



P R I X D E L A U S A N N E

Interruption of the partnership with Russia Prix de Lausanne official position and clarification statement

The Prix de Lausanne is a Swiss cultural institution that receives a significant amount of financial support from Swiss public and government entities. Its mission is to provide talented young dancers with enhanced access to ballet and to support their development as artists. In matters relating to international politics, like other cultural institutions receiving financial support from Swiss government entities, we follow the guidance of Swiss authorities.

Given the current situation in Ukraine, the Prix de Lausanne has suspended its institutional partnership with its Russian partner schools, the Vaganova Ballet Academy in Saint Petersburg and the Perm State Ballet School in Perm. **The impact of these suspensions will be that Prix de Lausanne competition winners will not be able to use their scholarship to attend these schools, nor will these schools be able to attend the Prix de Lausanne.** However, these suspensions do not prevent any Russian dancers, including students currently attending these schools, from applying and participating in the Prix de Lausanne. **Students of every nationality and from any school can apply and participate in the Prix de Lausanne competition, without exception. The Prix de Lausanne is an inclusive institution that values equal opportunities and does not discriminate in terms of nationality, gender, origin, religion or financial means.** The video auditions, evaluated by an international jury of at least nine members, are anonymised so that jurors are not provided with any information about the candidates' name, school or nationality. Their selections are made purely on the basis of talent and potential.

In addition to the innumerable scholarships and apprenticeships the Prix de Lausanne has supported since its foundation in 1973, over the last 14 years the Prix has fully sponsored the participation of hundreds of candidates from Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Italy, Latvia, Paraguay, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States. Many of these candidates were able to join our international partner schools, both through the award of scholarships and our innovative networking forum, which serves to connect candidates that do not win scholarships with schools that are interested in supporting their training.

Recognising the impact on dancers and dance students living in Ukraine, the Prix de Lausanne is also supporting Ukrainian dancers through its summer intensive programme, "European Pre-selections", in July 2022. Ukrainian dancers will be provided with free registration and all travel, accommodation and meal expenses will be covered. Through this process, these young dancers will have an opportunity to be pre-selected for the Prix de Lausanne 2023.

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The Prix de Lausanne follows the development of future dance talents throughout the year through various activities which culminates into the most prestigious classical ballet competition in the world. The first edition of the competition, designed for 15 to 18-year-old dancers, took place in 1973. Since then, it has become a major annual event in the dance sphere on a worldwide scale, and its goal remains unchanged: to identify, promote and help the best young dance talents around the world. Today, after 49 editions, the Prix de Lausanne is considered the most prestigious ballet competition on an international level and the foundation upholding and organising it has morphed into a wide scale charity, well beyond the initial event. We support the most promising young talents throughout the year through various education and training activities. The Prix de Lausanne allows them to live a unique experience that will serve them throughout their career. As a development partner, we provide them with a healthy environment to reach their full potential. That is why we have developed a vast network of partners to strive for excellence in this exceptional artistic dance field.