

BALLET: A HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Events in Ballet

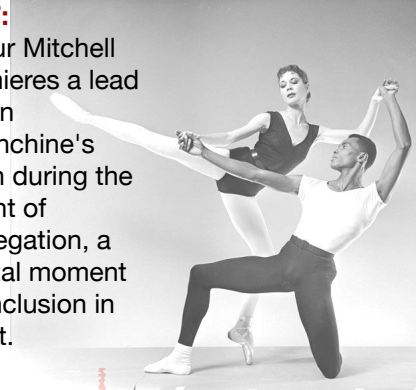
1661: "Sun King" Louis XIV establishes Académie Royale de Danse in Paris, the first formal ballet school.

1863: Emma Livry's tragic death from gas light fire prompts fire safety in theaters.



1892: *The Nutcracker* premieres in St. Petersburg, Russia.

1957: Arthur Mitchell premieres a lead role in Balanchine's *Agon* during the height of segregation, a pivotal moment for inclusion in ballet.



2015: Misty Copeland becomes the first black principal dancer of American Ballet Theater.



2020: Dancers around the world adapt to virtual ballet.

Mid 1700's: No longer a mere diversion in operas, ballet performances are shown as their own art form.

1832: Marie Taglioni is the first woman to perform *en pointe*.



1934: George Balanchine founds the School of American Ballet, creating an energetic new style of moving.

1974: Mikhail Baryshnikov defects from Russia. His fame brings ballet back into mainstream popular culture.

1961: Rudolph Nureyev flees Russia, the first of many artists to defect across "Iron Curtain".

1600's 1700's 1800's 1900's 1950's 2000's 2020

Events in World History

1776: The Declaration of Independence is signed.



1621: The first Thanksgiving occurs between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag tribe, who helped them settle on their colony's land.

1862: American Civil War begins.

1817: Gas lights are first used in theaters.

1879: The electric light bulb is invented.



1929: "Black Tuesday" marks the start of the Great Depression.



1939: Hitler invades Poland and World War II begins.

1905: The Russian Revolution begins.

1964: Segregation is abolished.

1992: U.S. and Russia sign a treaty to end the Cold War.

2008: Barack Obama becomes the USA's first black President.



2020: Covid-19 pandemic spans the globe.

Objective: Can you match five ballet events from the top of the page to their relevant world events at the bottom of the page?