

## **Kingsport Ballet Press Release**

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### **Kingsport Ballet Students Look Forward to Summer Intensives at Home and Beyond**

**Kingsport, TN** – Dedicated dancers at Kingsport Ballet continue their training through the summer in order to keep up their skills and study under master teachers from around the country and abroad. For the serious dancer, summer is a time to concentrate on truly improving, without the added distractions of school, competitions, or ballet productions. It is also a time when they can explore other dance forms and study under new and different instructors.

Each year dancers and teachers come to Kingsport from outside of Tennessee for the intensive. Artistic Director, Valeria Sinyavskaya, believes Kingsport Ballet has a lot to offer dancers seeking a strong classical ballet program. “Starting Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, KB dancers will be joined at the downtown Kingsport studio by students traveling from Florida, Kentucky and Virginia, in addition to cities surrounding Kingsport,” she said. “And instructors will be traveling from Mississippi, South Carolina, and North Carolina to join our faculty.”

But Kingsport Ballet doesn't stop with recruiting talent from around the country for its programs. Joining the KB faculty in the fall of 2017 will be Maestro Odoardo Bordonni from Rome, Italy. Maestro Bordonni is a published teacher and choreographer who currently works throughout the European continent. He was the first foreign ballet dancer to be invited to train and perform at the Vaganova Academy in St. Petersburg in the 1980s.

Returning to the KB summer faculty is Nina Maria Lucas, Professor of Dance and Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance at Wake Forest University. She has been a member of the faculty there since 1996 serving as the Director of Dance for 20 years and continues to be the Artistic Director of the Dance Company at Wake. Ms. Lucas teaches jazz, modern, history of dance, among various other subjects at the University.

Also returning to teach are Oleksander Vykhrest, Ballet Master at Columbia Classical Ballet and Vadim Burciu, former KB instructor and performer. Students at KB will also learn about nutrition, injury prevention, dance history and yoga, in addition to ballet and pointe, *pas de deux* and variations, acting, jazz and contemporary dance.

Students who accepted invitations to summer intensives beyond Kingsport Ballet include 11 year old Graham Barnes, who will be attending three weeks at the Bolshoi Academy Summer Intensive in Connecticut on an 80% scholarship and Emma Parker, 12, who has attended the Joffrey Ballet Summer Intensive in New York. Several other intermediate and advanced students auditioned and were accepted to summer programs around the country but have optioned to stay closer to home, including Tennessee Association of Dance Scholarship winner, Alayna Farmer.

Kingsport Ballet is still accepting students for summer intensive in June, as well as Angelina Ballerina camp during the month of July for children ages 3-6. Fall classes begin August 21. Early registrations

for fall are being accepted on a first come, first served basis.

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*Photo by: Benjamin Wilson, Modern Choreography: Erika Ballard  
Dancers (l-r) Keaton Breeding, Amelia Spell, Delaney Shelton*