

# KansasCityBallet

Kansas City Ballet is in residence at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts' Muriel Kauffman Theatre.

Founded in 1957 and nationally recognized as one of the country's leading companies under the leadership of Executive Director Jeffrey Bentley and newly appointed Artistic Director Devon Carney, the Ballet enriches the cultural landscape of the Kansas City region through exceptional performances, touring engagements, community outreach activities, and Kansas City Ballet School. The 28-member company performs three mixed repertory programs per year with a focus on the rich history of American ballet. Eclectic programming ranges from classics to contemporary ballets, as well as the ever popular *The Nutcracker*.

Serving more than 600 students each year, Kansas City Ballet School provides the community with dance training for a diverse student body, including classes for children as young as three years old through adults. Building on the foundations of classical ballet, students receive training in many dance styles as the School prepares students for a wide spectrum of opportunities within the artistic community and the professional dance world. In summer 2011, The Todd Bolender Center for Dance and Creativity, named in recognition of the Ballet's former Artistic Director, opened to national acclaim. The Bolender Center has made Kansas City a national destination for dance, offering expanded amenities for the entire Kansas City arts community, including rehearsal spaces and a 180-seat studio theater.

Kansas City Ballet's community outreach initiatives serve over 15,000 people annually and include student matinees, pre-performance panel discussions, tours, and workshops for all ages. Area children participate in the elementary education program Reach Out and Dance (ROAD), a twenty-four week in-school dance and movement residency program taught by professional dancers, and the Ballet's popular annual Dancer for a Day program that introduces children to various types of dance through free classes with live music.

More information on Kansas City Ballet is available at [www.kcballet.org](http://www.kcballet.org)