

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a man floating on his back in water. He is wearing a short, full skirt made of dark sequins. His arms are raised, and his head is tilted back. The water is dark and textured with ripples and reflections. The overall mood is serene yet dramatic.

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

DEEP RIVER

SEPTEMBER 18–21, 2025

YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS
BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA THEATER

Shuaib Elhassan
©RJ Muna

Proud to
support
**artistic
innovation.**

Adji Cissoko and
Shuaib Elhassan
© Chris Hardy



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of our cities. **We're pleased to be LINES Ballet's
Presenting Sponsor.**

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POLICIES



YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS
BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA THEATER

Thursday, September 18 | 7:30 PM

Friday, September 19 | 7:30 PM*

Saturday, September 20 | 2:00 PM

Saturday, September 20 | 7:30 PM*

Sunday, September 21 | 5:00 PM

**Includes Post-Performance Q&A with Alonzo King*

Family Experience: Sunday, September 21 | 2:00 pm

DEVICES POLICY

Out of courtesy to the artists and your fellow patrons, please take a moment to turn off and refrain from using cellular phones, watch alarms, and similar devices. The use of any audio or video recording device or the taking of photographs (with or without flash) is strictly prohibited.

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The mission of Alonzo King LINES Ballet is to nurture artistry and the development of creative expression in dance through collaboration, performance, and education.



WELCOME

Dear Friends and LINES Ballet's Community of Supporters,

It is with tremendous joy that we welcome you to Alonzo King LINES Ballet's 44th Season. While a season marks a span of time, it cannot capture the breadth, artistry, and impact that these years have encompassed. We are grateful to have you on this journey with us.

Deep River is especially meaningful; it is a work from Alonzo King's canon that has thrilled audiences around the world, celebrating centuries of musical and spiritual traditions transformed into movement, offering audiences a profoundly moving experience that resonates far beyond the stage.

However, this season is about more than performance, it is about community. At its heart, LINES Ballet is about connection: The "lines" we create from ourselves to others, from individual expression to collective resonance. Since its founding in 1982, LINES has embodied the belief that art is a vital force that deepens self-understanding, nurtures fulfillment, and binds us together in our shared humanity.

At this reflective moment, we would like to acknowledge the many arts and educational institutions facing severe budget cuts or reduced support. As part of this ecosystem, we remain steadfast in our commitment to upholding the values of learning, giving, and creating. Please encourage your friends and family to experience the power of live performance for themselves. Help us ensure that the San Francisco Bay Area remains a beacon of light that uplifts the human spirit.

To our board, staff, artists, and supporters, a heartfelt thank you. In addition, we would like to express our gratitude to our major funders. Please take a moment to peruse our impressive roster of supporters, and join them as we work towards solidifying the future of LINES Ballet.

We hope to see you on November 1 at SFMOMA for a screening of our amazing documentary film *ORIGINS*, at one of our tour performances across the U.S. or France, or back here at YBCA in April 2026 for the world premiere of a collaboration with the extraordinary musical artist *esperanza spalding*.

We look forward to seeing, meeting and hearing from you.



Ruth Nott

Managing Director



ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

+

esperanza spalding



Adji Cissoko | © RJ Muna

Coming
April 11–19, 2026

LINES BALLET SPRING 2026 SEASON:

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET + esperanza spalding

April 11-19, 2026

Blue Shield Theater of California at YBCA



esperanza spalding © Holly Andres

LINES Ballet is thrilled to present a landmark world premiere collaboration with Grammy Award-winning bassist, vocalist, and composer esperanza spalding and contemporary ballet pioneer Alonzo King.

King's transcendent choreography will come together with spalding's intricate harmonies and soulful improvisations to create a dynamic dialogue unlike anything else on stage today. spalding will perform live at all performances. The program will also include LINES Ballet's critically acclaimed *Ode to Alice Coltrane*, honoring the groundbreaking composer and musician whose music continues to inspire.

Reserve your tickets now!

www.linesballet.org/esperanza

THE COMPANY

Alonzo King

Artistic Director, Co-Founder

Robert Rosenwasser

Creative Director, Co-Founder

Korri Jackson

Board Chair

Ruth Nott

Managing Director

THE COMPANY

Maël Amatoul • Adjí Cissoko • Theo Duff-Grant
Lorris Eichinger • Shuaib Elhassan • Josh Francique
Mikal Gilbert • Anna Joy • Marusya Madubuko
Tatum Quiñónez • Amanda Smith

Brandi Williams General Manager

Seah Johnson Production Director

Byron Roman Rehearsal/Stage Manager

Philip Perkins Sound Designer/Music Supervisor

Jenny Sandler, Meredith Webster Rehearsal Directors

Joshua Weckesser Stage Supervisor

Joan Raymond, Keely Weiman, Tiffany Amundson Costume Construction

Alonzo King LINES Ballet would like to thank the
following funders for their invaluable support:

Season Presenting Sponsor

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New Works Sponsor

**LSP FAMILY
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ADVANCING A BETTER
FUTURE FOR ALL

Media Sponsor

KQED

PROGRAM

DEEP RIVER

World Premiere: May 13, 2022 | YBCA, San Francisco

Choreography **Alonzo King**

Original Music **Jason Moran, Lisa Fischer***

Music **Pharoah Sanders, Maurice Ravel, James Weldon Johnson,
J. Rosamond Johnson, James McKee, Wieslaw Pogorzelski,
Kamalakanta Bhattacharya***

Vocals **Lisa Fischer***

Lighting Design **Jim French**

Costume Design **Robert Rosenwasser**

Sound Design/Music Supervision **Philip Perkins**

KADDISCH

Composer: Maurice Ravel
Company

TRANSITION

Composers: Lisa Fischer, Jason Moran
Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan

DRIP

Composer: Jason Moran
Anna Joy, Theo Duff-Grant, Josh Francique

WHERE IS THERE LOVE?

Composer: Kamalakanta Bhattacharya
Translated into English by Paramahansa Yogananda
Adji Cissoko

CHIME ARIA

Composer: Lisa Fischer
**Anna Joy, Tatum Quiñónez, Lorris Eichinger, Mikal Gilbert,
Maël Amatoul, Marusya Madubuko, Josh Francique, Shuaib Elhassan**

PROGRAM

FOLLOW THE LIGHT

Composer: Jason Moran, Lyricist: Lisa Fischer
Theo Duff-Grant & Company

RIVERS OF MEMORY

Composers: Pharoah Sanders, Jim McKee, Wieslaw Pogorzelski
**Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan
Company**

FANFARE

Composer: Pharoah Sanders
Tatum Quiñónez & Marusya Madubuko

LAUGHING PAS

Composer: Jason Moran
Marusya Madubuko & Lorris Eichinger

RHYTHM CHANT

Composer: Jason Moran
Company

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Composers: James Weldon Johnson & J. Rosamond Johnson
Josh Francique

DEEP RIVER

Traditional African American Spiritual
Company

EPILOGUE PAS

Composer: Jason Moran
Adji Cissoko & Shuaib Elhassan

*For full credits, visit our dedicated
[Fall Season 2025 music credits sheet.](#)

INSPIRATION FOR *DEEP RIVER*

Over the first two years of the pandemic, Alonzo King and the artists of LINES worked in confined bubbles at their studios, in outside grassy areas of Golden Gate Park, on a farm in the isolated desert of Wickenburg Arizona, and in other locales in order to build work and not be halted or harmed by the pandemic. *Deep River* is the result of three years of creating in designated time periods in unusual settings.

Along with the compositions of Jason Moran, and the remarkable voice of Lisa Fischer, the use of spiritual music from the Black and Jewish traditions was selected to address the power of inspiration during difficulty and hope and determination against seemingly impossible odds.

Deep River is the call to be fanatically positive regardless of circumstance. To bloom the lotus in the muck. And to look at one another as a family of souls. It points to the imbalance of the intellect without a heart, and the necessity to feel for others as we do for ourselves. It is a love letter to a world writhing in pain. The majority of the company is predominantly on stage, sewn through solos and pas de deux.





ORIGINS

This November, we are thrilled to present an exclusive screening of **ORIGINS** at the **Wattis Theater at SFMOMA**. Directed by Emmy Award winning filmmaker **Drea Cooper**, this gorgeously cinematic film offers a rare behind-the-scenes glimpse of the creative world of Alonzo King and **LINES Ballet**.

Saturday, November 1

2:00 PM* | **SOLD OUT!**

4:30 PM | **SOLD OUT!**

5:45 PM | **Limited tickets available**

Tickets are going fast...

RESERVE YOURS TODAY

Post-screening Q&A with Alonzo King and artists of **LINES Ballet*

COLLABORATOR PROFILES



Lisa Fischer | © Edward Gadjel

LISA FISCHER, VOCALIST

After four decades of featured background singing with icons like Luther Vandross, The Rolling Stones, Chaka Khan, Tina Turner, and Nine Inch Nails, Ms. Lisa Fischer set out to take centerstage with her own humble, heartfelt song. The 2013 Best Documentary Oscar winning film “Twenty Feet from Stardom” altered the course of Lisa’s musical journey, telling her story, with clips of her legendary duets with Sting or with Mick Jagger on “Gimme Shelter”, left audiences eager to see and hear more, so Lisa took the chance to set out on her own reinventing classic songs with her co-conspirators JC Maillard and Grand

Baton. Their organic fusion of Caribbean psychedelic soul and jazzy progressive rock ignited Lisa’s flexibility and freedom of expression, awakening her lifelong desire to make music that heals but still rocks the house.

While Lisa’s range is legendary, her greatest gift is the ability to connect, to reach the hearts of her listeners. Raised in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn, she emerged from New York’s fervent studio scene in the early 1980s, sang for two decades with legendary vocalist Luther Vandross, and released “So Intense”, earning her first Best R&B Performance Grammy with “How Can I Ease The Pain”. She joined the Rolling Stones for their 1989 Steel Wheels tour, and continued to grace their stage for the next 26 years. Lisa’s passion for constant growth and experimentation with different styles invited recent collaborations with jazz pianist Taylor Eigsti, Sting, Bruce Springsteen, Michael McDonald, Eric Krasno, Talib Kweli, Billy Childs and YoYo Ma, the BBC Proms / Jules Buckley and the Metro- pole Orkest, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, Anna Deavere Smith’s “Notes from the Field” for HBO, and especially her full evening program The Classic Lisa Fischer with Grand Baton and Seattle Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony and the National Philharmonic. With spiritual truth-telling as her compass and loving kindness as her guide, MS. LISA FISCHER continues her creative journey; destination unknown.



Jason Moran | © Clay Patrick McBride

JASON MORAN, COMPOSER

Jazz pianist, composer, and performance artist Jason Moran is deeply invested in reassessing and complicating the relationship between music and language; his work is geared towards challenging the status quo while respecting the accomplishments of his predecessors. Moran graduated from Manhattan School of Music, where he studied with Jaki Byard. He was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2010 and is the Artistic Director for Jazz at The Kennedy Center. Currently, Moran teaches at the New England Conservatory. Moran has recorded and performed with masters of the form including Charles Lloyd, Bill Frisell, and

the late Sam Rivers, and his work with his trio The Bandwagon (with drummer Nasheet Waits and bassist Tarus Mateen), which resulted in a profound discography for Blue Note Records. He also has collaborated with such major figures as Adrian Piper, Joan Jonas, Glenn Ligon, Stan Douglas, Adam Pendleton, Lorna Simpson, and Kara Walker; commissioning institutions of Moran’s work include the Walker Art Center, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Dia Art Foundation, the Whitney Museum of American Art, Harlem Stage, and Jazz at Lincoln Center.

DESIGNER PROFILES

JIM FRENCH, LIGHTING DESIGN

Jim French designs lighting for the performing arts and live events, with work seen in more than twenty five countries around the globe. Highlights of Jim's work in dance include twenty seven world premieres for San Francisco Ballet, nine seasons as resident designer for Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, and long running collaborations with choreographers Val Caniparoli, Amy Seiwert, Pascal Rioult, and with vertical dance company Bandaloop. At home in San Francisco, he has collaborated with Alonzo King Lines Ballet, Smuin Contemporary Ballet, Opera Parallele, Shotgun Players, Kronos Quartet, Joe Goode Performance Group, ODC Dance, Post:Ballet, SF Danceworks, West Edge Opera, and has been the house Lighting Designer at SF Jazz. Favorite credits from further afield include Finnish National Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Joffrey Ballet, Ballet West, Ballett Basel, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Nederlands Dans Theater, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Houston Ballet, Carte Blanche, Opera Ballet Vlaanderen, and LA Dance Project. Jim has designed lighting for the Global Climate Action Summit, and volunteers for Dancers Responding to AIDS and Bike East Bay.

PHILIP PERKINS, SOUND DESIGNER

Philip Perkins has served as Sound Designer and Music Supervisor for Alonzo King LINES Ballet since 2012 and was co-composer of Alonzo King's ballets *Figures of Speech* and *Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled*. Other choreographers and dance companies he has worked with include The Cambrians, Rashaun Mitchell, Charlotte Griffen, Risa Jaroslow, and Mary Oslund. He was a member of The Residents performance ensemble (1978–1984) and also served as their cinematographer and lighting designer. He has released twenty albums of his own sound and music work between 1979 and 2025 on the Fun Music, Artifact, CHoon SubCity, and Captured Tracks labels. Musicians and directors he has worked with include Errol Morris, Oliver Stone, John Korty, Albert Maysles, HP Mendoza, Emiko Omori, Tom Waits, Fred Frith, Charles Lloyd, Jason Moran, Bobby McFerrin, Lisa Fischer, Rova Saxophone Quartet, Pauline Oliveros, Frederika von Stade, Bob Mould, Mike Patton, negativland, Kronos Quartet, Wadada Leo Smith, "Blue" Gene Tyranny, The Hub, Ambrose Akinmusire, Alasdair Fraser, Philippe Jaroussky, Zakir Hussain, SF Mime Troupe and The Oakland Reductionist Orchestra, among many others. He was the sound designer of the Emmy-winning TV series "Great Wonders."



ALONZO KING

Choreographer, Artistic Director & Co-Founder



Alonzo King
© Franck Thibault

Alonzo King is one of the pioneers of contemporary ballet. He calls his works “thought structures” created by the manipulation of energies that exist in matter through laws, which govern the shapes and movement directions of everything that exists. Named as a choreographer with “astonishing originality” by *The New York Times*, Alonzo King has guided LINES Ballet with his unique artistic vision since 1982.

King has works in the repertoires of the world’s leading ballet and modern companies and has collaborated with distinguished visual artists, musicians, and composers across the globe. His work has been recognized for its impact on the cultural fabric of the company’s home in San Francisco, as well as internationally by the dance world’s most prestigious institutions.

Named a Master of Choreography by the Kennedy Center in 2005, King is the recipient of the NEA Choreographer’s Fellowship, the Jacob’s Pillow Creativity Award, the US Artist Award in Dance, the NY Bessie Award, the SF Arts Medallion Award, and the National Dance Project’s Residency and Touring Awards. In 2015, he received the Doris Duke Artist Award in recognition of his ongoing contributions to the advancement of contemporary dance. King was also named one of America’s “Irreplaceable Dance Treasures” by the Dance Heritage Coalition, joining historic icons in the field. In 2020, he was honored with a Dance Magazine Award, and his choreography appears in the 2023 short film *Flower*, produced by and starring Misty Copeland. King was also inducted into the California Hall of Fame in 2022 and received the Minyon Harlin Award from UCSF in 2024 for his service to women and girls with HIV. Additionally, Alonzo King’s celebrated ballet *Deep River* is featured on *NEXT at The Kennedy Center*—a series on PBS that showcases artists who are at the forefront of their disciplines and serve as culture bearers of the 21st Century.

King has received honorary doctorates from The Juilliard School, Dominican University of California, and California Institute of the Arts in recognition of his significant contribution to the field of dance. Renowned for his skill as a teacher, King was also honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Corps de Ballet International Teacher Conference in 2012. An internationally acclaimed guest ballet master, his training philosophy undergirds the educational programming at the Alonzo King LINES Dance Center of San Francisco, which includes the pre-professional Summer Program and the BFA Program at Dominican University of California. Furthermore, King is a former San Francisco commissioner and a writer and lecturer on humanity and art.

COMPANY PROFILES



Robert Rosenwasser
© Quinn B. Wharton

ROBERT ROSENWASSER

Creative Director & Co-Founder

Robert Rosenwasser is a co-founder of Alonzo King LINES Ballet. As Creative Director, he shapes the aesthetic and artistic direction of each project at the company, including conceptual design and production. In addition to his work with Alonzo King LINES Ballet, he has designed for American Ballet Theater, Ballet de Monte Carlo, Béjart Ballet Lausanne, the Royal Swedish Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Dance Theater of Harlem, Ballet Rambert, Joffrey Ballet, and Frankfurt Ballet. Working with Kelsey Street Press, Mr. Rosenwasser has collaborated with artists and poets Richard Tuttle, Kiki Smith, Cecilia Vicuna, Mei-mei Berssenbrugge, and Barbara Guest. This work can be found at the New York Museum of Modern Art in the Department of Books and Illustrated Prints, at the Whitney Museum, and at the Spencer Collection of the New York Public Library. Mr. Rosenwasser served as the Executive Director of LINES from 2019–2025. He grew up in New York and attended Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts, Cooper Union, and California Institute of the Arts.

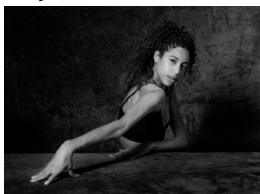
COMPANY DANCER PROFILES

MAËL AMATOUL



Maël Amatoul is native to the French Riviera. He embarked on a journey at the PNSD Rosella Hightower in Cannes, where he trained in ballet and contemporary. Amatoul has worked on pieces by choreographers including Jean Christophe Maillot, Christophe Garcia, Hervé Koubi, and Francesco Curci. In 2022, he was awarded a Scholarship of Excellence in Art and Culture from the Côte d'Azur University. After seven years in Cannes, Amatoul decided to open up his dance experience to new techniques and joined The Ailey School. There, he had the opportunity to learn and perform works by Alvin Ailey and renowned choreographers such as Ray Mercer, Brannndi Lewis, Renee Robinson, and Clifton Brown. After attending the LINES Ballet Summer Program in June 2023, Amatoul joined Alonzo King LINES Ballet as a company dancer.

ADJI CISSOKO



Adjí Cissoko was born and grew up in Munich, Germany, where she trained at the Ballet Academy Munich and graduated with a diploma in dance. Cissoko attended the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at American Ballet Theatre in New York City on full scholarship before joining the National Ballet of Canada in 2010. In 2012, she was awarded the Patron Award of Merit by the Patrons' Council Committee of The National Ballet of Canada. Cissoko joined LINES Ballet in 2014. Since then, she's originated many central roles and guested for galas worldwide. Cissoko has given multiple master classes and taught classes around the world as part of the company's outreach program. In 2020, she became certified in health/life coaching and ABT's National Training Curriculum. Cissoko choreographed her first piece, "AZIZ," for Ballet X in 2021. She is also a 2022 recipient of the Toulmin Fellowship and was the Artist-in-Residence for Vail Dance Festival in 2023.

THEO DUFF-GRANT



Theo Duff-Grant was born in Vancouver, Canada. He studied at Goh Ballet Academy for ten years before completing his training at the Dutch National Ballet Academy. In 2015, he joined the Dutch National Ballet, and in 2017, he moved to Saint Petersburg, Russia, to join the Mikhailovsky Theatre. He joined LINES Ballet in 2022.

LORRIS EICHINGER



Lorris Eichinger started training in Grenoble at the National Conservatory and continued at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Danse de Marseille. After training at The School of American Ballet in New York from 2010 to 2013, Eichinger joined the Professional Division Program of the Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle. He then moved back to France to dance with the Jeune Ballet de Lyon. Eichinger danced with De Dutch Don't Dance in the Netherlands in 2015 and then moved to Israel to join Kamea Dance Company in 2016. He joined LINES Ballet in 2019.

COMPANY DANCER PROFILES

SHUAIB ELHASSAN



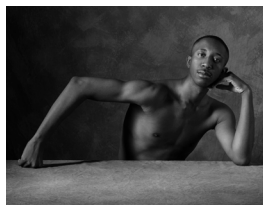
Shuaib Elhassan, from Manhattan's Lower East Side, began his formal dance training at The Ailey School under the co-direction of Tracy Inman and Melanie Person on a full scholarship. Elhassan has also trained at intensives with Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts, Jacob's Pillow, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. Elhassan was a member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet during their 2012–2013 season. Additionally, Elhassan has performed with Life Dance Company, Zest Collective, Dance Iquail, and the Von Howard Project. Elhassan joined LINES Ballet in 2014.

JOSH FRANCIQUE



Josh Francique was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. He began his dance training with Deeply Rooted Dance Theater back in 2015. Francique continued his training in the Northern Illinois University BFA Dance Program and soon after at The Ailey School on a full scholarship. Francique has performed works by Nicole Clark-Springer, Gary Abbott, and Kevin Igea Jeff, to name a few. In 2020, Francique attended the LINES Ballet Training Program for a year. He then joined LINES Ballet in 2022.

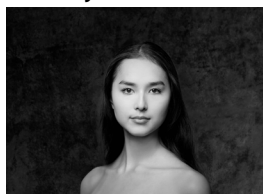
MIKAL GILBERT



Raised in Virginia Beach, VA, Mikal Gilbert developed a love for dance at the age of 19 while studying music performance at the University of the Arts. It was there that his passion grew upon encouragement from several dance faculty members. He then went on to formally train at Norfolk Academy under the tutelage of Elbert Watson, where he studied ballet and modern. In 2017, Gilbert was an inaugural member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet's Pre-Professional Program. In 2018, he continued his studies at The Ailey School as a full scholarship recipient.

Mikal has attended intensives and workshops at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Complexions, and BalletX. Mikal is a "Dancer of Philadelphia" and has been a member of Koresh Dance Company (2019–2022), Dance Iquail (2022), and PHILADANCO! (2022–2024), where he performed works by Bernard Gaddis, Milton Myers, Christopher Rudd, and Tommie Wheed. Mikal joined LINES Ballet in 2024.

ANNA JOY



Anna Joy was born and raised in Rochester, NY, where she began her training at Draper Center for Dance Education. She traveled to Trujillo, Peru, to perform in the Festival Internacional De Ballet Trujillo and attended competitions throughout the U.S. She spent summers at American Ballet Theatre, Houston Ballet, The Royal Ballet School, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet.

Anna Joy was born and raised in Rochester, NY, where she began her training at Draper Center for Dance Education. She traveled to Trujillo, Peru, to perform in the Festival Internacional De Ballet Trujillo and attended competitions throughout the U.S. She spent summers at American Ballet Theatre, Houston Ballet, The Royal Ballet School, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet.

COMPANY DANCER PROFILES

MARUSYA MADUBUKO



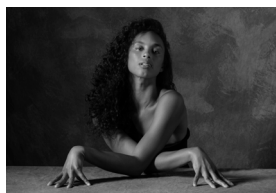
Originally from New York, NY, Marusya Madubuko began her pre-professional training at age 15 with Premiere Division Ballet under the tutelage of Nadege Hottier. In 2019, Madubuko competed at the Royal Grand Prix in Italy, winning second place for her contemporary and classical solo. She trained with the Bolshoi Ballet Academy, the Royal Ballet School, and at San Francisco Ballet School, where she had the opportunity to dance repertoire including Helgi Tomasson's *Nutcracker* and *Cinderella*, as well as George Balanchine's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In 2021, she participated in BalletUnleashed's first creative project "Switchback," working with choreographer Cathy Marston to create a solo. Madubuko joined LINES Ballet in 2021.

TATUM QUIÑÓNEZ



Tatum Quiñónez began her training at Master Ballet Academy in Phoenix, Arizona. She then continued her training at Ballet West Academy and the BWA Trainee Program. She spent her summers at Ballet Arizona, Ballet Austin, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet West, and Oregon Ballet Theatre. Quiñónez then joined Oregon Ballet Theatre's second company, OBT2, in 2019. She has performed works by George Balanchine, August Bournonville, Willam Christensen, Gerald Arpino, Christopher Stowell, James Canfield, and LeeWei Chao. Quiñónez joined LINES Ballet in 2021.

AMANDA SMITH



Amanda Smith grew up in Orange County, CA and trained at California Dance Academy, Pointe of Grace, and Anaheim Ballet. In 2008, she was crowned Miss Dance Drill Team California and USA. She moved to New York to study at SUNY Purchase where she received her BFA in 2012. She also studied abroad and performed at the Dance New York International Dance Festival in Madrid, Spain.

After graduating, Smith joined Charlotte Ballet and worked with Patricia McBride. In 2015, she moved back to New York, where she joined New York Theatre Ballet. Smith also taught and participated in outside projects including The Black Iris Project and Kymera Dance, and she was featured in a national campaign for GAP. She then joined the Dance Theatre of Harlem in 2017 and was featured on the cover of *Dance Magazine's* 2019 April issue. While at DTH, Smith performed many roles in ballets such as *Allegro Brillante* and *Blake Works IV*. She also guested for Debbie Allen's *Hot Chocolate Nutcracker*. Furthermore, Smith has taught classes, performed as a guest artist all over, and worked with many prolific artists such as Arthur Mitchell, Carmen De Lavalade, and William Forsythe.



UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

COMPANY TOUR

Long Beach, CA	November 8, 2025	Carpenter Center for the Arts
Naples, FL	November 16, 2025	Artis Naples
Le Creusot, France	January 14, 2026	L'Arc - Scène Nationale Le Creusot
Reims, France	January 17–18, 2026	Opéra de Reims
Ibos, France	January 21–22, 2026	Le Parvis
Mérignac, France	January 24, 2026	Le Pin Galant
Annemasse, France	January 27, 2026	Château Rouge
Avignon, France	February 1, 2026	Opéra Grand Avignon
Saint-Etienne, France	February 4, 2026	Opéra de Sainte-Etienne
Fréjus, France	February 6, 2026	Le Forum
Cannes, France	February 8, 2026	Théâtre Debussy - Palais des Festivals de Cannes
Créteil, France	February 11–12, 2026	Maison des Arts et de la Culture
Northridge, CA	February 21, 2026	The Soraya
West Palm Beach, FL	March 11, 2026	Kravis Center

COMPANY HOME SEASON

San Francisco, CA	April 11–12 & 16–19, 2026	Blue Shield of California Theater at YBCA
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*Please check linesballet.org/touring-schedule for the most up-to-date touring information as it becomes available.



ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

EDUCATION



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Through our robust education programs, Alonzo King LINES Ballet provides an environment for the unfolding of students' own creative powers. The cornerstone that shapes our training philosophy is that art is within the artist.

BFA at Dominican University of California — Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Dominican University of California join forces in this technically rigorous and artistically expansive four-year program, which culminates in a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. During the program, students acquire the skills and knowledge needed for a professional dance career along with the life-long benefits of an excellent liberal arts education.

Summer Program — Our Summer Program offers a unified approach to dance training rooted in the philosophy of Alonzo King. Intensive courses are designed for aspiring dancers ages 11–25. Our renowned faculty guides students on a collaborative journey that takes the foundation of classical training and builds on the values of artistic risk-taking and independent thinking. Students explore a variety of dance techniques, with ballet as their core discipline.

Announcement: Ilaria Guerra has stepped into a new role as our Summer Program Director! Ilaria danced for eight years with the LINES Ballet Company and first fell in love with LINES in 2008 when she was a student of the LINES Summer Program; she also attended the LINES BFA Program at Dominican University. A more detailed announcement, including 2026 Summer Program audition dates and locations will come soon.

Community Programs — LINES Community Programs provide students with access to the creative process of Alonzo King LINES Ballet. Rooted in our unique HeART with LINES curriculum, our Community Programs benefit a child's physical wellness and imagination through the power of discovery and collaboration. Programming includes school residencies, student matinees, field trips, family experiences, school site performances, and HeART of Market—a free, outdoor performance featuring our residency program students along with dancers in LINES' pre-professional education programs. LINES also offers professional development workshops throughout the year for classroom and studio educators of all levels and experiences.

LINES DANCE CENTER

LINES Dance Center is home to Alonzo King LINES Ballet's professional company and education programs. Monday through Saturday, the Dance Center offers open advanced/professional ballet classes where community members ages sixteen and up can train alongside our company dancers (except during their off-seasons). The Dance Center is also home to a number of independently run classes hosted by esteemed Bay Area teachers.

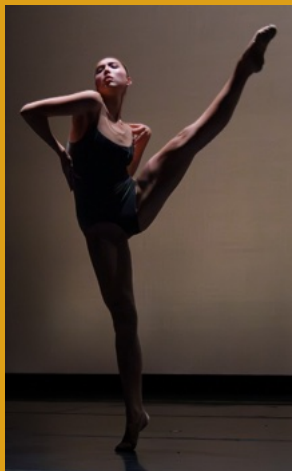


Photography | © Chris Hardy

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

SUMMER PROGRAM

Alonzo King LINES Ballet | Summer Program offers a unified approach to dance training rooted in the philosophy of Alonzo King. Our aim is to provide an environment that facilitates the unfolding of each student's own creative power and self-expression. Dancers are encouraged to problem solve through exploration and a tenacious work ethic, expanding their understanding of what is possible with dance.



JUNIOR

Ages 11–14

ADVANCED

Ages 14–17

PRE-PROFESSIONAL

Ages 18–25

More Information:

linesballet.org/dance-education/summer-program

ALONZO KING LINES BALLET

BFA AT DOMINICAN

The **Alonzo King LINES Ballet | BFA Program at Dominican University of California** is a unique partnership between one of the nation's most renowned dance institutions and Dominican University of California.

PHILOSOPHY & LINEAGE

Our dance training is rooted in Alonzo King's philosophy of rigor, creative investigation, and individual expression. The BFA faculty, many of whom are also former LINES company dancers, continue a rich lineage of boundary-pushing choreography, rigorous technical training, and wide-ranging creative exploration.

**DOMINICAN
UNIVERSITY**
of CALIFORNIA

More Information:

linesballet.org/dance-education/bfa-program
& dominican.edu



EDUCATION PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

PROGRAM & EVENT	DATE	THEATER/VENUE
Community Programs Family Experience	September 21, 2025	Blue Shield of California Theater at YBCA
BFA Program Senior Solo Concert	September 26, 2025	Angelico Hall at Dominican University of California
BFA Program Fall Showcase	November 14–15, 2025	Angelico Hall at Dominican University of California
Summer Program 2026 Auditions	TBA this November	Online, San Francisco, & Studios Near You
BFA Program Senior Showcase	April 2026	Blue Shield of California Theater at YBCA

*Please check our [Education Events List](#) for the most up-to-date information as it becomes available.



LINES DANCE CENTER

CLASSES FOR ADULTS ARE IN SESSION

Everyone can dance!

Join our teachers at LINES Dance Center for jazz, contemporary, social dance, and ballet. For details, visit linesballet.org/lines-dance-center/classes.

BALLET

David Fonnegra
Kathy Mata
Sally Miramon
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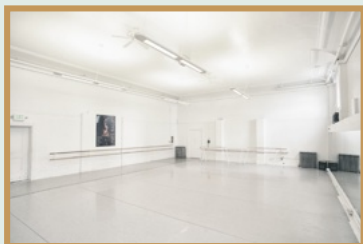
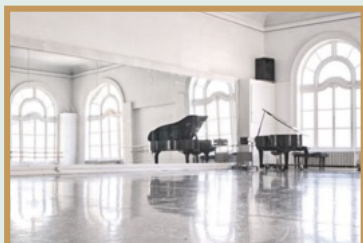
San Francisco Salsa Academy

LINES Dance Center | © Chris Hardy





LINES DANCE CENTER PROVIDES STUDIO SPACE FOR REHEARSALS, SHOWINGS, DANCE, MUSIC, THEATER, PHOTOGRAPHY, AND FILMING



Six spacious, bright, professionally-equipped studios!

Email customerservice@linesballet.org for details.

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“Alonzo King LINES Ballet is personally meaningful to me, as it is to so many of you. Alonzo’s brilliant artistry and LINES dancers’ work is deeply touching. The belief in the potential of every human to evoke and produce art is profound.”

— Lisa S. Pritzker

Founder and chair of the LSPFF, which provides support for the creation of new work

Alonzo King LINES Ballet is grateful to the generous individual and institutional supporters who help us meet our mission of touching hearts and stirring minds through dance. Donors enable LINES Ballet to develop innovative new work, while also supporting life-changing dance education. For more information on joining our list of supporters, please contact development@linesballet.org or make an online donation at linesballet.org/support.

SUPPORT

Alonzo King LINES Ballet is a non-profit 501(c)(3) and runs on the fierce support of those who believe in the transformative power of dance. We are so grateful for the generosity of our donors who have contributed from January 1, 2025 – August 30, 2025.

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The En Pointe Society invites supporters to make a significant impact on LINES Ballet's ability to operate as a first-rate dance company. Funds contributed to the En Pointe Society are restricted for company operations, including dancer salaries, dancer health and wellness, and related costs. Donors who contribute to the En Pointe Society make a measurable, meaningful impact and enthusiastically demonstrate their generous support for our extraordinary dancers and company.

To learn more about joining this group of supporters, please contact development@linesballet.org.

Anonymous
Benno and Blaire Dorer
Micki Klearman

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Margaret Kilgallen, *Main Drag*, 2001.

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ALONZO KING LINES BALLET



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