

## Ballet

Who:	What: What is their role in the dance world	When: What time period? Past? Current?	Links	
<b>Raven Wilkinson</b>	American dancer who is credited with having been the first African-American woman to dance for a major classical ballet company. Wilkinson broke the color barrier in 1955 when she signed a contract to dance full-time with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. She was promoted to soloist during her second season with the troupe, and remained with the company for six years. Wilkinson later became a mentor to American Ballet Theatre principal dancer Misty Copeland, presenting Copeland with the 2014 Dance Magazine Award.	1935-2018	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrdH69ByTs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrdH69ByTs</a>	
<b>Virginia Johnson</b>	American ballet dancer, choreographer, and journalist. She currently serves as the artistic director of Dance Theatre of Harlem and is a founding member and former principal dancer of the company. From 2000 to 2009 she was the editor-in-chief of Pointe.	1950 -	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dY-5SodAqEE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dY-5SodAqEE</a>	
<b>Lauren Anderson</b>	American ballet dancer and a former principal dancer with the Houston Ballet. In 1990, she was one of the first African-American ballerinas to become a principal for a major dance company, an important milestone in American ballet. She appeared in many ballets such as Don Quixote, Cleopatra, and The Nutcracker. She retired from the Houston Ballet in 2006 and retired from dance altogether in 2009. In 2016, Anderson had her pointe shoes from her final performance placed in the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.	1965-	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VksfsAtnkg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VksfsAtnkg</a>	
<b>Arthur Mitchell</b>	Arthur Mitchell (March 27, 1934 – September 19, 2018)[1] was an American ballet dancer, choreographer, and founder and director of ballet companies. In 1955, he was the first African-American dancer with the New York City Ballet, where he was promoted to principal dancer the following year and danced in major roles until 1966. He then founded ballet companies in Spoleto, Washington, D.C., and Brazil. In 1969, he founded a training school and the first African-American classical ballet company, Dance Theatre of Harlem. Among other awards, Mitchell was recognized as a MacArthur Fellow, inducted into the National Museum of Dance's Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney Hall of Fame, and received the United States National Medal of Arts and a Fletcher Foundation fellowship.	1934-2018	<a href="https://youtu.be/sw7sKt15dzZM">https://youtu.be/sw7sKt15dzZM</a>	