

2018 Spotlight Ballet Semifinal Panel

Jukka Aromaa is a former principal dancer with New York City Ballet, Finnish National Ballet and Deutsche Oper am Rhein Dusseldorf. He was a guest principal dancer with Deutsche Oper Berlin and English National Ballet. In 1980 he won First Prize at the Prix de Lausanne Competition and 1984 in Helsinki International Ballet Competition. Honors during Mr. Aromaa's long 25 year dancing career include the Benoit de la Dance award received in Bolshoi Theatre 1995. He served as Artistic Director of Finnish National Ballet School from 2003 to 2006. Currently, Mr. Aromaa teaches internationally as well as a judge, lecturer and repetiteur for classical and Balanchine repertory.

Leslie Carothers-Aromaa is a former principal dancer with the Joffrey Ballet and Pennsylvania Ballet. She was featured on television in *Dance in America's A Night at The Joffrey*, televised on PBS. She has danced principal roles in works by George Balanchine, Sir Frederick Ashton, Jiri Kylian, Twyla Tharp, and Mark Morris, amongst many others, and danced the leads in many of the full-length classical ballets. During her career, leading roles were created for her by Robert Joffrey, William Forsythe, Gerald Arpino, Dwight Rhoden, and others. Ms. Carothers-Aromaa has served as Dance Institute Director, Artistic Director, Ballet Chair, and dance faculty at The Colburn School of Performing Arts.

Ellen Bauer, danced professionally as a member of the National Ballet of Canada, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Los Angeles Ballet. Her principal roles have included many of Balanchine's master works: *Allegro Brillante*; *Rubies*, from the ballet, *Jewels*; *Concerto Barocco*, *Raymonda Variations* (after Petipa), *Scotch Symphony*, *Square Dance*, *Swan Lake Act II*, *Valse Fantaisie*, and *Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux*. Other repertoire includes leading roles in *Coppelia*, *Don Quixote*, *Le Corsaire*, *The Nutcracker*, *Flower Festival Pas de Deux*, among other ballets.

Lorin Johnson performed with the San Francisco Ballet before joining the American Ballet Theatre under the directorship of Mikhail Baryshnikov. At ABT, he worked with choreographers such as Agnes DeMille, Ulysses Dove, Kenneth Macmillan, Jerome Robbins, Glen Tetley, Twyla Tharp, and Clark Tippet. Johnson's choreography has been presented at such venues as the Garage Museum in Moscow, the Fabbrica Europa Dance Festival in Florence, and with the Pacific Symphony at Segerstrom Concert Hall. Mr. Johnson has given master classes in the U.S. and abroad, including at the St. Petersburg State Conservatory in Russia, and served on the faculty of American Ballet Theatre's summer intensive program since 2004. Mr. Johnson is currently a Professor in the Dance Department at California State University, Long Beach.

Rachel S. Moore is the Chief Executive Officer and President of The Music Center. As a young dancer, Ms. Moore was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts before becoming a member of American Ballet Theatre. Prior positions include: CEO and Executive Director of American Ballet Theatre; Director of Boston Ballet's Center for Dance Education; Executive Director for Boston classical music school Project Step; and has held leadership positions at Ballet Theatre of Boston, Americans for the Arts and National Cultural Alliance. Ms. Moore has served as adjunct faculty for the Graduate Program in Arts Administration for both Columbia University and Boston University and in the dance department of Emerson College. She has served on grant panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, New Jersey State Arts Commission, US Artists Foundation, and as a master teacher and distinguished alumni of YoungArts. She was a member of the US Commission for UNESCO, and a member of the Board of the 2024/28 Los Angeles Olympic Bid. She currently serves as an officer of the New York Economic Club, a member of the executive committee of the Central City Association of Los Angeles, a member of the advisory board of the Dizzy Feet Foundation and serves on the Brown University Arts Advisory Board. She received her BA from Brown University (Phi Beta Kappa) and a MA from Columbia University.