


# Meet the 10 Americans Heading to the 2019 Prix de Lausanne

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October 31, 2018

## News

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Oct. 31, 2018 05:01PM EST

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The 2018 Prix de Lausanne finalists. The 2019 competitors have just been announced. Photo Courtesy Prix de Lausanne.

Competition season is just around the corner. Today, [The Prix de Lausanne](#) announced the 80 dancers that will head to Switzerland February 3–10 to compete for scholarships and apprenticeships to the Prix's partner schools and companies.

By the numbers, 363 dancers (273 girls and 90 boys) from 40 countries applied. Nine jury members reviewed the video submissions and selected 71 dancers over the course of three days. Add in the nine preselected competitors for a grand total of 80 dancers (44 girls and 36 boys) hailing from 20 countries.

Out of that group, 10 are from the U.S. Get to know them below. There's another reason to follow these Americans: Last year, [Aviva Gelfer-Mundl](#), one of the American Prix de Lausanne competitors, took home a big prize.

Stay tuned for more updates on the Prix in the months to come!

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### Olivia Daugherty, International Ballet School

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Olivia Daugherty, 15, studies at [International Ballet School](#) in Littleton, CO. She's no stranger to competitions: Daugherty has placed at the Youth America Grand Prix and the Denver Ballet Guild's Young Dancers Competition. She has also earned scholarships to the Bolshoi Ballet Summer Intensive and intensives at Académie Princesse Grace and University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

### Parker Garrison, International Ballet Academy

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[Parker Garrison](#) is a student at [International Ballet Academy](#) in Cary, NC. At age 12, he appeared on "America's Got Talent" and "So You Think You Can Dance: The Next Generation." At the 2018 YAGP New York Finals, Garrison won a scholarship to Boston Ballet's 2019 Summer Intensive and a short-term scholarship to Académie Princesse Grace.

## Erik Kim, University of North Carolina School of the Arts

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Erik Kim is a high school student at University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC. Starting at 1:30 in the above clip, you can see Kim in an UNCSA production of *Paquita*.

## Soana Madsen, VM Ballet School

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Soana Madsen trains abroad at VM Ballet School in Toulouse, France, which is directed by her parents, Matthew Madsen and Vinciane Ghyseens; her father was born in the U.S., while her mother is Belgian. In 2017, Madsen competed on the French classical talent TV show, "Prodiges."

## Harold Mendez, Sarasota Cuban Ballet School

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Harold Mendez on Instagram: “Last show of usaibc. Enseñando quien manda🇺🇸🇺🇸”

Harold Mendez is a student at the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School in Sarasota, FL. He has a long list of competition accolades, including medals from Cuba's Grand Prix, YAGP, World Ballet Competition and, most recently, a bronze medal in the junior male category at the 2018 USA International Ballet Competition in Jackson, MS.

## Basia Rhoden, Master Ballet Academy

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A student at the Vaganova-based Master Ballet Academy in Scottsdale, AZ, Basia Rhoden took home a bronze medal at the 2018 YAGP Finals as well as placing at the 2018 ADC | IBC.

## Rheya Shano, Brookline Ballet School

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Rheya Shano trains at Brookline Ballet School outside of Boston. She won a gold medal in the Classical Junior Division at the 2017 Valentina Kozlova IBC and a bronze medal in the junior category of the 2018 USA IBC in Jackson, MS.

## Julia Shugart, All American Classical Ballet School

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Last but not least is Julia Shugart, a student at All American Classical Ballet School in Tampa, FL. Like the rest of the American contestants, Shugart is a regular on the ballet competition circuit.

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