

FAIRFIELD COUNTY DANCE FESTIVAL

FAIRFIELD COUNTY'S VERY OWN FREE OPEN-AIR TOURING DANCE FESTIVAL

*Touring to 8 towns
throughout the month of July*



SUMMER 2026

About

Established in 2021 by Thomas-Ortiz Dance and East Coast Contemporary Ballet, the Fairfield County Dance Festival is an annual open-air summer performance series that is entirely free of charge. Curated for and touring throughout Fairfield County, Connecticut, this dance festival enables greater accessibility to the arts and promotes community engagement. In addition to Thomas/Ortiz Dance and East Coast Contemporary Ballet, the touring festival features other local artists, guest dance companies, and musicians.



East Coast Contemporary Ballet
Thomas/Ortiz Dance
New England Ballet Theater
Guest Artist from Miami City Ballet:
Lucy Nevin

Wednesday July 15, 2026 | 6:30 pm
Ballard Park
485 Main Street, Ridgefield CT

FAIRFIELD COUNTY DANCE FESTIVAL

DANCE FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES

WAITING FOR ANGELS (2026)

Company: EAST COAST CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Choreography: Claire Mazza

Music: René Aubry (Part I & II) & Tremor (Part III)

Dancers: Dorothea Garland, Mackenzie Maier, Claire Mazza, Haley Neisser, Cassandra Punzo, Katelyn Somers, Bret Coppa, William Herrera Gutierrez, Santiago Vargas

Costume Design: Claire Mazza

Costumes: Claire Mazza & Estefano Gil

Inspired by Italian sculptor Luca Serasini's work *Waiting for Angels* (pictured at right), this new piece explores the various ways in which we have agency over our future and how impactful the sentiment of hope can be in our darkest moments. However, we are challenged to ask ourselves whether hope needs to be synonymous with stagnancy or rather a strengthening of faith in ourselves.

The work is a journey in three parts:

- I. Idealized Hope
- II. Acceptance
- III. Agency



At the DAPFestival in Pietrasanta, Italy.

About LucaSerasini's Sculpture - Waiting for Angels is a project that, while avoiding explicit religious iconography, operates in a space that combines contemporary art and archaic symbolism, aimed at evoking anticipation, dialogue with the invisible and hope, in a historical moment in which it seems increasingly lacking. In Jacob's Dream, the central theme of the project, the ladder connects earth to heaven, with angels ascending and descending. The angel, a figure of mediation, recalls the biblical tradition but is reinterpreted in a universal key, a bearer of messages of transformation. The dream's stone- pillow is not a mere object, but a symbol of the sacred and the immutable, a sign and place of manifestation of the divine.

SAILOR SONG

Company: THOMAS/ORTIZ DANCE

Choreography: Frances Ortiz & Ted Thomas

Music: “Sailor Song” by Arcade Fire; performed by Ren & Gigi Perez

Dancers: Rose Engel, Deanna Garcia, Natalie Gasparini, Mairead Moore, Rebecca Tschen, Melissa Weber

Costumes: Nicole Roque

GREATER THAN

Company: New England Ballet Theater

Choreographer: Rachael Gnatowski

Music: “Midnight Sun” by Paige Plaisance,

“Bayou’s Lament” by Guillermo Cueva

Dancers: Fiona Burlin, Tamar Cohen, Hannah Orlov,

Sofia Waro

Costumes: Fiona Burlin

DON QUIXOTE KITRI (SOLO VARIATION)

Guest Artist: Lucy Nevin of Miami City Ballet

Choreography: Marcus Petipa

Music: Minkus

Costume: Nicole Roque

ABRAZO

Company: THOMAS/ORTIZ DANCE

Choreography: Frances Ortiz & Ted Thomas

Music: “Reuerdo de Jacarandas” by Alper Tuzcu & “Mundo Biazaro” by Electro Dub Tango

Dancers: Andrew Demakakos, Rose Engel, Natalie Gasparini, Michael Requena

Costumes: Nicole Roque

AS TIME FLIES

Company: East Coast Contemporary Ballet

Choreography: Alejandro Ulloa

Music: Peter Gregson & Caleb Arredondo

Dancers: *Dorothea Garland, Mackenzie Maier, Claire Mazza, Haley Neisser, Cassandra Punzo, Katelyn Somers, William Herrera Gutierrez, Santiago Vargas, Alejandro Ulloa*

PITTER PATTER/RAINDROPS

Company: THOMAS/ORTIZ DANCE

PITTER PATTER

Choreography: Christina Fegundes-Turner

Music: “Pitter Patter” & “Dance of the Paper Umbrellas” composed by Elena Kats-Cheermin

Dancers: Deanna Garcia & Melissa Weber

The sound of raindrops.

RAINDROPS

Choreography: Christina Fegundes-Turner

Music: Dance of the Paper Umbrellas” & “Pitter Patter” composed by Elena Kats-Chemin

Dancers: Andrew Demakakos, Mairead Moore, Rebecca Tschen

A coalescence of water and joy of movement.

ZEPHYR

Company: Neville Dance Company

Choreography: Brenda Neville

Music: Four Tet

Dancers: Kayla Armgardt, Lara Dearman Mosteller, Amanda Summers, Deborah de Farias

GESTO!

Guest Artist: Lucy Nevin of Miami City Ballet

Choreography: Christina Fagundes-Turner

Music: Igor Stravinsky, Suite Italienne

Costume: Nicole Roque

CIVIL TWILIGHT

Company: THOMAS/ORTIZ DANCE

Choreography: Ted Thomas & Frances Ortiz

Music: “van Gogh” by Virginio Aiello & On Piano

Dancers: Mairead Moore, Charles Scheland, Melissa Weber

Costumes: Nicole Roque

CATCH A CLOUD (2023)

Company: EAST COAST CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Choreography: Claire Mazza & Alejandro Ulloa

Music: Novalima, Quantic, Soha & Manu Chao

Dancers: Dorothea Garland, Mackenzie Maier, Claire Mazza, Haley Neisser, Cassandra Punzo, Katelyn Somers, Bret Coppa, William Herrera Gutierrez, Alejandro Ulloa, Santiago Vargas

Costumes: Claire Mazza

We dare to day dream,
to smile -
with both sides of our mouth, our eyes watering
with exquisite joy.

Our hearts turned
Upward reaching lazily
to clear the sky and
catch a cloud.

-Anonymous

MANSPLAINING

Company: THOMAS/ORTIZ DANCE

Choreography: Ted Thomas & Frances Ortiz

Music: “Los Jibaros” by Cal Tjadert & Eddie Palmieri “Acid” by Ray Barretto

Dancers: Andrew Demakakos, Rose Engel, Deanna Garcia, Natalie Gasparini
Mairead Moore, Michael Raquena, Charles Scheland, Rebecca Tschan,
Melissa Weber

Costumes: Laure Walker, Fred Tances

Thank you to our sponsors

COUNTY
TV & APPLIANCE



WILDBLOOM

The
Suzanne Sorensen
Foundation



Fairfield County Bank



INTERVENTIONAL
ORTHOPEDICS CT
DRIVE THE BODY'S POWER. RETURN TO BODY STRONG.

The Jeff & Emily
HANLON
Family

DENTAL SOLUTIONS
DR. Elias Pimentel



US MARBLE & GRANITE



Protea
Physical Therapy &
Wellness



DANCE & ACTIVEWEAR
ATTITUDE



GRUNOW BUILDERS INC.



Connecticut
still revolutionary

Department of Economic and
Community Development

Office Of The Arts



RELIABLE CONSTRUCTION. QUALITY DESIGN.

CUMMINGS & LOCKWOOD LLC

N E D T

NEW ENGLAND DANCE THEATER

N E A D

NEW ENGLAND ACADEMY OF DANCE



DARIEN ARTS CENTER



Fairfield Museum
AND HISTORY CENTER



Mill River Park
COLLABORATIVE





WILDBLOOM

Bright Beyond the Bottle

Your beauty shouldn't come at the cost of the planet's.

At WildBloom, we believe radiant skin and a radiant Earth can—and must—coexist.

Our all-natural, sustainably sourced formulas are crafted to bring out your healthiest glow while protecting the natural beauty that inspires it. No harsh chemicals. No wasteful packaging. Just clean ingredients, conscious choices, and results that truly shine.

Because when your skincare is kind to the planet,
your glow goes beyond the bottle.



All-natural. Sustainable. Glowing results.

@wildbloomskin care on all socials

COUNTY

TV & APPLIANCE

SONY SAMSUNG LG ring Control4 nest SONOS Klipsch NILES



BOSCH 36 APPLIANCES MONOGRAM CAFE WOLF SUB-ZERO Thermador Miele VIKING

COUNTY HAS ALL YOUR APPLIANCE & SMART HOME NEEDS



BEST SERVICE AT THE **GUARANTEED BEST PRICE** In-Store And Online

www.countytv.com

SALES | SERVICE | INSTALLATION | CONCIERGE SUPPORT | BUILDER PROGRAMS
County TV & Appliances | 2770 Summer Street, Stamford | 203-327-2630 | countytv.com



countytv



@countytvandappliancect



info@countytv.com

The **Suzanne Sorensen** Foundation



In recognition of East Coast Contemporary
Ballet's remarkable efforts to enhance the
lives of young and aspiring ballet dancers.

Fondly,
Norman and Suzanne Sorensen

Proud to Support

East Coast Contemporary Ballet



When the arts flourish, spirits lift, and minds soar.



Fairfield County Bank
Member FDIC

Caring for the Community Since 1871

203.431.7431 • FairfieldCountyBank.com

Bridgeport | Danbury | Darien | Fairfield | Georgetown | Norwalk | Ridgefield
Rowayton | Stamford | Weston | Westport | Wilton



*We are honored to
support the Fairfield
County Dance
Festival. Thank you
for letting us be part of
your journey!*



@attitudenorwalk
www.attitudenorwalk.com



PROUD SUPPORTERS OF THE
FAIRFIELD COUNTY DANCE FESTIVAL

FAIRFIELD COUNTY SPECIALISTS IN
REAL ESTATE



ENGEL
T E A M

AT DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL ESTATE

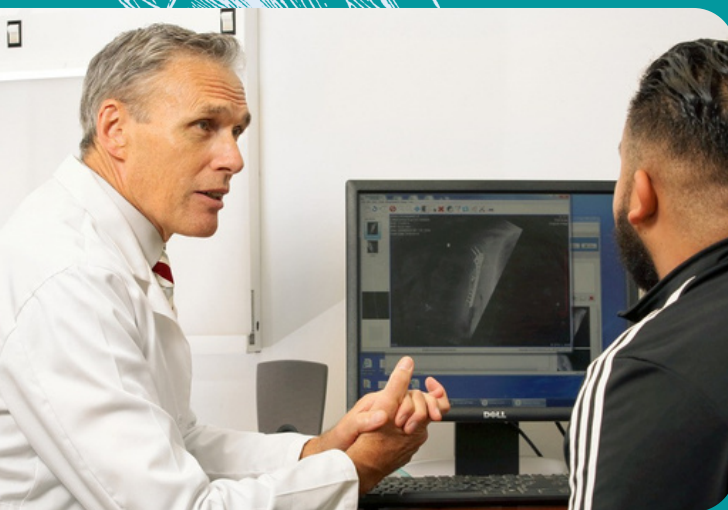
199 ELM STREET, NEW CANAAN 203-858-0266



INTERVENTIONAL ORTHOPEDICS CT

DRIVE THE BODY'S POWER. RETURN TO BODY STRONG

OFFERING BIOLOGIC TREATMENT FOR NECK, JOINT, AND
BACK PAIN AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO SURGERY



Daniel Southern MD,
Board Certified Spine
and Sports Medicine



91 East Ave, Norwalk



ioct@ioct.info



203-456-5717

DE TAL SOLUTIONS

DR. Elias Pimentel

NORWALK'S ONLY FULL SERVICE DENTAL PRACTICE

From routine cavities to dental implants or root canals, Dr. Elias Pimentel is equipped to help protect, restore and improve your teeth using advanced treatment and services and cutting edge technology.



**OUR GREATEST REWARD,
YOUR SMILE!**



"Great experience, Dr. Elias is very knowledgeable, makes sure you understand the procedure before he begins, and makes you feel very comfortable. A great Doctor"

- Richard S



Riverview East
148 East Avenue • Suite 1C
Norwalk, CT 06851



www.dentalsolutionsct.com



info@dentalsolutionsct.com



(203) 939-9666

(203) 939-9667



US MARBLE & GRANITE

**QUALITY CUSTOM FABRICATOR OF MARBLE,
GRANITE, QUARTZ, QUARTZITE & LIMESTONE**

541 Central Avenue
Bridgeport, CT
203-333-9133
USMarbleandGraniteCT@gmail.com

Proud supporters
of the ECCB and
the performing
and visual arts in
our community.



Flooring Product Featured:
Teknoflor™ Aspecta Contours | Chambord - Naturel #6616739X

FREYER ACADEMY OF
BALLET
— CONNECTICUT —



COME DANCE WITH US
IN OUR NEW LOCATION!

12 OLD MILL RD, REDDING, CT

Classical Ballet, Pointe, & Jazz for Ages 3+

Adult Ballet - Intro through Intermediate

203-665-8825 • fabballet.com



PROVIDING DANCEWEAR SINCE 1976

241 E PUTNAM AVE
COS COB, CT 06807
203.622.0591



Cummings & Lockwood
Proudly Supports the
East Coast Contemporary Ballet

At Cummings & Lockwood, you receive sophisticated and carefully curated legal advice based on decades of experience and tailored to your specific goals, together with the personalized attention and elevated client experience you should expect from your professional advisors.

- Private Clients | Trust and Estates
- Fiduciary and Probate Litigation
- Corporate and Finance
- Business Litigation
- Commercial and Residential Real Estate

Margaret A. Deluca
Principal and Chairman
Private Clients Group
Six Landmark Square
Stamford, CT 06901
Phone: 203.351.4298
mdeluca@cl-law.com

CUMMINGS & LOCKWOOD LLC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

STAMFORD | GREENWICH | WEST HARTFORD | NAPLES | BONITA SPRINGS | PALM BEACH GARDENS

www.cl-law.com

Minuteman Press pocketfolders
banners menus raffle tickets
event signage copies Promo Products
invitations Proud to Support flyers
business cards ncr forms
postcards promotional products wedding
design East Coast note cards
direct mail
brochures printing labels
notepads Contemporary Ballet
envelopes posters letterheads



167 Main Street • Norwalk, CT 06851 • 203-838-2795

Visit Us: www.norwalk.minutemanpress.com

Follow Us: @mmpnorwalk





GRUNOW BUILDERS INC.

Richard Swann Architect



BenjaminGrunow@gmail.com

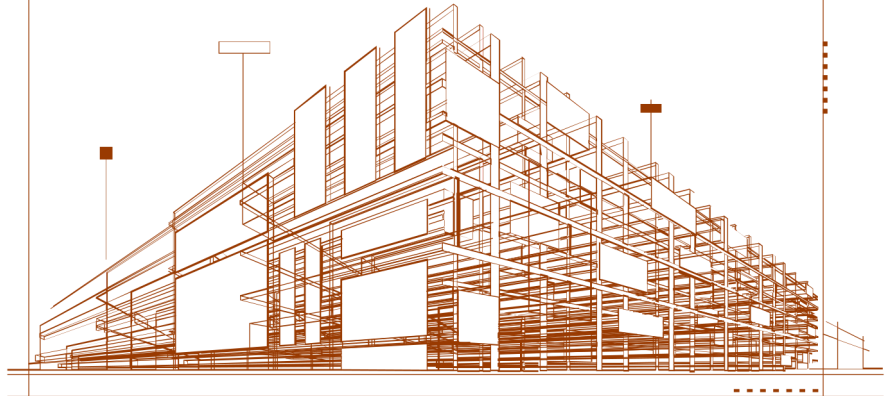
203-979-1604



Michele Gargan, PsyD

shrinkunwrapped.substack.com

**RELIABLE CONSTRUCTION
QUALITY DESIGN**



KarolKostrzewski@yahoo.com

203.391.1289

KAROLSKY
CONSTRUCTION



Protea Physical Therapy

Carol-Anne Hicks, PT, DPT, BSPTS

Physical Therapist, Owner

Neurolymphatic deep tissue fascia massage

Dance medicine, pelvic floor rehabilitation, scoliosis Schroth therapy

14 Depot Place

Bethel, CT 06801

203-286-3075

www.proteaphysicaltherapy.com

Let us help you dig deep, find the why, unlock your fascia, and
regulate your nervous system



NORWALK

690 Main Avenue, Norwalk CT

planetpizza.com



Versatile.

Custom-designed.

Exceptional.

Reliable.

Antonio Luca Design is a full-service boutique kitchen, bathroom and home detailing design company servicing Fairfield, CT and Westchester, NY.
Schedule your consultation TODAY.



antonioluca.com



DARIEN **ARTS** CENTER
DANCE ACADEMY



VISIT darienarts.org TO REGISTER

NEAD

NEW ENGLAND ACADEMY OF DANCE



Fall 2026 registration is open.

Register promptly, spaces will go fast!

Contact neadinfo@aol.com for information or go to

NEADance.com

FAIRFIELD COUNTY DANCE FESTIVAL



SUMMER 2026 TOURING SCHEDULE

FAIRFIELD COUNTY'S VERY OWN FREE
OPEN-AIR DANCE FESTIVAL

LIVE MUSIC AT 6:00 PM EACH EVENING

STAMFORD

Mill River Park, 1010 Washington Blvd

Thursday, July 9 | 6:30 pm

WILTON

Schenck's Island, Old Ridgefield Rd

Tuesday, July 14 | 6:30 pm

RIDGEFIELD

Ballard Park, 485 Main St

Wednesday, July 15 | 6:30 pm

DARIEN

Weed Beach, 155 Nearwater Ln

Tuesday, July 21 | 6:30 pm

Rain Date: Wednesday, July 22

NORWALK

Mathews Park, 295 West Ave

Thursday, July 23 | 6:30 pm

FAIRFIELD

Fairfield Museum and History Center, 370 Beach Rd

Friday, July 24 | 6:30 pm

Rain Date: Saturday, July 25

NEW CANAAN

New Canaan Library, 151 Main St

Tuesday, July 28 | 6:30 pm

Rain Date: Wednesday, July 29

WESTPORT

MoCA CT, 19 Newtown Tpk

Thursday, July 30 | 6:30 pm

fairfieldcountydancefestival.org