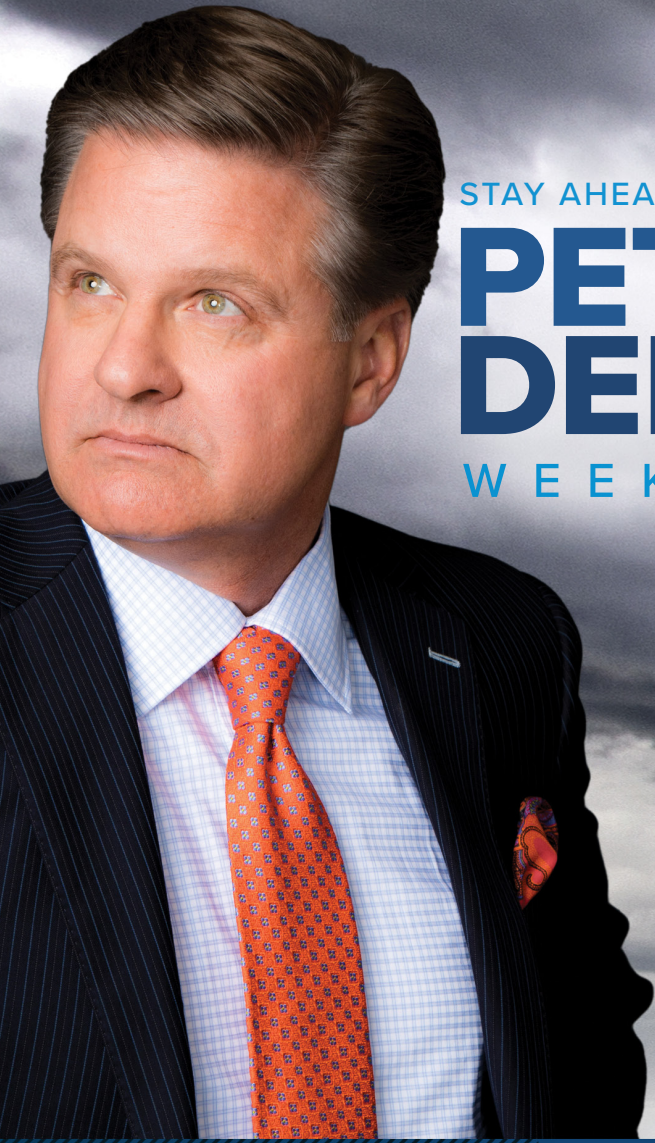


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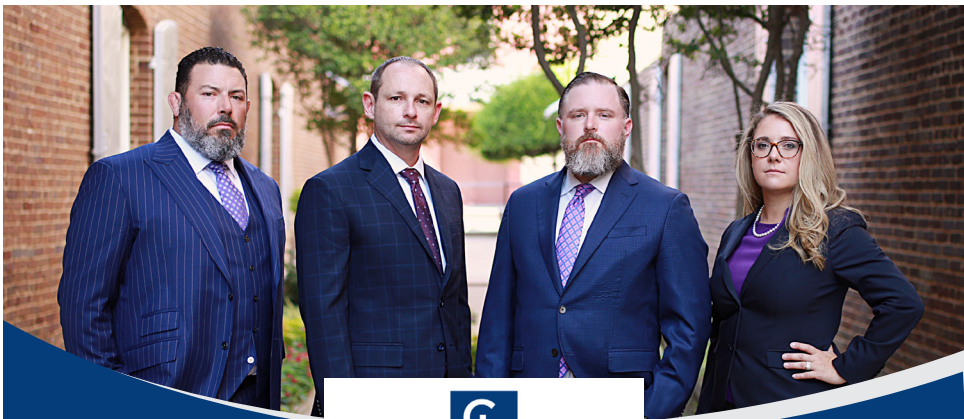
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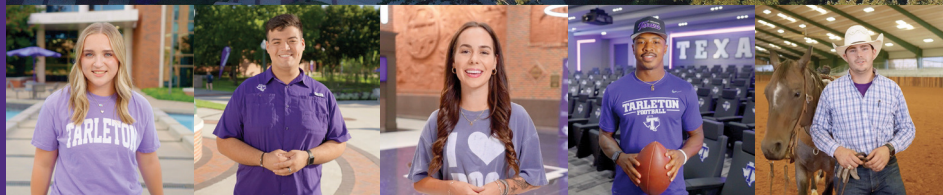
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