

# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

FALL 2018 NEWS



**National Council priority sale**  
**October 25**

**Donor advance sale**  
**November 1**

**General public on sale**  
**November 8**

# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

## FALL 2018 NEWS

- 04** Sponsor Profile
- 05** Insider's Guide to Getting the Best Seats
- 06** Join ASFB in Israel
- 07** ASFB On Tour
- 08** 2018-19 Winter Season
- 10** Sponsor Profile
- 11** Bringing *The Nutcracker* to the Stage
- 12** Special Events
- 14** ASFB in France



PHOTO: ROSALE O'CONNOR

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Dear Friends,

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet enters its 23<sup>rd</sup> season with optimism and excitement for all that lies ahead. This will be a year punctuated by notable national and international touring, and, as always, a vibrant series of performances in our home communities of Santa Fe and Aspen.

Our 2018-19 season kicked off in great style as Aspen Santa Fe Ballet made its anticipated return to France, performing at the prestigious Festival Le temps d'aimer la danse à Biarritz. Joining us on the trip were twenty dedicated National Council members who spent five days enjoying the rich culture of the Basque region and cheering on our dancers as they soaked in the thunderous applause at the magnificent Théâtre du Casino de Biarritz overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. (pg 14)

We invite you to travel with us again as we cross the ocean to make our second appearance in Israel. We are honored to be invited back to this culturally-rich epicenter of dance with an extended two-week tour that includes six performances in Tel-Aviv, as well as appearances in Yagur, Modiin, and Jerusalem. (pg 6)

Our milestone collaboration with pianist Joyce Yang was a clear winner last season, garnering great interest around the country. This season, Ms. Yang will join us to perform this dynamic program in Dallas, Denver, Scottsdale, and in New York with a week-long run at the Joyce Theater—our ninth appearance! (pg 7)

ASFB's dance-company-in-residence status at the stunning Soroya Performing Arts Center (formerly Valley Performing Arts Center) on the campus of CSUN in Northridge was originally slated for three consecutive years. Due to the success of this partnership, we are happy to announce that our residency status has been extended into the foreseeable future with our fourth appearance scheduled for January 2019.

This year's summer galas in both Aspen and Santa Fe were inspired by the famed New York dance club, Studio 54. Our entire year hinges on the success of these celebrations and these events did not disappoint! We are grateful to all of you who came to dance the night away and showed your commitment to our company through your generosity. (pg 12)

Preparations are currently underway for Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's annual production of *The Nutcracker*. One of the season's biggest endeavors, the company expands with the addition of eighteen guest performers who supplement our cast of ASFB dancers and more than 120 children from The School of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet. Don't miss this holiday classic. (pg 11)

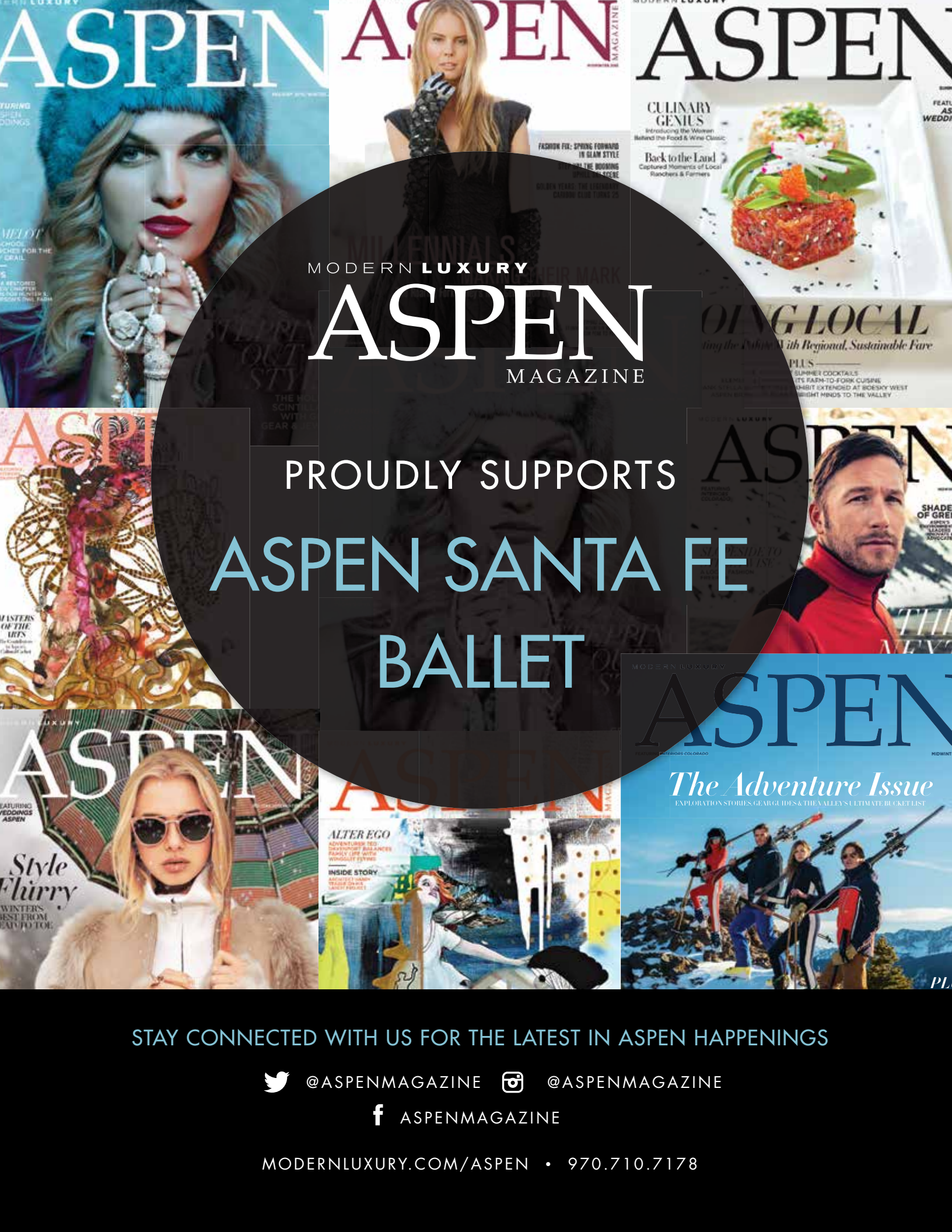
Given the popularity of performances such as *The Nutcracker*, we have put together a few tips and tricks that will help ensure you get access to your preferred seats. (pg 5)

We invite you to mark your calendars for our upcoming ticket on-sale dates and join us for another great season of dance! Your enthusiasm and support mean everything to us.

Tom Mossbrucker

Jean-Philippe Malaty





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# Insider's Guide to Getting the Best Seats

We all know the scenario: things move along in your daily life at a breakneck pace and suddenly you realize you haven't yet bought tickets for an upcoming performance that's just days away. You quickly follow the 'Buy Tickets' links from ASFB's website and discover that all the premium seats are already taken!

ASFB is thankful for its loyal audience members who are responsible for continually selling out performance after performance. With most programs offered for one night only, the chances of finding tickets available at the door, or even the day before, have become increasingly slim. Ticket prices have not increased in over two years, making the premium seats an incredible value that many jump on right away. We hope that the following answers to common questions will prove helpful in ensuring that you always find the seat that you want.

## **Why should I purchase tickets during the donor pre-sale windows?**

If you have purchased tickets to an ASFB performance in the last couple of years, you will have noticed that tickets go on sale in waves: first comes the National Council priority sale, then the donor advance sale, and finally tickets become available to the general public. We encourage you to take advantage of your early ticket access, especially when it comes to a popular performance such as *The Nutcracker* or a one-night-only presentation, for first dibs on seat locations. The earlier you buy, the better selection you will find.

## **Why are some sections not available?**

One of the benefits we offer to groups is the opportunity to purchase tickets during the pre-sale periods. As such, certain sections may be held back for group sales.

## **How do you put a group sale together?**

Group sales are a great way to bring together family, friends, or colleagues for a fun night at the theater. Just gather a minimum of 10 people to enjoy discounts anywhere from 10-25% off. Between the group discount, pre-sale access, and waived box office fees, a group sale is an incredibly effective way to secure the best seats and the best prices! Depending upon the performance, there are also add-on options available such as backstage tours, or meet-and-greets.

## **How can I save some money?**

The various colors on the online seating charts are the clearest representation of ticket price and location. If you buy on the cusp of two colors, or price zones (for example, a \$94 and a \$74), your average price per ticket decreases by blending price points together.

It is also worth noting that the \$36 ticket price is very popular and likely to sell out quickly due to limited inventory. By purchasing tickets early, you ensure that you'll have access to our cheapest ticket price.

## **Why do prices seem to change?**

Just like airline tickets, prices may vary leading up to the performance date depending upon availability and popularity. Ticket prices are likely to increase the closer you are to the performance date, so you will find the cheapest ticket price by buying early.

## **But really, why should I buy early?**

In addition to all of the aforementioned reasons (best availability and best price), when you buy early and sell out a performance in advance, you help ASFB save a significant amount of money on marketing costs. So, not only are you getting the seats you want at the prices you want, but you're also directly contributing to the overall health of ASFB by reducing expenses!

For 2018-19 Winter Season tickets  
please visit:  
[aspensantafeballet.com](http://aspensantafeballet.com)



# Travel to Israel with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet!

You are invited to join Aspen Santa Fe Ballet for the company's tour to Israel, March 29 - April 4, 2019.

Few places on earth inspire passion the way that Israel does, from the breathtaking beauty of its hills and valleys, to the ancient walls and pathways of Jerusalem and Nazareth. For the curious traveler, Israel never fails to challenge and amaze, excite and surprise. Expect nothing less than the trip of a lifetime with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet!



**Arrival in Israel:** Friday, March 29, 2019

**Depart Israel:** Thursday, April 4, 2019

*(Optional two-day extension to Petra, Jordan, known as the "Eighth Wonder of the Ancient World")*

#### Highlights of the ASFB Israel Trip:

- Three nights in Tel Aviv's beach suburb, Herzliya, with accommodation at the luxurious Ritz-Carlton.
- A walking tour through Tel Aviv's eclectic neighborhoods, a private fashion tour of Israel's best fashion designers, and a delectable tour of Tel Aviv's outdoor food market, then dinner at Ottoman home of a local chef and his wife.
- Three nights in the ancient, holy city of Jerusalem, with exceptional accommodations at the Mamilla Hotel, just steps to the Tower of David and Jaffa Gate.
- Explore Jerusalem, taking in the panoramic views from the Mount of Olives, meandering the streets of the Old City, visiting the Western Wall, and walking the Christian Quarter.
- Visit Nazareth, the holy Christian site where Mary is said to have lived, and Caesarea, the largest port city in the Roman Empire.
- Travel to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth, and ascend nearby Mount Masada with its ancient mountaintop fortress.
- Dine with the dancers of ASFB in Jerusalem.
- Attend ASFB performances in both Herzliya and Jerusalem.
- Your optional two-day extension to Jordan will take you to Petra, exploring one of the world's most magnificent archaeological sites, and Wadi Rum, a dramatic desert wilderness.

#### Price:

\$6,630 per person, based on double occupancy

\$8,760 based on single occupancy

**Airfare is not included.**

*If you choose to extend your trip to Jordan, the additional cost is \$1,530 per person, based on double occupancy, or \$2,020 based on single occupancy.*

*This outstanding trip to Israel is open to all those who support ASFB at the National Council level of \$2,500 and above. Space is limited. To make your reservation, contact Zander Higbie in the ASFB office: 970-925-7175 ext.105. For further trip details, contact travel advisor John Galante of Smartflyer: 970-300-4880 or john@smartflyer.com.*

*Your reservation will be made with full payment. Due to hotel cancellation policies, ASFB must charge a 50% cancellation fee after December 1, 2018, and refunds may not be possible after February 15, 2019.*





# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

2018-19 TOURING CALENDAR



October 26-27  
Dallas, TX

November 10-11  
Denver, CO

January 19  
Northridge, CA

March 2  
Scottsdale, AZ

March 5  
Fort Collins, CO

March 16  
Purchase, NY

March 20-24  
Joyce Theater  
New York, NY

March 27-30  
Tel Aviv, Israel

March 31  
Modiin, Israel

April 2  
Yagur, Israel

April 3  
Jerusalem, Israel

# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

2018-19 WINTER SEASON

[www.aspensantafeballet.com](http://www.aspensantafeballet.com)

PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

ASPEN



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

## ASFB'S *THE NUTCRACKER*

December 8 | 2:00pm & 7:30pm

December 9 | 1:00pm & 5:00pm

*Generously underwritten by Kelley and Mark Purnell*

Embrace the holiday spirit and revel in the magic of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's *The Nutcracker*! This iconic production—both uplifting and filled with humor—has become a seasonal Aspen tradition. With its whimsical twist on the classic story and a cast of over 60 performers, don't miss this perfect opportunity to create lifelong memories for you and your loved ones.

*"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet has brought joy and creative abandon to a holiday classic"*

— Santa Fe New Mexican

SANTA FE





PHOTO: ASHA VAUGHN

## LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO

January 19 | 7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Melinda and Norman Payson

Dancing the fine line between high art and high camp, the internationally beloved Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo has delighted audiences around the world for four decades. Risking comfort for brilliant pointe work, this hilarious all-male troupe wittily parodies dance classics, from *Swan Lake* to Martha Graham. Combining an encyclopedic knowledge of ballet with their uniquely wicked comedic sensibility, the Trocks offer buoyant and uproariously funny evenings for dance aficionados and complete novices alike.

*"The funniest night you will ever have at the ballet."*  
– Sunday Times



PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

## ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

February 16 | 7:30pm

Generously underwritten by Bebe and David Schweppe

Just in time for the height of ski season, enjoy this special one-night-only performance of fan favorites from ASFB's repertoire. This varied program features the jazz-inspired *Tuplet*, Swedish phenom Alexander Ekman's multi-media exploration of rhythm; Cherice Barton's *Eudaemonia*, a touching choreographic search for happiness; and acclaimed dance maker Jorma Elo's electric *1st Flash*. These audience-tested ballets have been performed the world over to rousing acclaim and now ASFB is bringing them back home to light up the winter!

*"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is ready for its Hollywood close-up."*  
– Los Angeles Times



PHOTO: SHAREN BRADFORD

## ASFB'S THE NUTCRACKER

December 15 | 2:00pm & 7:30pm

December 16 | 1:00pm & 5:00pm

Embrace the holiday spirit and revel in the magic of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's *The Nutcracker*! This iconic production—both uplifting and filled with humor—has become a seasonal Santa Fe tradition. With its whimsical twist on the classic story and a cast of over 60 performers, don't miss this perfect opportunity to create lifelong memories for you and your loved ones.

*"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet has brought joy and creative abandon to a holiday classic"*  
– Santa Fe New Mexican



PHOTO: ROSALIE O'CONNOR

## ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

February 23 | 7:30pm

Just in time for the height of winter, enjoy this special one-night-only performance of fan favorites from ASFB's repertoire. This varied program features the jazz-inspired *Tuplet*, Swedish phenom Alexander Ekman's multi-media exploration of rhythm; Cherice Barton's *Eudaemonia*, a touching choreographic search for happiness; and acclaimed dance maker Jorma Elo's electric *1st Flash*. These audience-tested ballets have been performed the world over to rousing acclaim and now ASFB is bringing them back home to light up the winter!

*"Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is ready for its Hollywood close-up."*  
– Los Angeles Times

### ► Performance Information

All shows take place at the Aspen District Theatre  
235 High School Road, Aspen, CO

### Purchase Tickets

#### ► Online

[www.aspensantafeballet.com](http://www.aspensantafeballet.com)

#### ► By Phone

Aspen Show Tickets  
970-920-5770 or toll free 866-449-0464

#### ► In Person

Visit Aspen Show Tickets at the Wheeler Opera House  
320 E. Hyman Street, Aspen, CO

### ► Performance Information

All shows take place at the The Lensic, Santa Fe's Performing Arts Center  
211 West San Francisco St., Santa Fe, NM

### Purchase Tickets

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# Bringing ASFB's *The Nutcracker* to the Stage



An annual holiday tradition for families in both Aspen and Santa Fe, *The Nutcracker* is a staple of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's winter season. Featuring hundreds of students from The School of ASFB's many locations in both the Roaring Fork Valley and Santa Fe areas alongside our professional company and another dozen or so guest dancers from across the country, it is also no small feat to bring this massive spectacle to the stage year after year. Whether it's casting all of the various roles, auditioning extras to perform as snowflakes and flowers, or simply managing the storage of all of the costumes and set pieces, it truly takes an army of dedicated staff, faculty, and volunteers to bring it all together. Here is a quick look behind the scenes at just a few of these components.

## Casting Students

Every September the faculty of The School of ASFB begins piecing together the *Nutcracker* casting puzzle. With 173 students enrolled in this year's production and waitlists that were completely full three weeks before the sign-up deadline, the majority of students will end up sharing roles with up to three others in order to accommodate everybody across the four performances. Some students, such as the party girls, soldiers, and mice will each perform twice, while others like bees, blocks, and candy canes perform once. For a select group of seniors in the school, this year brings a sought-after opportunity to dance with the professional company members in the "Waltz of the Flowers" that opens the second act of the ballet. The students undertake this commitment very seriously, with many commuting long distances to attend mandatory rehearsals.

## Hiring Extras

*The Nutcracker* is by far the largest-scale production that Aspen Santa Fe Ballet puts on each year and, as such, requires hiring a slew of guest dancers to supplement ASFB's own company of ten professionals. In addition to booking returning featured dancers like Russian folk dancers Irina Kleyfeld and Boulat Moukhametov and aerialist Katrina Amerine, ASFB Directors Jean-Philippe Malaty and Tom Mossbrucker review applications from dancers across the country who will come in and fill the ranks of flowers and snowflakes needed for *The Nutcracker*. This year's audition tour brought Jean-Philippe and Tom to the brand new Gloria Kaufman School of Dance at USC. Keep an eye out for these new dancers in this year's production, as you never know when they might be invited to join the company, as was the case with ASFB's most recent company member, Jenny Winton.

## Setting the Stage

When dealing with a largescale production such as this one that occurs on an annual basis, setting up and breaking down the set become quite an ordeal! The sets and costumes travel from the company storage unit to the theaters in both Aspen and Santa Fe in one 53-foot semi-truck and fill every last inch of the trailer. The costumes alone fill eight crates that each hold between 80-100 different costumes. It takes a crew of 12-15 people up to 20 hours of load-in time to be ready for the first rehearsal and you never know what surprises might be uncovered in the 20 pieces of scenery that hang over the stage after a year in storage. Those same 20 pieces of overhead scenery weigh approximately 5,000 lbs total, and must be safely rigged to ensure they stay secure during all of the performances. Luckily, there are 15 crew members running the show and working for hours to ensure that everything goes smoothly!





Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's annual *Dancing with the Aspen Stars* gala featured stellar performances by Aspen Stars Sarah Newett Gurwitz, John Sarpa, and Gail Weinglass in a spirited ballroom dance competition. With their generous support, ASFB welcomed Lugano Diamonds as a new Event Presenting Sponsor. Aspen Santa Fe Ballet proudly honored Bobette and Jay R. Lerner for their truly heartfelt, active, and generous support over the years.

A highlight of the evening was an encore performance by past winners John Bossard, Ramona Bruland, Joe Di Salvo, Melony Lewis, and Nick Lincoln commemorating the tenth year of ASFB's *Dancing with the Aspen Stars*.

We thank all those who attended and so generously contributed to the success of our 2018 event. Thank you to our media partner, *Aspen Sojourner*; Fine Estates from Spain, Jorge Ordoñez Selections for their generous donation of wines; and to Woody Creek Distillery for their donation of spirits. We extend much gratitude to our auction donors, Lugano Diamonds, AMAN, Aqua Expeditions, Butterfield & Robinson, One&Only, The Pierre Hotel New York, Prince de Galles Hotel Paris, The Reverie Saigon, and Sommelier Carlton McCoy and Chef Matt Zubrod of the Little Nell. We extend our gratitude to John Galante of SmartFlyer for procuring many of our incredible auction packages.



Aspen Star Sarah Newett Gurwitz and ASFB dancer Joseph Watson



Kevin Joyal and Skye Weinglass



2018 Gala Honorees, Bobette and Jay Lerner



ASFB dancers Seia Rassenti Watson, Jenelle Figgins, and Katherine Bolaños, all in Lugano jewelry, with Lugano Diamonds Founder & CEO Moti Ferder and Idit Ferder



ASFB Dancing with the Aspen Stars 2018 champions, Gail Weinglass and ASFB dancer Anthony Tiedeman



National Council members Sandy and Art Soares



Aspen Stars Melony Lewis, John Bossard, Ramona Bruland, and Joe Di Salvo with ASFB dancers in their encore performance



Trustee Ramona Bruland and Michael Goldberg



ASFB dancer Jenny Winton with Aspen Star John Sarpa



National Council member Soledad Hurst with Executive Director Jean-Philippe Malaty



ASFB Artistic Director Tom Mossbrucker and Trustee Claire Dewar

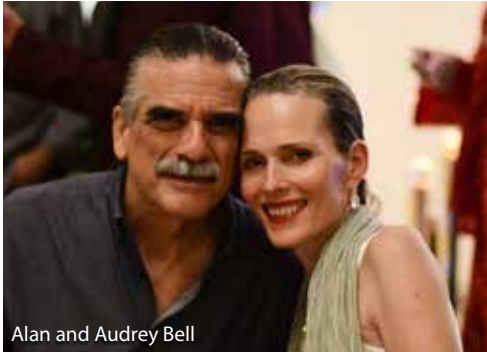




Liza Minelli (Ethylna Canne) performing at "Studio 54"

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's largest annual event in Santa Fe, *Raise the Barre*, returned to the Four Seasons Rancho Encantado with the glitz and glamour of Studio 54! Special appearances by Ethylina Canne as Liza Minelli and Tasha Long as both Diana Ross and Donna Summer thrilled the crowd.

Our thanks go out to all those who joined us and so generously contributed. Thank you to our annual wine sponsor, Fiasco Fine Wines, for their donation of wines for our events. Special thanks to our auction donors: Auberge Resorts Esperanza, Butterfield & Robinson, Dorado Beach Ritz-Carlton Reserve, Four Seasons Resort Nevis, Le Guanahani St. Barths, One & Only, The Pierre New York, the Prince de Galles Hotel Paris, Tradewind Aviation, and Kevon Zehner & Ron Ritchhart. You made the event a success, supporting our performance and dance education programs in Santa Fe throughout the year.



Alan and Audrey Bell



ASFB Santa Fe School Director Gisela Genschow with National Council members Robin and Carl Hardin



Maureen Brooks Wurzbarger and trustee Toni Kaplan



Michael Abramson and Joe Bryan, Jr.



National Council member Jackie Tilton and Bridget Condon



National Council members Jason Saslow and Frances D'Alessio



Trustee Keith Gorges



Barbara Horowitz, Megan Kelley, Corinna Fontaine, and Madeleine Gehrig



Lloyd Moiola, Winslow Stilwell, trustee Leigh Moiola, and Margie and Hugh Sespides

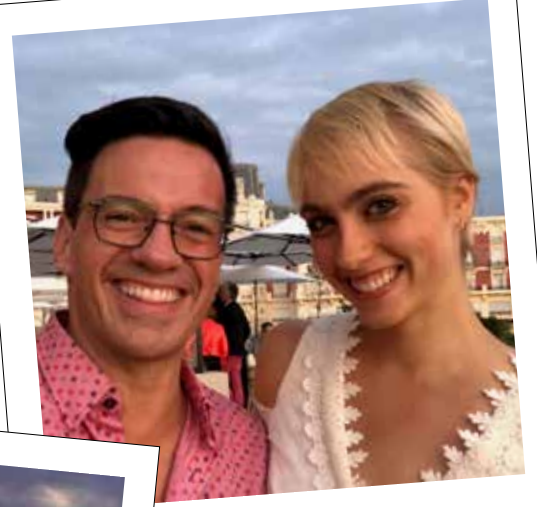


National Council members David and Patricia Link with dancer Austin Reynolds



# Bonjour from Biarritz!

To celebrate Aspen Santa Fe Ballet's much-anticipated return to France, twenty loyal National Council members followed the company on tour to the seaside town of Biarritz. This custom-designed trip explored the rich history, culture, and cuisine of the Basque country of France and Spain. Patrons toured museums, visited quaint fishing ports, and mingled with our dancers. A stellar performance by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet at the prestigious Festival du Temps d'Aimer capped this memorable trip.





# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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# ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

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ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET  
*presents*



# THE NUTCRACKER

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ALL



*at* THE ASPEN DISTRICT THEATRE

## DECEMBER

**8** *at* 2PM  
*and* 7:30PM | **9** *at* 1PM  
*and* 5PM

*at* THE LENSIC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

## DECEMBER

**15** *at* 2PM  
*and* 7:30PM | **16** *at* 1PM  
*and* 5PM