



PRESS RELEASE



"Dancing In the Streets AZ and Tucson Juneteenth Committee Join Forces for Historic Partnership"

Tucson, AZ – March 15, 2024- Dancing In the Streets AZ, a pioneering non-profit ballet school known for its commitment to diversity and inclusion, proudly announces a groundbreaking partnership with the Original Tucson Juneteenth Committee. This historic partnership marks a significant milestone in both organizations' dedication to celebrating African American achievements, and the fine arts. The highlight of this partnership will be the kickoff event for a month-long Juneteenth celebration: a mesmerizing ballet performance of the classic tale, Cinderella. This rendition of the beloved fairy tale will feature for the first time two exceptionally talented African American ballet dancers in the leading roles, a representation of the rich diversity and talent within the ballet community.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Tucson Juneteenth Committee for this momentous occasion," said Joseph Rodgers and Soleste Lupu the husband and wife Co- Founders and Artistic Directors of Dancing In the Streets AZ. "At Dancing In the Streets AZ, we believe in the power of dance to unite communities and celebrate diversity and inclusion. This collaboration allows us to honor the significance of Juneteenth while showcasing the extraordinary talents of African American ballet dancers." Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. By presenting a historic Cinderella ballet as part of the Juneteenth celebrations, Dancing In the Streets AZ and the Tucson Juneteenth Committee aim to highlight the resilience, strength, and cultural contributions of the African American community.

"We are excited to work with Dancing In the Streets AZ to bring this unique performance to our Juneteenth celebrations," said Larry Starks President of the Tucson Juneteenth Committee. "This collaboration underscores our shared commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the fine arts. Through the magic of ballet, we hope to inspire and uplift audiences of all backgrounds."

The Cinderella ballet performance will take place on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at 2:00pm kicking off a series of events and activities organized by the Tucson Juneteenth Committee throughout the month of June. Audiences can expect a captivating showcase of talent, artistry, and storytelling that celebrates artistic achievements in the community.

Meet Kaila Stoglin - a true gem in the world of dance, is no stranger to the captivating world of Cinderella. Having been an alumna of Dancing In the Streets AZ, Kaila's performances have consistently left audiences in awe. Her artistry, poise, and

extraordinary technique are set to breathe life into the iconic role of Cinderella, promising a magical experience for all who attend. Introducing

Ethan Price - a distinguished dancer from Ballet Arizona, is set to don the role of Prince Charming. With his powerful and elegant movements, Ethan is sure to captivate hearts and bring Cinderella's fairy-tale romance to life on the stage. His collaboration with Kaila promises to create a spellbinding chemistry that will transport audiences into the enchanting world of ballet.



Who: Dancing in the Streets Arizona Special Juneteenth kickoff celebration

What: Full length Cinderella Ballet

When: Saturday, June 8, 2024

Where: Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

Purchase Tickets <https://buy.tututix.com/ditsaz> Tickets start at \$18

DISC for Seniors/Students/Military and groups of 10 or more

Joseph Rodgers, and Soleste Lupu-Rodgers, Founding/Artistic Directors

Dancing in the Streets Arizona <http://www.ditsaz.org>

About Us

About Dancing In the Streets AZ: Please watch 30 second video <https://youtu.be/EluvSmCmAtw>
Dancing In the Streets AZ is a non-profit ballet school in Tucson, committed to providing high-quality

dance education in a diverse and inclusive environment. The school aims to inspire a love for dance while fostering creativity and building a sense of community among its students. Dancing in the Streets Arizona (DITSAZ) was founded in 2008 by husband and wife team Soleste Lupu and Joseph Rodgers, who met in ballet school in Tucson, and with a modest sum of money received in celebration of their wedding. The DITSAZ studio is located in South Tucson, a one-square mile city surrounded by the City of Tucson that maintains a strong cultural heritage, but struggles with high crime rates and poverty. The mission of DITSAZ is to use the power of dance to transform lives using the excitement and discipline of ballet to guide children in developing positive life skills; and to break down cultural barriers and enrich the community's artistic experience. The students take classes and perform in professional settings regardless of their income level, physical shape/size, or skill level. Our professionally equipped studio is located at 88 W. 38th Street, Suite 200 in South Tucson.

About the Tucson Juneteenth Committee : Our vision bringing together communities and people of all backgrounds in celebration of our African American ancestors about the significance of this special day to ensure our future generations build on and continue the knowledge, education, and legacy for future generations to come. To plan the future of Juneteenth celebrations with imagination and wisdom. Our mission to bring together people of all backgrounds in promoting the education, advocacy, and celebration of Juneteenth in Tucson. To cultivate a community of people of all backgrounds in a day (s) of unity to commemorate and celebrate Juneteenth and African American culture with musical performances, inspiring speakers, storytelling, cultural exhibits, religious observances, kid-zone, food vendors, etc.. The primary mission of the Tucson Juneteenth Festival is to celebrate with the Tucson community the history of Juneteenth and preserve Juneteenth for future generations to come.

<http://tucsonjune19.org> /

DANCING IN THE STREETS AZ
WWW.DITSAZ.ORG

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