

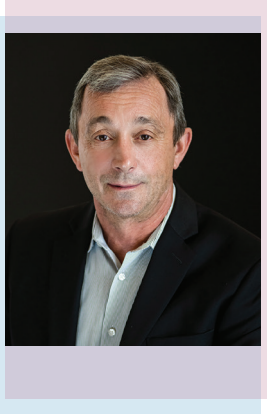


*Colorado Ballet FY23*  
IMPACT REPORT

*Reporting on the*  
2022/2023 SEASON



## Thank you from COLORADO BALLET LEADERSHIP

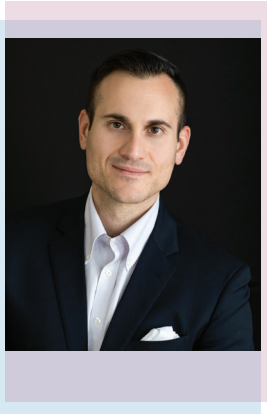


### Gil Boggs, Artistic Director

It is with immense pride that I share with you our Impact Report. As Artistic Director, I have had the privilege of witnessing the extraordinary dedication and artistry of our talented dancers, creative team, and staff throughout the year. This report serves as a testament to the pursuit of excellence that defines Colorado Ballet. Each season brings new challenges and triumphs, and I am delighted to share the highlights of our achievements with you. As you delve into the pages of this report, I hope you feel the same sense of inspiration and awe that fuels our passion for the art of ballet. We are very grateful to you, and we look forward to bringing new works to Colorado with your continued support in the season to come.

With deepest gratitude,

Gil Boggs



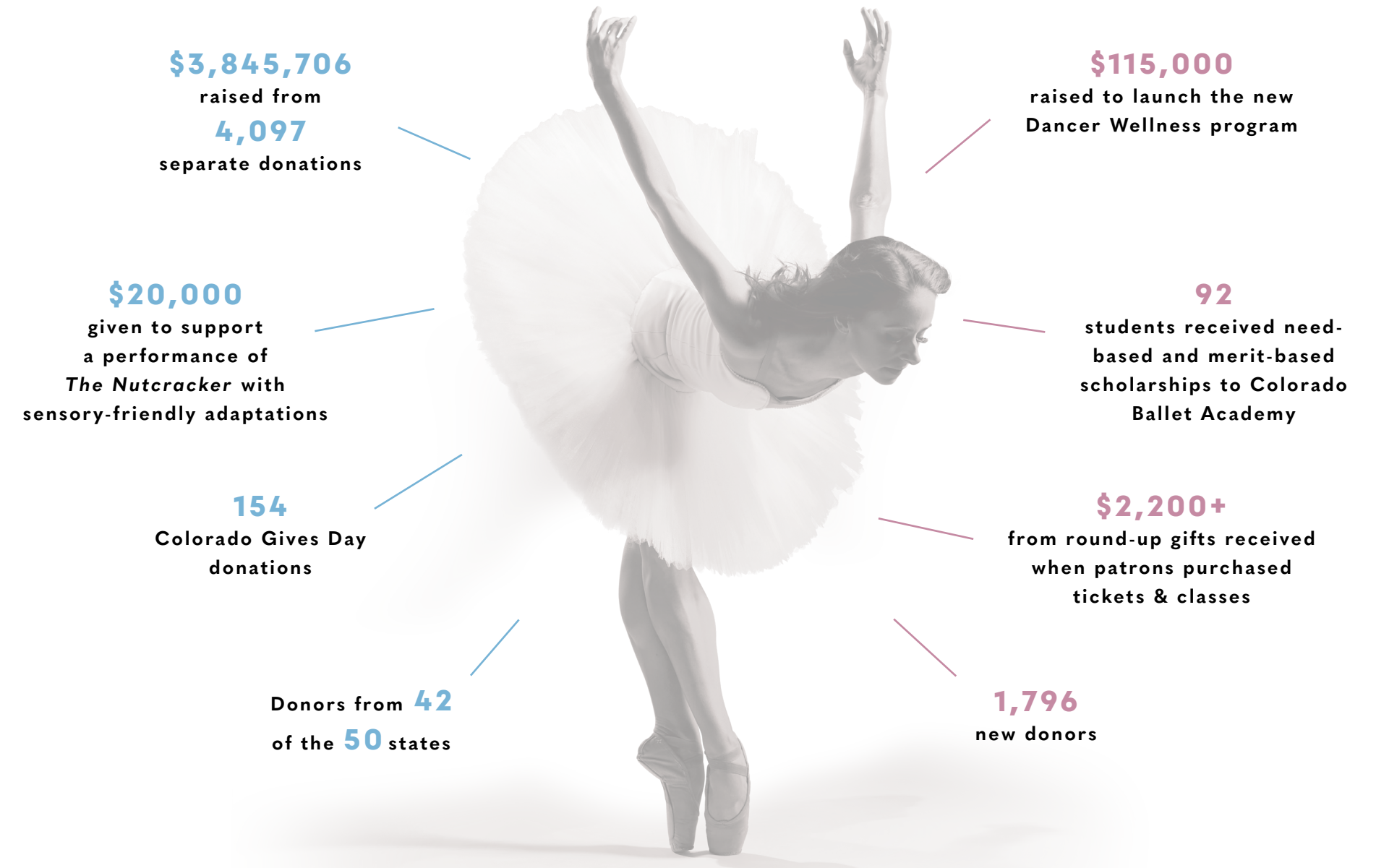
### Sameed Afghani, Executive Director

Your unwavering support and generosity have been instrumental in propelling Colorado Ballet to new heights. As your new Executive Director, I have been privileged to witness the tangible impact that your contributions have had on our organization and the community we serve. This report provides an overview of the milestones we have achieved together. From inspiring community engagement programs that bring the joy of dance to students, to mesmerizing performances that leave audiences spellbound, our collective dedication to the arts has made a lasting difference in countless lives. Our commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparency remains at the core of our operations, ensuring that every dollar entrusted to us is maximized.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Sameed Afghani

## Philanthropy at COLORADO BALLET



"It's what make us human, the ability to appreciate the arts. The joy of sitting in your seats and letting the beauty of one of our performances wash over you is such a joy."

- Pam & Duke Hartman, Premier Society Members & Colorado Ballet Trustee

# Professional COMPANY



35

Company members

25

Studio Company members

1,100+

pairs of pointe and ballet shoes used

57

public performances

2

full time physical therapists on staff

3

Colorado Premieres

(*Lady of the Camellias*, *Prodigal Son*, and *Sinfonietta*)

Catherine McGregor & Kevin Gaél Thomas by Rachel Neville

## Bringing *LADY OF THE CAMELLIAS* to Denver

Colorado Ballet presented the mesmerizing Denver premiere of *Lady of the Camellias* in February 2023. The generous support of our patrons enabled us to bring in an all-star trio of acclaimed musical artists, including pianist David Korevaar, mezzo-soprano Abigail Nims, and baritone Andrew Garland, to perform Frédéric Chopin's scintillating score with the Colorado Ballet Orchestra. Our dancers had the opportunity to work directly with famed choreographer Val Caniparoli, all while dressed in exquisite costumes designed by Robert De La Rose and amongst David Gano's dramatic sets. We are excited to welcome Caniparoli back during the 2023-2024 Season for his production of *Jekyll & Hyde*.

1848

The year *La Dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas fils was published from which Caniparoli's ballet was adapted

8

The number of onstage deaths performed by the three principal female dancers during the production

The set and costumes were well traveled...

BOSTON  
BALLET

1767  
MILES

COLORADO  
BALLET

841  
MILES

LOS ANGELES  
BALLET



Artists of Colorado Ballet by Amanda Tipton



## EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

32

Every Body Dance! afterschool classes

23,000

students participated in workshops held by our staff

50%

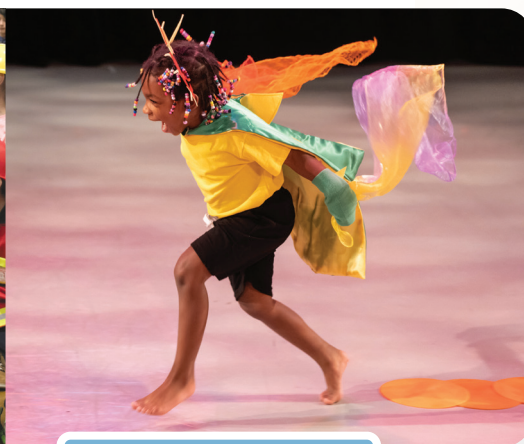
of Colorado counties reached through Education & Community Engagement programming

25,500

students reached through Student Matinee livestreams

4,000

students experienced the *From the Page to the Stage* assembly program



On November 27, with funding from Denver Human Services through the Creative Ideas Fund, Colorado Ballet was able to present *The Nutcracker* with sensory-friendly adaptations as a dedicated public performance. With 483 people in the audience, attendance at the performance experienced a remarkable 75% increase compared to the previous year. Performances with sensory-friendly adaptations provide an inclusive space for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities and individuals with sensory processing disorders or other neurodiversities to enjoy live ballet in an inclusive, accommodating, and relaxed environment.

Adaptations included dimming the house lights and eliminating or reducing startling special effects, lighting, and sounds. Traditional theater rules are relaxed to allow patrons to move freely during the performance and to exit and reenter as needed. Participants were also offered large print programs, audio description, a know-before-you-go social narrative, and the opportunity to handle costumes at the "tutu petting zoo." Signage and volunteers helped direct participants to quiet and activity areas in the lobby which offered participants the opportunity to take a break from the performance. Participants were also provided fidgets and manipulatives, ear muffs and ear plugs, and visors and sunglasses.

One patron shared the following testimonial:

*"[The performance] was well done and greatly appreciated. I had always dreamed of taking my granddaughter to see The Nutcracker but was afraid I never could. The sensory performance allowed me to fulfill that dream."*



## Meet some of our Colorado Ballet Academy SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Nicolas  
Napa, CA

*What is your favorite memory that you created while taking classes with the Academy?*

The chance to play different roles in *Sleeping Beauty* both because of the ensemble and partner work but also the large community audience and demonstration of support by residents.

*If you had the chance to sit down and have a conversation with the generous donors who supported your scholarship, what would you want them to know about the impact their contribution has made in your life?*

This opportunity has allowed me to pursue my passion full time. It also motivated me to complete high school early so that I could dedicate myself to all opportunities offered by the Academy.



Whitney  
Northglenn, CO

*Whitney, what is your favorite class you have taken with Colorado Ballet Academy?*

Ballet. I feel like Ballet allows me to express myself and be my best. I feel light when I am dancing and I love Miss Suellen.

*Meghan, if you had the chance to sit down and have a conversation with the generous donors who supported your scholarship, what would you want them to know about the impact their contribution has made in your life?*

I would thank them, from the bottom of my heart, for helping me to get a chance to follow my dream that is dancing. With their donation, they have made it possible for my parents to afford class for me and my sister and give me the joy to be part of a such a great academy. Without them I wouldn't be able to do the classes and I can't even imagine how that would be. I look forward to the classes and I am so thankful to be part of Colorado Ballet Academy. I hope I get to dance for a long time and become a professional.



Meghan  
Northglenn, CO



### ACADEMY

Colorado Ballet Academy students receive professional classical ballet training and mentorship from our faculty members that extends beyond the dance studio. The Academy shapes students into well-rounded, dynamic dancers by empowering our students to freely and creatively express themselves while cultivating their technique and musicality.

“Without the scholarship, I would not have been able to introduce my daughter to ballet! I am a low-income, single parent and activities such as ballet are “extras” that I simply cannot budget for. All that said, THANK YOU for making it possible for my little to experience an activity that she absolutely loves.”  
- Darlene, Creative Dance parent

Enrollment for the summer  
Choreographic Workshop grew  
from **7** to **69** students

**\$166,776**  
was awarded in merit and  
need-based scholarship to  
**92** students

**250**  
students performed the  
full-length story ballet,  
*The Sleeping Beauty*, at the  
Ellie Caulkins Opera House



# PREMIER SOCIETY

Colorado Ballet's Premier Society honors donors who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more in support of our artistic and educational mission. Premier Society donors enjoy personalized access and special opportunities to deepen their engagement with the company's programs, special projects, and artists.

During the 2022-2023 Season, Premier Society members were invited to experience special opening night receptions, rehearsals, and opportunities to mingle with artistic staff and Company dancers.

**270+**

active members

**OVER \$1 MILLION**

donated by Premier Society members

**4**

opportunities to watch a working dress rehearsal at the Ellie



Jessica Payne by Rachel Neville

## Meet Premier Society member, SUSAN HYMERS...



Current Residence: Aurora, CO

**How many years have you been involved with Colorado Ballet?**

*I've been a member of Premier Society for 4 years.*

**Why have you chosen to support Colorado Ballet?**

Ballet has always been part of my life. When I support Colorado Ballet, I feel that I am giving back to the company that has come to mean so much to me. I have enjoyed many beautiful performances, and it feels personal to contribute to Colorado Ballet.

**How have the arts, especially dance, impacted your life and why do you think they are important?**

I began to study dance at the age of three, and ballet always has been important to me. I believe the arts, especially dance, are critical to our culture and feed our humanity.

**What was your favorite performance during the 2022-2023 Season?**

*Dracula* was one of the best things I have ever seen in dance. It was dramatic and expressive, and beautifully danced. I hope Colorado Ballet will repeat it in the near future.

**What was your favorite donor event you attended during the 2022-2023 Season?**

I was given a private backstage tour, and it meant a lot to me. I spoke with staff and crew members, and it was exciting to stand on the stage overlooking the house.

Christophor Moulton by Rachel Neville

# FRIENDS OF COLORADO BALLET

Friends of Colorado Ballet, launched in 2022, honors donors who make annual gifts of \$100 up to \$999. As a thank you, our generous Friends of Colorado Ballet members receive special offers and benefits to enhance their ballet going experience including access to exclusive content in our e-newsletter and invitations to pre-performance talks.

**800+**  
active members

Over  
**\$100K**  
donated by  
Friends of Colorado Ballet

**3**  
visits to tutu alley  
during wardrobe tours



Artists of Colorado Ballet by Rachel Neville

## Meet a few Friends of Colorado Ballet MEMBERS...



Mica Ward, Denver, CO

### **What was your favorite performance during the 2022-2023 Season?**

I enjoyed *Lady of the Camillas* — which I knew nothing about. It was a stripped down story (which I enjoy) with beautiful dance. However, *Ballet Masterworks* is ALWAYS my favorite performance. The new (to me), classic short form and/or new pieces always stir. This season was exceptional!



Samantha Buck & Sarah Davis, Canberra, Australia

### **Why have you chosen to support Colorado Ballet?**

We have chosen to support Colorado Ballet to keep a much needed part of the Denver and performing arts world alive. Colorado Ballet truly is one of the best companies we have ever seen and one of the reasons we stayed in Colorado for as long as we did. We plan to continue supporting the company from afar (in Australia). We love the dancers, the team, and the new education programs with sensory performances so much!



Regina Randall, Aurora, CO

### **What was your favorite donor event you attended during the 2022-2023 Season?**

The pre-performance talks — it was great to get insights that made the performances more enjoyable.



Richard Dauphin, Wake Forest, NC

### **Why have you chosen to support Colorado Ballet?**

My granddaughter is a student at the Ballet Academy. I have watched her grow into an incredible young woman, and dance has played a significant role in that growth. My small contribution is just my way of saying thank you.



## COLORADO BALLET AUXILIARY join the *dance*

Colorado Ballet Auxiliary is dedicated to the support of one of the nation's premier dance companies. Established in 1986, the Auxiliary's primary goals include supporting Colorado Ballet and all its endeavors and developing future audiences and appreciation of the art of ballet through the Auxiliary's programs and social activities.

For more than 30 years, the Colorado Ballet Auxiliary Sugarplum Program has been bringing magic to 2nd and 3rd grade girls. During their first program year, Sugarplums are presented on-stage at opening night of *The Nutcracker*. During their second program year, Sugarplum Alums are invited to join the artists of Colorado Ballet and cast on stage during *The Nutcracker* party scene at select performances.

**36**  
2022-2023 Sugarplums  
presented on-stage

**38**  
Sugarplum Alums performed  
in 15 performances of  
*The Nutcracker* in 2022

**60+**  
active Auxiliary members

*Ever Larson by Rachel Neville*

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



In 2022, PNC Bank was proud to be the returning presenting sponsor of Colorado Ballet's 62nd production of *The Nutcracker*. PNC Bank's investment in the arts allowed Colorado Ballet to have the following impact in the community:

- > 26 performances attended by over 48,000+ audience members
- > 2 student matinees attended by over 4,000 Colorado students and educators
- > 100 Colorado Ballet Academy students performed in a professional production



The PNC Foundation supported Colorado Ballet's partnership with Warren Village through PNC Grow Up Great®. For over 17 years, Colorado Ballet has provided cost-free dance and creative movement classes for preschoolers of Warren Village as their families transition from public assistance to personal and economic self-sufficiency. Through a curriculum supported by neuroscience targeted specifically to students in early childhood education, students learn creativity and expression, gain an understanding that dance can be a part of a healthy lifestyle, and have the opportunity to connect with their peers to strengthen social and emotional learning.

### In 2022-2023...

- > 31 Pre-K students took 23 classes at Colorado Ballet studios
- > 87 friends and family members attended 2 performances where students proudly demonstrated the skills they learned during the semester
- > 124 ticket vouchers were distributed to families to see Colorado Ballet's *Cinderella* in March 2023

"At PNC Bank, community investment is foundational to our values and interwoven into our corporate culture. We know we are only as successful as those that we serve, which is why we seek to strengthen the communities where we live and work by providing resources that help enhance early childhood education and support economic development."

- Ryan Beiser, Regional President for PNC Bank in Colorado

The PNC Foundation, which receives its principal funding from The PNC Financial Services Group ([www.pnc.com](http://www.pnc.com)), actively supports organizations that provide services for the benefit of communities in which it has a significant presence. The foundation focuses its philanthropic mission on early childhood education and community and economic development.



THE *One* GALA

2023 *The One Gala* Revenue:

Tables & Tickets  
**\$234,150**

Live Auction  
**\$60,500**

Wish Tree  
**\$197,210**

Other  
**\$30,000**

Total  
**\$521,860**

21% increase from FY22 Gala!



Colorado Ballet partnered with Handsome Little Devils to create a spectacular centerpiece representing the many ways philanthropy positively impacts the three branches of its mission which was unveiled at *The One Gala*.

**WISH TREE:**

Area of Greatest Need - \$149,960

Gifts in honor of retiring principal dancers, Dana and Yosvani - \$9,650

Dancer Wellness - \$15,000

Education & Community Engagement - \$10,200

Academy Scholarships - \$10,200

2023-2024 Sponsorships - \$2,200

**NEW DONORS:**

**56**

donors made their first contribution to Colorado Ballet during the gala

**22**

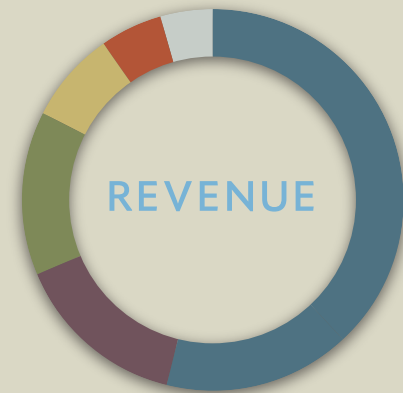
donors made their first donation through the purchase of a ticket or table

**34**

donors made their first donation through the Wish Tree



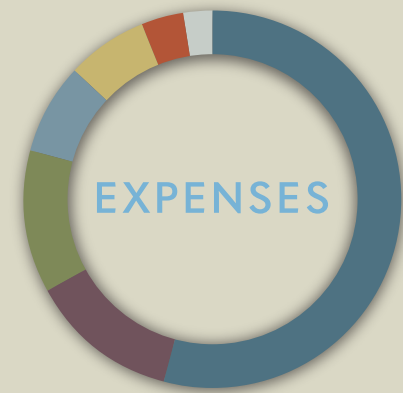
# Financial BREAKDOWN



- Tickets: \$6,495,880
- Donations: \$2,607,809
- Colorado Ballet Academy: \$2,573,813
- SCFD: \$1,394,212
- Rental and Other: \$779,705
- Education & Community Engagement: \$107,888

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$13,959,307**

*\*Government Relief Funding: \$2,322,241*



- Production: \$7,149,619
- Colorado Ballet Academy: \$1,693,159
- Marketing and Patron Services: \$1,601,043
- Administrative: \$1,083,878
- Advancement: \$970,682
- Building: \$588,883
- Education & Community Engagement: \$314,976

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$13,402,240**



*\*Amount not included in Total Revenue*

*Ariel McCarty by Rachel Neville*

## Joint note from our BOARD OF TRUSTEES CO-CHAIRS

Dear Esteemed Supporters,

Your generous support of Colorado Ballet has been the driving force behind our success and growth over the years. We have been delighted to witness the transformative impact your contributions have had on our beloved ballet community. Your commitment to the arts and dedication to enriching lives through dance have made all the difference in bringing world class ballet to our community.

Through your support, we have been able to nurture budding talent and stage breathtaking performances that captivate audiences. Your belief in our vision has empowered us to explore new artistic horizons, foster creativity, and embrace inclusivity.

Thanks to your compassionate giving, we have been able to reach out to our community, offering the chance to experience the magic of ballet and igniting a passion for the arts in young hearts. Your support has made ballet accessible to aspiring dancers, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds, paving the way for a more diverse and vibrant future for the art form we hold so dear.

Please know that your contributions continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of Colorado Ballet. Together, we are leaving a legacy, one that will echo through generations to come, as we continue to touch lives through the power of ballet.

Once again, from the bottom of our hearts, we extend our sincerest gratitude for your generosity and continued support. We look forward to sharing many more successful and inspiring moments with you this season.

With warmest regards and deepest appreciation,

Brent L. Backes  
Colorado Ballet Board Co-Chair

Michelle Moorman-Applegate  
Colorado Ballet Board Co-Chair

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*Thank you!*



## *Our* MISSION

Colorado Ballet's mission is to present exceptional classical ballet and contemporary dance through performances, training, education and community engagement while inspiring and growing an increasingly diverse audience base.

**COLORADOBALLET.ORG**