

Tuesday and Thursday, April 8–10, 2025, 7:30pm  
Friday, April 11, 2025, 8pm  
Saturday, April 12, 2025, 2pm and 8pm  
Sunday, April 13, 2025, 3pm  
Zellerbach Hall

## Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater

Alvin Ailey, *Founder*  
Judith Jamison, *Artistic Director Emerita*  
Matthew Rushing, *Interim Artistic Director*

### COMPANY MEMBERS

Leonardo Brito	Ashley Kaylynn Green	Jessica Amber Pinkett
Patrick Coker	Jacquelin Harris	Miranda Quinn
Shawn Cusseaux	Michael Jackson, Jr.	Hannah Alissa Richardson
Sarah Daley-Perdomo	Yannick Lebrun	Deidre Rogan
Caroline T. Dartey	Xavier Mack	Constance Stamatou
Isaiah Day	Renaldo Maurice	Christopher Taylor
Coral Dolphin	Corrin Rachelle Mitchell	Fana Minea Tesfagiorgis
Solomon Dumas	Chalvar Monteiro	DeAnthony Vaughan
Samantha Figgins	Jesse Obremski	Dandara Veiga
James Gilmer	Kali Marie Oliver	Isabel Wallace-Green
Vernard J. Gilmore	Alisha Rena Peek	Christopher R. Wilson

Ronni Favors, *Rehearsal Director*  
Clifton Brown, *Assistant Rehearsal Director*  
Kanji Segawa, *Assistant Rehearsal Director*

### Bennett Rink, *Executive Director*

*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's 2024–25 season celebrates the life and legacy of Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison (1943–2024).*

*Bank of America is the 2025 North American Tour Sponsor.*

*Major funding of AILEY is provided by AARP, Anonymous, American Express, Bank of America, Bloomberg Philanthropies, BNY Mellon, Diageo North America, Ford Foundation, Fund II Foundation, The Hearst Foundations, Howard Gilman Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Mellon Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, The Prudential Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, Southern Company, The Thompson Family Foundation, and Verizon Communications.*

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one that honors our venues as places of respite, openness, and respect.  
Please see the Community Agreements section on our Policies page for more information.*



**Above:** The company in Jamar Roberts' *Al-Andalus Blues*. Photo by Paul Kolnik. **Below:** The company in Ronald K. Brown's *Grace*. Photo by Danica Paulos.



**PROGRAM A**

Tuesday, April 8 at 7:30pm

Friday, April 11 at 8pm

*(For casting information, please see the audience handout available at the performance.)*

***Grace***

(1999, New Production 2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Ronald K. Brown

*Intermission*

***Al-Andalus Blues***

(2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Jamar Roberts

*Intermission*

***Revelations***

(1960)

Choreography by Alvin Ailey



**Above:** The company in Lar Lubovitch's *Many Angels*. **Below:** The company in Matthew Rushing's *Sacred Songs*.  
Photos by Paul Kolnik.



**PROGRAM B**

Wednesday, April 9 at 7:30pm

*(For casting information, please see the audience handout available at the performance.)*

***Sacred Songs***

(2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Matthew Rushing

*Intermission*

***Many Angels***

(2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Lar Lubovitch

*Pause*

***Grace***

(1999, New Production 2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Ronald K. Brown





**Above:** Yannick Lebrun in Elisa Monte's *Treading*. **Below:** The company in Hope Boykin's *Finding Free*.  
Photos by Paul Kolnik.



**PROGRAM C**

Thursday, April 10 at 7:30pm

Saturday, April 12 at 8pm

Sunday, April 13 at 3pm

*(For casting information, please see the audience handout available at the performance.)*

***Finding Free***

(2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Hope Boykin

*Intermission*

***Treading***

(1979, New Production 2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Elisa Monte

*Pause*

***Solo***

(1997, New Production 2023)

Choreography by Hans van Manen

*Intermission*

***Revelations***

(1960)

Choreography by Alvin Ailey



**Above:** Renaldo Maurice, Constance Stamatiou, and Jacquelin Harris in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. Photo by Danica Paulos.  
**Below:** Jacquelin Harris, Yannick Lebrun, Isaiah Day, and Jesse Obremski in Lar Lubovitch's *Many Angels*. Photo by Paul Kolnik.





**PROGRAM D**

Saturday, April 12 at 2pm

*(For casting information, please see the audience handout available at the performance.)*

***Sacred Songs***

(2024, Bay Area Premiere)

Choreography by Matthew Rushing

*Intermission*

***Many Angels***

(2024, Bay Area Premiere)

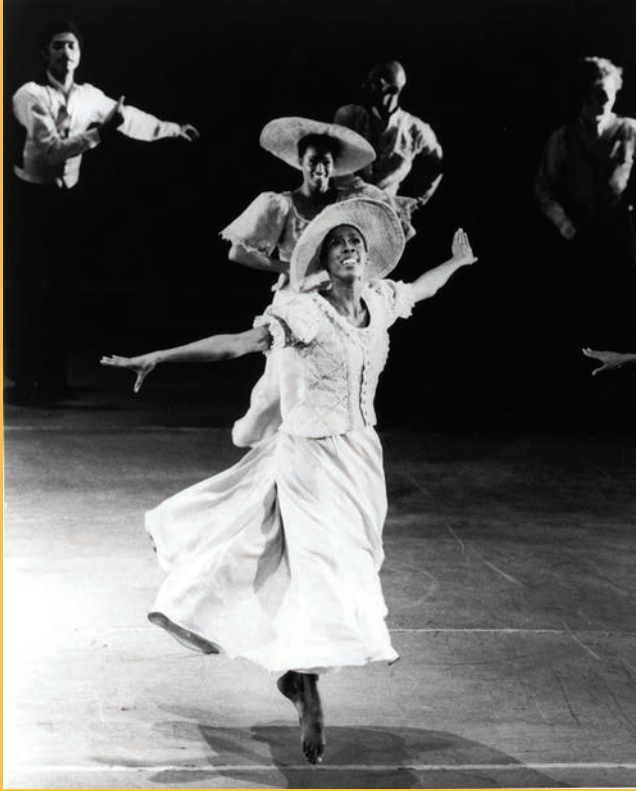
Choreography by Lar Lubovitch

*Pause*

***Revelations***

(1960)

Choreography by Alvin Ailey



IN MEMORIAM

# Judith Jamison

(1943–2024)

The current season of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater celebrates the life and legacy of Artistic Director Emerita Judith Jamison, who passed away on November 9, 2024.

Cal Performances dedicates the company's April 2025 UC Berkeley residency (fondly referred to as "Ailey Week") and 2025 AileyCamp to her legacy as well.

Founded by Alvin Ailey on March 30, 1958, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is one of the most acclaimed dance companies in the world. With a repertory that boasts close to 300 works by more than 100 choreographers, it has performed in more than 70 countries on six continents and has been designated a “vital American Cultural Ambassador to the world” by a US Congressional resolution. Forged during a pivotal moment in the Civil Rights Movement, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater was established to uplift the African American experience while transcending boundaries of race, faith, and nationality with its universal humanity. Ailey invited dancers of all backgrounds to be a part of his vision while reimagining his company as a “library of dance,” a home for a wide range of choreographers’ works that might otherwise be lost. Before his untimely death in 1989, Ailey named Judith Jamison as his successor, and for 21 years she brought the company to unprecedented success. In 2011, she selected Robert Battle as her successor; he stewarded the company until 2023. Today, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater continues to bring joy to audiences around the globe, while expanding its repertory with works by new choreographers and upholding Ailey’s legacy for future generations.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater gratefully acknowledges **The Joan & Sandy Weill Global Ambassador Fund**, which provides vital support for Ailey’s national and international tours.



#### **Alvin Ailey** (*founder*)

Alvin Ailey was born on January 5, 1931, in Rogers, Texas. His experiences of life in the rural South would later inspire some of his most memorable works. Ailey was introduced to dance in Los Angeles by performances of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and the Katherine Dunham Dance Company, and his formal dance training began with an introduction to Lester Horton’s classes by his friend Carmen de Lavallade. Horton, the founder of one of the first racially integrated dance companies in the United States, became a mentor for Ailey as he embarked on his professional career. After Horton’s death in 1953, Ailey became the director of the Lester Horton Dance Theater and began to choreograph his own works. In the 1950s and ’60s, Ailey performed in four Broadway shows. In 1958, he founded Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater to carry out his vision of a company dedicated to uplifting the African American experience while enriching and preserving the legacy of modern dance. The creation of his masterpiece *Revelations* in 1960 cemented his reputation as a choreographer of unique vision, with the ability to transcend racial barriers and connect deeply to people’s humanity. Ailey established the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center (now The Ailey School) in 1969 and formed the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble (now Ailey II) in 1974. He was also a pioneer of programs promoting arts in education. Throughout his lifetime he was awarded numerous distinctions, including the Kennedy Center Honor in 1988 in recognition of his extraordinary contribution to American culture. In 2014, he posthumously received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the country’s highest civilian honor, in recognition of his contributions and commitment to civil rights and dance in America.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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Following Ailey's death on December 1, 1989, *The New York Times* said of him, "you didn't need to have known [him] personally to have been touched by his humanity, enthusiasm, and exuberance and his courageous stand for multi-racial brotherhood."



**Matthew Rushing** (*interim artistic director*) was born in Los Angeles. He began his dance training with Kashmir Blake in Inglewood, California, and continued his training at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. He is the recipient of a Spotlight Award and a *Dance Magazine* Award and was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Rushing was a scholarship student at The Ailey School and later became a member of Ailey II. During his career, Rushing has performed as a guest artist for galas in Vail, Colorado, as well as in Austria, Canada, France, Italy, and Russia. He has performed for Presidents George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama, as well as at the 2010 White House Dance Series. During his time with the company, he has choreographed five ballets: *Acceptance In Surrender* (2005), a collaboration with Hope Boykin and Abdur-Rahim Jackson; *Uptown* (2009), a tribute to the Harlem Renaissance; *ODETTA* (2014), a celebration of "the queen of American folk music"; *Testament* (2020), a tribute to Alvin Ailey's *Revelations* created in collaboration with Clifton Brown and Yusha-Marie Sorzano; and this season's *Sacred Songs*. In 2012, he created *Moan*, which was set on PHILADANCO! and premiered at the Joyce Theater. Rushing joined the company in 1992. He became Rehearsal Director in 2010, Associate Artistic Director in 2020, and Interim Artistic Director in 2023.



**Judith Jamison** (*artistic director emerita*) joined Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1965 and quickly became an international star. Over the following 15 years, Ailey created some of

his most enduring roles for her, most notably the *tour-de-force* solo *Cry*. During the 1970s and '80s, she appeared as a guest artist with ballet companies all over the world, starred in the hit Broadway musical *Sophisticated Ladies*, and formed her own company, The Jamison Project. She returned to Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1989 when Ailey asked her to succeed him as artistic director. In the 21 years that followed, she brought the company to unprecedented heights—including two historic engagements in South Africa and a 50-city global tour to celebrate the company's 50th anniversary. Jamison was the recipient of numerous awards and honors, among them a Primetime Emmy Award, an American Choreography Award, the Kennedy Center Honor, a National Medal of Arts, a New York Dance and Performance ("Bessie") Award, the Phoenix Award, and the Handel Medallion. She was also listed in "The TIME 100: The World's Most Influential People" and honored by First Lady Michelle Obama at the first White House Dance Series event. In 2015, she became the 50th inductee into the Hall of Fame at the National Museum of Dance. In 2016, she received the Douglas Watt Lifetime Achievement Award from the Fred and Adele Astaire Awards. As a highly regarded choreographer, Jamison created many celebrated works, including *Divining* (1984), *Forgotten Time* (1989), *Hymn* (1993), *HERE... NOW.* (commissioned for the 2002 Cultural Olympiad), *Love Stories* (with additional choreography by Robert Battle and Rennie Harris, 2004), and *Among Us* (Pri-

*vate Spaces: Public Places*) (2009). Jamison's autobiography, *Dancing Spirit*, was edited by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and published in 1993. In 2004, under Jamison's artistic directorship, her idea of a permanent home for AILEY was realized and named after beloved chairman *emerita* Joan Weill. Following her retirement from leading the company in 2011, Jamison continued to dedicate herself to asserting the prominence of the arts in our culture, and she remained committed to promoting the significance of the Ailey legacy—using dance as a medium for honoring the past, celebrating the present, and fearlessly reaching into the future. Her death on November 9, 2024 prompted an outpouring of love and admiration around the world from those who were touched by her magnificent artistry and extraordinary spirit.



**Ronni Favors** (*rehearsal director*) began dancing as a child in Iowa City, Iowa. After studying at the National Music Camp in Interlochen, Michigan, as recipient of the Camp Scholarship, she continued her training at The Ailey School as a Fellowship student. Favors was a member of Ailey II, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, and the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, and has received the Min-On Art Award. She was the ballet instructor at the 1989 inaugural session of AileyCamp in Kansas City and served as Artistic Director of the camp. Favors is the Founding Director of Children's Aid AileyCamp New York and provided guidance in the national implementation of the AileyCamp program. She was named Assistant Rehearsal Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1997 and was its Rehearsal Director from 1999 to 2010.

Favors worked with local dance students who performed in Alvin Ailey's *Memoria* in Johannesburg, South Africa, as well as in Seattle, Copenhagen, Los Angeles, Chicago, Kansas City, New York, and most recently, Edinburgh, Scotland. She set Alvin Ailey's *Night Creature* on TU Dance and Oregon Ballet Theatre. Favors rejoined the company as Rehearsal Director in 2019.



**Clifton Brown** (*assistant rehearsal director*) is from Goodyear, Arizona, began his dance training at Take 5 Dance Academy, and continued in the first class of the Ailey/Fordham BFA in Dance program. Brown began his professional career when he joined the Ailey company in 1999 and served as choreographic assistant to Judith Jamison. He has also danced with Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance and the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, and was a founding member and rehearsal director for Jessica Lang Dance. Brown was nominated in the UK for a Critics Circle National Dance Award for Best Male Dancer and received a Black Theater Arts Award as well as a "Bessie" Award. As a guest artist, he has performed with Miami City Ballet, Rome Opera Ballet, Nevada Ballet, and Parsons Dance. Brown has set the work of Alvin Ailey, Earl Mosley, and Jessica Lang on various companies around the world. Television appearances as a guest artist include *So You Think You Can Dance* and *Dancing With The Stars*, and he has had the privilege of performing at the White House for President Obama. Brown became Assistant Rehearsal Director in 2019.







**Kanji Segawa** (*assistant rehearsal director*), from Kanagawa, Japan, began his dance training with his mother, Erika Akoh, studying ballet with Kan Horiuchi and Ju Horiuchi in Tokyo. Segawa was awarded the Japanese Government Artist Fellowship in 1997 to train at The Ailey School. A former member of Ailey II and Battleworks, Segawa danced extensively for Mark Morris and performed as a principal dancer in John Adams' *Nixon in China* at the Metropolitan Opera. Since 1999, he has been Creative Associate for Jessica Lang, assisting her creations for companies worldwide including American Ballet Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, the Royal Ballet, and the National Ballet of Japan. With Lang, Segawa co-choreographed the world premiere production of *Turandot* for the Washington National Opera, directed by Francesca Zambello. He was a dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater under the direction of Robert Battle from 2011–23 and became Assistant Rehearsal Director in 2024.



**Bennett Rink** (*executive director*) became Executive Director of AILEY in 2013. He first joined Ailey as Manager of Special Events in 1994, became Development Director in 1998, and then worked as Senior Director of Development and External Affairs from 2007 to 2012. During his tenure overseeing AILEY's development and fundraising efforts, Rink led a major capital campaign to establish the organization's first permanent home, The Joan Weill Center for Dance, which opened in 2005 and attracts

more than 200,000 visitors each year. Rink also oversaw the campaign to build the Ailey's endowment, which provides vital ongoing support for programmatic initiatives. When the company celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2008, Rink supervised an 18-month celebration including events, promotions, collaborations, and special performances, bringing public awareness of the AILEY organization to new heights. During his time as Executive Director, the company has deepened its presence in New York City by establishing an annual spring season to complement its New York City Center winter season, while also extending its role as America's "Cultural Ambassador to the world" with tours to Africa, Europe, and South America. To reach audiences beyond live performances, Rink has broadened the organization's commitment to creating film and digital content. He has also extended the reach and impact of AILEY's educational offerings, including the creation of new curricula and programs that reach across generations, from elementary school children to older adults. In 2017, the organization unveiled the Elaine Wynn and Family Education Wing, providing much-needed additional studios and classroom space. The building now comprises 87,000 square feet and is the largest destination for dance in New York City. In recent years, Rink has overseen a branding initiative to express the totality of AILEY's offerings, creating greater connectivity among Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, The Ailey School, Ailey Arts in Education & Community Programs, and Ailey Extension. Most recently, he led the organization's collaboration with the Whitney Museum on *Edges of Ailey*, the first large-scale museum exhibition celebrating the life, dances, influences, and enduring legacy of Alvin Ailey. Rink is a graduate of Syracuse University and holds a BFA in theater.

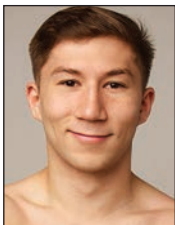


WHO'S WHO IN THE COMPANY



**Leonardo Brito** (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) began his training with Projeto Primeiro Passo and later studied at the Escola Estadual de Dança Maria Olenewa, Centro de Arte

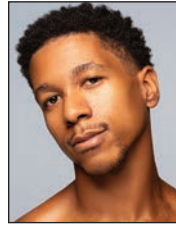
Nós da Dança, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, and The Ailey School. He danced with Ailey II and then with Ballet Hispánico for five seasons. Brito has performed with the Mariinsky Ballet, Teatro Municipal do Rio de Janeiro, and Focus Cia de Dança. In 2015, he received the III Brazilian Modern Dance Congress Award. He has performed works by Robert Battle, Cassi Abranches, Jae Man Joo, Gustavo Ramírez Sansano, Marcelo Misailidis, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Eduardo Vilaro, and Anabelle Lopez Ochoa. Brito is also proficient in Capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art. He has appeared in the FX series *Pose*, Willy Chavarria's film *Safe From Harm*, *Out Magazine*, *Hong Kong Dance Magazine*, on the covers of *Made in Brazil* and *SSAW*, and in many other campaigns. He joined the company in 2024. Instagram: @leonardobrittom.



**Patrick Coker** (Chester, Virginia) (he/him) began dancing at Jessica Morgan's School of Dance in Midlothian, Virginia and later at the Eastern Virginia School for the

Performing Arts. He graduated from The Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance in 2014. Coker has performed with Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, Jessica Lang Dance, the Mark Morris Dance Group, and BODYTRAFFIC. He has also danced with Jamar Roberts, the Bob Fosse Foundation, Joshua Beamish's MOVE: The Company,

HopeBoykinDance, and Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance. In 2018, Coker was an assistant to Jessica Lang as she choreographed *EN* on Ailey, and he joined the company in 2019. Instagram: @pcoke.



**Shawn Cusseaux** (St. Petersburg, Florida) began his training at the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School, where he trained in ballet, modern, and

jazz. In 2020, he received his BFA in modern dance at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, under the direction of Garfield Lemonius. After graduation, Cusseaux joined BalletX, Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet company, where he spent three seasons. During that time, he had the privilege of dancing at the Vail International Dance Festival and Ballet Sun Valley. Cusseaux has performed work by Jae Man Joo, José Limón, Edwaard Liang, Camille A. Brown, Matthew Nenan, Jamar Roberts, Dwight Rhoden, Hope Boykin, Amy Hall Garner, Jennifer Archibald, and Nicolo Fonte. He joined the company in 2023.



**Sarah Daley-Perdomo** (South Elgin, Illinois) began her training at the Faubourg School of Ballet in Illinois under the direction of Watmora Casey and Tatyana Mazur. She is

a 2009 graduate of the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance and trained at institutions such as the Kirov Academy, National Ballet School of Canada, the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, and intensives at Ballet Camp Illinois and Ballet Adriatico in Italy. Daley-Perdomo was honored to be highlighted in *Dance Magazine's* "On the Rise" feature in 2014, and to perform in

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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Wayne McGregor's *Chroma* for the filming of *Lincoln Center at the Movies: Great American Dance*. She is a recipient of a Youth America Grand Prix Award and an ARTS Foundation Award. Daley-Perdomo was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2011.



**Caroline T. Dartey** (Geneva, Switzerland) trained in rhythmic gymnastics in her hometown from the age of five, rising to national and international levels and becoming the Swiss champion in her category (2009–11). She later began dancing at the Conservatoire populaire de musique, danse et théâtre in Geneva. Dartey also trained at The Ailey School as a scholarship student and performed in Alvin Ailey's *Memoria* during the company's 2017 New York City Center season. She was a member of Ailey II (2018–20) and has performed works by Darrell Grand Moultrie, Uri Sands, Bradley Shelver, Troy Powell, Robert Battle, Amy Hall Garner, Kirven Douthit-Boyd, Andrea Miller, Alia Kache, and Yannick Lebrun. Dartey's commercial work includes *Vogue World New York* and performances with music artists Omah Lay and Pheelz on *Late Night with Seth Meyers*. Dartey joined the company in 2021. Instagram: @caroline\_dartey.



**Isaiah Day** (Chicago, Illinois) began his dance training with Yielded Vessel Dance Ministry at New Life Covenant Southeast. He also studied at Hubbard Street Youth Dance Center and the Chicago Academy for the Arts. Day graduated in 2024 from the Juilliard School under the direction of Alicia Graf Mack; while there, he performed works by Jamar Roberts, Tiler Peck, Justin Peck, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Rena Butler, and Ohad Naharin. Day was named a YoungArts winner in modern/contemporary dance in 2019. He joined the company in 2023.



**Coral Dolphin** (Los Angeles, California) studied modern, West African, Flamenco, ballet, hip hop, tap, aerial silk, salsa, and acting under the mentorship of Debbie Allen. She began her professional career in New York as a founding member of *BHdos*, the second company of Ballet Hispánico. Dolphin later spent four years with Ronald K. Brown/*EVIDENCE*. She has worked with artists including Madonna, Janet Jackson, Beyonce, and Cardi B. In 2019, Dolphin performed the *Dream Ballet* solo in the Broadway musical *Oklahoma!* She has choreographed for Lauren Jauregui, Kali Uchis, and Lenny Kravitz, and for international brands such as Citibank and i-D. In 2020, Dolphin made her directorial debut with a short film made in collaboration with renowned composer Raven Bush. Through her art, she aims to magnify universal truths, aspiring for her creations to ignite the remembrance of the divine and higher consciousness that is within us all. Dolphin joined the company in 2023.





**Solomon Dumas** (Chicago, Illinois) (he, him, his) was introduced to dance through Ailey-Camp. He later began his formal studies at the Chicago Academy for the Arts and the

Russell Talbert Dance Studio, where he received his most influential training. Dumas studied at New World School of the Arts and was a Fellowship Level 1 student at The Ailey School. He has performed with companies including Garth Fagan Dance; Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company; and Labyrinth Dance Theater and was a member of Ailey II. Dumas joined the company in 2016.



**Samantha Figgins** (Washington, DC) began dancing at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts under the tutelage of Charles Auggins and Sandra Fortune-Greene and

attended summer intensives at Dance Theatre of Harlem under the direction of Arthur Mitchell. She continued her education at SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance. There, she performed works by George Balanchine, Bill T. Jones, Paul Taylor, and Twyla Tharp. Upon graduating *cum laude*, Figgins became a member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet, performing works by Dwight Rhoden, Jae Man Joo, and Camille A. Brown. She also performed at the 2014 DanceOpen Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia. Figgins was featured on the cover of *Dance Spirit* magazine and in *Pointe* magazine's "10 Careers to Watch" in 2013. She has worked with Beyoncé and can be seen in the film *Enemy Within* alongside Tiler Peck and Matthew Rushing. Figgins joined the company in 2014.



**James Gilmer** (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) trained at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School and the Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School. After graduating, he per-

formed with Texture Contemporary Ballet and joined Cincinnati Ballet in 2011. While dancing with the Cincinnati Ballet for six seasons, Gilmer was promoted to Soloist in 2015 and performed works by Victoria Morgan, Amy Seiwert, Septime Webre, Ohad Naharin, Val Caniparoli, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Edwaard Liang, Jennifer Archibald, and George Balanchine, to name a few. Gilmer was also a member of Amy Seiwert's Imagery, performing during the summer seasons since 2013, and ODC/dance, performing works by Brenda Way, KT Nelson, and Kate Weare. He performed in New York City Center's 2021 and 2022 Twyla Tharp celebrations and in Fall for Dance, where he was featured in choreography by Jamar Roberts. Gilmer joined the company in 2019. Instagram: @james.agilmer.



**Vernard J. Gilmore** (Chicago, Illinois) began his training at Curie Performing and Creative Arts High School in Chicago under Diane Holda.

He later studied at the Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theater with Harriet Ross, Marquita Levy, and Emily Stein. Gilmore received first place in the all-city NAACP ACT-SO competition in 1993. He attended Barat College with a scholarship and under the tutelage of Rory Foster and Eileen Cropley. Gilmore then studied as a scholarship student at The Ailey School and was a member of Ailey II. In 2010, he performed as part of the White House



Dance Series. He is a choreographer whose work has been a part of the Ailey Dancers Resource Fund, Fire Island Dance Festival 2008, and Jazz Foundation of America Gala 2010, and he produced the Dance of Light project in 2010 and 2015. An excerpt of Gilmore's *La Mulette* was performed in 2017 as part of the "Celebrating the Men of Ailey" program at New York City Center. Nimbus Dance Works performed a new work by Gilmore in 2018. He is a certified Zena Rommett Floor-Barre instructor and teaches workshops and master classes around the world. Gilmore joined the company in 1997.



**Ashley Kaylynn Green** (Charleston, South Carolina) began her training at Columbia City Jazz, where she discovered her love for dance. She trained in a variety of styles including ballet, modern, jazz, tap, and hip hop. In 2020, Green received her BFA in dance from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, under the direction of Garfield Lemonius. There, she performed works by Peter Chu, Aszure Barton, Kyle Abraham, and Darrell Grand Moultrie. After graduation, Green joined Whim W'Him Seattle Contemporary Dance, where she received a Princess Grace Award in Dance. Green joined the company in 2021 and that year was named one of "25 to Watch" by *Dance Magazine*.



**Jacquelin Harris** (Charlotte, North Carolina) began her dance training at Dance Productions Studios under the direction of Lori Long. She received a silver ARTS award from the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts and was a Presiden-

tial Scholar in the Arts semifinalist. Harris graduated with honors from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance. In 2016, she was named one of "25 to Watch" by *Dance Magazine*. She also received a 2017 dance fellowship from the Princess Grace Foundation–USA. Harris has performed as a guest artist with Twyla Tharp, the Merce Cunningham Trust, and Roderick George. She was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2014.



**Michael Jackson, Jr.** (New Orleans, Louisiana) began his dance training at age 14 at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, DC, under the direction of Charles Augins. He became a member of the Dance Theatre of Harlem Dancing through Barriers Ensemble in 2005. He joined Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 2006, and PHILADANCO! in 2008, where he also worked as the artistic director of D3. Jackson joined the company in 2011 and rejoined in 2015.



**Yannick Lebrun** (Cayenne, French Guiana) began training in his native country at the Adaclam School under the guidance of Jeanine Verin. After graduating from high school in 2004, he moved to New York City to study at The Ailey School as a scholarship student. Lebrun was named one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" in 2011, and in 2013, *France-Amérique* magazine highlighted him as one of the 50 most talented French people in the United States. In November 2016, Lebrun was a guest performer with the Royal Ballet in Wayne McGregor's *Chroma*. In 2019, he choreographed *Saa*

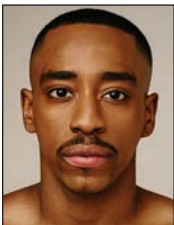
## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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*Magni*, his first work for Ailey II, and in 2021, he created *Lora* for ABT Studio Company. In 2024, he was a nominee for the UK Critic's Circle National Dance Award for outstanding male modern performance in *Dancing Spirit*. Lebrun was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2008. Instagram: @yannicklebrun.



**Xavier Mack** (Washington, DC) began his dance training at Divine Dance Institute in Capitol Heights, MD. He went on to earn his BA in modern languages and linguistics from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. After graduation, Mack spent five seasons with Dallas Black Dance Theatre. In 2018, he had the pleasure of performing alongside legendary soprano Kathleen Battle in her concert *Underground Railroad: A Spiritual Journey*. Mack has performed as a guest artist in benefit galas and festivals for CityDance, Titas/Dance Unbound, Fintdaz, Jacob's Pillow, and Dance Fest Skopje. He has performed works by Norbert De La Cruz III, Hope Boykin, Hans van Manen, Aszure Barton, and Darrell Grand Moultrie. He joined the company in 2022. Instagram: @x.mack.



**Renaldo Maurice** (Gary, Indiana) began his training with Tony Washington and graduated from Talent Unlimited High School. He attended Emerson School for Visual and Performing Arts, studying with Larry Brewer. Maurice was a scholarship student at The Ailey School, Ballet Chicago, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, and Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. He received second place in modern dance from

the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts and the Dizzy Feet Foundation Scholarship. In 2012, he was honored with the key to the city of his hometown. Maurice has choreographed and performed with Grammy-nominated artists Jazzmeia Horn, KEM, and Grammy winner Madonna. He has also combined his passion for the arts with his interest in social responsibility by becoming the co-artistic director of Indiana's South Shore Dance Alliance. Maurice was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2011. Facebook: @Maurice Gardner; Instagram: @mauricerenaldo.



**Corrin Rachele Mitchell** (Baltimore, Maryland) began her dance training in her hometown at LeRe's Performing Arts Center, owned by her mother and father. She attended Baltimore School for the Arts, where she trained with Norma Pera and Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell. Mitchell graduated in 2017 with a BFA in Dance from Point Park University, where she worked with choreographers Troy Powell, Garfield Lemonius, and Debbie Allen. After completing a year of apprenticeship, she joined Ailey II in 2017, performing works by Uri Sands, Bradley Shelver, Troy Powell, Robert Battle, Darrell Grand Moultrie, and Amy Hall Garner. Mitchell joined the company in 2019. Instagram: @\_slimrin\_.



**Chalvar Monteiro** (Montclair, NJ) began his training at Sharron Miller's Academy for the Performing Arts and studied at The Ailey School before receiving his BFA from SUNY Purchase Conservatory of Dance. He has worked with Sidra Bell

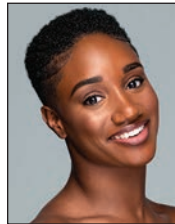
Dance New York, Elisa Monte Dance, Keigwin+Company, A.I.M by Kyle Abraham, BODYTRAFFIC, and GALLIM. Monteiro performed in the Merce Cunningham Trust's *Night of 100 Solos: A Centennial Event* in 2019, and joined the faculty at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts in 2020. His choreography has been presented at numerous festivals and institutions across the United States, including Ailey's 2021 Virtual Spirit Gala, the Fire Island Dance Festival, Fordham University, and SUNY Purchase. Monteiro has been featured in *Vogue Beauty*, *Document Journal* for Moncler, and fashion campaigns for Uniqlo and Lululemon. He was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2015. Instagram: @chlvrmntro.



**Jesse Obremski** (New York, New York) (he/they) began his studies at The Ailey School and continued at Jacob's Pillow, Springboard Danse Montreal, and Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance. He graduated from LaGuardia High School and Juilliard. Obremski has performed with the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, José Limón Dance Company, and Gibney Company, among others. He is a sought-after educator, choreographer, and restager of José Limón's works. Obremski received the Asian American Arts Alliance's 2016 Jadin Wong Award and achieved Boy Scout Eagle Scout rank. He has been mentioned in the *New York Times* and on NY1, and was featured in *Dance Magazine's* "On the Rise" in 2019. Obremski performed at the FINA World Championships in 2019 and at the White House for President Obama. He is Founder/Artistic Director of Obremski/Works, which has been presented internationally, including by the Kennedy Center. Obremski joined the company in 2024. [www.jesse-obremski.com](http://www.jesse-obremski.com). Instagram: @jesse\_obremski.



**Kali Marie Oliver** (Akron, Ohio) began her dance training with her mother and went on to study at Nan Klinger's Excellence in Dance. She attended summer intensives at Chautauqua Institution, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, and The Ailey School. Oliver graduated *magna cum laude* from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance. After that, she worked closely with Karole Armitage as a guest artist with Armitage Gone! Dance. Oliver spent three seasons in Ailey II under the direction of Francesca Harper, during which time she performed in the Holland Dance Festival. She has had the privilege of performing works by Alvin Ailey, William Forsythe, Robert Battle, Andrea Miller, Elizabeth Roxas-Dobrish, William Isaac, Baye & Asa, and Maurya Kerr. Oliver was honored to be a guest artist during Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's 2023 New York City Center season and was thrilled to officially join the company in 2024. Instagram: @kmo\_98.



**Alisha Rena Peek** (Upper Marlboro, Maryland), is a graduate of the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance, and recently earned her MBA from the University of Maryland Global Campus. She began her formal dance training at the Washington School of Ballet and continued at the Kirov Ballet Academy, Dance Theatre of Harlem Kennedy Center Residency, and The Art of Technique. Professionally, Peek has danced in Ailey II, taught Horton in The Ailey School's Junior Division, served as an assistant to Milton Myers and Hope Boykin, participated in the HopeBoykinDance Bubble Residency, and performed in both *An Even-*





**Above:** Corrin Rachelle Mitchell and Yannick Lebrun in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*.

**Below:** The company in Alvin Ailey's *Revelations*. Photos by Paul Kolnik.



*ing Of Hope* and *Moments By Hope*. She appeared in the hit FX series *Pose* and choreographed a short film produced by Beats by Dre. This is her fourth season with the company. Instagram: @alishapeek.



**Jessica Amber Pinkett** (Baltimore, Maryland) began her dance training at Baltimore Dance Tech under the direction of Stephanie Powell. She graduated from George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology and earned a BFA with honors in dance performance and choreography from Towson University. Pinkett has had the privilege of performing works by Alvin Ailey, Judith Jamison, Tally Beatty, Camille A. Brown, Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, Jamar Roberts, and others. She has performed as a guest artist with the Black Iris Project and was a member of Ailey II from 2016–18. Pinkett made her New York choreographic debut and performed alongside Madison McFerrin in *OPEN AIR*. In 2023, she led the world premiere of HopeBoykinDance’s *States Of Hope* at the Joyce Theater. She was a member of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater from 2018–21 and rejoined the company in 2024. Pinkett continues exploring the depths of her artistry as a freelancer, teacher, choreographer, and filmmaker. Instagram: @jessica.a.pinkett.



**Miranda Quinn** (Baltimore, Maryland) (she/her) trained in various genres of dance from ages two to 18 at the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Performing Arts under the artistic direction of Shannon McHale. Quinn graduated from the Julliard School in 2019 under the direction of Alicia Graf Mack. Her attendance at the school was made possible by the Jerome L. Greene Fellowship. She joined the company in 2019. Quinn is beyond thrilled and honored to be a part of the AILEY community and legacy. Instagram: @mirandaming4.



**Hannah Alissa Richardson** (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) graduated with honors from The Ailey School Certificate Program. She has performed works by choreographers including Ray Mercer, Bradley Shelver, Kirven Douthit-Boyd, Earl Mosley, William Forsythe, and Robert Battle. Richardson has been a featured dancer in festivals including Jacob’s Pillow and the Holland Dance Festival, and had the honor of performing the world premiere of Ronald K. Brown’s *Grace and Mercy* at Bard’s SummerScape festival. Her film and television credits include Orion Pictures’ *Every Day* and Disney Channel’s *Backstage*. Richardson was a proud member of Ailey II for one season before joining the company in 2022. She is also a guest artist with Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company. She is thrilled to be part of AILEY and is grateful for all those who have continued to support her along her journey. Instagram: @hannahxrichardson.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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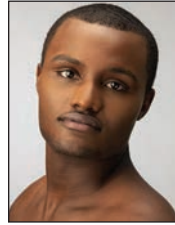


**Deidre Rogan** (Fort Myers, Florida) began her dance training in Fort Myers, Florida under Melinda Roy, Roberto Munoz, and Cheryl Copeland. She graduated with honors from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance in 2015. Rogan is a YoungArts scholarship winner, performed as a United States Arts Ambassador for President Barack Obama during the Opening Ceremony of the Hannover Messe, and was the associate choreographer under choreographer Hope Boykin for the City Center Encores Off-Center production of *Promenade* in 2019. She danced with Ailey II from 2014 to 2016 and with Parsons Dance from 2016 to 2022. This is Rogan's third season with the company. Instagram: @deidre\_rogan.



**Constance Stamatiou** (Charlotte, North Carolina) began her dance training at Pat Hall's Dance Unlimited and North Carolina Dance Theatre. She graduated from Northwest School of the Arts and studied at SUNY Purchase and as a Fellowship student at The Ailey School. In 2009, Stamatiou received the Leonore Annenberg Fellowship. In 2022, she was one of *Sports Illustrated's* "Top 100," and in 2023, she was nominated for the UK Critic's Circle National Dance Award for outstanding female modern performance in *Cry*. She has performed at the White House and in a TED Talk with Judith Jamison, and has appeared on *So You Think You Can Dance*, *Dancing with the Stars*, Logo's *Trailblazer Honors*, *Elle's* movement series, *Good Morning America*, and NBC's *Today* show. Stamatiou has danced in the

films *Shake, Rattle & Roll* and *Bolden* and the commercial *I Love NY*. She is a mother of two. Stamatiou was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2007. Instagram: @constance.stamatiou.



**Christopher Taylor** (Newark, New Jersey) started his dance training at The Ailey School when he was 11. He later attended Arts High School in Newark. During his training, he attended AileyCamp Newark, performing numerous times at the Apollo Theater and Lincoln Center in works by Rennie Harris, Robert Battle, and other choreographers. After graduating from Arts High School, Taylor received a scholarship to The Ailey School's Professional Division. He joined Ailey II in 2022 under artistic director Francesca Harper and went on to perform works by Harper, William Forsythe, Andrea Miller, and Robert Battle. This is his third season in the company.



**Fana Minea Tesfagiorgis** (Madison, Wisconsin) is an artist, actor, and dancer. She is an alumna of Ballet Madison, Interlochen Arts Academy, and the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance, where she graduated with a major in dance and a minor in journalism. Professionally, Tesfagiorgis has danced with Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance, and the Black Iris Project, among other companies. Since shifting into acting, she has studied at the Freeman Studio, the Kimball Studio, and the Lesly Kahn Acting Studio. She appeared in the film *In the Heights*, the first national

tour of *My Fair Lady*, the opening of the 73rd annual Tony Awards, *Pose*, *Wu-Tang: An American Saga*, and in the short films *Booked*, *Date Nights*, *Love on Speed*, and the Emmy Award-winning *WILD*. She was previously a member of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater from 2013–19. Follow her journey on her website FanaMinea.com. Instagram and TikTok: @fanaminea.



**De'Anthony Vaughan** (Kansas City, Missouri) was introduced to dance at age three by his grandmother. He received his training from AileyCamp, Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey, and Kansas City Ballet School. Vaughan continued his training in New York City at The Ailey School as a scholarship student. In 2014, he joined Dallas Black Dance Theatre, where he performed works by Matthew Rushing, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Kirven Douthit-Boyd, Alvin Ailey, Elisa Monte, Donald McKayle, and many others. This is his second season with the company. Instagram: @leedeevaughan.



**Dandara Veiga** (Alegrete, RS, Brazil) began her dance training at Social Project Primeiros Passos before receiving a scholarship to attend her hometown school, Escola de Danca Ballerina. She also studied at Studio Margarita Fernandez in Argentina, Opus Ballet in Italy, Annarella Academia de Ballet e Dança in Portugal, and as a scholarship student at The Ailey School in 2016. From 2017 to 2023, Veiga danced with Ballet Hispánico. In 2023–24, she performed with the Metropolitan Opera and projects including Site-Specific Dances, Opus Ballet, Noname, and the Black Iris Project. Veiga

was named one of *Dance Magazine's* “25 to Watch” in 2023. She has worked with artists including Charla Gen, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, Noah Gelber, Gustavo Ramírez Sansano, Edwaard Liang, Christopher Huggins, and Ray Mercer. This is her first season with the company. Instagram: @lamdandaraveiga.



**Isabel Wallace-Green** (Houston, Texas) began her dance training at Houston Ballet Academy. She graduated *summa cum laude* from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance with a dual degree in dance and African/African American studies. Wallace-Green has performed with New Chamber Ballet and Urban Souls Dance Company, and was an ensemble member of the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular*. She was a company member with DBDT: Encore before joining Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 2021. While in Texas, Wallace-Green partnered with University of Houston and Texas Southern University art museums to premiere her first solo show, *Resilience*. She joined the company in 2023.



**Christopher R. Wilson** (Augusta, Georgia) is a graduate of John S. Davidson Fine Arts Magnet School and graduated *cum laude* from the Ailey/Fordham BFA Program in Dance. He trained at Colton Ballet School, Alonzo King LINES Ballet, and The School at Jacob's Pillow before beginning his professional career with BHdos, the second company of Ballet Hispánico. Wilson has performed for Queen Sofía of Spain and Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands and has had the privilege of appearing on the main







stage of the 2017 *Essence* Festival in New Orleans. He has performed works by Judith Jamison, Alonzo King, Wayne McGregor, Camille A. Brown, Kyle Abraham, and Hans van Manen, among others. Wilson has been a guest artist for the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival and with the Black Iris Project, starring in the Emmy-nominated film, *A Mother's Rite*. Wilson was a member of Ailey II and joined the company in 2018. Instagram: @christopher.r.wilson.

The Ailey dancers are supported,  
in part, by  
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**Photos**

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Tel: 212-584-7500

opus3artists.com

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BERKELEY / OAKLAND

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CELEBRATING 23 YEARS AT UC BERKELEY

Conceived and launched by Alvin Ailey in 1989 and produced locally by Cal Performances, Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp instills discipline, self-esteem, creative expression, and critical thinking skills in young people through the art of dance. The same focus and life skills required in the arts are also necessary in school, particularly for middle-schoolers who are at risk or struggling with academic, social, or domestic challenges. AileyCamp includes:

- Six weeks of **tuition-free**, intensive learning for 70 students
- Daily dance classes, plus meals and transportation
- Personal development classes offering counseling in goal-setting, nutrition, conflict management, media literacy, positive self-image, leadership development, and more.

This season, Cal Performances celebrates 23 years of AileyCamp on the UC Berkeley campus. We're proud to have enhanced the lives of more than 1,300 young people, plus hundreds more in their families and communities. We believe that this extraordinary program—along with our annual residency with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater—makes a significant contribution to the cultural life of the Bay Area.

**Help ensure that this year's AileyCamp is fully funded and remains tuition-free for all participants!**

**Make a gift today at:**  
[calperformances.org/give-aileycamp](http://calperformances.org/give-aileycamp)



Photos by Kike Arrial

BERKELEY / OAKLAND

# AILEY CAMP 2025

Celebrating 23 Years at UC Berkeley

“My confidence and real-life resilience were developed here at AileyCamp. This is something that will help me for years to come.”

—2024 AileyCamper

Since 2002, Cal Performances has been home to one of the only West Coast sites of Alvin Ailey’s visionary summer dance program, and today, it is the only camp based on a major university campus.

AileyCamp is a nationally acclaimed, six-week program designed to develop self-esteem, discipline, creative expression, and a capacity for critical thinking in youths ages 11–14—important skills they will need as they enter the challenging high school years ahead. The AileyCamp curriculum includes daily dance technique classes in ballet, Horton-based modern, jazz, and African dance. Workshops in creative communication and personal development provide a vehicle for individual expression and community building. And best of all, students need no prior dance experience to apply!

Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp culminates in a finale performance in which campers demonstrate the skills they have acquired in the program. The atmosphere in the hall is nothing less than electric! AileyCampers are excited to show all that they have learned, and family and friends make up the eager audience that thrills to the young artists’

magnificent dancing. At the end of camp, a radiant glow shines from the faces of the campers and the 2,000 attendees who have shared in the celebration.

The impact of AileyCamp resonates far beyond the environs of the UC Berkeley campus. Since its inception, AileyCamp has served more than 1,300 Bay Area middle school youths and their families. Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp is administered and fully funded by Cal Performances. All campers receive full-tuition scholarships, meals, uniforms, and dance attire, and Oakland residents are provided transportation to and from camp. The Education Board Committee, a division of the Cal Performances Board of Trustees, provides oversight, and in the past decade some 300 volunteers have enthusiastically donated their time and talents to the operation of AileyCamp.

Please join us at the AileyCamp Finale Performance as we celebrate 23 years at UC Berkeley—at 7pm on **Thursday, July 24, 2025** at Zellerbach Hall.

Admission to the finale performance is free, though tickets are required and available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office beginning on July 11. For more information, call (510) 642-4630 or email [aileycamp@calperformances.org](mailto:aileycamp@calperformances.org).

This year’s camp runs from **June 16 to July 25, 2025.**