



## ***Drake Simon***

Drake was born in Boulder, CO and very quickly moved to the Oregon Coast which is where he grew up. He trained with local studios in Newport, OR starting with contemporary ballet and modern with Newport School of Artistic Movement. He trained over the summer of 2010 in New York with Ken Ludden and that is what ignited his passion for ballet. In 2014 and 2015 he attended the summer intensive at Indiana Ballet Theater Northwest. In 2016, he attended Oregon Ballet Theater's summer intensive, and in 2017 and 2018 he attended the intensive at Ballet Austin. During high school, he switched studios to focus more on ballet at Oregon Coast Ballet Company and started taking tap and jazz at Dance! And All That Jazz. After high school he attended Dominican University of California and trained in the LINES BFA program, receiving a BFA in Dance and a BA in Music in 2022. Through that time, he performed as a contractor with Cynthia Pepper in 2019 and 2020 and worked with Stapleton School of Performing Arts on their Huckleberry Finn (unperformed due to Covid in 2020) and Nutcracker (2021). He was a Resident Advisor for the Ballet Austin Summer Intensive (2021) and the LINES Advanced Summer Intensive (2022). During the LINES Intensive he also assisted Nick Korkos in the choreographic process. Aside from dance, Drake participated in community musical theatre in his hometown as well as being very involved in the school bands and community orchestra on the flute. His music degree was focused on vocal performance with classical, jazz, and musical theatre styles. He also has some skills in piano and experience in music composition. He loves playing and singing jazz and likes to write songs with his ukulele when he has spare time. Drake is excited to return to his birth state and start his post-college career with CWPAC!