



# Los Angeles, CA Timeline

January 4-5, 2025

**Class venue: Los Angeles Ballet Academy, 15255 Ventura Blvd Annex 3, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403**

**Performance Venue: Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd, Downey, CA, 90241**

TIME	Saturday, January 4th , 2025	LOCATION
8am	Staff Arrive	LABA
8:15am	Check In Primary	LABA
9am-10:30am	<b>Primary Evaluation Technique Class (1.5hrs)</b>	LABA
10am	Check In Junior	LABA
10:45am-12:15pm	<b>Junior Evaluation Technique Class (1.5hrs)</b>	LABA
11:45am	Check In Senior	LABA
12:30pm- 2pm	<b>Senior Evaluation Technique Class (1.5hrs)</b>	LABA
●	MOVE TO DOWNEY THEATRE	
5:15pm	Doors Open	Downey
5:30pm	Open Stage Junior Contemporary (30mins)	Downey
6pm-7pm	<b><u>Junior Age Division Contemporary Competition</u></b>	Downey
7:00pm	Open Stage Junior Classical (30mins)	Downey
7:30pm-9:15pm	<b><u>Junior Age Division Classical Competition</u></b>	Downey

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TIME	Sunday, January 5th, 2025	LOCATION
9am	Doors Open	Downey
9:15am	Open Stage Primary Classical (15mins)	Downey
9:30am-11:00am	<b><u>Primary Age Division Classical Competition</u></b>	Downey
11:00am	Open Stage Senior Contemporary (15mins)	Downey
11:15am-12:00pm	<b><u>Senior Age Division Contemporary Competition</u></b>	Downey
12:00pm-12:30pm	<b><u>Lunch</u></b>	Downey
12:30pm	Open Stage Primary Contemporary Division (15mins)	Downey
12:45pm-1:45pm	<b><u>Primary Age Division Contemporary Competition</u></b>	Downey
1:45pm	Open Stage Senior Classical (15mins)	Downey
2pm-3pm	<b><u>Senior Age Division Classical Competition</u></b>	Downey
3pm	Open Stage Ensemble (15mins)	Downey
3:15pm	<b><u>Ensemble Division Competition</u></b>	Downey
3:30pm-4:30pm	Dinner	Downey
4:30-5pm	<b>Panel Discussion Forum</b>	Downey
5:00-5:45pm	<b>Awards</b>	Downey

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### **Christopher Hird**

Sarasota Ballet, Director of Education

Originally from England, Christopher studied at the Royal Academy of Dance syllabi before training at The Royal Ballet School. He toured Europe as part of a company headlined by the internationally acclaimed ballerina, Sylvie Guillem. After retiring from the stage, Hird worked as the Assistant to the Director of the British Ballet Organization, and later as Assistant to the Development Manager at The Royal Ballet School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Dance from the University of Roehampton and a Diploma from Canada's National Ballet School's Teacher Training Program. Hird joined Boston Ballet School in 2003 and was promoted to Artistic Manager in 2009. He was a main teacher for students in the

Pre-Professional and Classical Ballet Programs as well as being part of the Senior Leadership Team. Hird has staged ballets for the School including *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *La Bayadère*, and Sir Frederick Ashton's *Les Patineurs*, *Les Rendezvous* and *La Fille mal Gardée*. Hird was also a Children's Ballet Master for Boston Ballet's *The Nutcracker*.

In 2013, Hird was appointed Head of Adult Programming. He has led the artistic vision for the redesign of the program as well as been instrumental in developing and enhancing the adult students' engagement with Boston Ballet. Hird has served on the international jury of the Japan Grand Prix in 2008 and 2010, the Surrey Festival of Dance (Canada) in 2007 and 2008, the Goiania Dance Festival (Brazil) in 2012 and 2015. He has been a guest teacher for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Canada's National Ballet School, Cecchetti Council of America and Harvard University. The Sarasota Ballet appointed Christopher Hird as Director of Education and Principal for the Margaret Barbieri Conservatory in July 2016.

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### Tina LeBlanc

**San Francisco Ballet, Company Rehearsal Director**

Growing up in Delaware and Pennsylvania, Tina LeBlanc began her dance training with Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and Joffrey II. LeBlanc joined The Joffrey Ballet in 1982, performing principal roles two years into her tenure. While at The Joffrey Ballet, she worked under the tutelage of Gerald Arpino and Robert Joffrey. In 1992, LeBlanc became a principal dancer with San Francisco Ballet. At the company, she danced full-length classics such as Helgi Tomasson's *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Nutcracker*, Tomasson/Possokhov's *Don Quixote*, and performed works by George Balanchine, Agnes de Mille, Jerome Robbins, William Forsythe, Fredrick Ashton, and Lar Lubovitch. LeBlanc created roles in works by high-profile choreographers, including David Bintley, Mark Morris, Stanton Welch, Julia Adam, Christopher Wheeldon, and Jiří Kylián.

LeBlanc began participating in Lucy Gray's long-term photography project in 1999, along with fellow San Francisco Ballet colleagues Katita Waldo and Kristen Long. It took fourteen years to complete the project, and the photos were published in 2015 in *Balancing Acts: Three Prima Ballerinas Becoming Mothers*. She has received two Princess Grace Awards and two Isadora Duncan Dance Awards throughout her career. This is where, along with Waldo, Long, Roman Rykine, and Gennadi Nedvigin, she won for her performance in Forsythe's *The Vertiginous Thrill of Exactitude*. In 2009, LeBlanc retired from SF Ballet and joined the faculty of the SF Ballet School, leaving to become a rehearsal director for SF Ballet in 2019.

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### **Nilas Martins**

Balanchine Trust Repetiteur  
Former NYCB Principal

Born in Copenhagen, Nilas Martins received his early dance training at the Royal Danish Ballet School. As a student, he performed with the Royal Danish Ballet in such works as John Neumeier's *Romeo and Juliet*, August Bournonville's *Konservatoriet*, *A Folk Tale*, *Napoli*, and Glen Tetley's *Firebird*. In 1984, he moved to New York and enrolled at the School of American Ballet. In September 1986 he became a member of New York City Ballet. In 1991, he was promoted to the rank of soloist and in 1993 to Principal dancer. In New York City Ballet, Mr. Martins danced numerous featured roles and worked closely with choreographers: John Alleyne, Lynn Taylor Corbett, Boris Eifman, William Forsythe, Peter Martins, Trey McIntyre, Kevin O'Day, Jerome Robbins, Susan Stroman, Richard Tanner among others. Mr. Martins' film credits include: "Live from Lincoln Center" broadcast of Ray Charles in Concert, "The

Nutcracker" released in 1993 by Warner Brothers, "Dance in America" telecast of "Dinner with Balanchine" where he danced the role of Apollo with Paris Opera Etoile Isabel Guerin. "Lincoln Center Celebrates Balanchine 100" where he danced 'The Man I Love' from *Who Cares?* featuring Wynton Marsalis. Mr. Martins' teaching resume' includes Armitage Gone Dance, BalletMet, Boston Ballet, Hamburg Ballet, Harvard University, Indiana University, Joffrey Ballet School, Miami City Ballet, National Ballet of China, NBA Ballet (Japan), New York City Ballet, Novosibirsk Ballet (Russia), NYSSA Summer Intensive, Princeton University, Royal Danish Ballet, School of American Ballet and Washington Ballet.