

Eric Conrad Stith III (USA – African descent) - Dancer

Eric was born in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He is currently a trainee with Charlotte Ballet under the direction of Laszlo Berdo. In Charlotte, Eric has done work with the community – for example, with the Elevation Church – and he is a ballet teacher at El Alma de la Luna Dance Academy. At Charlotte Ballet, he has performed *Donizetti Variations* choreographed by George Balanchine and a contemporary work choreographed by Chris Stuart. Eric started training at the age of seven at the Old Donations Center for the Gifted and Talented. He also trained at The Governor's School for the Arts for four years, and danced with Elevate Performing Arts Center for three years. While at the Governor's School, he performed in works by Paul Taylor, Erick Hawkins, and original works choreographed by teachers at the Governor's School. Eric danced the role of Johnny in Paul Taylor's *Company B* and Lucien in the Governor's School production of *Paquita*. He played a big role in Richard Alston's piece called *Arrived* that was part of the film *Dancing on the Shoulders of Giants* in 2019. Eric has studied at three summer intensives: the Orlando Ballet School, the School of American Ballet, and the Charlotte Ballet Summer Intensive. Eric loves to study books and documentaries on ballet history.

Call to Action:

"There is only now. Why wait until tomorrow, start now." - Eric