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ROANOKE BALLET THEATRE

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THE STUDENTS OF RBT PRESENT...

*Coppelia*

MAY 3, 2026

3PM



ARTISTIC/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - SANDRA MEYTHALER

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# ROANOKE BALLET THEATRE

WARMLY WELCOMES YOU TO

# *Coppelia*

FEATURING

ROANOKE BALLET THEATRE'S STUDENTS

**EXECUTIVE/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

SANDRA MEYTHALER

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## **Production Staff**

**RBT Executive/Artistic Director**

Sandra Meythaler

**Choreography**

Sandra Meythaler, Julia Vidal  
Patricia Cope-Levy, Antonia  
Dougherty, Vilmedis Cobas

**Stage Manager**

Nicole Espinosa

**Set Design**

Sandra Meythaler

**Costumes**

Renee Aguilera, Courtney  
VanOsten, Sandra Meythaler

**Videographer**

Gabe Simpkins

**Photographer**

Laura White

# Director & Staff

## Executive/Artistic Director - Sandra Meythaler



Sandra Meythaler, a native of Ecuador, began dancing professionally at the age of fifteen with Compania Nacional de Dance in Ecuador and then joined the National Ballet of Ecuador in 1989 as principal ballerina at the age of twenty.

She performed ballet and contemporary dance around the world, including Peru, Belgium, Germany, Italy, England, France, Spain, Brazil, Columbia, and Japan. She also danced with Ballet Novo, Opera Ecuador, and Koral y Esmeralda.

After immigrating to America, in 2001 Sandra became a part of Roanoke Ballet Theatre as a teacher. By 2007 she was promoted to Executive/Artistic Director. In the years that she has been at Roanoke Ballet Theatre, Sandra has been a tireless visionary leader of the School of RBT. She broke ground in 2010

by establishing the City Youth Ballet, a pre-professional company of dancers who have the dedication, talent, skills, and desire to move into a professional dance role. In 2012, her vision brought on the creation of Roanoke's very own professional Ballet Company. The professional Company of Roanoke Ballet Theatre is a group of dancers who not only offer exceptional performances, but also serve as role models to the students in the school. Sandra believes that dance is for everyone, and that it comes from the heart.

## Administrator & Assistant to the Executive Director - Renee Aguilera



Renee Aguilera, born outside of Chicago, Illinois, began her pre-professional training at Dancenter North in Libertyville, Illinois, under the direction of Cheri Lindell, taught by Victoria Barlow, Greg Begley, Altin Naska, and others. There she attended intensives and master classes taught by Amy Brant, Rafael Delgado, Melissa Anderson, Mia Wilkins, Patricia Blair and more. Renee was a scholarship winner of CNADM (Chicago National Association of Dance Masters) which she attended for three years.

In 2003, her training began at the Virginia School of the Arts, under the direction of Petrus Bosman. She was fortunate enough to work with teachers and choreographers such as Martha Faesi, David Keener, Jeff Rogers, Tyrone Brooks, Lisa Thomas, and other staff. She graduated in 2005 from VSA and E.C. Glass High School. Ms. Aguilera continued her dancing at Radford University in Radford, Virginia, under the instruction of Inessa Plekhanova, where she also studied Interior Design and Psychology. She has danced in major ballets such as many Nutcrackers, The Sleeping Beauty, Paquita, Cinderella, La Fille Mal Garde, Don Quixote, and countless others.

This is Ms. Renee's 13th season with Roanoke Ballet Theatre. She is the former Ballet Mistress and Costume Director, ballet and pointe teacher, and past company member of Roanoke Ballet Theatre's professional company.

## **Grants & Development Director - Carolin Koepplin**



Carolin Koepplin is a native of Idaho Falls, Idaho. She fell in love with ballet at the Idaho Falls School of Ballet under the tutelage of Deborah Bean. Carolin then earned a B.F.A. in Ballet cum laude from the University of Utah with an emphasis in both performance and teaching. In Utah, she performed with the Ballet Department's companies: Utah Ballet and the Character Dance Ensemble.

Ms. Koepplin's professional career has provided opportunities to dance with many wonderful artists and organizations. In California, she was a Soloist with Central West Ballet. In Oregon, she was a Principal dancer with Ballet Fantastique, originating many roles for premieres such as *The Raven in Nevermore: Tales of Edgar Allen Poe*, *Mary Quite Contrary in Babes in Toyland*, and *Maid Marion in Robin Hood and Maid Marion*, and many others. Now in Virginia, Carolin joined Roanoke Ballet Theatre in 2023. Ms. Koepplin is also an accomplished Ballet and Character Dance instructor and holds a graduate certificate from the University of Oregon in Nonprofit Management. She is proud to be the Grants and Development for RBT.

## **Master Teacher - Yulia Vidal**



Ms. Yulia Vidal Savigne is a professional ballet dancer and master ballet teacher originally from Cuba. Before moving to the United States, Ms. Vidal was a principal dancer and teacher in The National Dance Company of Ecuador. She also served as a principal dancer and teacher in the school and company of Ecuatoriano de Cámara and as a soloist dancer at the Ballet de Camagüey in Cuba. She has starred in a plethora of classical, neo classical, and contemporary ballet works. Ms. Vidal also founded and taught for the Escuela Metropolitana La Metrodanza and taught at La Fundacion Danza in Ecuador.

## **Master Teacher - Vilmedis Cobas**



Mr. Vilmedis Cobas Silot is a dancer, teacher of dance and choreography and prolific, award-winning choreographer. His formal training took place at the Vocational Art School and National School of Art in Cuba. He has danced as a Principal Interpretive Dancer at National Dance Company of Ecuador, Ecuadorian Chamber Ballet and with the Contemporary Dance group- Subject to Change, Retazo Theater Dance Company, and Theatre of Caribbean Dance Company in Cuba. Mr. Cobas has also been a choreographer and teacher for contemporary group Ballet Humanizarte.

## Master Teacher- Monica Tortolero



Former Prima Ballerina of Venezuela at the National Ballet of Caracas – Teresa Carreño. Monica was born in Venezuela, began training at the age of 7, and her professional career at the age of 13; dancing with the Youth Ballet of Venezuela. Monica has been trained by Vicente Nebrada, Vladimir Issaev, Ruta Butviliene, Rumen Rachev, Zane Wilson, Willy Burman at the Ballet Nacional de Caracas. She danced as a principal at the National Ballet of Caracas- Teresa Carreño and then with The Contemporary Ballet of Caracas. Mrs.

Tortolero has danced extensively abroad at many festivals and galas, including The International Gala in Washington D.C at the

Kennedy Center as prima ballerina representing her country, receiving a representative ovation from the public and critics. She was invited as an international guest artist to participate in the 80th anniversary at The Lituianian National Opera and Ballet Theatre, where she danced with stars of the Moscow Ballet and many others. She received the award "National Artist Award Venezuela" as Best Classical Dancer of the Year in 1997 and "The Arts and Letters Major Competition" as Best Neoclassic Pas de Deux in 2005.

Monica began her position as a ballet teacher at the Emil Friedman School and was a part of the staff at DANZARTE, Classical Ballet Academy in Caracas. She obtained different accreditations and international certifications of methodology for teaching classical ballet such as the "American Ballet Training Curriculum (ABT)", the Russian Vaganova certification method for Ballet Teachers granted by Ballet Master Mr. Vladimir Issaev, and recently the certification as a teacher of the method of "Progressive Ballet Technique (PBT)".

### RBT's Trainee Program

Roanoke Ballet Theatre's tuition-based Trainee Program is for dancers ages 17 and older who are wanting to continue refining their technique and artistic abilities while gaining performance experience in a professional company.

**Admission is by audition only.**  
To set up an audition please email all materials to:  
[smeythaler@roanokeballet.org](mailto:smeythaler@roanokeballet.org)

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# Order of Acts

## Act 1

**Opening:** Swanilda and Dr. Coppelius

**Swanilda Solo**

**Scene 1:** Franz, Swanilda, and Coppelia Doll

**Mazurka**

**Village Kids Dance**

**Scene 2:** In the Village

**Duet:** Swanilda & Franz

**Friends:** Section 1 - Dance

**Peasant Women**

**Friends of Franz**

**Finale - Act 1**

## Act 2

**Entrance of Friends and Swanilda into the Shop**

**Teddy Bears**

**Mechanical Dolls**

**Music Box Dolls:** Dr. Coppelius Leaves the Shop

**Dolls & Tap Soldiers**

**Wind-up Toys**

**Entrance of Dr. Coppelius**

**Entrance of Franz**

**Dance of the Puppet:** Solo of Swanilda, Coppelia & Dr. Coppelius

**Spanish**

**Jack in the Box**

**Scottish**

**Finale - Act 2**

## Act 3

**The Harvest**

**The Dawn**

**Waltz of the Little Blessings**

**Waltz of the Hours**

**Duet:** Swanilda & Franz

**Solo of the Town Boy**

**Swanilda Solo**

**Finale - Act 3**

# The Cast of Coppelia

## ACT I

Swanilda	Adelaide Pinkley
Dr. Coppelius	Vilmedis Cobas
Franz	John Gardner
Coppelia Doll	Emma Bednarek
Mazurka	Kate Stadnyk, Annabelle Coles, Rhyan Young, Phoenix Finney, Tabitha Allen, Ellie Mae Clemons, Emma Simpkins, Cassandra Silver, Sariye Doty, Sophia Simpkins, Eliza Jones, Emma Bednarek, Elizabeth Sullivan, Phoebe Horton, Audrey Kochan, Natalie Brochero, Keya Patel, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Aven Biggio, Nicholas Krispin, Jakub Kochan
Village Kids Dance	Abigail Swindell, Annabelle Wade, Eliza Grant, Lisa Popova, Ruby DiGiovanni, Fielder MacGibbon, Frankie Jennings, Artemis Wisniewski, Eliana Miller, Angelo Willis, Roslynn Katwal, Eliza Strickland, Ellie Gonzalo
In the Village	Annabelle Wade, Eliza Grant, Lisa Popova, Ruby DiGiovanni, Fielder MacGibbon, Frankie Jennings, Artemis Wisniewski, Eliana Miller, Angelo Willis, Roslynn Katwal, Eliza Strickland, Ellie Gonzalo, Keya Patel, Emma Bednarek, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Natalie Brochero, Eliza Jones, Phoebe Horton, Aven Biggio, Jakub Kochan, Audrey Kochan
Act 1 Duet: Corps de Ballet	Keya Patel, Emma Bednarek, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Natalie Brochero, Eliza Jones, Phoebe Horton, Aven Biggio, Audrey Kochan
Friends: Section 1 - Dance	Kate Stadnyk, Annabelle Coles, Rhyan Young, Phoenix Finney, Tabitha Allen, Ellie Mae Clemons, Emma Simpkins, Cassandra Silver, Sariye Doty
Peasant Women	Genevieve Dalton, Abigail Wissinger, Chelsea Jones
Friends of Franz	Mena Krispin, Joanna Whaley, Reese Newton, Charlotte Greene, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Phoenix Finney, Sophia Simpkins, Annabelle Coles, Emma Gardner, Ariana Duran-Ballen, Luciana Duran-Ballen

Finale - Act 1  
Friends of Franz (as boys): Phoenix Finney, Annabelle Coles, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Jakub Kochan, Nicholas Krispin, John Gardner  
Swanilda & Friends (as girls): Ellie Mae Clemons, Rhyan Young, Aven Biggio, Phoebe Horton, Audrey Kochan  
Peasant woman: Elizabeth Sullivan

## **ACT 2**

Friends - Act 2  
Ellie Mae Clemons, Tabitha Allen, Aven Biggio, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Rhyan Young, Kate Stadnyk, Keya Patel, Natalie Brochero

Teddy Bears  
Jane Nielsen, Ruth Whaley, Hermione Garrison, Maebry Wade, Caroline Gonzalo, Abigail Swindell, May Vahlberg

Mechanical Dolls  
Madeline Fisher, Rachel Newton, Winifred Wisniewski, Lucy Bingler, Eliza Grant, Ellie Gonzalo, Angelo Willis

Music Box Dolls  
Eliana Elder, Ellory Hurley, Emery Bonner, Sophie Heddleston, Adelyn Wagner, Emer Biggio, Josie Cook

Dolls & Tap Soldiers  
Maple Dickenson, Emery Gaines, Natalie Early, Kate Volk, Gretel Hurley, Flora Heddleston, Margaret Lautenslager, Karen Alice Cope-Levy, Apolonija Sidrys, Idabelle Wisniewski

Wind-up Toys  
Jakub Kochan, Audrey Kochan, Phoebe Horton, Eliza Jones, Nicholas Krispin

Spanish  
Phoenix Finney & Cassandra Silver

Jack in the Box  
Adalynn Clarke, Anne Nielsen, Piper Harden, Joana Garland, Cora Muller, Olive Copplestone, Adelaide Moon, Lisa Popova, Frankie Jennings, Fielder MacGibbon, Lorelei Schnetzler

Scottish  
Emma Simpkins & Sariye Doty

## **ACT 3**

The Harvest  
Ellie Mae Clemons, Rhyan Young, Sophia Simpkins, Kate Stadnyk, Tabitha Allen

The Dawn

Cassandra Silver, Emma Simpkins, Sariye Doty,  
Phoenix Finney

Waltz of the Little Blessings

Lillian Skeen, Adelaide Moon, Lucy Binger,  
Annaleigh Smith, Olive Copplestone, Caroline  
Gonzalo, Winifred Wisniewski, Evelyn Stephens,  
Hermione Garrison, Avery Inman, Arya  
Clinedinst, Hailey Schatzel, Piper Johnson,  
Annabelle Wade, Ellie Gonzalo

Waltz of the Hours

Elizabeth Sullivan, Sariye Doty, Mary Huff  
MacGibbon, Rhyan Young, Sophia Simpkins,  
Phoenix Finney, Aven Biggio, Tabitha Allen,  
Natalie Brochero, Ellie Mae Clemons, Kate  
Stadnyk, Cassandra Silver, Emma Simpkins,  
Keya Patel, Annabell Coles

Town Boy

Jakub Kochan

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# City Youth Ballet Students

## CYB 1



Front Row: Lucy Binger, Eleanor Gonzalo, Roslynn Katwal, Annabelle Wade,  
Abigail Swindell; Back Row: Artemis Wisniewski, Eliza Grant, Eliana Miller,  
Angelo Willis, Ruby DiGiovanni, Fielder MacGibbon, Frankie Jennings

## CYB 2

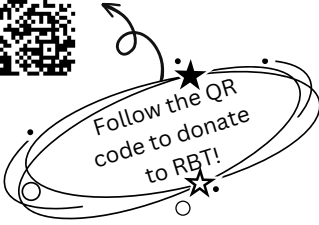


Front Row: Audrey Kochan, Phoebe Horton, Keya Patel, Maddy Jennings, Eliza Jones; Back Row: Gracynn Gardner, Emma Bednarek, Jakub Kochan, Mary Huff MacGibbon, Alta Merzvinskas; Not Pictured: Aven Biggio

## CYB 3



Front Row: Annabelle Coles, Kate Stadnyk, Sophia Simpkins, Addy Pinkley, Emma Simpkins, Giselle Sladin, Phoenix Finney; Back Row: Rhyan Young, Gracie Munro, Sariye Doty, Natalie Brochero, Cassandra Silver, Tabitha Allen, Aanya Patel, Ellie Mae Clemons; Not Pictured: Annika Lee



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## **Mission Statement**

Roanoke Ballet Theatre is dedicated to enriching the soul of the community through the beauty of dance.

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Artistic/Executive Director	Sandra Meythaler
President	Brett Jones
Treasurer	Mauro Castro
Secretary	Natalie Klawonn
General Board	Michelle Brandt, Devon Munro, Vishal Patel

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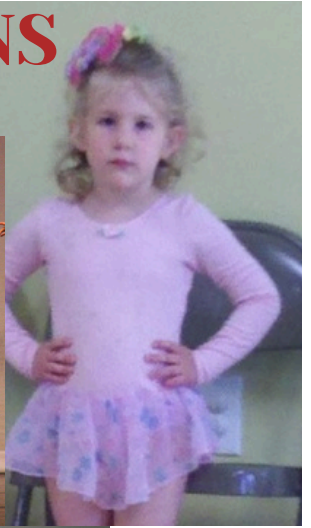


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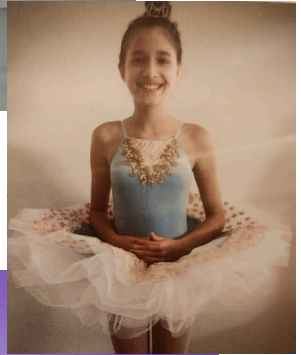
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*Emma Simpkins  
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# ROANOKE BALLET THEATRE



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