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2024-2025 Annual Summary



Staff

- Catherine Hader, *Director of Marin Ballet*
- Julia Adam, *Resident Choreographer*
- Kaneez Munjee, *Marketing & Development Manager*
- Stephanie Taubert, *Operations Manager & Registrar*
- Sara AbuShaban, *Marketing & Development Associate*
- Corinne Jonas, *Artistic Administrator & Community Engagement*
- Charlie Martin, *Assistant School Manager*
- Lauryn Smeester, *Office Administrator & Volunteer Coordinator*

Faculty

- Julia Adam, Freesia Bornstein, Esther Rose Daniels, Ana DeKleva, Catherine Hader, Corinne Jonas, David Kato, Laurie Klein, Xiao Liu, Damon Mahoney, Charlie Martin, Laura Skapik

Accompanists

- Daniela Aleco-Sima, Michiyo Grosz, Timothy K. Murphy

Photographs by Sara AbuShaban



Marin Ballet develops confident, healthy, and joyous students through exceptional ballet training, performances, mentorship, and community engagement.

100 Elm Street, San Rafael . 415.453.6705 . www.marinballet.org

Marin Ballet is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Tax ID 94-1673792



Spring 2025 | Peter and the Wolf, Levels 5-9

Significant Accomplishments During 2024-2025

This past year saw three successful major endeavors for Marin Ballet, in addition to our regular teaching programs and Nutcracker performances. Each of these offered benefits to our students or the general public, while also supporting key tenets of our 3-year Strategic Plan, which we adopted 18 months ago.

Expansion of our Outreach Program

In September 2024, **Marin Ballet launched several projects which have brought us into the broader Marin community.** Led by faculty members Corinne Jonas and Laurie Klein, Marin Ballet has reached kindergarten students at Novato’s Hamilton School, adult learners at the Belvedere Tiburon library, seniors up to age 96 at Vivalon, and people of all ages through a performance at Marin Country Mart’s Christmas tree-lighting festivities.

Creating a One-Act Ballet for our Students to Present in Spring

In March 2025, instead of presenting short dances by each level for our Spring Concert, **we commissioned an entirely new production of a one-act ballet.** Marin Ballet’s Assistant School Manager, Charlie Martin, created choreography as well as costumes for the production of *Peter and the Wolf*, with music by Sergei Prokofiev. The set was designed specifically for our Phyllis Thelen Theater by Larry Klein, Marin Ballet’s performance technical director and lighting designer. This production included dancers in Levels 5-9, allowing the students a second opportunity during the year to collaborate on a full-scale work. *Peter and the Wolf* captured the imagination of our students and audiences alike, and will return again in Spring 2026.

Major Building Renovation Undertaken

During summer 2025, the Marin Ballet building underwent significant renovations – some visible, some within the walls. All of these serve the purpose of making the building more energy-efficient, and creating a healthy and beautiful environment for dancers to come to. Upgraded energy-efficient windows, new paint in Studio A, and air conditioning are all now part of our building!

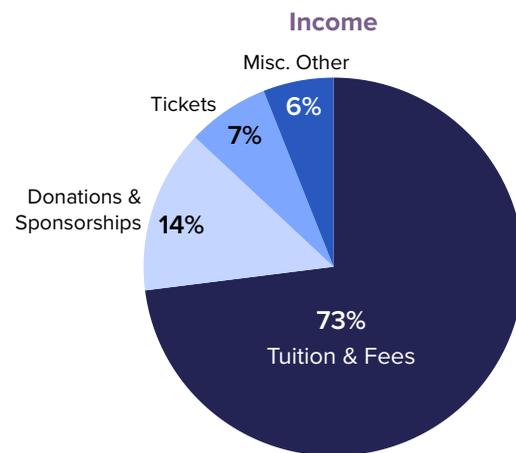
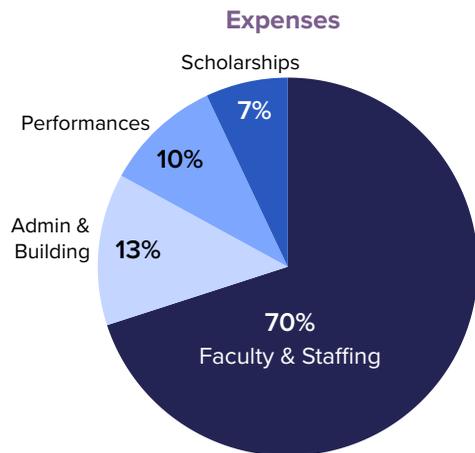
Our Fiscal Health



Spring 2025 | Baroque Dances, Level 6

Marin Ballet is able to focus **87% of our expenses on our mission** – programs that directly benefit the dancers in our school. Expenses fund our roster of immensely talented faculty, accompanists, and choreographers, as well as all of our productions, including the annual Nutcracker. We are able to allot 7% of our budget to scholarships. Only 13% of our budget goes to administration and infrastructure.

Marin Ballet is fortunate to have loyal patrons and supporters who purchase tickets and make donations to help us fill in the amount of our budget not covered by tuition and fees. With increased donations, we will be able to take on additional projects in the coming years, such as **more collaborative dance works, new community outreach efforts and scholarships, and further upgrades to our building.**



Your Support Matters

Presently, donations and sponsorships provide 14% of our income. They support our top-notch ballet instruction and stellar performance experiences; our fabulous class accompanists; costumes and sets for new productions as well as updates for Nutcracker; scholarships; outreach; and improvements to our building. **Your support directly impacts our students, whether in the studio or on the stage.**

“Although many moments remind me of when I fell in love with dance, one particularly stands out. Barely six years old, I stood in the darkness of the wings in my white sequined leotard and tightly pinned headpiece. Waiting for my cue to run onstage with my perfectly practiced fairy hands, my heart beat out of my chest. Not even under the spotlights yet, I beamed to myself, thinking - I’m a ballerina. That young inspiration has carried me to where I am today. More than just how to move my body, **Marin Ballet has gifted an immeasurable wealth of skills I wouldn’t have thought ballet would bring: focus, courage, determination, and loyalty.**”

Ella Furuichi, 2025 Alumna



2024 Nutcracker | Ella Furuichi Snow Queen

Nutcracker Benefits for Fall Donors

Nutcracker will be presented on Sat-Sun, Dec 6-7, at the Center for the Arts, in Novato, as the Veterans’ Memorial Auditorium remains closed for seismic upgrades. **We are pleased to provide these Nutcracker benefits for anyone who donates to Marin Ballet between September 1 – October 15.**



Nutcracker 2024 | Levels 2 and 3

Gifts of \$100 and more

Priority Ticket Purchase: Due to the limited size of the Center for the Arts, getting tickets before they sell out is a must. Donate \$100 or more and purchase your tickets two days earlier than the general public.

Gifts of \$500 and more

Priority Ticket Purchase, plus a beautiful gift set of ballet photo cards. They’ll come in handy during the holidays.

Gifts of \$1,000 and more

All the above, plus you’ll be invited to our **VIP Donor Thank You Party** on January 24. Celebrate our successful Nutcracker production, as well as our year-round activities, with other major donors, corporate sponsors, board members and staff.

Give today by visiting marinballet.org/give or by scanning this QR code.

Thank you for supporting Marin Ballet!



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