

YAGP

Each year students from around the country come to Salt Lake City (one of many semi-final locations) to compete in the Youth America Grand Prix Ballet Competition.

Almost 30 students, representing all BWA campus locations (Park City, Utah County, Trolley Corners, and Ballet Centre) have been practicing and for months in preparation for the competition which takes place this weekend.

On Tuesday BWA students had the opportunity to perform for family and coaches. It was incredible to see our students cheer and encourage each other as each student stepped forward to perform their solo variations. They acted as a team rather than competitors, and it was inspiring to see older students congratulate younger, and all students from different campuses coming together.

You may livestream the competition **January 15-17** on their website YAGP.org



FORMER BWA STUDENT HONORED

Nathan Chen made Time Magazine's list of "The 100 most influential People of 2022" in the Artists section. Nathan is best known as an Olympic Gold Medalist and "King of the Quad". But before all of that, while training as a figure skater in Salt Lake City, he was here at BWA training in ballet with Mr. Jeff Rogers. We congratulate Nathan Chen on his continued success and ever-bright future. Click [here](#) to read Time Magazine's article.

ADULT BALLET STARTER SERIES

We kicked off our Adult Ballet Starter Series on Thursday with a full house at our Trolley Corners Campus! We have 3 full classes of beginners, taking ballet for the first time as adults. What a fun night! Excitement filled the air as these adults of all ages lined up to purchase their first pair of ballet shoes and take to the barre. Some signed up as couples, some came with friends. But whether with someone or solo, they all left with a smile on their faces, looking forward to next week's class.

The classes are being taught by faculty members Jessica Baynes, Stacey Mahan, and Elizabeth Weldon. This 5-week series will cover fundamentals of ballet technique, vocabulary, and etiquette. The students also receive a voucher to see Ballet West perform "Sleeping Beauty". We are all filled up for this series, but watch for another Ballet Starter Series coming this spring. Happy Dancing everyone!

MISS UTAH RETURNS TO UTAH COUNTY

Our Utah County Campus is happy to welcome back Miss Utah, Lindsey Larsen who returns as a BWA faculty member. Congratulations Lindsey on a year well served! Your students are excited for your return and I'm sure they wouldn't mind if you wanted to wear your crown to teach once in a while! Lindsey is pictured below at the Miss America Pageant and performing her talent - ballet, of course!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

- Trolley Corners Campus Winter Showcase "Fairy Tale Birthday Celebration", January 16th 11:00 am and 2:00 pm - at Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center for Beginning and Elementary students [Purchase tickets here.](#)
- JEQ Ballet Centre Campus Winter Showcase "Bournonville Dances", January 21st 2:00 and 7:00 at Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center for Levels 1-PTD [Purchase tickets here.](#)
- Ballet West - "The Sleeping Beauty" February 10-18 [Purchase tickets here.](#)