



News Release

2024-2025 Season

Performing Arts Management

Young

Ambassadors

801-422-3576 | pam.byu.edu



Young Ambassadors presents *Imagine*

It has been just over 50 years since the Young Ambassadors had their first appearance in the international spotlight at Expo '70, in Osaka, Japan. Since then, 1700 Young Ambassadors have traveled thousands of miles, visited 68 countries and met millions of new friends who long remember the group's fast-paced choreography and beloved melodies. Young Ambassadors have captured the

hearts of young and old through half a century of tours. Young Ambassadors continue their energetic tradition of song and dance as they recall their past travels in their new show — *Imagine*.

Young Ambassadors feature 20 of BYU's best singers and dancers. Come see the high-energy performance at (place) on (date) at (time).

Young Ambassadors

Young Ambassadors is a group filled with members who are excited to share their talents, experiences and love through their show *Imagine*. “Imagine” is a vibrant and uplifting show that takes the audience on a rollercoaster of emotions through a series of song and dance numbers. This family friendly production invites audiences to imagine a journey of courage and transformation. It explores the daring to take risks, the strength to overcome struggles, and the joy and satisfaction in doing good. As the story unfolds, the audience will experience a magical transition from fun and light-hearted physical comedy to deeper, introspective themes, ultimately leading to a powerful realization of the need for authentic change and collective action. It features music by Stevie Wonder, Queen, David Bowie, Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, Phil Collins, Benson Boone, and many more. The songs from radio, tv, movies, and the Broadway stage have made us all who we are today and the Young Ambassadors commemorate them through their mesmerizing musical escapade on stage. Since 1970, Young Ambassadors has traveled to Africa, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Russia, Scandinavia, Tasmania, the 2002 Winter Olympics, and throughout the U.S. Young Ambassadors has also performed for leaders in Britain, Egypt, India, Japan, Jordan and the United States. Prominent past members include former Miss America Sharlene Wells Hawkes, Diamond Rio's Dan Truman and Broadway favorites Christeena Michelle Riggs and Candese Marchese. Throughout the world, Young Ambassadors are followed by a strong reputation as wholesome, professional entertainers.

Young Ambassadors represent the Department of Dance from the College of Fine Arts and Communications at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. BYU is one of America's largest private universities with more than 30,000 students from all over the United States and 100 foreign countries.

Artistic Director | Nathan Balser



Nathan Balser is an associate professor of dance at Brigham Young University and the new artistic director of the Young Ambassadors. He completed his undergraduate degree from Brigham Young University with a BS in Therapeutic Recreation and his Master of Fine Arts in dance from the University of Utah.

Nathan's professional career includes performing on Broadway in the revival cast of *Promises, Promises* with Kristen Chenoweth, *9 to 5: The Musical* with Allyson Janney, *Damn Yankees* with Cheyenne Jackson, and *Legally Blonde*. He also appeared on CBS's Tony Awards, the Kennedy Center Honors, and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Nathan danced professionally with choreographers and groups including Repertory Dance Theatre, Odyssey Dance, Molissa Fenley, John Malashock, Scott Rink, and Utah Regional Ballet.

Prior to his assignment as director of the Young Ambassadors, Nathan had multiple opportunities to set choreography on the group, traveling twice with them to China. Nathan also directed BYU's Contemporary Dance Theatre and choreographed at Sundance, Hale Center Theatre Orem, Lagoon Entertainment, Nauvoo, IL, and Utah COPA. He readily teaches workshops on dance, music, choreography and performance. He is married and has four beautiful children.

Upcoming Performances

The Young Ambassadors will be touring Southern California in February of 2025 and Brazil in spring of 2025.

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Young Ambassadors
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