



American Ballet Theatre's SunMi Park, here with artistic director Susan Jaffe and principal Thomas Forster, was promoted to principal following a performance of Swan Lake. Photo by Natalia Sanchez, courtesy ABT.

News of Note: What You Might Have Missed in July 2026



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Here are the latest promotions, appointments, and departures, as well as notable awards and accomplishments, from July 2026.

Comings & Goings

At American Ballet Theatre, effective in September, **Jarod Curley**, [SunMi Park](#), and [Jake Roxander](#) have been promoted to principal, [Zimmi Coker](#), [Michael de la Nuez](#), [Tyler Maloney](#), [Joseph Markey](#), **Andrew Robare**, and **Yoon Jung Seo** to soloist.

At The Royal Ballet, **Taisuke Nakao** has been promoted to first soloist, **Nadia Mullova-Barley**, **Ella Newton Severgnini**, **Charlotte Tonkinson**, **Marianna Tsembehon**, **Harrison Lee**, and **Marco Masciari** to soloist.

First soloist **Valentino Zucchetti** will depart the company to focus on choreography and producing in October. His final performance is scheduled for October 24.

At South Carolina Ballet, **Claire Rapp** has been promoted to ballerina, **Dylan Van Dyke** and **Sydney Murrell** to demi-soloist.

At Vienna State Ballet, **Natalya Butchko**, **Alessandro Cavallo**, **Duccio Tariello**, and **Rinaldo Venuti** have been promoted to soloist, **Chiara Uderzo** to demi-soloist.

Rafael Quenedit has joined Boston Ballet as a soloist.

Sasha Mukhamedov will join National Ballet of Canada as a first soloist at the start of the new season.

Benjamin Freemantle will join Staatsballett Berlin as a soloist at the start of the new season.

English National Ballet lead principal **Shiori Kase** has departed the company.

Julian MacKay was dismissed from his position as principal dancer at Bayerisches Staatsballett. He is currently pursuing legal action.

New York City Ballet soloist **Brittany Pollack** has retired.

Ballet West principal **Tyler Gum** will retire at the end of October.

Melissa M. Young has been named artistic director of Bruce Wood Dance, succeeding **Joy Bollinger**, who is stepping into the newly created role of resident choreographer and répétiteur.

Tulsa Ballet artistic director **Marcello Angelini** and assistant artistic director **Daniela Buson** will retire at the end of the 2026–27 season.

Chloë Flores has stepped down as executive director and curator of homeLA; **Bernard Brown** and **Samantha Mohr** have been named interim co-directors.

Leah Voigt has been appointed CEO of Grand Rapids Ballet after serving in the role in an interim capacity since October.

Doug Singleton has been named executive director of The Washington Ballet.

Moisés Martín Cintas has joined National Ballet of Canada as a rehearsal director.

David LaMarche has been appointed music director at American Ballet Theatre.

Awards & Honors

At the 2026 Tap City Awards, **Alexandria “Brinae Ali” Bradley** and **Mark Yonally** will receive Hoofer Awards, and **Thelma Goldberg** the Preservation Award. **Buddy Bradley**, **LaVaughn Robinson**, and **NYC Tapworks** will be inducted into the Tap Dance Hall of Fame.

Eric Gauthier received the City of Stuttgart’s Citizens’ Medal.

Claude “CJ” Johnson, Elyse Morris, and André M. Zachery are the recipients of New Dance Alliance’s 2026– 27 Black Artists Space to Create residency, which provies one week of dedicated studio and living space and a \$2,000 stipend.

Kinetic Light is among the organizations to receive a major grant from the Doris Duke and Ford Foundations supporting technological innovation in the performing arts.

ALESSANDRO CAVALLO	ALEXANDRIA “BRINAE ALI” BRADLEY	ANDRÉ M. ZACHERY	ANDREW ROBARE		
BENJAMIN FREEMANTLE	BERNARD BROWN	BRITTANY POLLACK	BUDDY BRADLEY	CHARLOTTE TONKINSON	
CHIARA UDERZO	CHLOË FLORES	CLAIRE RAPP	CLAUDE “CJ” JOHNSON	DANIELA BUSON	DAVID LAMARCHE
DOUG SINGLETON	DUCCIO TARIELLO	DYLAN VAN DYKE	ELLA NEWTON SEVERGNINI	ELYSE MORRIS	
ERIC GAUTHIER	HARRISON LEE	JAKE ROXANDER	JAROD CURLEY	JOSEPH MARKEY	JOY BOLLINGER
JULIAN MACKAY	KINETIC LIGHT	LAVAUGHN ROBINSON	LEAH VOIGT	MARCELLO ANGELINI	MARCO MASCIARI
MARIANNA TSEMBENHOI	MARK YONALLY	MELISSA M. YOUNG	MICHAEL DE LA NUEZ	MOISÉS MARTÍN CINTAS	
NADIA MULLOVA-BARLEY	NATALYA BUTCHKO	NYC TAPWORKS	RAFAEL QUENEDIT	RINALDO VENUTI	
SAMANTHA MOHR	SASHA MUKHAMEDOV	SHIORI KASE	SUNMI PARK	SYDNEY MURRELL	TAISUKE NAKAO
THELMA GOLDBERG	TYLER GUM	TYLER MALONEY	VALENTINO ZUCCHETTI	YOON JUNG SEO	ZIMMI COKER

