

# PERFORMING ARTS AT IOWA

## *Fairy Tales: Stone Soup & Mother Goose*

Juliet Remmers, Artistic Associate

May 16, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

May 17, 2025, 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Space Place Theater

**IOWA**

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**Department of Dance**

Youth Ballet and Community  
Dance School

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to the following individuals who have made this performance possible.

Administrator: Jason Schadt

Artistic Associate: Juliet Remmers

Administrative Assistant: Rowan Bergen

Senior Accompanist: Douglas Baker

Guest Accompanists: Colin DeJong, Hyewon Lee, Ana Yam

Music: Claude Debussy, Edvard Greig, and Maurice Ravel

Musical Arrangements: Douglas Baker

Ensemble Choreographers: Grace Johnson, Layla Mandigo, Juliet Remmers, Mikey Rioux, Jason Schadt, Josie Hermiston (rehearsal assistant)

Costume Design: Douglas Baker, Juliet Remmers, and Jason Schadt

Lighting Design: Gabi Vanek

Crew: Anna Kennedy, Noelle Michael

*We extend special gratitude to all volunteers, whose work behind the scenes makes performance magic possible. Many thanks to the hard-working choreographers who crafted and rehearsed these dances and to the teachers and assistants who have spent countless hours building the foundations for performance during class time.*

*Thanks to the Department of Dance and the Performing Arts Production Unit for their support, especially Eloy Barragán, Molly Dahlberg, George de la Peña, Rebekah Kowal, Cindy Kubu, Brianna Maxwell, KatyBeth Schmidt, Gina Smothers, Sarah Raper, Rosie Ver Steegh, and Juliana Waechter.*

# ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

This year, the UI Youth Ballet and Community Dance School's annual spring concert brings favorite childhood stories to life with the new original production, *Fairy Tales: Stone Soup & Mother Goose*. Live piano illuminates the dance with compositions by Claude Debussy, Edvard Greig and Maurice Ravel. Graduating senior, Vivian Peterson, kicks off the show with a solo choreographed by UI Associate Professor of Instruction, Kristin Marrs.

Each annual spring concert provides a window into dancers' progression as they develop skills and artistry from Pre-Ballet at age 6 through upper-level Ensemble and beyond. Essential to their dance education, student performers are immersed in the rehearsal environment and production elements of a cohesive theatrical dance performance.

## PRODUCTION/COSTUME FUND CONTRIBUTORS

A special thank you to the wonderful community members who have contributed to the Youth Ballet Production and Costume Fund.

Paula Adams

Jennifer Adrian

Dina Blanc

Lou Blankenburg

Christine Berlin

Thomas Callahan

Richard Carlson

Amanda Case

Amber Cummer

Sherri Erkel

Molly Dahlberg

Diane Duncan-Goldsmith

Angela Farrell

Rebecca Fields-Moffitt

Peggy Fitzgerald

Yuejia Gu

Emily Ladendorf

Erin Lane

Allison Levine

Katina Lillios

Katie Lutz

Bryan Mangano

Casey Maynard

Sara O'Leary

Wei Ouyang

Anne Pelzer

Hannah Sandler

Allyson Schultz-Cox

Andrea Swenson

An Vu

Emma Walls

Melinda Weinstein

# YOUTH BALLET ENSEMBLE

Levels 4 & 5: Gabe Hahn, Vivian Peterson, Gwendolyn Raab, Cora Sutton, Fern Tomek

Level 3: Hannah Adrian, Aissa Erkel, Iulia Fang-Kawamuro, Eleanor Moffitt, Tess O'Leary, Brynhild Turk, Kendall Watson

## THE PROGRAM

### ***Crimson Wings – Senior Solo***

*While the tale of The Red Shoes provided the starting point, this solo side-steps the less savory elements of the classic narrative. Color is utilized as a metaphor for the myriad paths we take through life, and the joy we find when we let our “true colors” shine through.*

Choreography: Kristin Marrs

Dancer: Vivian Peterson

### ***Stone Soup***

*A weary soldier, battered by the ravages of war, stumbles into a village, bringing only his rucksack and deep hunger. The villagers, cautious and reluctant to speak with the traveler, refuse to offer him anything. An old woman steps forward, offering not only her assistance but a large cauldron in which to cook. The soldier fills the pot with water from a nearby stream, drops in a large stone, and sets it over a fire. As he begins to stir, a curious villager asks what he's doing, and the soldier explains he's making “stone soup,” which, while promising, still needs a little garnish to reach its full potential. One by one, the villagers contribute salt, pepper, and onions. Soon others follow suit, each adding something of their own—apples, leeks, peas, kale, cabbage, and potatoes. When the stone is finally removed, the cauldron is filled with a rich, hearty soup. The soldier and the old woman, having coaxed the villagers into sharing their food, invite everyone to partake in the nourishing feast, turning a moment of desperation into a celebration of generosity and community.*

Choreography: Grace Johnson and Juliet Remmers

Soldier: Gabe Hahn, Old Woman: Gwen Raab

Villagers: Youth Ballet Ensemble

## ***Salt and Pepper***

Choreography: Iliana Banu

Level 1B (Tuesday): Adelia Beckley, Amelia Foulker, Emily Nguyen, Fâtima Souaiaia, Anika Super

## ***Yellow Onions***

Choreography: Camille Malecek, asst. Josie Hermiston

Level 2A: Rongyu Jiang, Agatha Maynard, Kate Rocha, Aavya Singh, Coralie Zheng

## ***Apples***

Choreography: Rowan Bergen

Level 1A (Thursday): Natalie Bell, Lena Case, Reagan Hilton, Sadie Linder, Hope Muthiga

## ***Hunger Pangs***

Choreography: Juliet Remmers

Soldier: Gabe Hahn, Old Woman: Gwen Raab

## ***Corn (Friday and Saturday 7:00PM)***

Choreography: Iliana Banu

Pre-Ballet: Hazel Farrell, Ellie Hadlandsmyth, Anna Liu, Matilda McNeill, Brynn O'Shea, Vivian Parker, Shalai Semprini, Ishya Singh, Christine Ulery-Olson

## ***Leeks***

Choreography: Joan Gonwa

Creative Dance 4: Adriana Dodd, Elena Mitchell, Dara Ulery-Olson

## ***Taste Test***

Choreography: Juliet Remmers

Soldier: Gabe Hahn, Old Woman: Gwen Raab

## ***Peas***

Choreography: Iliana Banu

Level 1A (Saturday): Jinyu Jiang, Valerie Rozendaal

## **Red Cabbage**

Choreography: Martha Hamilton

Level 1B (Saturday): Mariia Khomchyk, Lillian Maas, Curie Mims,  
Quinn Ripple, Aiyana Rogers, Dara Ulery-Olson

## **Stirring the Pot**

Choreography: Juliet Remmers

Soldier: Gabe Hahn, Old Woman: Gwen Raab

## **Kale**

Choreography: Rowan Bergen

Creative Dance 3: Lena Carrington, Shalai Semprini,  
Christine Ulery-Olson, Oriana Volkogon, Jamie Xu

## **Potatoes**

Choreography: Sean Thomas Boyt

Level 2B: Gretchen Cummer, Bianca Escribano, Maya Hermiston,  
Elena Mitchell, Dioni Swanston

## **Stone Soup Celebration**

Choreography: Juliet Remmers

All Levels

## **MOTHER GOOSE SUITE**

### ***Sleeping Beauty in the Woods***

*Sleeping Beauty walks through the forest.*

*Her feet have carried her here before, and it feels like the old trees  
remember her too.*

*Their roots dig deep and tunnel beneath her feet, while their branches  
soar high above her head.*

*Could it be—the sound of a forgotten friend?*

*There was more Sleeping Beauty meant to say.*

*Was someone there... or did she imagine it?*

*Maybe the trees heard it too."*

Choreography: Jason Schadt

Sleeping Beauty: Fern Tomek

Trees: Level 4/5 Ensemble

## **Tom Thumb**

*There was once a woodcutter who had a wife and seven children. The youngest was named Tom Thumb. The children loved to play outside but often wandered too far into the woods. One day, fearing they might get lost, Tom Thumb used breadcrumbs to create a path to follow. Sadly, birds came and ate them up. The siblings were all truly lost, but Tom Thumb remained hopeful. She climbed a tree and spotted a light shining from her window at home and was able to guide her siblings back.*

Choreography: Layla Mandigo

Tom Thumb: Cora Sutton

Siblings: Level 3 Ensemble

## **Princess of the Pagodas**

*Once upon a time there were twin princesses. One day they had a party but forgot to invite all of the fairies of the kingdom. Upset that she wasn't invited, the most wicked of the fairies cast a spell on one of the princesses. While trying to escape, the princess got swept out to sea. Struggling to stay afloat, the princess spotted a dragon. The dragon flew over to the princess and rescued her. After discussing, the princess found out that the dragon was the King of the Pagodas who was also under a spell from the wicked fairy. At first, the princess was afraid of the dragon, but she soon grew to trust the dragon and they fell in love. Their love was so great that it broke the spells cast on both of them. The Pagodas were so happy that everyone danced with joy, and they lived happily ever after.*

Choreography: Mikey Rioux

Level 4/5 Ensemble

## **Conversations with Beauty and the Beast**

*Beauty walks in a room full of stone statues deep within the Beast's castle. As she dances alone, suddenly the statues come to life and dance with her. Beauty watches the statues dance, and noting how their dancing is different, but also beautiful. Beauty asks the statues to dance with her, but they begin to leave. Beauty decides to leave, and the rest of the statues turn back to stone.*

Choreography: Grace Johnson

Beauty: Vivian Peterson

Stone Statues: Youth Ballet Ensemble

## **Fairy Garden**

*The sun rises upon a group of fairies in a woodland clearing. The fairies begin a slow, enchanting dance together. They all know the steps; they've danced this dance before. As the fairies dance, they look towards the rising sun. Together, they celebrate their magical fairy garden.*

Choreography: Grace Johnson

Fairies: Youth Ballet Ensemble

## **Finale**

Choreography: Juliet Remmers

Full cast

# ENROLL IN SUMMER SESSION

Register by Sunday, May 18, to have your \$25 registration fee waived. Regular registration period opens Monday, May 19, 2025.



View session dates and register for classes at [youth.dance.uiowa.edu/enroll](https://youth.dance.uiowa.edu/enroll)

# FALL SEMESTER

Fall semester starts on August 25, 2025. For more information, review the calendar at:

[youth.dance.uiowa.edu/calendar](https://youth.dance.uiowa.edu/calendar)

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