

To The Pointe

Monthly Newsletter

Classical Ballet of WNY

Happening in October

Halloween Parties:

**OCT
26-31**

Nutcracker Rehearsals:

**OCT
4**

**OCT
11**

**OCT
18**

**OCT
25**

Dress up for Halloween!

During the week of Monday October 26 - Saturday October 31 students are welcome to wear their Halloween costume to class. Costumes should still allow for full range of movement. We will play games, pass out candy, and listen to some fun Halloween music during this week of classes!



Our annual Nutcracker candy fundraiser is now underway. This year we will be working with Fowlers Chocolate. Each family participating in The Nutcracker should pick up a box of chocolate bars in the office. Each box contains 45 bars and each bar is \$3.

FOWLER'S
FINE CHOCOLATE SINCE 1910

Spooky Season Ballets

Check out these ballets during the month of October



La Sonnambula

By George Balanchine

Set at a masked ball, the one-act *La Sonnambula* tells the story of a Coquette, a Poet, and a beautiful Sleepwalker. The story remains mysterious, inviting different interpretations of the characters' actions and relationships; it is the moods and emotions evoked by Balanchine's choreography that give the ballet its resonance. Its atmosphere of sinister menace brings to mind 19th-century Romantic ballets like *Giselle* and *La Sylphide*, with their haunting stories of doomed love.



Rite of Spring

By Vaslav Nijinsky

Stravinsky's "*Rite of Spring*" depicts pagan rituals that culminate in the sacrifice of a young woman, whose death is intended to appease or pacify the gods of spring. When the piece premiered in Paris, it shocked the audience and sparked a riot, not only for the story line but also for the dissonant score and unusual dance. The choreography, by Vaslav Nijinsky of the Ballets Russes, featured jerky, violent movements that were unlike anything the ballet world had seen. When the curtain rose on their production, Stravinsky and Nijinsky forever changed the course of music history.



Giselle

By Jean Coralli and Jules Perrot.

Giselle is heartbroken when she discovers that Albrecht, the man she loves, is in reality a nobleman betrothed to another woman. Devastated by grief and her intense feeling of yearning, the young peasant girl succumbs to madness and dies. She joins the ghostly spiritual wilis, young brides-to-be who have died before their nuptials and who condemn men to dance themselves to death.



Dracula

Various Choreographers

"*Dracula*," written by Bram Stoker, is a seminal Gothic horror novel that explores themes of fear, desire, and the clash between modernity and the ancient supernatural. The narrative begins with Jonathan Harker, an English solicitor, as he travels to Transylvania to conduct business with the enigmatic Count Dracula. Upon arriving at the Count's castle, Harker quickly realizes he is a prisoner, as he encounters various strange occurrences and the Count's unnerving presence. Meanwhile, in England, Harker's fiancée, Mina Murray, and her friend Lucy Westenra experience increasingly bizarre and dangerous events, leading to Lucy's tragic decline into a vampire's thrall.

Alumni Spotlight

Jayde Margulis



Jayde Margulis began dancing at CBWNY in 2013. She is now a New York City-based performance artist and graduate of NYU Tisch School of the Arts, where she earned a BFA in Dance. Represented by Take 3 Talent, her work spans film, stage, and screen. Most recently, she danced in the independent ballroom feature film *Rhythm or Smooth*, following her work on an upcoming holiday feature film. She has performed at The Joyce Theater and Radio City Music Hall, and has appeared in music videos and short films as a dancer, choreographer, and actor. Jayde has choreographed and premiered original work in New York City at NYU's Jack Crystal Theater and Emerging Artists Theatre's Spark Festival. She has performed works by renowned choreographers including Chelsea Thedinga, Yin Yue, Camille A. Brown, Alexander Anderson, Alexandra Damiani, Lane Gifford, and Rachael Lieblein-Jurbala, among others. Since graduating from Nichols School in 2019, Jayde has been a guest contemporary teacher during our Summer Workshops.

Q&A with Jayde

Q: What is one piece of advice you have for dance students?

A: Dream BIG! You can accomplish anything you set your mind to as long as you keep working hard, showing up and having fun! Don't forget that dancing should be fun too :)

Q: What is one thing you wish you could learn how to do?

A: I always wished I could do a backflip! I hope that one day I'll be able to do one!

Q: What is a favorite piece you have performed and why?

A: I got to perform *New Second Line* choreographed by Camille A. Brown at Radio City Music Hall! This was one of the most fun performances I'd ever done. The piece is so high energy and I got to perform it alongside so many of my good friends. I remember I couldn't stop smiling the entire time because I couldn't believe I got to perform in such a beautiful theater! It was a moment I'll never forget.

