

HARID Celebrates 20th Anniversary



The Harid Conservatory was established in 1987 to provide professional training for gifted, young performing artists. To ensure that talent remained the sole criterion for admission, it was determined from the beginning that the school would be tuition-free for all students. In this regard, HARID remains unique among North America's professional-training schools for ballet dancers.

Gaining admission to HARID is not easy. Each year, hundreds of young dancers attend a series of auditions conducted across the United States by HARID's faculty and director. Of these many candidates, sixty are invited to attend the school's annual, four-week Summer School. Typically, at the conclusion of each summer program, just twenty students are then selected for admission to the academic year. Over the past two decades, nearly four-hundred dancers have undertaken full time studies at HARID. In return for their hard work and dedication, these fortunate few have received the benefits of HARID's ongoing commitment to excellence in care, education, and training.

HARID has managed to remain in touch with many of its alumni. One hundred-eighty-three former students and graduates are listed in the school's brochure and on its website. Their successes have been remarkable.

More than eighty professional dance companies across the United States and in Canada, Europe, and Asia have employed HARID alumni. These include:

Alabama Ballet, Alberta Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, American Contemporary Ballet, American Repertory Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Atlantic Southeast Ballet, Ballet Arizona, Ballet Austin, Ballet Florida, Ballet Gamonet, Ballet Idaho, Ballet Internationale, Ballet Jorgen, Ballet Memphis, Ballet Pacifica, Ballet Tech, Ballet Tucson, Ballet West, Ballet Wisconsin, BalletMet, Bayerisches Staatsballet, Birmingham Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet, Bruce Woods Dance Theatre, Buglisi/Forman Dance Theatre, Carolina Ballet, Channel Island Ballet, Charleston Ballet Theatre, Cincinnati Ballet, Cirque de Soleil, City Ballet of San Diego, Cleveland/San Jose Ballet, Colorado Ballet, Columbia City Ballet, Dance Oklahoma Festival Ballet, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Dayton Ballet, Essen Ballet, Festival Ballet of Rhode Island, Fort Worth/Dallas Ballet, Houston Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Inland Pacific Ballet, Joffrey Ballet Chicago, Kansas City Ballet, K-Ballet, Les Ballet Jazz de Montreal, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens du Montreal, Louisville Ballet, Metropolitan Opera Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, Momix Dance Theatre, Montana

Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, Nebellen Dance Company, Nevada Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, North Carolina Ballet Theatre, Oakland Ballet, Ohio Ballet, Oleg Danovski Dance Theatre, Oregon Ballet Theater, Orlando Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Peter Schaufuss Ballet, Philippine Ballet Theatre, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Richmond Ballet, River North Chicago Dance Company, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Sacramento Ballet, Saint Louis Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Sarasota Ballet of Florida, Smuin Ballet, Southern Ballet Theatre, Spectrum Dance Theatre, Texas Ballet Theatre, Washington Ballet, and Zurich Ballet.



HARID Alumnus Lyn Tally (1997) became a soloist with Boston Ballet

Photo: Lisa Black ©

In addition, many alumni have pursued undergraduate and post-graduate degrees, either prior to or following their dance careers. Schools attended by HARID alumni include:

Air Force Academy—Colorado, Arizona State University, Baylor College of Medicine, Butler University, Cleveland State University, Davidson College, Florida Atlantic University, Florida State University, Fordham University, Harvard University, Hunter College, Indiana University-Purdue University Indiana, Indiana University, Jacksonville University, Long Island University, Mercyhurst College, Merrimac College, Mount Holyoke College, New York University, Royal Ballet School's Teacher Program, Stanford Graduate School of Business, Stanford University, State University of New York, The Juilliard School, Tisch School of the Arts, Tufts University School of Medicine, Tulane University, University of Arizona, University of California at Los Angeles, University of Chicago, University of Georgia, University of Illinois, University of Miami, University of Michigan, University of Oregon, University of Utah, University of Washington, Vaganova Academy of St. Petersburg Russia, Vanderbilt University, and Yale School of Nursing.

HARID is extremely proud of its alumni and their achievements.

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HARID Student Awarded Grand Prix in Orlando!



Photo: Nancy Leck ©

Grand Prix winner Mariko Oriyama in *Waltz of the Flowers*

HARID senior Mariko Oriyama, from Tokyo, Japan, was awarded the Grand Prix at the semi-final Youth America Grand Prix ballet competition in Orlando on February 11! (The Grand Prix is superior to the Gold Medal prize and is only awarded to extraordinary competitors.) Mariko has been studying at HARID for the past two years and will graduate from the program in May. For the competition, she performed Odile's variation (Black Swan) from *Swan Lake* and a contemporary solo created for her by a former teacher in Japan. The judges remarks' about Mariko included "extremely

talented with high potential", "Excellent, beautiful quality of movement, style, and technique", and other accolades. Mariko will participate in the international final of the YAGP competition in New York City in April. Congratulations, Mariko!

HARID Salutes its Founding Trustees

In 1987, HARID's founding donor asked local attorneys James Hankins, Arthur Redgrave and the late Paul Rugo (1933—1993) to establish a new performing-arts conservatory in Boca Raton and serve as its board of trustees. They agreed and, twenty years later, James and Arthur continue to contribute their time, energy, and expertise as HARID trustees. The consistency of their thoughtful leadership and commitment to the school's founding principles has served as the basis for HARID's remarkable success.

James Hankins is president of HARID's board of trustees. He is a managing partner of the law firm Hodgson Russ LLP in Boca Raton. James grew up in Florida and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from University of Florida and University of South Florida. He then received his Juris Doctor with honors from Florida State University. James specializes in real estate law and condominium association law, but also practices in the areas of trust, corporate, charitable foundation, banking, and business law. In both 2005 and 2006, he was the recipient of *Florida Trend's* Florida Legal Elite Award.

James and his wife Frankie Wilson maintain a second home in the Florida Keys where they pursue their weekend passions for boating, diving, fishing, and gourmet cooking!

Arthur Redgrave is a partner in the Boca Raton law firm Redgrave & Rosenthal LLP. He was raised in Pennsylvania and moved to Florida in 1981. Arthur received his Bachelor of Science degree from Shippensburg University, his Juris Doctor from Southern Illinois University, and his Masters of Law in Estate Planning from University of Miami. He practices law in the areas of estate planning, elder law, asset protection, tax planning, business planning, and estate and trust administration. He is a recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award for Trusts and Estates.

Arthur and his wife Susan are residents of Boca Raton. Their son Richard received his law degree in 2004 from University of Florida and now practices law at his father's firm.

HARID's International Student Body

Although the majority of HARID's students are American, others are attracted to the school from around the world. Over the years, young people from Canada, Cuba, Brazil, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Paraguay, Philippines, Spain, and Ukraine have studied at HARID. And, next year, a door to another country will open when two gifted students—a young man and a young woman—enroll from Beijing China!



Mariko Oriyama (Japan), Chelsea Adomaitis (Massachusetts), Alberto Rodriguez (Cuba), and Morgana Cappellari (Brazil)

20th Anniversary Celebration of the Arts

On Friday evening, March 23, HARID will host a *20th Anniversary Celebration of the Arts* on its Boca Raton campus. Beginning at 7:00 p.m., guests will enjoy a selection of fine wines, dinner by the bite, and a special 20th anniversary birthday cake. In addition, the evening will include live classical music and jazz; a dance presentation by HARID's gifted young artists; and the official opening of the 20th Anniversary Art Contest and Exhibition, featuring art work by Palm Beach County high school and university art students. Two-thousand dollars in prizes will be awarded, including the People's Choice Awards—the recipients of which will be selected by the guests!

Please join us for this unique and memorable event. Guest admission is \$75, the proceeds from which will support HARID's student financial-aid fund. Call 561-997-2677 for information and tickets. HARID is grateful to Hodgson Russ LLP and Gourmet Express for generously underwriting this event.

20th Anniversary Commemorative Items

Call Vikki Strickland at 561-997-2677 to purchase a 20th Anniversary shirt or cap!



Janet Trivino: HARID's First Employee!

When the trustees appointed Jeannot B. Cerrone (1912—1991) HARID's founding managing director, their next task was to hire an assistant for him. This first "hire" was, undoubtedly, the best hire in the history of the Conservatory! Janet Trivino joined HARID in August 1987 as executive assistant to the director—even before there were dance studios, teachers, or students. Today, Janet works with current director Gordon Wright. "Janet embodies the spirit of HARID," says Wright. "For twenty years, she has worked quietly in an efficient and effective manner, without fanfare or complaint. Like HARID, she is content to let her actions and results speak for themselves. And, also like HARID, her work is exceptional. Janet always puts quality first."



HARID's first (and best) hire, Executive Assistant Janet Trivino!

Because of her position in the school, Janet is most-often a prospective student's first contact with the school. The value of a positive first impression cannot be overstated and, invariably, everyone who speaks with or meets Janet is made to feel welcome and appreciated. To meet Janet is to make a new friend. She is adored by the students and held in the highest regard by her colleagues. HARID is grateful to Janet for her dedication and many years of exemplary service.

20th Anniversary Annual-Fund Campaign

Even though HARID is tuition-free for all students, academic-year fees for room and board, clothing and supplies, and local transportation total approximately ten-thousand dollars. Not all families can afford these fees so HARID offers assistance in the form of student financial aid. The money awarded to families is raised each year through HARID's Annual-Fund Campaign.

The goal established for HARID's 20th Anniversary Annual-Fund Campaign is \$100,000. So far this year, \$40,000 has been raised through generous contributions from individuals, private foundations, and corporations. With your help, we hope to achieve our goal by the end of the year.

Consider the positive impact HARID has had during the past two decades on the lives of its many students, the cultural life of South Florida, and the ballet world as a whole. Your generous gift to HARID will ensure that financial aid remains available to future students. Please make a contribution to HARID's Annual-Fund Campaign at this time. You can further support the students by attending HARID's *20th Anniversary Celebration of the Arts*, the proceeds from which will be used for student financial aid.

20th Anniversary Alumni Reunion

HARID has received an enthusiastic response from its alumni regarding the upcoming reunion, to be held in conjunction with the Year-End Dance Performances, May 25—27. While more than thirty alumni have indicated they will attend, HARID hopes to get the message out to all former students. Please help us by passing the word to any HARID Alumni you may be in touch with!

The Class of 2007: HARID's Largest Ever!

Thirteen seniors—eleven young women and two young men—will receive their diplomas from HARID in May. Each has been busy this term completing university applications and attending auditions for various dance companies. It is an anxious yet exciting time for them. Congratulations and best wishes to Jill Beam, Sarah Bryner, Miku Kawamura, Mallory Kledzik, Isadora Loyola Siqueira, Beth Ann Maslinoff, Caitlin McElroy, Jessica Omelian, Mariko Oriyama, Alison Trumbull, René Weinstrof, Eric Williams, and Drew Wright... HARID's largest-ever graduating class!

20th Anniversary Year-End Dance Performances

On May 25, 26, and 27, HARID will serve up a special treat for ballet enthusiasts. The 20th Anniversary Year-End Dance Performances will include the exciting classical ballet *Paquita*; award-winning choreographer Mark Godden's *What Can I Tell My Bones?*; the Florida premiere of *Songs Without Words* by the internationally renowned Dutch choreographer Hans van Manen; and special guest appearances by HARID alumni. This extraordinary program will be presented at the brand-new Countess de Hoernle Theatre, located on the campus of Spanish River Community High School (5100 Jog Road at Yamato Road).

"We're really excited to be presenting such an amazing program in May," says director Gordon Wright. "Each ballet, in my opinion, is a masterwork. *Paquita* is the perfect classical ballet for a gala and our dancers will absolutely shine in it. Mark Godden's creativity has been invaluable to HARID throughout the past fifteen years and his *What Can I Tell My Bones?* is a captivating celebration of movement and form. Giving our students the opportunity to dance Hans van Manen's *Songs Without Words* is a dream come true for me. It's a brilliant and beautiful work set to Felix Mendelssohn's enchanting music for solo piano. And, on top of all that, we're also inviting a number of our alumni to appear as guest artists. Our May program is not to be missed!"

The 20th Anniversary Year-End Dance Performances have been generously underwritten by the Morris and Elfriede Stonzek Endowment Fund and by Northern Trust. Tickets are now available at HARID, 2285 Potomac Road in Boca Raton, Monday—Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., or by telephone: 561-998-8038.



Photo: Nancy Lock ©

A New Home for HARID Performances: The Countess de Hoernle Theatre

Boca Raton's newest performance venue, the *Countess de Hoernle Theatre* at Spanish River Community High School, is a sight to behold! Completed just this past month, the theatre features a fully-equipped stage, forty-one-feet wide and thirty-feet deep, that features a sprung floor (so gentle on a dancer's feet and legs...) and sufficient wing space to hide an army of anxious performers! Outside, HARID's patrons will be pleased to find ample parking immediately in front of the theater entrance. Inside, they will enjoy firm, comfortable seats, each one of which has a clear view of the entire stage.

"The new Countess de Hoernle Theatre is extraordinary," claims director Gordon Wright. "I'm very grateful to Spanish River High School's principal Dr. Tuman-Rugg for soliciting and welcoming HARID's input regarding the theater's design. The architects were wonderfully responsive to our thoughts and suggestions, and the final result is everything we could ask for in a performance venue. We're looking forward to May when our students will first set foot upon the new stage!"

We hope you have enjoyed reading HARID's Spring Newsletter. The next issue will be published in November.