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## **Ballet Arizona Company Dancer Retires After 16 Years**

Sasha Vincett Set to Retire At the End of 2022-2023 Season

**PHOENIX** – After 16 years with the company, <u>Ballet Arizona's</u> Sasha Vincett is announcing her retirement from the organization. Vincett will take her final bow at the last performance of the 'All Balanchine' production on May 7 at 1 p.m. at Symphony Hall.

"Being a part of the Ballet Arizona community and this company for the majority of my adult life has positively impacted me in every way possible," said Vincett. "It has enabled me to live out my dream of becoming a professional ballet dancer. I feel very fortunate that I danced with this company for 16 seasons and to have such a successful career."

Vincett performed beautifully in countless productions throughout her time with Ballet Arizona. While each performance was special to Vincett, her favorite productions include Justin Peck's *In Creases* Balanchine's *Stravinsky Violin Concerto, Allegro Brilliante, Divertimento No. 15, Apollo* and *The Four Temperaments*. She has also been featured in Artistic Director, Ib Andersen's *Romeo & Juliet, The Sleeping Beauty* and originated roles in Andersen's *Diversions* and *Cinderella*.

"Sasha's passion, dedication, and love for ballet brought life to the stage with each performance," said Andersen. "She truly encompasses the talent and artistry ballet dancers need to help bring a story to life. It was an honor to work with her over the years and I wish her all the best for her next journey."

In addition to performing with the company, Vincett worked to serve as an advocate for the dance community and her fellow colleagues. She was part of the <u>Artist Relief Fund</u>, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works to provide financial support to the dancers at Ballet Arizona, since its inception in 2013. Since 2015, her passion with the organization led her to take on more leadership roles including serving as the treasurer for two years and president for the past six years.

She began her ballet training at The Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet with Marcia Dale Weary and fell in love with the art of ballet. She performed featured roles in *The Nutcracker* and George Balanchine's *Serenade*. In 2003, she received the bronze medal at the USA National Youth Ballet Competition and was a finalist at the Youth America Grand Prix in 2003 and 2004. Vincett trained with Magaly Suarez and attended the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre graduate program where she performed in Terrance Orr's *The Nutcracker*, George Balanchine's *Who Cares*, and in *Paquita* and *Etudes*.

For more information on upcoming performances and how to support Ballet Arizona, please visit <u>balletaz.org</u>.

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## **Ballet Arizona**

Ballet Arizona is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen – a former Principal Dancer with The New York City Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet – Ballet Arizona follows his lead to the future of dance in Arizona. The School of Ballet Arizona promotes access to the art form of ballet through dance education, with a focus on excellence in the form, directing each student to a life-long love of dance. Following this vision, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 35,000 children and families every year through its free and low-cost outreach programs. For more information, visit balletaz.org.

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