

BOSTON BALLET

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BOSTON BALLET SCHOOL TRAINEE TYSON ALI CLARK WINS 2016 PRINCESS GRACE AWARD

JULY 28, 2016 (BOSTON, MA)—Boston Ballet School Trainee **Tyson Ali Clark** has been named a recipient of a **2016 Princess Grace Award** for Dance Performance by the Princess Grace Foundation-USA. Named after the beloved Princess Grace (Kelly) of Monaco, the nonprofit aims to assist rising talent in the theater, dance, and film industries and will award more than \$1 million in scholarships, apprenticeships, and fellowships this year. Since the Foundation's launch in 1982, more than 800 individuals have received grants, totaling over \$12 million. Clark is one of eight recipients of the scholarships and fellowships in Dance Performance and Choreography this year.

"I believe this prestigious award will showcase my gift and will open a lot of opportunities in the future," said Tyson Clark. "My goal is to become a principal dancer one day, and this award puts me on the right track in achieving that goal."

Clark began his dance training at age 3 at Mary Flynn Dance in Somerville, Massachusetts. He trained at the Gold School with Project Moves Dance Company in Brockton, Massachusetts, with additional summer study on full merit scholarship at the School of American Ballet (2014, 2015), as well as Houston Ballet Academy (2016). Clark began training with Boston Ballet School from 2008-2011, and returned in 2015 on full merit scholarship as a Boston Ballet School Trainee under the direction of Margaret Tracey. He has performed with both the Company and Boston Ballet II, the second company, in many Boston Ballet productions, including Mikko Nissinen's *The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake*, John Neumeier's *Third Symphony of Gustav Mahler*, and Boston Ballet School's *Next Generation*.

The 2016 Princess Grace Awards Gala will be held at Cipriani 25 Broadway, New York City, on October 24, 2016 in the company of Their Serene Highnesses The Prince and The Princess of Monaco. Distinguished past recipients of the Princess Grace Award include former New York City Ballet Principal Dancer and current Director of Boston Ballet School Margaret Tracey, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Artistic Director Robert Battle, New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Tiler Peck, and American Ballet Theatre Principal Dancer Isabella Boylston, among others.

For more information about the 2016 Princess Grace Awards, visit: <http://prn.to/2ad2172>.

About Boston Ballet

Since 1963, Boston Ballet's internationally acclaimed performances of classical, neo-classical, and contemporary ballets, combined with a dedication to world class dance education and community initiative programs, have made the institution a leader in its field, with a 52-year history of promoting excellence and access to dance.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen and Executive Director Max Hodges, the Company maintains a diverse repertoire, ranging from full-length ballets to new works by some of today's finest choreographers. Boston Ballet's second company, Boston Ballet II, is comprised of dancers who gain experience by performing with the Company and independently, presenting special programs to audiences throughout the Northeast.

Boston Ballet School, the official school of Boston Ballet, has a long-standing dedication to providing exceptional dance education and ballet training to students across three studios in Boston, Newton, and the North Shore. Led by Director Margaret Tracey, the School reaches more than 5,000 students (toddler to adult) each year through its four core programs: Children's Program, Classical Ballet Program, Adult Dance Program, and Pre-Professional Program.

Boston Ballet's Department of Education and Community Initiatives (ECI) provides programming, events, and activities that connect the community to dance. ECI reaches more than 6,000 individuals in Boston, North Shore, and the surrounding communities each year through Citydance, ECI on Location, Adaptive Dance, and other community programs.

For more information, please visit www.bostonballet.org.

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