



Infinity Ballet Theatre

*24th Annual
Spring Spectacular*

APRIL 25, 2026

**CARY ACADEMY
BERGER HALL**

Infinity Ballet Theatre

Artistic Staff

Artistic Director.....Debra Sayles Senchak
Resident Choreographer.....Brian Youngkin
Ballet Teacher & Coach.....Lisl Vaillant
Musical Theater Director.....Kathryn Mowat Murphy
Modern Choreographer.....Chad Austin Wilson
Costume Designer & Mistress.....Alesha Avants
Guest Writer.....Katie Avants
Backstage Teachers.....Janice Bartik, Candice Morrissette,
Kerrie-Anne Sparks
Rehearsal Assistants.....Olivia Avants, Vanessa Phillips
Guest Videographer.....Nick Karner

Spring Spectacular

A Note From the Artistic Director

Thank you for joining us for Infinity Ballet Theatre's 24th Spring Spectacular as we present our students' end-of-season, theatrical productions - each one shaped by imagination, emotion, and the quiet power of storytelling through movement.

Forever, directed with the expertise of Kathryn Murphy, opens the performance with a playful, jazz-infused burst of energy. Our spirited company dancers bring to life a lively script by Katie Avants, whose humor and bright imagination offer a lighthearted and witty glimpse into the world of a dancer.

After the Goodbye and *I Ran* draw us inward, tracing the delicate threads of memory, longing, and the transformations that accompany every farewell and every new beginning. In these works, Chad Wilson uses the classical training of our dancers as a foundation, inspiring them to explore the freedom and expressive possibilities of contemporary movement.

It has been a delight to watch Brian Youngkin revive *Treasures in the Snow*, his luminous retelling of the Russian folk tale *The Twelve Months*, now enriched with an original work by Lisl Vaillant inspired by the lovely music of Vivaldi. It has been a gift to work with our company dancers, coaching them in well-known classical dances woven into the narrative to highlight and celebrate their artistry. Paired with the beautiful costumes crafted by Alesha Avants - designs that polish, illuminate, and breathe life into the ballet.



Spring Spectacular



Treasures in the Snow follows the story of an innately kind-spirited stepdaughter cast out into the winter forest, where she is guided by the spirits of the seasons. Through her journey, we explore resilience, generosity, and the quiet magic woven into the natural world.

It is a tremendous pleasure to work alongside an artistic staff whose creativity knows no bounds – from writing and choreography to coaching, designing, and costume creation.

Alongside them, our devoted volunteers sustain every part of our work, and our students bring their passion and intentions to every step. This dedication is the pulse beneath every moment you see onstage.

I am deeply grateful to our entire dance community, whose steady support and kindness have helped me navigate the challenges of this year with strength and hope.

Thank you for sharing this afternoon with us, and for allowing these stories – told in breath, music, and motion – to unfold before you. We hope you enjoy the show.

– Debra Sayles Senchak, Founding Artistic Director 2002

Spring Spectacular

Act One

FOREVER

Director & Choreographer	Kathryn Mowat Murphy
Script Writer	Katie Avants
Music	"What a Feeling"
Artists	Drew Ryn and Irene Cara
Actors	Tess Ashton, Olivia Avants, Lydia Mooberry, Vanessa Phillips, Willow Womble

AFTER THE GOODBYE

Choreographer	Chad Austin Wilson
Music	"Let Her Go"
Artist	Jasmine Thompson
Dancers	Edie Hopper, Anya Kavilaveettil, Saluda Sparks

I RAN

Choreographer	Chad Austin Wilson
Music	"Sinner Man"
Artist	Nina Simone
Dancers	Tess Ashton, Olivia Avants, Olivia Beaumont, Hansu Ganesh, Adalea Hass, Avanna Hass, Lydia Mooberry, Ishani Oldham, Savita Oldham, Vanessa Phillips, Willow Womble



Spring Spectacular

Act Two & Three

Treasures in the Snow

Created by Brian Youngkin

Choreographers

Storyline and Winter Variation

Brian Youngkin

Fall Shepherdesses

Lisl Vaillant

Ballerina Variations Coach

Debra Sayles Senchak

George Tomal (Cinderella), Marius Petipa (Giselle, Harlequinade, and Princess Florine)

Composers

Giselle Variation by Adolphe Adam, Les Biches by Francis Poulenc, La Fille Mal Gardee by Ferdinand Herold, Les Millions d'Arlequin by Riccardo Drigo, Age of Gold by Dmitri Shostakovich, Beatrix Potter by John Lanchbery, Gayaneh by Aram Khachaturian, Antonio Vivaldi, Princess Florine Variation by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Cinderella Variations by Sergei Prokofiev, Concerto in D minor for Two Violins, Strings, and Continuo Johan Sebastian Bach



Spring Spectacular

Treasures in the Snow Cast

Maruska	Vanessa Phillips
Mama	Olivia Beaumont
Holena	Olivia Avants
Sedzias	Hansu Ganesh, Avanna Hass, Willow Womble
<u>Shepherdesses</u>	
Winter	Ishani Oldham
Spring	Hansu Ganesh, Avanna Hass, Savita Oldham, Lilah White, Willow Womble
Summer	Lydia Mooberry
Fall	Tess Ashton, Elika Harsh, Adalea Hass, Isabelle Roy
<u>Fairies</u>	
Snow	Edie Hopfer, Darshini Kannaganta, Anya Kavilaveettil, Ashlyn McQuivey, Juliet Runyan, Saluda Sparks, Haven Taska
Violet	Karly Harville, Quinn Pepple, Arohi Soin, Viveya Turtygina
Strawberry	Vivian French, Shemaumee Her, Mellissa Lokheshvar, Malayna Rowlett, Eva Soto
Apple	Vivian French, Karly Harville, Shemaumee Her, Quinn Pepple, Malayna Rowlett, Eva Soto
Villager	Parker Ray



Infinity Ballet Theatre

Executive Board of Directors

Officers

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IBT Consultants

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Costume Committee Coordinator: Alesha Avants

Parent Guild Coordinators: Beth Hopfer & Stephanie Runyan

Infinity Ballet Theatre

Volunteers

Fundraising Committee

Sharon Beaumont, Santhi Ganesh, Ashlea Hass, Beth Hopfer, Ushma Shukla Oldham, Stephanie Runyan, & Courtney Sheldon

Parent Night Out Event

Coordinator: Kerry Harville

Ashlea Hass, Beth Hopfer, Stephanie Runyan, & Courtney Sheldon
with Company Dancers: Tess Ashton, Hansu Ganesh, Adalea Hass, Avanna Hass, Lydia Mooberry & Willow Womble

Costume Committee

Costume Mistress: Alesha Avants
Kerrie-Anne Sparks, & Marla Womble

Performance Day Support

Kristina Ashton, Sanskruthi Balaji, Santhi Ganesh, Jincy George, Ashlea Hass, Beth Hopfer, Misty McQuivey, Christa Phillips, Cynthia Roy, Stephanie Runyan, Courtney Sheldon, Krista White, Badgett & Marla Womble

Studio Support

Janice Bartik

Rehearsal Support

Olivia Avants, Vanessa Phillips

T-Shirt Design

Savita Oldham

Forever Actors Script Contributor

Katie Avants

Forever Music Tech

Laura Kinsley

Infinity Ballet Theatre

Sponsors and Donors

Infinity Ballet Theatre would like to thank the following individuals who generously supported us from August 2025 to April 2026.

Friend of IBT (up to \$249)

Heather Blanchard, in honor of Youth Performing Arts Development
The Sheldon Family, in honor of Lydia Mooberry
Sharon Beaumont, Poinsettia Fundraiser in honor of Olivia Beaumont
Linda Wade, Poinsettia Fundraiser in honor of Olivia Beaumont
Santhi Ganesh, Poinsettia Fundraiser in honor of Hansu Ganesh
Soto Family, in honor of Eva Soto
Dance Etc.
John Kopp
Runyan Family, in honor of Juliet Runyan
Joy Hsu, in honor of Sloan Catterall
Turtygina Family, in honor of Viveya Turtygina
Matching donation, anonymous

Supporting Sponsor (\$250-\$499)

Flood Family, in honor of Kensley Flood
Mehnoush Banaei, in honor of Elika Harsh
Aravind Mohanasundaram, in honor of Mira Aravind
Raunaq Soin, in honor of Arohi Soin
Kavilaveettil Family, in honor of Anya and Emmie Kavilaveettil with matching donation by Blue Cross/Blue Shield

Dancer Sponsor (\$500-\$1999)

The Ganesh Family, to be matched by anonymous, in honor of Hansu Ganesh
Courtney Sheldon & Jason Mooberry, in honor of Lydia Mooberry
The Mooberry Family, in honor of Lydia Mooberry
Alesha & Chris Avants, in honor of Katie and Olivia Avants
The Tukta Family, in honor of alumni dancer Melanie Tutka
The Keith Family, in honor of alumni Sarah and Grace Keith
Donald Namm, in honor of alumni Julia Walden

Performance Sponsor (\$2000-\$9999)

Katherine Tapscott Tinkler, in honor of Youth Performing Arts Development

In-Kind Donations

Infinity Ballet is grateful for all of the café donations offered this season.

Alesha and Chris Avants, Costume Storage and Accessories, in honor of Olivia & Katie Avants
Infinity Ballet Conservatory, Costumes and Storage Space
Courtney Sheldon, printed fundraising flyers
Womble Rental Management, theatre transportation vehicle use for costumes and sets

Infinity Ballet Theatre

Sponsors and Donors



Dr. Larry J. Moray



Wegmans



Thank you Laura Kinsley for your help with IBT "Forever" audio



Infinity Ballet Theatre is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

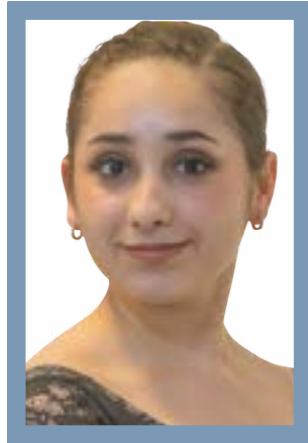
Infinity Ballet is grateful for the contributions of our generous sponsors and the incredible efforts of our volunteers, who have made this and past productions possible.

Infinity Ballet Theatre

THEATRE COMPANY MEMBERS 2025-2026



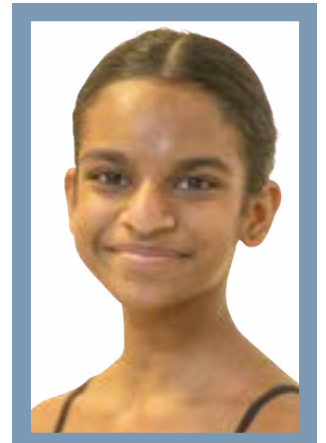
Tess Ashton



Olivia Avants



Olivia Beaumont



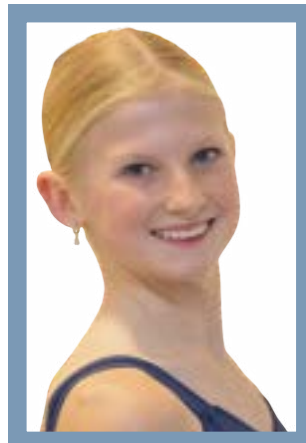
Hansu Ganesh



Avanna Hass



Adelea Hass



Lydia Mooberry



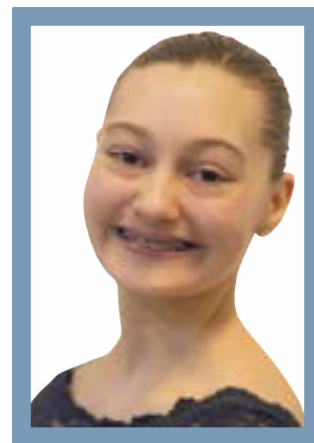
Ishani Oldham



Vanessa Phillips



Isabelle Roy



Willow Womble

Our Seniors: It is with deep pride that we recognize our senior dancers. We've watched you grow—not just in your technique, but in your strength of character, artistry, and spirit. Congratulations to each of you for the dedication that brought you to this moment. We cheer you on as you take your final bow as seniors and step into your next chapter in life.

Vanessa Phillips



Dance allows me to just go in and forget the world around me. It creates a space to let me focus on just one thing and not everything all at once. It helps me find who I am as a person by expressing my emotions through movement instead of words. Words can be hard, but movements are simple. They fuse together to express feeling and emotions. The memories I have made while in a studio will be brought with me my whole life. The laughs and the tears. The rehearsals into the performances. Whether or not I dance my whole life it will always be a part of who I am. It will always have a special place in my heart.

Vanessa Phillips

Elika Harsh



Dance has always been a natural form of self expression for me, but I started training around fourth grade. I am so grateful for the opportunities it has given me to better know myself and others. Although I was never in company, I feel that my time in the studio has shaped so much of who I am today and has helped me to overcome so many challenges. I would like to thank all of my teachers for their wisdom and whimsy, and I look forward to continuing to dance somehow in my next chapter. My favorite experiences at Infinity Ballet have been teacher assisting, getting my first pointe shoes, and being part of the Nutcracker!

- Elika

Ishani Oldham



More than 15 years ago, my name was pulled out of a raffle for a month of free lessons at Infinity Ballet. It is still the luckiest thing that has ever happened to me. My time here has left me with more lessons, love, and laughter than I could've possibly imagined. I struggle to picture a version of myself without all of these years of dance. Ballet has taught me how to know myself. It has taught me creativity, attention to detail, discipline, and determination as well as movement. I have an endless appreciation for every one of my teachers who have helped me grow and develop as a dancer and a person. The studio has been a second home to me, and the people there a second family. I hate to think that I am leaving them all next year, but I know that the lessons I have learned while holding a barre will carry with me in every aspect of my life. My dance education will be the backbone of everything I do after graduation. I can't thank Infinity Ballet enough for giving me the space and support to become the person I am today. This will always be where my heart dances.

Olivia Avants



When I was five years old, my first career choice was princess. That dream was quickly crushed when I sassed my mother and she told me that it was a completely unrealistic option, and whether I liked it or not, I needed to know how to make a bed. So I settled for the next best thing: ballerina. This dream clearly came to fruition, and though it is my success, it would never have been possible without the support of my family - Mom, Dad, and Katie - or my teachers, each of whom saw my potential and turned me into not just any dancer, but a well-rounded one. Mr. Chad helped me recognize my physical power through Horton technique; Ms. Kat taught me nothing looks better on stage than a dancer who believes in herself; Ms. Lisl - with whom I worked privately for years - emphasized the importance of clean, yet adventurous, dancing; Mr. Brian made me realize the capacity I have for characterization, giving me work that let that gift shine while remaining patient as other skills were still developing; and last but not least, Ms. Debra, who taught me every last detail, and secret, and difficult truth about what makes a dancer shine. While I love my dancing, and I am grateful for everything Infinity Ballet has given me, I will admit: the version of Olivia the younger students and parents see on stage is not the only side of me. And for any of the younger students on stage with me today, it is not the only side they should know about. Dance is the love of my life, but as with anything we love, my relationship with dance hasn't always been perfect. For me, nothing about the physicality of dance came easily. I had little natural turnout, was scared of turning, and was the least flexible person I knew. I didn't have naturally perfect feet, I held a lot of tension in my hands, and to top it all off, I was told the way my body looked was completely wrong for ballet. I was too short, too busty, too full, etc. A lot of the early relationships I had with peers and classmates fell apart. Despite my successes, there were times I felt lonely or I hated how much time dance took up. In other moments, I doubted how good I was at this and if I was worthy of any success at all. I've had periods of my life where I've fallen out of love with dance; I've come an inch away from quitting multiple times.

Olivia Avants

But, in those moments, I remember something I had once told Ms. Debra. It was the reason, I realized, why I kept coming back: "I want to be the dancer that makes other little girls want to do this, or makes them believe that they could do this." Therefore, there is another person, or rather, a group of people I would like to thank. To the younger students of Infinity Ballet, and their parents, thank you! To express my gratitude, especially to the next generation of Infinity dancers, let me leave you with some words of advice: Ballet is, in my humble opinion, one of the hardest things to pursue. But it is also my belief that it can ultimately be the very best thing you might ever do. There will be long evenings, or rehearsals where your feet hurt, and times you get in the car and cry so hard your parents question if you really love this. Shoes will fail, the tech person will mess up your music after you've been practicing for months, and there will be a time when you come across a stumbling block so large you don't even know how you'll begin to conquer it. You will have times where you are jealous, where your pride takes a blow, days where you say, "I hate ballet!", and someone along the way will tell you, "You can't do this." But the truth is, all those "ugly" feelings, while very real, are just temporary. And those people who tell you that dance isn't right for you? Liars. I am living proof of that. By trusting the system that developed my technique, I have been able to excel at every other organization at which I've danced. By no other merit than a hard working attitude, I was granted the privilege of the singular principal variation in a summer program that saw hundreds of students. I learned that I could do hard things, sometimes it just takes time. And all these lessons that granted me an iron will and faith in myself are now allowing me to continue my training at a world-renowned conservatory that is reaching for me just as much as I am reaching for it. So, what makes a dancer? Hard work, determination, ears that are always listening and eyes that are always watching. And I'll tell you a secret. The only person who decides whether dance is right for you or not, is you. When you step out onstage, and the lights have a glare, and the music is rattling your eardrums, and your feet hurt and all you can see is your false eyelash in your periphery....yet everything still feels perfectly right, that's how you know - you're a dancer, and you're going to be just fine. So once again, thank you. Thank you to Mom and Dad, for tutus and pointe shoes and long car rides, and an endless amount of emotional support. Thank you to Katie, for putting up with dance all these years and taking the time to give my acting class exceptional stories to perform. Thank you again to my teachers for taking a chance on me. And to the parents reading this - Thank you for watching this performance, re-watching old tapes, and letting me teach your children. And to the next Infinity Ballet Company, thank you for being such an inspiration to me, and telling me how I've inspired you: Whatever the next few years throw at you, you can totally do it. The barre is just the beginning; you'll be in the spotlight soon enough.

Yours truly, Liv

***Thank you to our Active Parents of our
Senior Company Members***

Alesha and Chris Avants

Since 2015

Each artist who walks through our doors leaves a unique mark on our program and inspires our students in ways that last far beyond a single performance. For over a decade, Alesha has gone above and beyond, pouring her heart into ensuring every production shines with beautiful, thoughtfully crafted costumes. We will deeply miss her presence behind the tutus, her artistry, and the incredible care she brings to preparing our students for the stage and showcasing their hard work through her lovely designs. Thank you, Alesha, for your generosity, your countless volunteer hours, your and Chris' care in supporting our studio, and the remarkable gifts you've shared with IBT productions and our costume wardrobe.

Ushma Shukla and Neal Oldham

Since 2011

Ushma, we thank you for your years of commitment and leadership to the IBT Parent Guild and your steadfast support of Infinity Ballet's programs. Your guidance and countless acts of service have shaped our work and helped us grow stronger year after year. We are truly grateful for everything you've done. It is because of people like you—those who give tirelessly and stand with us through every storm—that we are able to continue offering consistent, meaningful performance opportunities to our students.

Thank you both for your support. Thank you to our Active Parents of our Senior Company Members

Christa and Shawn Phillips

Since 2014

Infinity Ballet has been blessed by the kindness of many people, and as we count our blessings, your faces appear again and again. Over the years, you have stepped in to help in countless ways, always with generosity and grace. We are forever grateful for your willingness to be such a wonderful part of our Infinity Ballet family.

We give special thanks to the entire community of families and friends at Infinity Ballet who came to our rescue this winter, helping us restore the studio after the flood and return to full operations. Each of you is a hero to us. We offer an extra special thanks to **Shawn Pepple and his family**, whose extraordinary efforts, time, and dedication throughout the winter made it possible for our studio to be rebuilt. Their generosity and hard work carried us through a very challenging season, and we are deeply grateful.

THANK YOU!!!





*Quinn we are so proud of you and all you have accomplished so far! Watching you fall in love with ballet and bring such beautiful energy to the stage has been such a joy - Can't wait to see where you go from here!
Love Always - Dad, Mom & Grayson*



Karly Ann Harville

You are a beautiful dancer and your passion for the art lights up with every step you take. We are very proud of you and all you have accomplished.

*Love,
Dad, Mom, and Kailey*



*Tess,
You are a beautiful dancer! You work hard and it shows. We love you so much!
Love, Dad, Mom, Nate, Elise, and Leo*



*Lydia, Congratulations on an incredible year! You've accomplished so much and this feels like just the beginning. It's a privilege to be part of your journey...we can't wait to see what lies ahead for you.
xoxo, Mom, Dad, Griffin & the rest of the family*



*We are so proud of you Willow!
You have worked hard this year,
and you are an amazing dancer.
Watching you dance brings such
joy to our hearts. We love you!*

*Love,
Mommy and Daddy*



*My beautiful girl, congratulations on another
breathtaking milestone. Watching you dance is
like watching a flower open in real time all
grace, all courage, all heart. Every step, every
ache, every hour you've poured into your craft
shines through you. I'm so proud of the woman
and the artist you're becoming. Keep dancing
toward the light that's always been yours.*



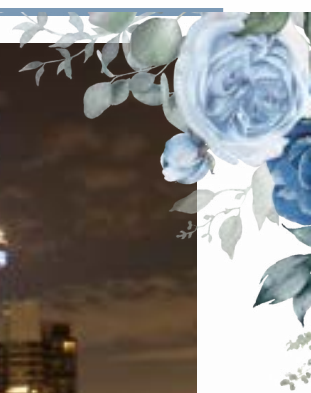
Eva,

*We're so proud of you as you dance today.
Your dedication, kindness, and joy shine
through every step. You inspire us in ballet,
school, and life. Remember, you've earned
this moment. We love you more than all the
stars and will always cheer for you.*

*Love,
Mom, Dad, and Elijah*

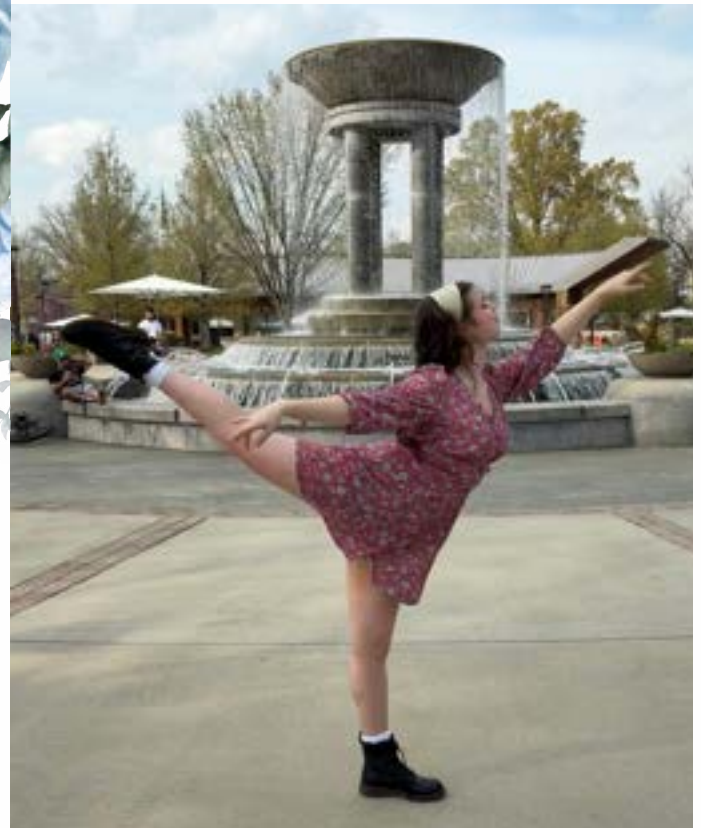


*Congratulations on all you have
accomplished Elika! It has been a joy to
watch you dance year after year. So proud
of you and your dedication and
commitment. Can't wait to see where you go
next. Lots of Love, Maman and Baba*





Watching you dance brings us so much joy - it lifts us, and shows just how hardworking you are. You dance with so much heart, and we are incredibly proud of you.
Daddy , Mama & Emmie



*A dancer's heart always hears music.
Congratulations, Savita!
With Love, Mom, Dad, Ishani, Nani and Nana*



*Vanessa, from the moment you discovered your love for dance before you were even four, you have led with passion and heart. Watching you grow into the dancer and young woman you are today has been such a gift. As you take the stage for your final performance with Infinity Ballet, we are so incredibly proud. Graduating, studying at community college, teaching, working, and stepping boldly into your future. The world is yours, and we are so excited for everything that lies ahead.
Keep showing up for yourself. Keep believing in yourself and always follow your heart.
All our love,
Mommy & Daddy*



*Hansu, watching you dance has shown us how much confidence and spirit you have. You've grown so much, and you put your heart into every movement. Keep trusting that passion - it's taking you somewhere amazing. We're so proud of you.
Congratulations on your beautiful performance!
Love - Mom, Dad and Sudy ❤️*



"The Future Belongs to Those Who Believe in the Beauty of their Dreams"
 Congratulations, dearest Ishani! Words cannot express how proud we are of you.
 With love from Mom, Dad, Savi, Nani and Nana



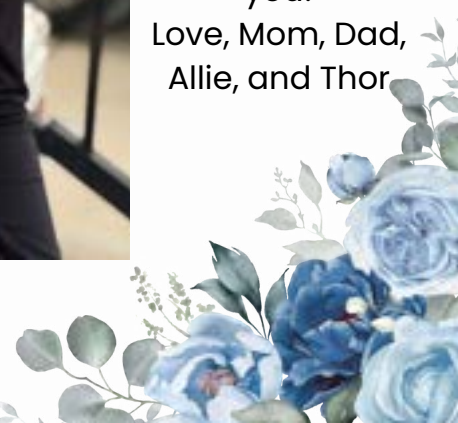
Adalea and Avanna,

It is such a joy to see you on stage together. Watching you girls grow in confidence and grace has been the best part of this journey. We are so proud of your dedication and hard work!

*Your biggest fans,
 Mom and Dad*



Edie,
 Watching you dance is like magic in motion. We love you to the stars and beyond and we are so proud of you!
 Love, Mom, Dad, Allie, and Thor



Infinity Ballet Theatre

As a non-profit charitable organization, Infinity Ballet's programs are made possible by the generosity of our supporters. Thank you for helping us to be able to continue offering theatrical dance productions.



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