

- Presents -



April 28 2:00 p.m.

Brecksville - Broadview Heights High School

6380 Mill Road Broadview Heights, OH 44147



www.alballet.com



Choreographed and staged by Ana Lobé Music by Sergei Prokofiev Lighting by Benjamin Lesh

Costumes Rentals: University of Akron, Ohio Conservatory and Richland Academy for the Arts

ACT I

The story of Cinderella is well known for all ages. In our balletic version, Ms. Lobe choreographed it dedicated specifically to the children with the intention of introducing them to theater, music, and ballet.

Cinderella is always thinking about her loving mother as she sits by the ash covered fireplace. Her stepsisters, as usual, fight about everything, always leaving a big mess for Cinderella to clean. The two stepsisters are both very different people; the eldest is very arrogant and the youngest is very clumsy and throws tantrums.

They leave with the stepmother, leaving Cinderella all alone. Out appears one of her mice companions. Suddenly, all of them come in and begin to dance with her to bring her joy again. From the window, she could hear the chirping of her four bird friends. Cinderella's fun with her friends quickly comes to an end with the stepmother's very hungry cat that was awakened by the loud ruckus. Cinderella distracts the cat to move her friends away to safety.

Not too long after, the stepsisters receive word that the Prince has invited all the ladies in the land to the ball at his palace for his birthday. With all their excitement, the stepmother brings seamstresses to try the new garments on. Realizing her daughters don't know how to dance, the stepmother brings in a dance master and a violinist. Cinderella watches the dance lesson and wants to join in, but the stepmother says no. Instead, Cinderella dances on her own. As the dance master leaves, Cinderella begs the stepmother to let her to go the ball. The stepmother refuses yet again, insisting that Cinderella not only needs to finish her chores, but does not have a dress to wear to the ball. Cinderella sadly goes back to the fireplace. The birds notice her sadness and start to make her a dress. When she sees the surprise, she can't believe how beautiful the dress is. Happiness doesn't last too long; the stepsisters discover the dress. They begin to rip it apart, and soon leave for the ball. Cinderella is distraught with the sight of her dress torn apart.

Suddenly, Cinderella hears something. When she looks up, her Fairy Godmother has appeared. The Fairy Godmother has brought with her the fairies of the four seasons, all bearing gifts for Cinderella. The magic begins to work as Cinderella's rags turn into a beautiful gown. All of her animal friends begin to gather wishing her well as she leaves for the ball. The Fairy Godmother warns Cinderella that when the clock strikes midnight, all the magic will disappear.

Intermission 10 minutes

ACT II

Guests begin to arrive at the palace to celebrate the festivities of the Prince's birthday. All the guests are dancing when the stepmother and the stepsisters arrive with their very extravagant clothing. As the Prince makes his entrance, all the princesses expect to be acknowledged by him. Just then, a radiant princess appears, it's Cinderella. He is mesmerized by her. All through the night she dances with the Prince. She cannot believe she is in his arms. She realizes she is slowly falling in love with the Prince. She forgets about what the Fairy Godmother told her, then she is quickly reminded when she hears the clock strike midnight. She hears the first bell, and she runs as fast as possible, forgetting to say goodbye to the Prince. The Prince briefly catches her, accidentally slipping her shoe off. As the final bell is heard, Cinderella finds herself back at home.

Before the stepmother and sisters return home, Cinderella dreams about her time with the Prince. She dances around the kitchen with her bird friends. The stepmother and sisters appear and carry news with them; the Prince is trying the lost shoe on every lady. The stepmother quickly calls them to prepare to welcome the Prince. He arrives, and both stepsisters try the shoe on to no avail. The stepmother then offers to try the shoe on. It again does not fit. As the Prince starts to leave, Cinderella reveals the matching shoe. Immediately he realizes Cinderella is his mysterious princess from the ball.

Finally, they arrive back at the palace for a celebration of the reunion and engagement of Cinderella and the Prince.

Cast

Cinderella: Gabrielle Rodriguez *Senior Graduate Independence High School *The Prince*: Isaac Hileman **Guest Artist from Ohio Contemporary Ballet *Fairy Godmother*: Sophia Petrocci * Senior Graduate Cloverleaf High School

> Stepmom: Katie White Stepsisters: Paige Blackledge, Isabella Geffert Cat: Wynter Atterberry

Season Fairies

Spring: Kaia Seredick, Summer: Sophia Krawec, Autumn: Carrington Pentz, Winter: Gemma Caruso

> Dance Master: Victoria Chylik Violinist: Avery Pentz Maids: Alexis Florian, Lilijana Stepanovich

Birdies: Sabrina Moore, Scarlett Sellers, Amelia Semenec, Annie White

Mice: Josie Danczak, Clara Gill, Eleanor Jatzek, Hannah Klubnik, Gabriella Ristic, Viviana Ristic

Maidens of Palace

Gemma Caruso, Victoria Chylik, Alexis Florian, Sophia Krawec, Carrington Pentz, Kaia Seredick,

Courtiers & Clock

Penny Averre, Zlata Chikalo, Evalina Dostal, Riley Goff, Avery Pentz, Mia Percaciante, Scarlett Sherman, Lilijana Stepanovich, Sydney Wells, Teodora Zekanovic

Children of Palace

Wynter Atterberry, Eleanor Butler, Kallie Hatherill, Mary Rose Geiser, Tessa Herb, Ekaterina Mrkajic

Adult Courtiers

Heather Muzic, Greg Dostal, Michael Geiser, Steve Wells

Acknowledgements

Guest Artist

Isaac Hileman was born and raised as a Texan, in Dallas, Texas where he began his dance training with the Dallas Ballet Center. Attending summer dance intensives deepened love for performative dance and sparked a vision of a professional dance career. He continued his dance training at the University of Oklahoma, where he graduated in the Spring of 2021 with a BFA in Ballet Performance, performing repertoire by Alejandro Cerrudo, Nilas Martins, Willam Christensen, Marianna Oliviera, and Gerald Arpino, as well as classical pas de deux and original choreography set by the faculty at OU. He joined Verb, now Ohio Contemporary Ballet, in the summer of 2021, as an apprentice, and has enjoyed dancing in Triptych, 8 by Benny, and Bolero by Heinz Poll, Romeo and Juliet by Joshua Peugh, Anti/Gone by Tommie Waheed Evans, Raymonda, Celebration by Gerald Arpino, and the Akron Nutcracker. He is grateful for the many dance opportunities that Northeast Ohio continues to provide. *We are very grateful that he is guest performing with ALBA for the third time. Thank you, Isaac!*

ALBA Faculty

Many thanks to our faculty! Special thanks to **Liane Fortino** (Jazz) and **Heather Muzic** (Ballet). You inspire our dancers in every class. We are very appreciative that you share your passion with ALBA's students. Faculty bios: <u>https://alballet.com/faculty</u>

Additional Recognition

Congratulations to our ALBA senior graduates **Sophia Petrocci** and **Gabrielle Rodriguez**! Sophia will attend Malone University to study Business Management with a minor in Event Management. Gabrielle will attend The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical program. She is also accepted into the Early Assurance Program.



Our best wishes of success Butterflies in your new journey as college students. We know you both will conquer all your dreams. You both shine in your last ballet performance. Butterflies, the sky is unlimited, dream, work hard as you know, and you will always succeed & triumph.

Sophia, knowing you since you were 10 years old, shy, and quiet. To see the young beautiful and smart lady that you have become brings so much joy to my heart. Your leadership at the studio is proof of your maturity. From the Cat role in 2017 to commanding the stage as Fairy Godmother today, I cannot be prouder of you. I know your determination will allow you to conquer your dreams.



Gabrielle, you were 12 years old when you walked in our doors, and you were willing to retrain in the classical technique that was never taught to you. You took every correction and detail and applied it with intelligence. You are bright and dedicated to what you put your mind. From rehearsals to piano performances, to work after 4 hours of dancing... you have proved how strong and dedicated you are. I'm so proud of all your accomplishment and development of the role of Cinderella. You have a bright future ahead of you. I know your big dreams will become a reality.

Bravissimo to the entire cast of Cinderella!! It will be an AMAZING performance!

We are very proud of all your accomplishments this year. Your technical improvements as well as artistic talents are shown in this performance. The faculty has seen an exceptional growth in all our levels. We hope your dedication and hard work will continue during our summer program.

Special THANK YOU to **Kim Petrocci**, who for the past 9 years has been helping ALBA with fundraisers, as the backstage crew together with her daughter **Sophia**, steaming costumes, making beautiful good luck cards for the dancers... and the list goes on. Your help and support throughout the years has been very meaningful to me. You are not retiring from ALBA.

Another special THANK YOU to **Stephanie Rodriguez**, who for 5 years helped with anything needed at the school. From fundraisers to steaming, to making special celebrations for the dancers after the show. And for all the delicious warm meals that you sent me, always making sure I had food for my late nights. Muchas gracias for all your generous acts throughout the years.

Thank you, **Dads and Miss Heather**, great job dancing as Courtiers and helping so much backstage with the prop changes.

Thank you very much to **Yvonne Pentz** for taking care of the ticket sale and marketing of our show and summer program.

MUCHAS GRACIAS and my gratitude to all the moms that came to steam, **Stephanie R., Melissa, Cathy, Stephanie H., Sandra, Jelena, Katherine S.**, all the costumes look amazing. To **Jelena, Jennifer B., Kim, Gabriella, and Heather H.** for your help backstage organizing and getting all the dancers ready. To Laura Blackledge for dying the pointe shoes of the stepsisters. For makeup, to **Alexandra Geffert and Katherine Seller**. To **Carol Buncher** for making Cinderella and the Birdies costumes from scratch. Thanks to all the mom and dad volunteers working at the theater today. Many thanks to **SLK Photography, Richard Krawec, and Steve Chuparkoff** for all the pictures donated to ALBA.

MANY THANKS to the **Caruso Coffee Roasters**, the **Hatherill family**, all supporters, and donors for your generosity for allowing us to be on stage today!

Thank you, **Benjamin Lesh**, and the BBHHS stage crew, you always go above and beyond to help us during our show.

Our immense gratitude to all the ALBA parents, families, and friends for instilling the love of the arts to your daughters and trusting ALBA in their education. We appreciate your dedication.

Dancingly yours,

Ana Lobé, Artistic Director and Owner

Join the ALBA Summer Intensive Program

June 17 - 28 and July 8 - 19 (Ages 6-10, and 10+); Children Camps June 3 - 12 July 22 -31.

TRAIN WITH PURPOSE AND SUCCEED

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