



## **DANCE FOR ALL RETURNS WITH A FULL MONTH OF FREE DANCE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, MARCH 22-APRIL 25, THROUGHOUT DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOODS**

*From “Barre at the Bar” to ballet rap, TWB signature community engagement initiative offers accessible dance activities for all ages, in all eight wards*

**Washington, D.C. (March 7, 2022)**—The Washington Ballet (TWB) announces the return of ***Dance For All***, one of the company’s signature community initiatives, **March 22 through April 25**. The third annual *Dance for All* features more than 20 free events and activities for all ages, in all eight wards, including free interactive classes, performances by Company dancers, panel discussions and more. A full calendar of events follows, and is also available online at [www.washingtonballet.org/dance-for-all](http://www.washingtonballet.org/dance-for-all).

“*Dance for All* is a wonderful opportunity to spotlight the work that The Washington Ballet does year-round in our communities and in our schools. What better way to celebrate spring and a return to togetherness than by joining together to dance?,” remarked **Julie Kent**, Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet.

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Highlights of *Dance For All* include:

- Performances as part of the National Cherry Blossom and [Sakura Matsuri](#) Festivals
  - TWB will present Company dancer Stephen Nakagawa's "Rising Sun," a celebration of his Japanese and American Heritage;
  - Ballet dancer and rapper "[Lil Tokyo Loco](#)" (TWB artist Tamako Miyazaki) will perform a "Ballet Rap" as part of a children's story hour.
- Free dance classes for any experience level and all ages at both The Washington School of Ballet's Northwest and Southeast campuses.
- Grown-up fun with Barre at the Bar and Brunch and Bar, two social events that pair interactive, no-experience-necessary classes with noshe.

As part of *Dance for All*, TWB continues its long standing partnership with **DC Public Libraries** with story-time events at libraries in each ward. *Dance for All* concludes on April 25 with a special event co-hosted by the MLK Library and featuring TWB's own **Ashley Murphy Wilson**. A long-time star at Dance Theatre of Harlem and now a senior dancer with TWB, Ms. Wilson and other TWB artists and local arts leaders will lead a discussion of DC as a vibrant arts hub and the role that TWB and other dance companies have played in the cultural fabric of the city for more than 75 years.

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## DANCE FOR ALL 2022 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Events are free for all unless otherwise noted. A full schedule of events is also available online at [www.washingtonballet.org/dance-for-all](http://www.washingtonballet.org/dance-for-all).

### **Barre at the Bar + Digital Screening (ticketed event)**

Thursday, March 24, 6:00pm – 7:00pm (class)

Capital One Hall, 7750 Capital One

Thursday, March 24, 7:30pm – 9:00pm (screening)

Tower Road, Tysons, Virginia

Close out your work day and come play with fellow arts lovers as TWB company dancers lead a modified, mat-based barre class. Following class, join friends and colleagues for a drink at the Vault bar (one drink included with ticket purchase), a digital screening of one of TWB's ballets on film, and a Q+A with the artists. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.capitalonehall.com/event/barre](http://www.capitalonehall.com/event/barre).

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**Books in Motion (ticketed event)**

Saturday, March 26, 11:00am – 12:00pm

Capital One Hall, 7750 Capital One  
Tower Road, Tysons, Virginia

Join TWB for *Books in Motion*, a story time and movement demonstration based on children's books and the stories of famous ballets. Participants will engage in interactive creative movement while exploring pantomime movements as they relate to the storybook. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.capitalonehall.com/event/storytime](http://www.capitalonehall.com/event/storytime).

**Adult Stretch & Strengthen with TWB artist Jessy Dick**

Saturday, March 26, 11:00am – 12:00pm

TWB NW Campus  
Joseph C. Coleman Studios (2nd floor)  
3308 Wisconsin Ave, NW (Ward 3)

This 60-minute, total-body conditioning class is inspired dancer and accessible applicable to all experience levels and ages. This class focuses on developing range of motion and strength for joints, as well as toning, refining and lengthening key muscle groups used in dance. This is a perfect class to build strength or take as a warm up before a full ballet class.

**Hirshhorn Kids Art Cart: Invent An Instrument**

Thursday, March 31, 10am-12pm

Hirshhorn Museum (second level),  
Independence Ave & 7th St (Ward 2)

Join The Washington Ballet and learn what it means to investigate and play with sound. Create your own instrument inspired by artist Laurie Anderson, while discovering how music inspires the way dancers move through space and dance in time. Dance around and make some noise with your self-made instrument!

**Children's Creative Movement (ages 3-6) &****Intro to Ballet (ages 7-11)**

Saturday, April 2, 1:45pm - 2:30pm

TWB NW Campus: Van Ness Studios,  
4200 Wisconsin Ave. NW (Ward 3)

These dance classes introduce children to age-appropriate elements of ballet and dance, developing body awareness, increased strength and motor coordination. Students exercise creativity, imagination, rhythm and motion, as they explore early dance concepts in a nurturing and joyful environment. This class offers an excellent foundation in early dance explorations.

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**Performance of “Rising Sun,” by Stephen Nakagawa**

Saturday, April 9, TIME TBD

Cherry Blossom/Sakura Matsuri Festival  
“Capital Stage,” Pennsylvania Avenue, NW,  
Between 3rd and 7th Streets (Ward 1)

Choreographed by TWB Company member Stephen Nakagawa, “Rising Sun” with music by Kyoshi Yoshida is a ballet inspired by the strength and the elegance of Japanese culture. Six dancers share the stage in a variety of dances bringing elements of ballet, kabuki theater, and Japanese tea service together. Created in 2020 during the rise of violence against the AAPI community, this work demonstrates that the AAPI community is strong and beautiful, and represents that a new day (Rising Sun) will be upon us.

**Family Class and Ballet Rap by Lil Tokyo Loco**

Saturday, April 10, TIME TBD

Cherry Blossom/Sakura Matsuri Festival  
“Capital Stage,” Pennsylvania Avenue, NW,  
Between 3rd and 7th Streets (Ward 1)

Take part in a free family-friendly, multigenerational class taught by a dance artist of The Washington Ballet. This free class is designed for the entire family to be introduced to classical ballet technique, storytelling through pantomime movement, and The Washington Ballet repertoire in a welcoming and inclusive environment. This family friendly experience will include a “ballet rap” by Lil Tokyo Loco (aka Company Dancer Tamako Miyazaki).

**Children’s Creative Movement (ages 3-6) & Intro to Ballet (ages 7-11)**

Tuesday, April 12, 5-6pm (Creative Movement, ages 3-6)

TWB SE Campus at THEARC

Tuesday, April 12, 6-7pm (Intro to Ballet, ages 7-11)

1901 Mississippi Ave, SE, Suite 202 (Ward 8)

These dance classes introduce children to age-appropriate elements of ballet and dance, developing body awareness, increased strength and motor coordination. Students exercise creativity, imagination, rhythm and motion, as they explore early dance concepts in a nurturing and joyful environment. This class offers an excellent foundation in early dance explorations.

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**Barre & Brunch with The Washington Ballet**

Sunday, April 24, 9:30am

Capitol Riverfront, Yards Park

355 Water St SE (Ward 6)

Join The Washington Ballet at Barre and Brunch on the Riverfront, a revitalizing way to kick start your day. Bring your yoga mat and participate in this free outdoor floor barre fitness class as you overlook the water front. The first 100 attendees will enjoy a complimentary coffee and pastry provided by La Famosa.

**Book Signing & Panel Discussion with Ashley Murphy Wilson**

Monday, April 25, 6:00pm

MLK Public Library (Ward 2)

Join TWB Company Dancer Ashley Murphy Wilson for a book signing of *Dance Theatre of Harlem: A History, A Movement, A Celebration*. Following the book signing, TWB performing artists and educators will present a panel conversation on diversity in ballet and DC as a vibrant cultural city.

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## D.C. Public Library's *Dance for All* Series

**TWB's Meet A Dancer Lecture Demonstration** is an opportunity for students to meet a professional ballet dancer in costume, observe a short movement demo, participate in an interactive ballet lesson, discover what classical ballet is, and learn about what it's like to train and work as a professional dancer. Dancers will also share their personal story and journey of becoming a professional dancer, discuss what it's like to wear ballet attire and why it's done, and participate in a Q&A and photo opp.

**TWB's Story-time Demonstration** is a program designed to give young readers an enjoyable experience through literature and dance. Participants will have the opportunity to meet a professional ballet dancer, and be taken on a journey through story-telling as they explore stories of famous ballets and children's books. Participants will also engage in an interactive creative movement class and explore pantomime movements as they relate to the story.

LIBRARY	WARD	DANCE FOR ALL PROGRAM	DATE & TIME
Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Library	1	Meet a Dancer	Saturday, March 22 at 11am
Woodridge Neighborhood Library	5	Story-time Demo	Saturday, March 26 at 2pm
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library	2	Story-time Demo	Saturday, April 2 at 2pm
Petworth Library	4	Meet a Dancer	Saturday, April 2 at 11am
Cleveland Park	3	Story-time Demo	Tuesday, April 5 at 11am
Southwest Neighborhood Library	6	Meet a Dancer	Wednesday, April 6 at 4pm
Anacostia Neighborhood Library	8	Story-time Demo	Thursday, April 7 at 4pm
Capitol View Library	7	Meet a Dancer	Thursday, April 14 at 4pm