

# *Summer Intensive Guest Instructors*

## *Ballet* Levels IVb, V and VI



**Deborah Hadley** was born and raised in San Diego and began her studies at the San Diego Ballet under the direction of former San Francisco Ballet Principals Nancy Johnson and Richard Carter. Continuing on to the rank of principal dancer with the regional company, Ms. Hadley went on to become a charter member of the Joffrey II in 1969.

Ms. Hadley returned to her ballet career in 1979 when she joined Pacific Northwest Ballet, where she remained a Principal Dancer for the next thirteen years. Ms. Hadley's distinguished performing career also included appearances as a guest artist with the Kozlov and Stars, Godonov and Stars, and in the title role of "Giselle" with Anthony Dowell in addition to many companies across the United States.

Ms. Hadley's glittering repertoire is world-class and reflects her prima ballerina status with Pacific Northwest Ballet. It includes many Balanchine works, major classical full-length ballets and gala pieces. She has appeared in major works of Jerome Robbins, Anthony Tudor, Glen Tetley, Clark Tippet, Paul Taylor, Lar Lubovitch, Vicente Nebrada and Val Caniparoli, some of which were original choreography created for her. She appeared in many original works by Kent Stowell, among them "Firebird", "Orpheus Portrait", "Delicate Balance", and most especially, "Romeo and Juliet".

Upon retiring from her PNB performing career, Ms. Hadley founded the Washington Academy of Performing Arts in Redmonds, WA and directed it for five years. She subsequently moved to work with her former PNB partner, Benjamin Houk, as the Ballet Mistress of the Fort Worth Dallas Ballet. Now home in the northwest, she enjoys freelance teaching, coaching and staging. Ms. Hadley has served as Adjudicator for several RDA regions, most often the Pacific, and has been instrumental in helping The Ballet Alliance specify its artistic standards.

Our friend and master teacher David Arce calls Deborah Hadley  
*The Matrix Ninja of Ballet Technique*



**Nicole Comella** received her ballet training in San Diego, California. She received a BFA in Dance from United States International University. Ms. Comella performed ballet and musical theater professionally throughout California, Utah, Mexico, London and Taiwan. In 1994, she became a founding member of State Street Ballet. She danced principal roles with the company for six years before becoming Assistant School Director and Co-Director of SSBYD. Ms. Comella has successfully completed the ABT Teacher Training Intensive in Primary through Level 5 of the ABT National Training Curriculum. She is also a certified Pilates instructor and incorporates the method into her teaching.



**Erin Long Robbins** was a principal dancer with the Northeast Regional honor company, Allegheny Ballet where she danced such roles as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Snow Queen, and Giselle. She also danced lead roles in Balanchine's 'Who Cares' and 'Valse Fantasie'. She had many roles created for her by noted choreographers such as Paul Gibson, Cherie Noble, Richard Cook, Bettijane Sills, Jon Rodriguez and Suzanne Walker. She received additional training at the prestigious Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and on full scholarship at the Rock School of the Pennsylvania Ballet.

Erin graduated summa cum laude from Wright State University with a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Dance and a minor in psychology. Mrs. Robbins is currently an adjunct professor at Wright State University and Sinclair Community College and is co-owner of the South Dayton School of Dance. She has also taught at Allegheny Ballet, Antioch College, Pontecorvo Ballet Studios and is a yearly guest teacher at the academy of Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre in California. She has served as ballet mistress and board secretary of Gem City Ballet. In the spring of 2008 she was a master teacher at the Northeast's Regional Dance America Festival.

Erin has also choreographed several ballets, including 'Caprice' which was chosen to be performed at the 2002 Northeast Regional Festival. Erin's version of 'Peter and the Wolf' was commissioned by the Dayton Philharmonic and Gem City Ballet and has been performed throughout the Dayton area. She has also created other works for Gem City Ballet, Wright State University, Antioch University and Contemporary Dance at Sinclair. Erin is an adjunct professor at Wright State University and is Artistic Director of South Dayton Dance Theatre, an Honor Company with Regional Dance America/Northeast.

## *Choreography* Levels IVb, V and VI



**Eva Stone** is a teaching artist, choreographer, and founder/producer of CHOP SHOP: Bodies of Work. She received her BFA in Performance & Choreography from Arizona State University, and later earned an MA in Choreography & Choreological Studies from Trinity Laban. She's created work for Spectrum Dance Theater, Pacific Northwest Ballet/Seattle Art Museum's Sculptured Dance, Seattle International Dance Festival, Bellingham Repertory Dance, and collaboratively with Seattle Dance Project for Project Orpheus, among others, and presented work in New York, Los Angeles, London, Geneva, Montreal, and St. Petersburg. In September 2018 she launched a nationally recognized choreography program "New Voices: Choreography and Process for Young Women in Dance" at

Pacific Northwest Ballet School. CHOP SHOP: Bodies of Work brings outstanding contemporary dance companies together for a unique series of performances, lectures, and master classes annually in Bellevue, WA. She is currently based in Seattle.

## *Music for Dancers* Levels IIb and III



**Christopher Pratorius Gomez** is a California based composer whose pieces have been performed in New York, Boston, Istanbul, Guatemala, New Haven, Minneapolis, San Francisco, Omaha, Tucson and the Santa Cruz area. Projects include *Being of One's Hour*, commissioned by Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre, *Contraponientes*, commissioned by Ariose and the Harp Concerto *Claroscuro en Flor*, commissioned by Anna Maria Mendieta and the American Harp Society.

Premieres include *Through a Crack in the Concrete* commissioned for the UCSC Orchestra by Nicole Paiement, *Pequeña America* commissioned by Nat Berman for the UCSC Concert Choir and *La Virgen a Solas* premiered by Tucson Chamber Artists under the baton of Lucik Aprahamian. Recordings include the virtuosic solo guitar sonata *Ondas do Mar de Vigo*, premiered by Mesut Özgen and available on his CD and *Troubadour and Mañana tan linda*, recorded by Nova Trova on their CD Agua.

Chris — half Guatemalan and a native Spanish speaker — is founder and artistic director of Santiago Players, a group of volunteer musicians dedicated to taking classical music, workshops, private lessons, instruments and sheet music to young students of classical music in the Guatemalan Highlands. He teaches theory and musicianship at Cal State Monterey Bay and UC Santa Cruz, is accompanist at The Studio, and maintains a private studio.