

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ballet Hispánico School of Dance Announces 2023-24 School Year Programs REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

New York, NY – Ballet Hispánico School of Dance announces that registration is now open for its 2023-24 school year programs, for dancers from early childhood through young adult. Ballet Hispánico's School of Dance is the direct link to the organization's values of access, opportunity, and pride for all students interested in dance and Latinx culture. The School is an accredited training center that leads with a holistic curriculum for today's young dancer, with classes taught by a stunning array of faculty members who are also renowned professional dance artists. Classes are available for all ages and levels of experience!

"We are so excited to get back into the full swing of things as we welcome students and families to register for our 2023/24 school year," said Michelle Manzanales, Director, School of Dance. "It is an honor to introduce young dancers to the joy of dance, and to shepherd pre-professional standouts as they continue to hone their skills. We are immensely proud of the depth and breadth of our bilingual educational practices and of our talented faculty and we can't wait for the school year to begin!"

Los Pasitos: Early Childhood Program (Ages 2-5)

Los Pasitos Early Childhood Program is for ages 2-5 merges creativity, cultures, and technique. Its curriculum focuses on developing coordination, spatial awareness, and musicality, with an emphasis on each child's individual self-expression. Students learn proper dance etiquette, explore the wide spectrum of Latino cultures, and build a solid foundation for dance training in a joyful, creative environment.

Encuentros: Open Class Program (Ages 6-18)

Providing the young dance enthusiast with cultural enrichment alongside excellent dance training, the Encuentros Program offers something for everyone. Developed with the highest level of artistic excellence, our program supports dancers interested in taking anywhere from one to multiple dance classes per week. Offering a wide array of classes including Ballet, Flamenco, Hip-Hop, Latin Rhythms, Afro-Caribbean, Salsa, Jazz, and Tap, our students can create a tailored schedule to fit their needs.

La Academia: Pre-Professional Program (Ages 7-23)

The School's pre-professional division, La Academia, trains eclectic, versatile dancers who stand out in a competitive field of dance for their mastery of the classical ballet tradition, contemporary techniques, Spanish Dance, and performance skills. Designed to develop young artists wanting high level training in a nurturing, friendly, and fun environment, the program is also especially helpful for students interested in attending performing arts schools, conservatory/university programs, and/or those pursuing a career in dance. High school and

college-aged students that reach Level 5 in La Academia have the option of pursuing the full curriculum or one of three specialized tracks—ballet, Spanish dance, or contemporary.

For more information and to register, visit ballethispanico.org/school.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All students eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine are encouraged to be vaccinated. Please contact school@ballethispanico.org with any questions. For more information, please visit <https://www.ballethispanico.org/school/information/covid-policy>.

The **Ballet Hispánico School of Dance** is a leading center of excellence in dance education—serving over 1,000 students and celebrating more than 50 years of dance and culture—and offers accessible, high-quality dance training to students of all levels ages 2 through adult. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, it empowers students by offering a holistic approach to movement discovery, including pre-professional training and classes for the novice dancer.

Ballet Hispánico is the largest Latinx/Latine/Hispanic cultural organization in the United States and one of America's Cultural Treasures. Ballet Hispánico's three main programs, the Company, School of Dance, and Community Arts Partnerships bring communities together to celebrate the multifaceted Hispanic diasporas. Ballet Hispánico's New York City headquarters provide the physical home and cultural heart for Latinx dance in the United States. It is a space that initiates new inclusive cultural conversations and explores the intersectionality of Latine cultures. The Ballet Hispánico mission opens a platform for new social dialogue, and nurtures and sees a community in its fullness. Through its exemplary artistry, distinguished training program, and deep-rooted community engagement, Ballet Hispánico champions and amplifies Latine voices in the field. For over fifty years Ballet Hispánico has provided a place of honor for the omitted, overlooked, and othered. As it looks to the future, Ballet Hispánico is pushing the culture forward on issues of dance and Latine creative expression.

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