

Ella Bates



Ella recently completed the Milwaukee Ballet's Pre-Professional Program, where she trained under esteemed instructors including Tatiana Jouravel-Malinkine, Pedro Lapetra Miñana, Bri Lucey, Dawn Springer, and Sloan Logsdon. Recently, she showcased her talent in roles such as *Paquita* and *the Flower Girl* from *Don Quixote* and the *Odalisque Variation* and *Le Jardin Animé* from *Le Corsaire*. In 2023, Ella was honored as the NYCDA National Outstanding Dancer, participating in an exclusive experience that included masterclasses with renowned choreographers and teachers like Robie Fairchild, Desmond Richardson, and Joshua Bergasse. Previously, she was a member of the Ballet Chicago Studio Company from 2020 to 2022, performing in *Dancevision*, *The Nutcracker*, and George Balanchine's *Who Cares*.

Ella began her dance journey at Robert Thomas Dancenter where she joined Iowa Youth Ballet, taking on lead roles such as Rose in *Rosebud* and *The Butterfly*, the Blue Fairy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Demi Firebird in *Firebird*. She also performed various roles in the *Iowa State Nutcracker*, including Dew Drop Fairy, Marzipan, and Snow. In addition, Ella was part of the Dancenter Dancers competition team, competing across the Midwest in contemporary, musical theater, tap, and jazz. She has attended multiple summer intensives, including Grand Rapids Ballet, Ballet Chicago, and Kansas City Ballet.