

BALLET RI

KATHLEEN BREEN COMBES, DIRECTOR

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Ballet Rhode Island Unveils Season 49: Icons In Motion

Providence, RI (June 23, 2026) – Ballet Rhode Island (Ballet RI) is proud to announce its 2026–2027 Season, an inventive year of live performance rooted in the stories, art, and music that have defined our world. Icons In Motion asks what happens when history's most iconic figures, masterworks, and anthems are brought to life through the living, breathing art of dance.

"Season 49 is all about celebrating the artists and stories that inspire us. We're excited to share bold new works alongside beloved classics, and to connect with our community in new ways." — Kathleen Breen Combes, Ballet RI Artistic Executive Director

The season opens with ***In Motion***, a striking program pairing Yuri Yanowsky's *Bathers* and James Whiteside's *City of Women* with a powerful world premiere created in collaboration with the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center, inspired by the incredible story of Lillian Birch. The production that makes the holiday season sparkle, ***The Nutcracker***, returns to The VETS in Providence, enchanting audiences of all ages with its stunning sets, glittering costumes, and unforgettable performances. With choreography by Yuri Yanowsky, music by Tchaikovsky and a cast of company dancers and local youth, ***The Nutcracker*** remains an awe-inspiring Rhode Island holiday tradition. The new year brings with it the triumphant return of fan favorite ***Ballet Meets the Beatles***, featuring Trey McIntyre's *A Day in the Life*. The program also features *Same* by Yuri Yanowsky, set to the music of Boston based singer-songwriter Josh Knowles and performed live, offering an intimate and contemporary counterpoint. Ballet RI's annual celebration of its own artists, ***Made on Hope***, returns with its boldest edition yet, seven world premieres each seven minutes long. A charming new children's ballet, ***A Real Life Fairy Tale: Princess Diana***, based on the book by Rhode Island author

Emberli Pridham, brings one of history's most beloved figures to young audiences. The season closes with a production of ***Carmen***, Yury Yanowsky's bold and daring new interpretation of one of ballet's most iconic stories.

Ballet RI continues to bring groundbreaking original works and fearless artistic vision to audiences across Rhode Island. Season 49 is proof that the greatest stories don't just belong in museums or on record, they belong on a stage, in motion, right in front of you.

"Each season, Ballet RI aims to push boundaries and bring fresh perspectives to the stage. This year's lineup reflects our commitment to innovation, collaboration, and the power of dance to tell meaningful stories." — Kathleen Breen Combes, Ballet RI Artistic Executive Director

BALLET RI SEASON 49: ICONS IN MOTION

IN MOTION OCT. 23 - 25, 2026 & NOV. 6, 2026

THE NUTCRACKER DEC. 17-27, 2026

BALLET MEETS THE BEATLES MAR. 12 – 21, 2027

MADE ON HOPE APR. 16-25, 2027

A REAL LIFE FAIRY TALE: PRINCESS DIANA APR. 25 – MAY 2, 2027

CARMEN JUNE 25-27, 2027

For performance details and ticket information, visit www.balletri.org

For press inquiries please email, Marketing Manager Joelle Bellmund, joelle@balletri.org