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Houston Ballet Announces Promotion of Tyler Donatelli to Principal Dancer

Photos & Videos: [Link [here](#)]

Houston, TX – December 5, 2025 – [Houston Ballet](#) is proud to announce the promotion of [Tyler Donatelli](#) to Principal Dancer. Formerly a First Soloist, Donatelli was promoted on Friday evening of December 5, 2025, after starring in Houston Ballet's annual Margaret Alkek Williams Jubilee of Dance Gala.

Donatelli's elevation follows a standout year defined by major leading roles and breakthrough performances that solidified her as one of the Company's most captivating and versatile dancers. Over the last season, Donatelli made her debut as Olga in *Onegin*; danced the lead woman in *Theme and Variations*; and originated a lead role as Princess Heather in Stanton Welch's *Raymonda*. She also delivered notable performances as Princess Florine in Ben Stevenson's *The Sleeping Beauty* and as the Sugar Plum Fairy in Welch's *The Nutcracker*. Across Houston Ballet's mixed repertoire programs, she continued to command the stage with artistic range and technical assurance, consistently emerging as a standout presence.

Donatelli joined Houston Ballet II in 2013 and has risen through every rank of the organization, becoming an apprentice in 2014, a Corps de Ballet member in 2015, a Demi Soloist and Soloist in 2017, and a First Soloist in 2022. Her promotion to Principal recognizes not only her remarkable growth and performance achievements, but also the creative depth and storytelling she brings to the stage.

Houston Ballet celebrates Donatelli as she steps into this new chapter in her distinguished career.

ABOUT HOUSTON BALLET

Founded in 1969, Houston Ballet is the fourth-largest ballet company in the U.S., known for its artistic excellence, bold choreography, and exceptional training programs. Under the leadership of Artistic Directors Julie Kent and Stanton Welch AM, and Executive Director Sonja Kostich, the Company operates with a \$44 million budget (FY26) and a \$126 million endowment (as of October 2025). In April 2011, it opened the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance, a \$46.6 million-dollar state-of-the-art training facility. The Company regularly performs in the Wortham Theater Center in Houston, Texas, and tours internationally to cities such as London, Paris, and

Tokyo. Additionally, its Education and Community Engagement programs reach more than 85,000 people annually, while the Houston Ballet Academy trains over 1,000 students each year, with a majority on scholarship. For more information on Houston Ballet, visit houstonballet.org/explore/history.

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