

BALLET

CO. LABORATORY

2018/19 ANNUAL REPORT



CO. CREATE

CO. DEVELOP

CO. INSPIRE

"The company is founded on tenets of collaboration and exploration, while also pushing against tropes of what ballet is supposed to be."

- City Pages

A letter from our Artistic Director



Dear Ballet Co.Laboratory Community,

I am so grateful to each and every one of you for helping make our first year as an organization a success. BCL is the ballet school and company of our community because of your involvement, enthusiasm, and support.

The past season has been one of tremendous growth and I couldn't be more proud of what we have accomplished together. The BCL artists, team, volunteers, students, parents, and community have come together to fill our organization's first season with three inspiring productions. We brought fresh perspective to the classic holiday tradition with *Nutcracker in Wonderland*, told our own story in *Gentle Human*, and continued the evolution of the story ballet with *Remembering The Little Prince*.

Equally inspiring were the performances of our students in *Laboratory II*, which included movement in classical, contemporary, and modern styles. We continue to learn from the next generation of artists, even as we teach them.

Having had a chance now to reflect on our first year, I am excited to look forward into the year to come. We have another great season in progress for the professional company, and our students of all ages who continue to inspire us in ever-unexpected ways. Cheers to our fearless community, which brings people and dance together.

Zoé Emilie Henrot

"At 28, Henrot has already proven herself a choreographer to watch, offering a contemporary and often feminist take on classic ballet."

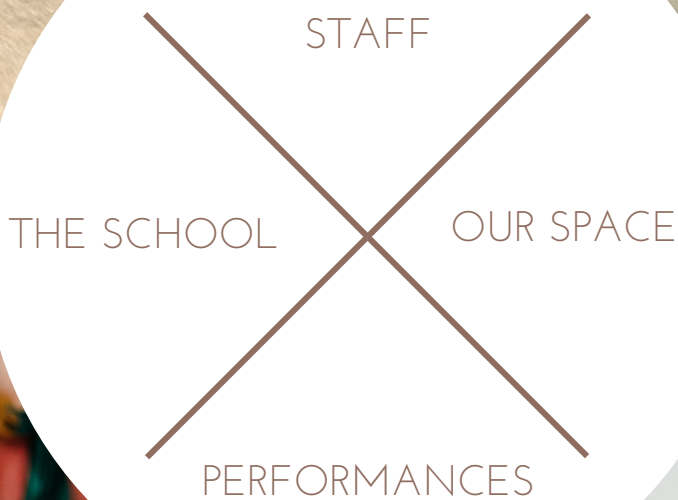
- Star Tribune



Our 2018/19 Impact

Created a community of staff and partners to help establish BCL

Built and refined our space to create a comfortable studio for dancers



Developed a Pre-Professional, Drop In and Young Dancers Program

Performed a full season of professional and premiere performances at various theaters in the Twin Cities



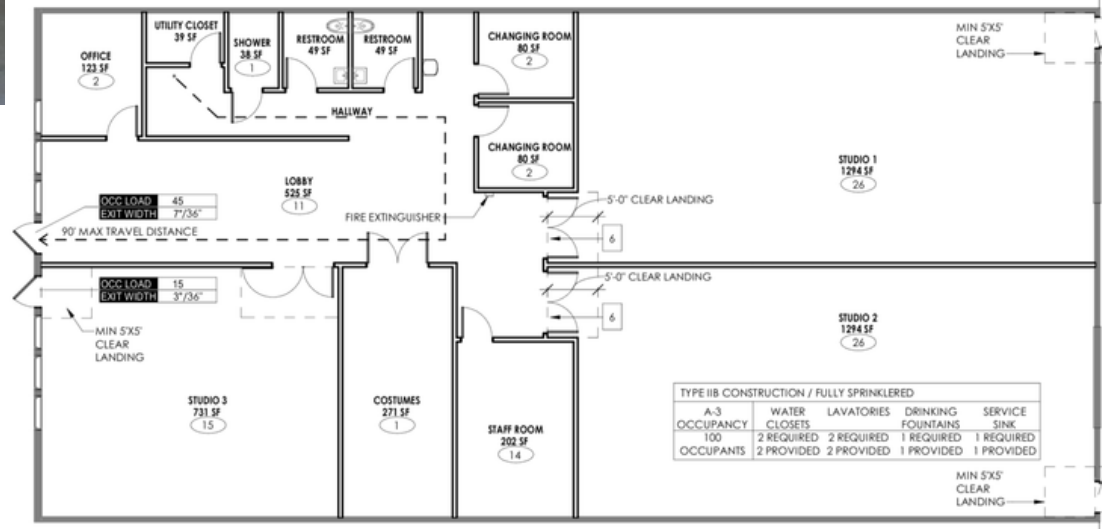
Before



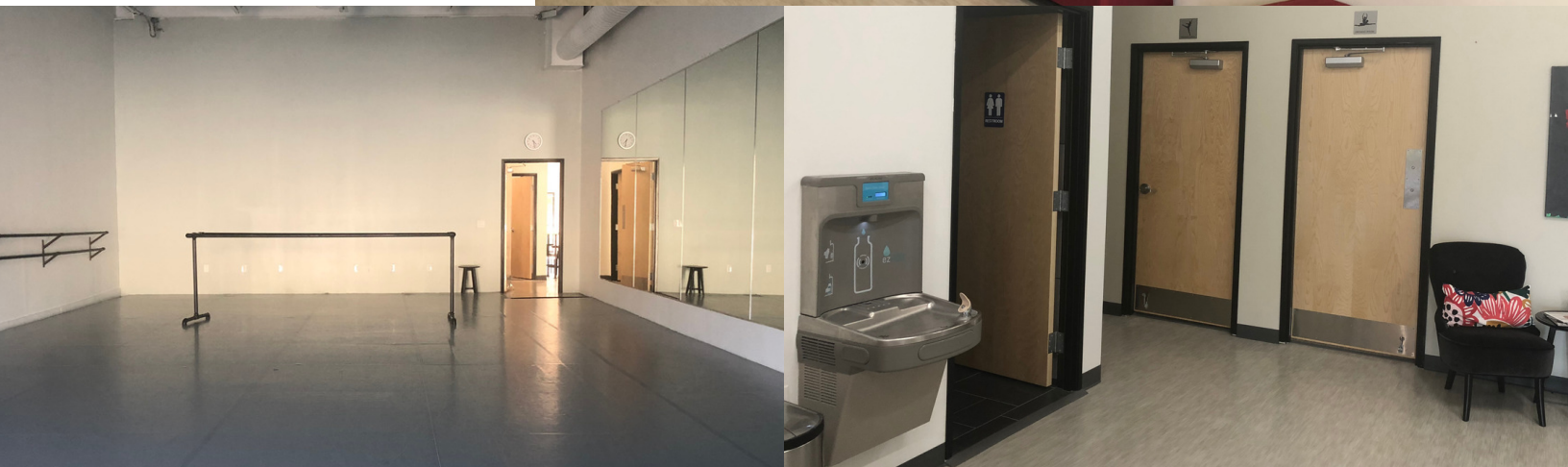
Our Space

276 East Lafayette
Frontage Road in St Paul.

- 3 Studios
- Natural light
- Gender neutral & ADA accessible restrooms
- Shower
- Reception area
- Lobby
- Study space
- Changing rooms
- Staff lounge
- Costume shop
- Free parking
- Metro transit access
- Free WiFi
- Kitchenette



After



WE SERVED...

Class Numbers:

Drop In Students - 179
Pre-Professional Students - 34
Young Dancers - 22
Workshops Students - 25
Summer Students - 180

Scholarships:

We gave \$6,000+ to students in need of scholarships. We believe in making dance accessible for all.

Outreach Performances:

Ballet Tuesdays at Landmark Center
Storytime at Barnes & Nobles
Toddler Tuesdays at MOA
NEDA Walk at MOA
Dancers Against Cancer

AND 2,500+ audiences through our performances



BEYOND THE MIRROR

A body positive initiative.

LECTURES

Our community partners and educators provide lectures and educational seminars on topics of

- Anatomy
- Nutrition
- Conditioning
- Progressing Ballet Technique
- Yoga
- Muscle Phasing
- Physical Therapy

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Advanced level students are each paired with a Company Artist mentor. The pairs are invited to special events and educational seminars and check in with each other on a regular basis. We are passionate about giving students tools and resources to become successful dancers.



Our August Health Fair will give our dancers more information and tools to help them take care of their bodies and minds

"I really enjoyed all of the Beyond the Mirror classes. They were super informative, helpful, and well rounded!" - Summer Laboratory Student



WHATS NEXT FOR 2019/20?

Expanding our young dancer program by adding more classes such as Pre-Ballet and Family Dance



Incorporating 5 new Teen/Adult Workshops throughout the year and inviting new Guest Teaching Artists



Partnering with Good Samaritan through chair dance classes to give differently abled people an opportunity to dance



Launching a new program for boys and men as well as variations classes for upper levels



15 planned Outreach Performances in the Minneapolis/St Paul community



Search for Ballet Co.Laboratory

Or visit our website at
www.balletcolaboratory.org/

Introducing...

Managing Director: Rachel Koep

Rachel will work alongside BCL leadership to develop the strategic vision and direction for overall administrative operations. She will work to develop methods that ensure maximum value from the organization's networks to elevate the financial resources and talents for BCL through fundraising, marketing, budgeting, board relations, events, and other efforts.



In her own words:

"I am a lifelong dancer. I slipped on my first pair of ballet slippers at the age of three and never looked back. Outside of the studio, I have melded my passion for the performing arts into a career of uplifting our beautifully diverse arts community. I work every day to ensure that artists have the resources they need while building deep, meaningful relationships between artists and the audiences they serve. For me, it is truly a dream come true to work alongside Ballet Co.Laboratory as we work to create, develop, and inspire a new generation of dance lovers."

2019/20 Season



Laboratory II

March 21, 2020

An evening of new works by
Emerging Artists performed by
BCL advanced students

Freddie – Break Free

April 10-11 & 17-19, 2020

A contemporary ballet set to live Queen
music that explores Freddie Mercury's
life on and off stage



On Our Terms

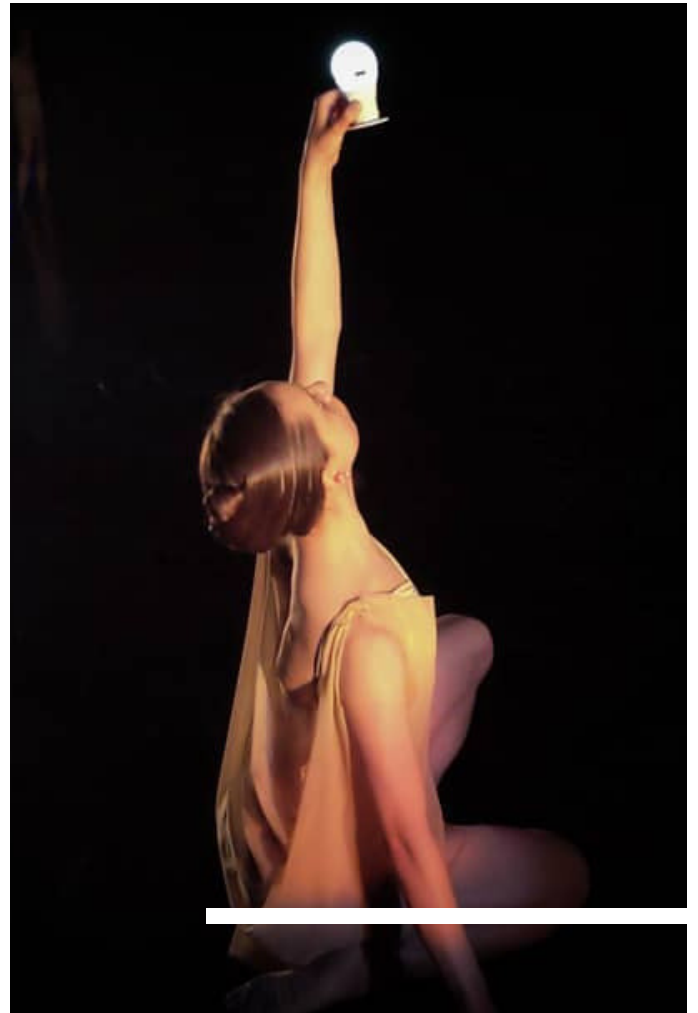
October 12, 2019

An in-studio performance fundraiser

Nutcracker in Wonderland

December 13-15, 2019

The holiday classic meets
whimsy and wonder



Peter Davison's

An American in Paris

new & extended!

June 6 & 7, 2020

A fun-filled tale of the 1950s set to a
jazzy Gershwin score



Thank You

All students, families, volunteers, and donors

Gethsemane Episcopal Church

Company Artists: Nicole Brown, Wesleigh Dichter, Brittany Pate, Rosa Prigan, Michelle Ludwig, Elaina Sutula, Molly Winker, Anna Roehr

BCL 2018/19 Staff: Naomi Bird, Richard Erickson, Anna Goodrich, Jeffrey Hankinson, Franco Holder, Justin Leaf, Deborah Nettell

The Board of Directors: Denis Henrot, Jim DeLeo, Sara Wilson

Production Staff: Hope Hagan, Jacob Edholm, Barbara Edholm

Guest Artists: Joel Dichter, Hasan Ingraham, Sam Neale, Christian Warner

Volunteer Coordinator: Emily Schmall

Work Exchange Students: Shannon Hartle, Heather Hubert, Rachel Indihar, Persephone Ma

Summer Interns: Tamar Cohen, Anne Petrich, Lillian Kline, Tabytha Ewy, Kayla Cardenas, Annie Carlson, Abby Beckers

Foundations: Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, The Harvard Foundation

Partners: Feline Rescue, Handsome Cycles, Landmark Center, Mall of America, Training Haus, Twin Cities Orthopedics, New Heights Physical Therapy, Muscle Smith, Renewal Therapy, BiPro, CorePower Yoga, Wish Garden Herbs, Pranarom Scientific Aromatherapy, Karin Lynn Photography, Walfred Swanson, Jennifer Adam, Monya Kampa, Caroline Yang, Joe Kenny, Tim Pate, Connor Graf, Christopher Harrison Eldridge, Lorin Ludwig, Orchestra Hall, Brian Doyle, St. Croix Ballet, Jeremy Wiens, Sarah Quie, MajLis and Dean Jalkio, Jim and Liane Mattson and Wellington Management

Space Construction: Houghton and Holm Made LLC, Greatmats, Rosco