



JOIN ADT



Learn about a professional process by engaging in one!
Our company of dancers are paired with professional choreographers to
create a production every year based off of a piece of literature!

www.albertadancetheatre.com



EXPRESS YOURSELF

PATTISON

Proud supporter of Alberta Dance Theatre.

Alberta Dance Theatre Presents

The Enchanted Toy Shop



November 29 - November 30, 2019

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks

Poster image by company member
Mira Schmidt, Age 8



free house[®]
dance
plus

2020, 12TH AVE NW
403-282-0555

All levels • Non-competitive • Performance Division
freehousedance.com REGISTER NOW



create

Kids Fest

Festive Family Fundraiser
Christmas Karaoke . Live Entertainment . Crafts
Silent Auction . Gingerbread . Photo Booth

Saturday December 14th from 12pm to 3 pm
Tickets available at createkids.ca
Adults \$20 . Kids \$15 . At the door \$25

ryan schmidt architecture studio
calgary, alberta rsarchitecture.ca tel: 403.266.7292

brett mote
REAL ESTATE

MAXWELL CAPITAL REALTY
403.803.9186

DANCE YYC
COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

www.danceyyc.ca
info@danceyyc.ca
[@LetsDanceYYC](https://www.instagram.com/LetsDanceYYC)

ENGAGE.

Online platform promoting dance events, shows, workshops & classes

Subscribe to the Week of Dance at a Glance newsletter

Professionals Catalogue lists local performers, choreographers & artist instructors

COLLABORATE.

OPPORTUNITY.

Find & post jobs or auditions with the Dancers Wanted page

Special Thanks

To our Administrator:

Sherrí Rau

To our Board of Directors:

Chair- Rhonda Dupuis

Vice Chair - Sherrie Bosch

Parent Liaison - Brett Mote

Past Treasurer - Graham Salt

Incoming Treasurer - Sarah Gilholme

Secretary - Leticia Sheldon

Directors at Large - Meghan Drennan, Sian Rhydderch, Anne McPherson

To our Parent Committees:

Costume Committee

Priya D'Mello, Leticia Sheldon, Rosalia Nastasi, Rhonda Dupuis

Props Committee

Heidi Stauffer-Hill, Doug Hill, Brett Mote, Julie Laliberté

Cast Events

Harmoni Olsen, Valentina Girgulis, Kristen Powell, David Powell

Backstage & Box Office

J'Val Shuster, Andy Pearce, Meghan Drennan, Anne McPherson

Fundraising

Samantha Huber, Jennifer Alghali, Charlene Dorey, Leanna McKenzie, Marianne Vaessen

To those who lended an extra hand to the Costume Committee:

Pat Cancilla, Shelley Shaw, Bob Sheldon, Storm Sheldon

To all the former Artistic Directors of Alberta Dance Theatre:

including Jennifer Mahood, our most recent Artistic Director who returned the company to it's original mandate.

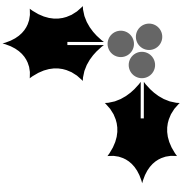
To the community at DJD:

Joanne Baker, Kathi Sundstrom, Cameron Clowe, Meredith Blackburn, Kirstin Anderson, the FOH staff, the technical staff, and all who have given us advice in the past year.

To our donors and supporters:

Southland Transportation, PATTISON Outdoor Advertising, Jennifer Alghali, Leanne Kidd, Heidi Stauffer-Hill, Phyllis Stevens, Katherine Sundstrom

To all all of our company dancers and their families, all those who participated in our fundraising efforts, and to all of you for joining us here today!



Artistic Directors Jessalyn Britton *and* Alicia Ward

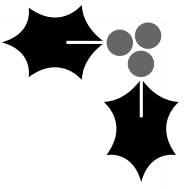
This past spring, we joined Alberta Dance Theatre filled with ambition and excitement for the upcoming season as Co-Artistic Directors and General Managers. Without having worked together before, we jumped in eagerly, trusting in the fantastic reputation the other had. It has turned out to be an excellent working partnership, and we are incredibly thankful for each other. It's been very rewarding and we couldn't be more proud of the work created by the Artistic Team!

Not only is Christmas our favourite time of year but we are both passionate about encouraging creativity in young people and mentoring dancers in Calgary to reach their full potential. This company has pleased the pants off of us this season. We are grateful for both this group of dancers and the board members that welcomed us into the ADT family. We have been able to accomplish so many of the goals and desires we started this year with thanks to our incredible Parent Committees. Both of us are excited to continue the work for Alberta Dance Theatre's 40th season next year! It's an unbelievable landmark and we are blessed to be able to be a part of it.

We have many people to thank for their support and patience as we dove into the world of "The Enchanted Toy Shop:" our families and friends, the Board of Directors who believed in us to run this company, the dancers and their hard working parents, our generous sponsors and diligent government granting organizations, and of course, you, our audience.

We hope you enjoy the characters, movement, amazing composition, and beautiful design. We are very excited to share this show with you and hope it's a great addition to your family's holiday season.

Jessalyn Britton & Alicia Ward
Co-Artistic Directors & General Managers



Board of Directors Chair Rhonda Dupuis

Creative Team

Lauren Acheson - Lighting Designer

Lauren is a scenographer, maquette builder and lighting technician working in theatre, dance and events in and around Calgary. Select design credits include: set/costume design, Love and Information (CYPT) -- set/lighting design, Tape (Ignition Theatre) -- set/lighting design, C**k (ACT) -- production design, Gruesome Playground Injuries (Ignition Theatre) -- set/lighting design, Bright Lights (Theatre BSMT) -- set/costume design, Clarence Darrow (SeaDreamer) -- set/lighting design, Breathe (Ignite! Festival/Sage Theatre) -- lighting design, The Year of Magical Thinking (Ignition Theatre) -- production design, Ivan and the Dogs (Tin Man) -- lighting design, King Kirby (Sage Theatre). Upcoming: Lauren will be the design associate on the remount of Premium Content (Major Matt Mason) for the High Performance Rodeo in January, and as the design mentor for Common Ground V Festival in April. Some of Lauren's work can be viewed online at laurenacheson.com.

Maryn Bjordahl - Choreographer

Maryn Bjordahl is a Calgary based emerging dance artist. She completed her BFA in Dance from the University of Calgary in 2017. Being heavily involved as a performer and choreographer throughout her degree, Maryn has had the opportunity to work with local and international dance artists who have expanded her perception of the art form. Local credits include performances with the Alberta Dance Festival, Peggy Baker Dance Projects, kloetzel&co, W&M Dance Projects, Mount Royal Artio Choir, and Skylines Dance Festival. Maryn is excited to be a part of ADT this year, and can't wait to explore the creative process with those involved.

Jessalyn Britton - Co-Artistic Director & General Manager, Choreographer

Jessalyn Britton has had a lifelong passion for dance. She is involved in many areas of the Calgary dance community including performing, choreographing, teaching, directing and producing. She holds a B.A. in Contemporary Dance with distinction from the University of Calgary. Post graduation, Jessalyn danced with Decidedly JazzDanceworks Professional Training Program for three seasons. She has worked with dance theatre company kloetzel&co and was a company member for Corps Bara Dance Theatre. Jessalyn was Co-Artistic Director and Producer of CrossCurrents Dance Productions which produced three full length dance shows (2013-2016). She is currently Co-Artistic Director of ESIRA Dance and teaches at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks and Counterpoint Dance Academy. Jessalyn is thrilled to be a part of the Alberta Dance Theatre family as Co-Artistic Director for The Enchanted Toy Shop and would like to thank all the dancers, families, choreographers, production team, Board of Directors, and especially her Co-Artistic Director Alicia for a wonderful first season.

Good evening everyone and thank you all so much for coming. In hopes that we add some delight to the oncoming holiday season busyness, this year we decided to produce a holiday themed show. Our Enchanted Toy Shop is full of moments to inspire thoughts of mystery, whimsy and excitement about the season.

The mandate of Alberta Dance Theatre is to provide children between the ages of 7 and 17 an opportunity to create movement collaboratively under the guidance of local dance professionals. The board's focus this year has been to get the word out about the excellent work that our team does in creating a safe, fun, generous and stimulating space for our dancers to explore. Next year, we celebrate our 40th season! An almost unbelievable feat given the challenges that arts organizations continue to face across our city. If you have a young dancer in your home or circle of friends, we urge you to consider encouraging them to join us on stage next year.

On behalf of the Board, I would especially like to recognize and thank our Co-Artistic Directors / General Managers Alicia Ward and Jessalyn Britton. In their first year, these talented artists have embraced ADT and our tight community as their own by learning all aspects of the business while consistently showing the heart and dedication to the company that we all hoped for. We are so impressed by their organization and clarity in their roles which has streamlined much of the work. Thank you both very much.

Our dancers have worked with a group of enthusiastic and talented choreographers this year: Maryn, Jessalyn, Chantel, Lisbeth, Kara, Janelle, Alicia and Sasha all brought their creative spirits to ADT, firing the imaginations of our dancers. Deep gratitude is due to the parents of our dancers. Tireless support and sweat equity building props, costumes, planning events, backstage, tickets, fundraising and continual plugging on social media is critical to the success of the production.

Alberta Dance Theatre is a non-profit organization. To ensure its continued success, each year our fundraising committee identifies unique ways to support and fund ADT. For additional information on giving, please contact us at: alberta.dance@gmail.com or visit our website at: www.albertadancetheatre.com. Truly the most important thing you can do to support ADT, and the arts in general, is to continue what you've done for us today: buy tickets and tell your friends and loved ones.

Best of the season to all!

Rhonda Dupuis
Chair, Board of Directors

Kara Bullock – Choreographer

Kara Bullock aims to work in partnership with community to create meaningful, shared experiences of movement-based performance. She has worked with students of all ages and abilities, choreographed her own solo work and toured nationally as a performer. Kara is excited to create a collaborative work with the dancers of ADT because she believes in the power of fostering creativity with youth. The impact of encouraging young dancers to express their choreographic truth is felt by their friends, families and audiences. This feeds Kara's desire to create in community and build resonant work from research to performance.

Jeff Eisen – Production Design

Jeff Eisen has been a commercial artist, designer, and creative director for over three decades. After finishing three years at the Ontario College of Art Jeff continued to explore a variety of different ways to express himself, adding computers to his repertoire in the mid 1990s. With a wealth of industry and practical knowledge, he has found teaching to be the perfect place to share his experience and apply his skills to educate the next generation of creative students. Over the last decade, Production Design credits include: 8 CAA Winter Celebrations at the Jubilee Auditorium (9th this year), CAA Vertigo Theatre production credits (Writer, Co-Director, Production Design): Study Hall Fever, Funhouse, The Waystation (with Dylan Thomas), The End is Nigh, ADT (Production Co-Design) League of Monsters.

Chantal Gandar – Choreographer

Chantal Gandar holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Contemporary Dance, from The University of Calgary, and a Masters of Fine Arts in Dance Choreography from The University of Arizona. She grew up dancing at Crossings Dance and went on to be an instructor there for many years, as well as a guest choreographer for Crossings Youth Dance Company. She worked as Artistic Director for Corps Bara Dance Theatre from 2010-2014 and now sits on the board for the company. She is in her second season as a Sessional Dance Instructor and Production Director for Ambrose University, and is the Dance Coordinator for Ambrose Arts. After appreciating ADT as an important part of the Calgary arts community for many years, Chantal is excited to work with the energetic and creative dancers of Alberta Dance Theatre in bringing the Enchanted Toy Shop to life!

Dean Lauderdale – Composer

Dean Lauderdale is a Calgary-based musician, who specializes in teaching and performing. Dean teaches private voice/guitar/piano lessons of all skill levels at his home studio as well as at Long & McQuade. He is highly involved in the Calgary music scene, performing with his a cappella group, ONCUE, and as a one-man-band at venues all around Calgary. Dean holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at Humber College as well as a Music Diploma in Classical Vocal Performance from Mount Royal University. Apart from teaching and performing, Dean is a songwriter, composer, and arranger and is excited to debut his work in The Enchanted Toy Shop with Alberta Dance Theatre.

Lisbeth Maidment – Choreographer

Lisbeth Maidment is a Calgary based dancer, actor, performer, choreographer and educator. She's passionate about sharing the joy of movement and encouraging imagination and exploration in people of all ages, but particularly in children. Lisbeth returned to Calgary after training, studying and dancing professionally in Toronto, with a passion to grow and foster the performing arts in Calgary. She loves performing in many various styles of dance and adores creating fusion pieces. She's very excited to be choreographing for ADT this season, as it brings her professional dance journey full circle. Years ago Lisbeth danced with ADT as a young, inexperienced but very keen performer and is very excited to be working with the next generation of keen performers. She highly respects the vision and philosophy behind ADT's work and is thrilled to be a part of the creative team!

Janelle Schiffner – Choreographer

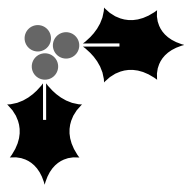
Janelle has been dancing for over 25 years, training at various schools around Calgary. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Contemporary Dance with a Concentration in Choreography and Performance, from the University of Calgary. Janelle has participated in dance travel studies around the world, including New York City, Cuba, and Amsterdam. Janelle studied jazz at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks with their Professional Training Program. She continues to share her love of dance and knowledge by teaching dance and piano in the community. Janelle is an alumni "Children in Dance" and "Alberta Dance Theatre" dancer and is extremely excited to be back collaborating as a choreographer. Alberta Dance Theatre has played an integral role in shaping her as a creative artist.

Alicia Ward – Co-Artistic Director & General Manager, Choreographer

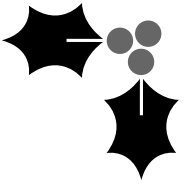
Alicia Ward is an enthusiastic human being who loves performing, teaching and promoting a passion for performance art. Throughout the year Alicia finds herself instructing drama and dance to all ages at various studios throughout the city. She also loves large amounts of organizational tasks! Alicia works administratively for a number of education and arts focused companies including co-founding Triple Bill Weekends and the Young Adventurer Society, and working with the International tap dance festival Rhythm, Body, and Soul. Alicia is passionate about growing the artist community in Calgary and fostering opportunities for dancers, no matter how young, to develop a love for movement.

Sasha Wilde – Choreographer

Sasha Wilde is a Calgary based dance artist passionate about performance, choreography and dance education. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Dance from The School of Contemporary Dancers in affiliation with The University of Winnipeg (2017). Since graduation Sasha has danced professionally in Alberta and Manitoba. Most recently she performed a self-choreographed solo at Edmonton's Nextfest Emerging Artist Festival and Calgary's Ignite! Festival of Emerging Artists. Sasha is passionate about facilitating the creative expression of young performers, she works throughout Calgary as a dance teacher and choreographer for various youth dance/performance groups. Sasha is Alberta Dance Theatre Alumni and is thrilled to return as a choreographer for the Enchanted Toy Shop. She looks back fondly upon her time dancing with ADT and is excited to have come full circle to choreograph for the 2019 ADT dancers!



The Enchanted Toy Shop



Welcome To The Toy Shop
Jessalyn Britton & Alicia Ward
Company

Clean Up
Kara Bullock
Group A

Clock Strikes 12
Chantal Gandar
Group C

Slinkies
Jessalyn Britton
Group B

Jack In The Box
Kara Bullock
Group C

Toy Soldiers
Lisbeth Maidment
Group A & B

Ballerina Dolls
Sasha Wilde
Group A

Lions, Tigers, Bears
Janelle Schiffner
Group B & C

Raggedy Ann & Andy
Maryn Bjorndahl
Group B

Break In
Jessalyn Britton & Alicia Ward
Company

Morning at the Toy Shop
Jessalyn Britton & Alicia Ward
Company

Credits

Artistic Direction
Jessalyn Britton & Alicia Ward

Choreography
Maryn Bjorndahl, Jessalyn Britton, Chantal Gandar, Lisbeth Maidment,
Kara Nolte, Janelle Schiffner, Alicia Ward, Sasha Wilde

Composer
Dean Lauderdale

Lighting Designer
Lauren Acheson

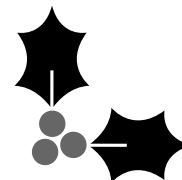
Animations
Jeff Eisen

Stage Manager
Alicia Ward

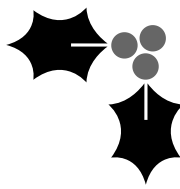
Photography
Ashley Hansen

Videography
Kelly Eshpeter

Poster Design
Mira Schmidt



The Alberta Dance Theatre Company



Jasmine Staines - Group C

Jasmine Staines is 14 years old, and has been dancing with Alberta Dance Theatre for 3 years now. She dances in the Youth Training Program at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. Jasmine goes to Calgary Arts Academy and does a bunch of shows with her school. The shows she has done with her school include performing a play at Vertigo Theatre, performing a Christmas show at the Jubilee Auditorium, and music concerts at school at the end of the year. Jasmine loves to dance because it's a way to express her emotions without saying words. Jasmine's friends might say she is funny, caring, friendly, and loves to meet new people.

Claire Stevens - Group A

Thanks for being part of our company this year Claire!

Anna Vaessen- Group C

Thank you for your work this season Anna!



Etana Alghali - Group A

Etana is 9 years old and is in fourth grade. She has been in Alberta Dance Theatre for two years. Her favourite type of candy is chocolate. Etana takes dance class at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. She knows how to speak 3 languages and is really weird. Etana's least favourite subject is math and her favourites subjects are science, social studies, language arts, gym, etc. She is kind, nice, funny, cool, an ADT/DJD dancer, great friend, and sister. Her appearance is brown eyes, brown hair, brown skin, curly hair, always wears pants, shirt, and sneakers. Her hair is always in a ponytail, and that is about it. She has been dancing since she was 3 or 4.

Maite Barajas - Kranky, Group C

Maite Barajas is 16 years old and is the oldest dancer currently in ADT. She started 7 years ago in the show "The Nightmare Before Christmas." She started taking dance classes at the age of 2 at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks. She then continued her training at Freehouse Dance Plus until returning to Decidedly Jazz this year. She currently attends Bishop Carroll High School. Her passion for dance has stemmed and grown both from her family and the wonderful choreographers and fellow dancers she has had the opportunity to work with. For Maite, dance is an amazing creative outlet and she likes to consider it like another language which anyone and everyone can understand. She is fluent in Spanish but would really love to study Latin or Greek. Maite is excited to see how the whole company comes together and becomes a tight-knit family performing together.

Nayeli Barajas - Naughty Kid, Group B

Nayeli is 12 years old, she is a dancer and loves to draw. She has danced with Alberta Dance Theatre for four years. Nayeli also dances with DJD and Freehouse Dance Plus. Nayeli loves to dance because it's a way to express her funny, weird personality. This year's ADT production is exciting for her because of all the new people and the quirky dances she's in.

Aria Cancilla - Naughty Kid, Group B

Aria is 11 years old. This is her first production with Alberta Dance Theatre. She trains and dances with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks and has for the past 9 years. She takes dance classes in Jazz, West African, Afro Cuban, Ballet and Modern. She likes to Act, Sing, Write, Read and of course ... Dance! She likes to dance because it is a fun way to express her emotions and an opportunity to be a part of a big community and make new friends. She is excited about this show because she loves to perform and all of her dances are super fun to do and a challenge physically and mentally.

Brooklyn Dorey - Group A

Brooklyn Dorey is 11, she has been in the Nutcracker. She has trained at Alberta Ballet, but now she dances at Kor Danceworks. Brooklyn loves to swim, draw, do hair, and lots more. She loves to dance because she started when she was 3, and feels in love after and also loves it because it gives a way to express emotions. Brooklyn is sooooo excited to The Enchanted Toy Shop, because she is proud to present her to everyone. Thank you so much for reading this!!!

Aidan Dupuis - Group C

Aidan Dupuis is a 15 year old dancer from Calgary, Alberta. He has been training in the arts for eight years and has practised in Hip-Hop, Jazz, Acro, Ballet, Modern, Contemporary, West African, Musical Theatre and Tap along with several years of continuing acting training with Zak Barnett Studios LA – Calgary. Aidan is currently honing his creative and artistic dance skills at DJD in the Youth Training Program and says that his passion to continue on this path stems from the opportunity to express himself and show his true emotions through dancing and acting.

Theodora Girgulis - Mrs. Goody, Group B

Theodora Girgulis is 14 years old and has been dancing since she was 2 years old. This is her first year at ADT but she has been dancing at Counterpoint for 12 years. Theodora loves to dance because you can express yourself in so many different ways. In her free time Theodora likes to draw and write stories. Theodora is most excited for the “slinky” dance and the Raggedy Ann and Andy dance because they are quirky, and the choreography and music is awesome.

Charlotte Green - Group A

Charlotte is 12 years old. This is her second year at Alberta Dance Theatre. She also dances at Counterpoint. She also does Pathfinders, Snowboards and Skis. She does Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Musical Theatre, Lyrical. She likes to act.

Kobe Hill - Group C

Kobe is a silly band kid who has a passion for dance. It is his sixth year at Alberta Dance Theatre and his ninth year of dance. He is 14 years old and loves to cook. His hobby's are drawing and finger knitting.

Samuel Laliberte Mote - Group B

Samuel Laliberte Mote is a weird, bubbly theatre kid. Sam is known for his iconic moments and crazy vibe. It's Sam's fifth year in ADT. Sam is also known for his friendly, open, inclusive and wacky personality. He also loves politics, eco-friendly products and human rights.

Baye McPherson - Group B

Baye McPherson is 11 years old. This is her fourth year in Alberta Dance Theatre. She loves playing the drums, playing the piano, singing, acting, and (of course) dancing. Baye loves dancing because it makes her feel like she can express herself without being judged. Baye has trained at DJD/4TP. She does Modern, Ballet, West African, and Afro Cuban. Baye is excited for everything in The Enchanted Toy Shop. It is all so fun and she loves it so much!

Saylor McPherson - Group C

Saylor McPherson is 15 years old and she has danced with ADT for 5 years. Her passion for dance has led her to train at DJD. She currently focuses her energy on Ballet and Modern dance but she also enjoys film acting. Saylor is looking forward to watching The Enchanted Toy Shop come together as a company performance!

Opal Pearce - Group C

Opal Pearce is 14 years old. Opal has danced at Freehouse Dance Plus for 10 years. She has danced with ADT for 2 years. She really likes skateboarding, winter, being active and *knocks on wall* (Sorry Dad) an open personality. She is super energetic and loves hanging out with her friends. Opal goes to Calgary Arts Academy so she does a lot of shows with her school. The shows she has done are performances at the Jubilee Auditorium and Vertigo Theatre.

Eden Powell - Group A

Eden Powell is 7 years old and this is her first year dancing with Alberta Dance Theatre! She dances at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks and likes to dance so her muscles can work more. She also likes to colour and draw. She likes Alberta Dance Theatre because of the friendships and performing. Eden's older sister is Ellen Powell.

Ellen Powell - Group A

Ellen is 9 years old. She has trained at DJD. She likes to dance because she gets to move. She is excited for The Enchanted Toy Shop because she saw the dance last year and she wanted to do it. People say she is fun, funny, cool, and silly. She has a sister named Eden.

Mira Schmidt - Group A

Mira is 8 years old and this is her first year with Alberta Dance Theatre. She has been dancing since she was three. Mira likes to dance because it is really fun. She also likes to horseback ride! She is looking forward to performing in the show!

Allly Sheldon - Group C

Allly Sheldon is 15 years old. Allly has been dancing for 5 years at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, and previously 4 years at MWDA. She currently attends St. Mary's High School. Her friends would describe her as funny and smart. Outside of school and dance (which isn't a lot of time) she enjoys hanging out with her friends and sleeping. She enjoys dancing because it allows her to express herself freely. This show will be Allly's fourth year at Alberta Dance Theatre.

Esmé Shuster - Naughty Kid, Group C

Esmé Shuster is 14 years old and has been a part of Alberta Dance Theatre for 5 years. She is a dancer in the Youth Training Program at Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, and loves West African. In Esmé's spare time she is either with her cat Goose, watching TV, or at school with her friends. Esmé is also very interested in painting, she attends an art class every week and always has new projects. Dance is Esmé's passion, she loves to express herself through movement and not through words. Esmé is most excited for the final result of The Enchanted Toy Shop, and is very interested to see all the costumes.