

- To maintain the artistic excellence and financial health of Pennsylvania Ballet, the Company has recently completed a restructuring period. In light of recent changes in Artistic and Executive leadership, the entire leadership team (including the Artistic and Interim Executive Directors and Board) felt like this was an appropriate time to consider other changes that could increase the Company's likely success going forward. These steps come after a comprehensive review of the organizational structure and how the Company can be its most effective.
- Leadership has made every effort to minimize the impact of job loss. All those affected were offered severance packages based on their years of service.
- Change is difficult, but uncertainty is devastating. Leadership has been clear with staff that this change is happening once, and this solid team is prepared to move forward in a positive direction.
- It is incredibly difficult to be losing some colleagues who have been valued for so long. However, we believe these changes ultimately will strengthen our ability to adapt and grow as an organization. We thank these members of our staff for their years of service and great contributions to the Company.
- At the School and on the Administrative staff, crucial cuts were made to reduce expenses. In total, the Company expects to see a net savings of approximately \$100k annually.
- Artistically, a new team appointed from within the Pennsylvania Ballet family is in place to support the Company's recently appointed Artistic Director, which is not uncommon for an organization with a change in top leadership. Principal Dancer Zachary Hensch and former Principal Dancer Julie Diana, who had other plans for this season, have graciously accepted invitations to serve as Ballet Master and Mistress.
- Arantxa Ochoa, former Principal Dancer and most recently Principal Instructor at The School of Pennsylvania Ballet, has been promoted to School Director.
- A positive environment is required to create great art, and the energy in the studios has been off the charts. The dancers were soaring after their first class with Ángel, and the applause was deafening when the artistic appointments were announced in a Company-wide meeting.
- Pennsylvania Ballet remains committed to delivering the finest in artistry and performance to the Greater Philadelphia region and educating its children, citizens, and aspiring professional dancers.
- For more information, please contact Marissa Montenegro, Public Relations Manager at mmontenegro@paballet.org or David Gray, Executive Director at dgray@paballet.org.