



Ballet Virginia Contact:
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From Ballet Virginia: (Norfolk, VA — September 7, 2021) Ballet Virginia is excited to announce a full season of dance in 2021/2022 with our professional company. Starting in September of 2019, this company of talented artists continues to raise the level of dance performances in Hampton Roads.

“It’s exciting to work with such an amazing group of diverse dancers from all over the country. The range these dancers have from their ballet to contemporary skills will bring so much artistry, passion and fire to the stage! “Along with

dynamic new works, I think Hampton Roads will be proud to call us their professional ballet company.” says Lydia Roberts Coco, Ballet Virginia’s professional company artistic director and choreographer.

The upcoming season, Ballet Virginia’s 14th, will include a collaborative performance of “Bolero” with Symphonycity on October 17th at the Sandler Center, fall repertoire performances on November 7th at the Virginia Beach MOCA Theater, seven performances of “The Nutcracker” from December 15th to 19th at the Sandler Center, “Truth and Beauty” winter repertoire at Zeiders American Dream Theater on February 4th and 5th plus February 6th at Norfolk State University and “Sleeping Beauty” on April 9th and 10th. Live orchestra accompaniment from Symphonycity is planned for all public performances of “The Nutcracker”.

Educational outreach, small venue performances and collaborations with other local arts organizations will round out this exciting and robust season. These events will be posted on social media and our website.

“In our 14th season, repertoire performances, collaborations with other local arts groups and our beloved full-length productions, gives Ballet Virginia the opportunity to bring a wide and diverse range of professional quality dance performances to Hampton Roads,” said Janina Michalski, Ballet Virginia co-director.

“Thanks to the growth and success of our academy and pre-professional company we are now able to support a professional company. Having a professional company allows us to do more outreach and perform challenging repertoire,” said Suzanne Lownsbury, Ballet Virginia co-director.

For many years, Lownsbury and Michalski have produced an annual Hampton Roads “Nutcracker”. The duo’s past “Nutcracker” productions have graced the stages of Chrysler Hall, Harrison Opera House and now, the Sandler Center. In 2019, Sandler Center performances which included six public performances and three student matinees, drew more than 7,000 audience members.

Tickets for Ballet Virginia’s upcoming season will be on sale in early September. Information including the new professional company members as well as fall and winter repertoire selections will be announced on our website, www.balletvirginia.org.

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About Ballet Virginia

Ballet Virginia is a professional ballet company with an associated academy. The organization provides professional quality productions, performances and training for the Hampton Roads community. The organization also provides opportunities for lighting, set and costume designers as well as choreographers while continuing education and outreach programs for our community-at-large.

The academy draws from a diverse ballet syllabus inspired by the American, Russian, Italian and French schools. This solid technical base ensures added success in other dance genres offered at the Academy. Our professional productions allow selected students and community dancers the opportunity to experience dance as a performance art.

Our Mission

At Ballet Virginia, we are committed to fostering a lifelong passion for dance through nurturing education, invigorating performances and artistic excellence. Our Norfolk and Virginia Beach academies teach to the whole student by instilling discipline, self-confidence, joy and sense of teamwork. Our performances are of the highest caliber as academy students perform side-by-side with professionals. We uphold the highest standards and strive to maintain artistic excellence in all our endeavors.

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