

## Gala Performances Celebrate 20th Anniversary



Students performing *Paquita*

**HARID's performances** at the new Countess de Hoernle Theater on May 25—27 were a grand celebration of the school's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The students—as usual—were amazing, as were the alumni guest artists!

Each performance opened with alumni Yuan Xi (Class of 2002) and Shannon Smith (1997) performing Aurora's Wedding Pas de Deux from *The Sleeping Beauty*, Act III. Both dancers are currently members of Ballet Florida in West Palm Beach and the professional experience they have gained since leaving HARID was much-evident throughout their classical duet.

Eight HARID students took to the stage next in Hans van Manen's renowned ballet *Songs Without Words*. Michael Lazzaro's live performance of Mendelssohn's challenging work for solo piano inspired the dancers and moved the audience. The ballet's nine movements provided challenging opportunities for solos, duets, trios, and ensemble work, each accentuated by Daniel Gordon's exquisite stage lighting. The dancers performed the sophisticated, artistically mature work with aplomb!

Helen Hansen, a HARID alumna (2006) and Juilliard graduate, performed Jacqueline Buglisi's dramatic modern-dance solo *Red Hills* to music by Franz Liszt. Beautifully costumed in shades of burgundy, Ms. Hansen's intensity and yearning clearly touched and impressed each audience member. She is currently a leading dancer with Buglisi Dance Theatre in New York City.

Joffrey Ballet dancer and HARID alumnus, Matthew

Adamczyk (2003), stunned the audience with his powerful performance of the riveting solo dance *Lacrymosa*. Set to Mozart's music of the same name, the physically demanding and emotionally engaging piece was choreographed by the late Edward Stierle who was also a Joffrey Ballet dancer. HARID was honored to have Edward's parents Rose and William Stierle attend the performance as special guests.

Next, the students returned in Mark Godden's intriguing contemporary ballet *What Can I Tell My Bones?* Simply dressed in khaki slacks and colorful tops, the eleven dancers filled the stage, creating physical images and changing patterns that astutely reflected Theodore Roethke's poetry and Pachelbel's *Canon in D*.

The finale of each program was Marius Petipa's classical showpiece *Paquita*. The students, in their beautiful gold and tangerine costumes, danced each movement with confidence and élan. The corps de ballet, dazzling in its precision, created a magnificent framework within which the soloists displayed their technical prowess—all with a Spanish flair!

The performances were a most-fitting celebration of HARID's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, and students thank everyone who has supported the school during the past two decades.



Alumna Helen Hansen (2006) in Jacqueline Buglisi's *Red Hills*



HARID dancers in Hans van Manen's *Songs Without Words*

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## Alumni Reunion a Rip-Roaring Success!

Concurrent with the May 25—27 performances, HARID hosted a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary alumni reunion. Thirty former students attended the weekend event, a number of whom were accompanied by spouses and young children! In addition to attending the dance performances, several special activities were planned. On Saturday evening, the faculty and staff joined the alumni for dinner at Carrabba's Italian Grill in Boca Raton. Laughter and happy exclamations filled the evening air as old friendships were rekindled and past adventures relived. (Fortunately for the other diners, the noisy group was seated outside!)

The following morning, everyone gathered for brunch at Russo Hall. The alumni visited their old dorm rooms, perused well-worn photo albums, and further reminisced. Later in the day, many tears were shed as people began departing for home. The weekend was a warm and memorable time and the staff was made to promise another reunion in the not-too-distant future.

### Those who attended the alumni reunion include:

2005: Alan Alberto, Heather Crosby, Jessica Schachne, Katherine Wood

2004: Julie DuBois, Megan Gray, Mehri Paydar, Shannon Healy

2003: Matthew Adamczyk, Jennifer Drake, Sarah James

2002: Kate Brezovsky, Raija Gershberg, Kirill Kuchenkov, Andre Silva, Alicia Xi

2001: Shannon Hennessey

2000: Robin Bangert, Stephanie Salmi (Defries)

1999: Will Hoppe

1998: Audriana Broad, Corey Jones, Marissa Mackel, Blair Puente

1997: Shannon Smith, Lyn Tally, Eryn Weedman (Miller)

1996: Laura Faria, Helen Hansen

1989: Michele Gorlitsky (Blank)



Standing: Andre Silva, Jennifer Drake, Matthew Adamczyk, Shannon Smith, Julie DuBois, Blair Puente  
Seated: Shannon Hennessey, staff member Janet Trivino, Yuan Xi, Robin Bangert

## Rudolf Nureyev Education Fellowships Awarded

At a special presentation on September 11, HARID announced the recipients of the school's 2007 Rudolf Nureyev Education Fellowships, awarded in honor and memory of the late Rudolf Nureyev. Funded by the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation, in Chicago, Illinois, the fellowships support the training and education of qualified students at HARID.

Director Gordon Wright, commented, "Nureyev was, without a doubt, one of the greatest dancers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He had an enormous impact on several generations of dancers and balletomanes worldwide, and his work will continue to influence future artists for years to come. HARID is proud to honor him through the presentation of education fellowships, and we are grateful to the Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation for making such an opportunity possible."

The recipients of HARID's 2007 Rudolf Nureyev Education Fellowships are **Christophor Moulton** and **Francisco Preciado**. Each received \$5,000 to assist with his living costs at the Conservatory. Christophor is a high-school junior from Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is currently in his second year of study at HARID. Francisco is also in his second year of study at HARID and will graduate in May 2008. He is from North Hollywood, California.

The Rudolf Nureyev Dance Foundation seeks to preserve and protect the history and tradition of dance while, at the same time, encouraging its progress and development. The Foundation aims to perpetuate Rudolf Nureyev's name and to advance his vision and work by supporting the study, performance, and appreciation of dance.

## 2007—2008 Performance Season

Due to the record number of students who graduated last year, there are many new faces at HARID this year! Each of the new students is anxiously anticipating his or her first appearance on stage in a HARID performance.

The Holiday Dance Performances will be held December 14, 15, and 16 at the new Countess de Hoernle Theater (at Spanish River Community High School). The program will include the *Harlequinade* pas de deux, staged by ballet faculty member Svetlana Osiyeva; a lively *Tarantella*, staged by HARID's character dance teacher Bertha Valentin; a new, yet-unnamed modern dance piece; and the holiday tradition, *Divertissements from The Nutcracker*, Act II, staged by faculty members Victoria Schneider, Svetlana Osiyeva, and Olivier Pardina.

The repertoire for HARID's Year-End Dance Performances, scheduled May 30, 31, and June 1, has not yet been confirmed. The program will include, however, a number of classical and contemporary ballets, as well as another exciting new work by principal guest choreographer Mark Godden.

Tickets for both series of performances are now on sale. Please call 561-998-8038 or visit the school's ticket office (2285 Potomac Road, Boca Raton) Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$30 and \$24.

## 2008 Audition Scheduled

For students interested in applying for admission to HARID's 2008 Summer School (June 23—July 18), auditions have been scheduled in seventeen U.S. cities this winter:

**Washington DC, January 11**  
**New York NY, January 12**  
**Boston MA, January 13**  
**Kansas City MO, January 18**  
**Minneapolis MN, January 19**  
**Chicago IL, January 20**  
**Fort Worth TX, January 25**  
**Tulsa OK, January 26**  
**Denver CO, January 27**  
**Louisville KY, February 8**  
**Salt Lake City UT, February 8**  
**Atlanta GA, February 9**  
**San Francisco CA, February 9**  
**Charlotte NC, February 10**  
**Los Angeles CA, February 10**  
**Sarasota FL, February 15**  
**Boca Raton FL, February 16**

*Dancers currently in academic grades 8—11 are eligible for admission. Audition locations and times are available on HARID's website, [www.harid.edu](http://www.harid.edu).*

## 20th Anniversary Annual-Fund Campaign Goal Achieved



*HARID friend and supporter, Daniel Freed*

HARID has many people to thank for the success of its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary annual-fund campaign. None, however, deserves more credit and gratitude than Daniel Freed. Last spring, when Dan found out the campaign was still \$40,000 short of its \$100,000 goal, he made it a personal issue. Dan promised to match—dollar for dollar—all new contributions up to a total of \$20,000. He believed that, if people knew their gift would immediately be doubled by his matching pledge, they would be more inclined to give. And, Dan was right. Within a month, HARID received new gifts totaling \$20,000 and, along with Dan's

pledge, the goal was achieved.

To all those who generously contributed to HARID last year, the faculty, staff, and students thank you for your support. And, to long-time friend and supporter Daniel Freed, the Conservatory extends its sincere gratitude and best wishes. Dan, you're the best!

## Talent Multiplied by Fifty-Six

This past June, fifty-six young dancers traveled from across the United States and from Canada, Brazil, and Japan to participate in HARID's four-week Summer School. They danced each morning and afternoon and spent their evenings and weekends enjoying South Florida's many activities and attractions. A highlight of the Summer School was a class demonstration presented at end of the program for more than one-hundred parents, relatives, and friends.

## Student Financial Aid

Once again this year, HARID has received numerous requests for student financial aid. Despite not having to pay for tuition, many families struggle to pay the necessary room and board fees and the cost of transportation between home and Boca Raton. For female students, pointe shoes are another major expense. The dancers can easily go through several pairs a month at a cost of fifty to sixty dollars each!

The funds used to provide student financial aid are raised each year through HARID's annual-fund campaign. Unless otherwise restricted, all contributions received from individuals, private foundations, and corporations are used to provide student assistance.

After the heart-warming success of last year's campaign, it is difficult to ask you to give again so soon. However, a new school year is underway and the need for assistance continues. Please renew your commitment to HARID's talented young artists by making a generous, tax-deductible contribution to the school at this time.

## Alumni Update

Last May, HARID graduated its largest class ever. Thirteen seniors received their high-school diplomas.

**Jill Beam** is now studying kinesiology at Arizona State University.

**Sarah Bryner** is an apprentice with Ballet Florida in West Palm Beach.

**Isadora Loyola de Siqueira** achieved her life-long dream of joining American Ballet Theatre's Studio Company in New York City.

**Caitlin McElroy** is a trainee at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre.

**Jessica Omelian** has joined Ballet Theatre of Maryland

**Mallory Kledzik** has turned to a new page and is studying public relations at Columbia College in Chicago.

**Eric Williams** is enrolled as a dance major at University of South Florida.

**Drew Wright** is an apprentice at Milwaukee Ballet.

**Miku Kawamura** is a corps de ballet member with K Ballet in Japan.

**Beth Ann Maslinoff** has joined Ballet Magnificat in Jackson, Mississippi.

**Mariko Oriyama** is dancing with Maki Ballet in Japan

**Alison Trumbull** has enrolled in the dance department at Indiana University.

**Renee Weinstrof** is studying in the professional program at Houston Ballet Academy where she hopes to soon be invited to join the company.

### Other alumni news:

**Adam Still** (2006) has left Ballet Idaho to join Milwaukee Ballet.

**Gleudson Vasconcelos** (2005) has joined the New Jersey Ballet.

**Bridgett Zehr** (2002) has been promoted to second soloist with the National Ballet of Canada.

**Andre Silva** (2002) was awarded the Silver Medal at this year's Shanghai International Ballet Competition in China. (Andre is a dancer with Texas Ballet Theater.)

**Elizabeth McGrath** (2001) has been promoted to demi soloist with Ballet West in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Joseph Morrissey** (2001) has joined Bayerisches Staatsballett in Munich.

**Britta Lazenga** (2000) has been cast in the leading role of "Penny" in the new Toronto production of the musical *Dirty Dancing*.

**Kathleen Breen Combes** (1999) has been promoted to soloist with Boston Ballet. She was also featured on the cover of Dance Magazine's October issue!

**Meredith Webster** (1998), a dancer with Alonzo King's LINES Ballet, has been awarded a Princess Grace Award.

**Katherine Lawrence** (1998) has been promoted to soloist with Ballet West.

**Jim Sofranko** (1997) has been promoted to soloist at San Francisco Ballet.

**Sara Webb Bardo** (1996), principal dancer at Houston Ballet, is expecting her first child in November!



Kathleen Breen Combes (1999)