Carlos Acosta
by Helena Nowak

Carlos Acosta was born into a large, family in Havana, Cuba, in When he was nine years old, his father, Pedros Acosta, **sent** him to school. At first, he hated it – he just wanted to play with his friends. But he worked and, eventually, **became** a talented dancer. He **studied** at the National Ballet School of Cuba and graduated with a medal.

Between 1989 and 1991, he performed around the . He was the principal dancer at the Houston Ballet from 1993 to and then he **started** a new job at London's Royal Ballet. He met his Charlotte Holland in 2004. They **got** eight years later. They had a child – a , named Aila.

He **went** back to Cuba in 2011 to a foundation to help young dancers. Acosta is also an He appeared in the films *New York, I Love You* (2008) and *Our Kind of Traitor* (2016).

Venus Williams
by Nao Yamauchi

Venus Williams was born in Lynwood, near Compton in Los Angeles, in . There was a lot of crime in the local area and her father, Richard Williams, thought tennis was a chance for Venus and her younger sister Serena to be rich and

The Williams sisters **played** tennis on old They **practised** with tennis balls from nearby country clubs. Their father was their and their mother, Oracene Price, **gave** them school lessons at When she was , Venus **moved** to Florida where she went to Rick Macci's tennis academy. Before she was a teenager, she won 63 without losing one.

In February 2002, Venus Williams became the African American to be the world's number one tennis player. In July of the same year, Venus played Serena in the Wimbledon , and Serena won and became world number one. These sisters, from a poor in Los Angeles, are now recognised as two of the greatest tennis players in the world.