



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Ellen McDonald
816.213.4355
publicity@kcballet.org

For Tickets: 816.931.8993 or kcballet.org

KC Dance Day
Saturday, August 25th
Kansas City Ballet, Producer
at the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

KANSAS CITY, MO (Aug. 2, 2018) — Kansas City Ballet will kick-off its 61st season with the 8th Annual KC Dance Day at the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity (500 W. Pershing, Kansas City, MO 64108) on Saturday, Aug. 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The entire day will feature **FREE** dance performances, classes, demonstrations and FUN for the whole family. In addition, attendees will be able to relax under a tent with food and beverages on sale from Two Guys and a Grill.

“KC Dance Day is the kick-off event of the new season,” Artistic Director Devon Carney said. “Well over a thousand Kansas Citians will join us for this open house and fun-filled day of dance that features a multitude of Kansas City area dance organizations as well as many opportunities to join the fun. And as a bonus, our Company and Kansas City Ballet Second Company dancers will be in rehearsals so guests will get to see excerpts from the upcoming season—in rehearsal.”

KC Dance Day Schedule

August 25, 2018

For more information, please visit our website at kcballet.org.

FREE Children's and Adult Dance Classes

Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Classes start at 9:15 a.m.

Choose from more than 20 FREE dance and movement classes at the Kansas City Ballet School. Classes are available for children ages 2-7 in Dance with Me, Creative Movement, Boys on the Move and Pre-Ballet and for ages 8-11 in Kids Ballet, Kids Jazz, and Kids Hip Hop. FREE classes for adults ages 12 and up include: WERQ Dance Fitness, Modern, Ballet, Tap, Hip Hop, Jazz, Flamenco, Pilates Mat and Contemporary, plus demonstrations of our Pilates Reformer machines. For the complete schedule, please visit our website at kcballet.org. Pre-registration for Free Classes is available online and encouraged.

FREE Youth Dance Performances

Fifteen minute performances begin at 12:05 p.m.

- 12:05 AileyCamp The Group
- 12:25 Kansas City Youth Ballet
- 12:45 Culture House
- 1:05 UMKC Conservatory Dance Ensemble

FREE World Dance Performances

Ten minute performances begin at 1:30 p.m.

- 1:30 Olé (Spain)
- 1:45 Olympians (Greece)
- 2:00 The Driscoll School of Irish Dance (Ireland)
- 2:15 Hula Hale O'Kiakahi (Hawaii)
- 2:30 Raghsidad (Middle Eastern)
- 2:45 Soundz of Africa (African)

FREE Local Dance Performances – KC's Best

Fifteen minute performances begin at 3:05 p.m.

- 3:05 Störling Dance Theater
- 3:25 Seamless Dance Theatre
- 3:45 Wylliams/Henry Contemporary Dance Company
- 4:05 The Billie Mahoney Dance Troupe
- 4:25 KC Contemporary Dance
- 4:45 Kansas City Aerial Arts

Open Rehearsal by artists of Kansas City Ballet

5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Watch Kansas City Ballet and Second Company dancers in the Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater.

Order and times are subject to change.

Lunch will be available from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. served by Two Guys and a Grill. Choose from a hamburger, hotdog, veggie burger or chicken breast plus chips and bottled water for \$8 each. In addition, the Tropical Sno Shaved Ice Truck will be onsite from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (lunch price does not include a snow cone).

Between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. we will offer a complimentary shuttle trolley from the Union Station Garage to the Bolender Center. There is a charge for parking in the garage.

Sponsors

KC Dance Day is supported in part by the City of Kansas City, Missouri Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

About Kansas City Ballet

To make Kansas City a destination for dance

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 30-member professional ballet company under the leadership of Artistic Director Devon Carney and Executive Director Jeffrey J. Bentley. The company's mission is to establish Kansas City Ballet as an indispensable asset in its community through exceptional performances, excellence in dance training and quality community education programs for all ages.

Kansas City Ballet is home to Kansas City Ballet School with an enrollment of over 2,000 children and adults. KCBS offers professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those simply seeking a healthy lifestyle.

Through the professional company, second company (KCB II & Trainees), and community engagement and education programs such as Reach Out and Dance (R.O.A.D.), we seek to nurture and develop our artists, audiences and students in the values inherent in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance.

Our home, the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity, in conjunction with our Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, truly has positioned Kansas City as a destination for dance.

Visit kcballet.org/media/releases for more info.

Kansas City Ballet

2018-2019 Season

Subscriptions are available now at the Kansas City Ballet box office **816.931.8993** or online at kcballet.org. Subscription tickets are a 20% savings on single ticket prices and range from \$137 to \$297 for the 3-ballet package.

Kansas City Dance Day

Aug. 25, 2018, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity
Kansas City's 8th annual celebration of dance and movement features FREE dance performances, dance and fitness classes, demonstrations and FUN for the whole family.

New Dance Partners

Sept. 21-22, 2018 | Johnson County Community College

New Dance Partners, a project for new work in dance, has been produced by the Performing Arts Series at Johnson County Community College since 2013 to further artistic growth in dance by creating new work and encouraging collaboration between Kansas City arts organizations. Local, professional dance companies are featured and new works, commissioned on their behalf, are set by renowned choreographers.

DANCE SPEAKS: *The Wizard of Oz*, A World Premiere Ballet

Thursday, September 27, 2018

6:30-7:30pm | Panel Discussion

Kansas City Public Library| Central Branch Downtown

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS. This series, held at various venues around the community, is intended to provide an up-close and personal look into the creative process choreographers and dance artists embark upon before ballets reach the stage. Acclaimed choreographer Septime Webre, who created an imaginative adaptation of the beloved book and 1939 film, headlines a discussion around the making of this production with KC Ballet's Artistic Director, Devon Carney.

Webre is the Artistic Director of Hong Kong Ballet. His *The Wizard of Oz* features a bold, new spectacle of music, costumes, sets, projections and special effects, and premieres October 12-21 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. This Dance Speaks is co-presented by the Kansas City Public Library and is free to the public.

World Premiere

The Wizard of Oz

October 12-21, 2018 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Septime Webre

Music: Matthew Pierce performed by Kansas City Symphony

The much anticipated world premiere by Septime Webre, the creator of *Alice (in wonderland)*, will take audiences on a fantastical journey to the Emerald City. Filled with all the familiarity of the classic story—Dorothy and Toto swept to Oz join up with three unlikely heroes to see the Wizard, their triumph over the Wicked Witch, and the quest to return home—yet realized with a bold, new spectacle of music, costumes, sets, projections and special effects. This is *the* must-see family event of the season.

Story lines and visual elements from the motion picture provided by Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures.

Fri., Oct. 12	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 13	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 14	2 p.m.
Wed., Oct. 17	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 18	10:30 a.m. (Student matinee)
Thurs., Oct. 18	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 19	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 20	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 21	2 p.m.

Funding partners include: Hall Family Foundation, Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts, Estelle S. and Robert A. Long Ellis Foundation, William T. Kemper Foundation-Commerce Bank, n.a. Trustee, Arvin Gottlieb Foundation-UMB Bank, n.a. trustee, and Francis Family Foundation.

The Nutcracker

November 30-December 23, 2018 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Choreography: Devon Carney

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky performed by Kansas City Symphony

Sponsored by Bank of America

Last year, Kansas City Ballet's *The Nutcracker* awed Kennedy Center audiences in Washington, D.C., and was hailed as "positively oozing charm" by *The Washington Post*, and is "especially lovely with its bright, fresh décor." The classic, Victorian-era story by E.T.A. Hoffman featuring Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, Dr. Drosselmeier and the Sugar Plum Fairy is a magical theatrical experience wrapped with exquisite costumes, grand sets and captivating choreography.

Fri., Nov. 30	10:30 a.m. (Student matinee)
Fri., Nov. 30	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 1	2 p.m.* & 7:30 p.m.

KC Dance Day Presented by Kansas City Ballet at the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity on Aug. 25th

Sun., Dec. 2	1 p.m.
Thurs., Dec 6	10:30 a.m. (Student matinee)
Thurs., Dec 6	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 7	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 8	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 9	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 12	6 p.m. Sensory Show
Thurs., Dec. 13	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 14	10:30 a.m. (Student matinee)
Fri., Dec. 14	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 15	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 16	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 20	7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 21	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 22	2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 23	1 p.m. & 5 p.m.

(*) Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball Luncheon

DANCE SPEAKS: *Lady of the Camellias*

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Location and Time TBA

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS, held at various venues around the community.

Guest choreographer Val Caniparoli and KC Ballet Artistic Director Devon Carney provide an up-close and personal look into bringing Caniparoli's ballet *Lady of the Camellias* to the Kauffman Center stage. Tickets are \$15 and go on sale Aug. 13. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

Lady of the Camellias

February 15-24, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Based on the novel by Alexandre Dumas

Choreography: Val Caniparoli

Music: Frédéric Chopin performed by the Kansas City Symphony

Armand, a young countryman encounters the ravishing courtesan Marguerite in a chance meeting that leads to a passionate, but doomed love. Val Caniparoli's popular adaptation of this classic tale is set to the romantic score by Frédéric Chopin, and deftly depicts the moving story of beauty, extravagance, jealousy, deception and heartbreak. Alexandre Dumas' tragic love story has inspired many adaptations, including Greta Garbo's *Camille* and Baz Luhrman's *Moulin Rouge!*, but none more popular than Verdi's opera *La Traviata*.

Fri., Feb. 15	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 16	7:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb 17	2 p.m.

KC Dance Day Presented by Kansas City Ballet at the Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity on Aug. 25th

Fri., Feb. 22 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 23 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 24 2 p.m.

DANCE SPEAKS: *New Moves*

Wednesday, March 20, 2019
6:30- 7:30pm| Panel Discussion
Hilliard Gallery| 1820 McGee St.

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS. This Dance Speaks provides an up-close and personal look into the process emerging, cutting edge choreographers employ in creating original contemporary works. Tickets are \$15 and go on sale Aug. 13. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

New Moves

March 28-31, 2019 | Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

New Moves, one of Kansas City Ballet's most popular performances, showcases contemporary ballet in an intimate setting. This limited-run production gives audiences a chance to see tomorrow's sought after choreographers today! It is a very up close and visceral experience for audience and dancer alike, with all performances held in the Bolender Center's Michael and Ginger Frost Studio Theater.

Thurs., March 28 7:30 p.m.
Fri., March 29 10:30 a.m. (Student/Senior Group Matinee)
Fri., March 29 7:30 p.m.
Sat., March 30 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., March 31 2 p.m.

DANCE SPEAKS: Ballets by Tharp, Parsons, and Forsythe

Wednesday, May 1, 2019
5:30- 6:00pm| Company Open Rehearsal
6:00- 7:00pm| Panel Discussion
Frost Studio Theater| Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity

As part of Kansas City Ballet's commitment to engage the community-at-large, we offer a unique educational series titled DANCE SPEAKS. KC Ballet's Artistic Director Devon Carney moderates a discussion with the staggers of Twyla Tharp's ballet *In The Upper Room*, William Forsythe's ballet *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, and with Kansas City native David Parsons, around his world premiere ballet. Tickets are \$15 and go on sale Aug. 13. Tickets must be purchased online in advance.

THARP / PARSONS / FORSYTHE

May 10-19, 2019 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

This is Kansas City Ballet's must-see dance event of the season with the works of three of America's most recognized and acclaimed choreographers brought together on stage at the Kauffman Center! Twyla Tharp's *In the Upper Room* is a tour-de-force of athleticism, built on a pulsating score by Philip Glass. William Forsythe's contemporary masterpiece, *In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated*, is a high-voltage thrill ride that changed dance forever and became one of Forsythe's signature works. Kansas City native, David Parsons founded Parsons Dance and quickly was hailed as a master of contemporary dance. He returns to KC with a world premiere ballet just for you.

<i>WORLD PREMIERE</i>	Choreography: David Parsons	Music: TBA
<i>In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated</i>	Choreography: William Forsythe	Music: Thom Willems
<i>In The Upper Room</i>	Choreography: Twyla Tharp	Music: Philip Glass

Fri., May 10	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 11	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 12	2 p.m.
Fri., May 17	7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 18	7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 19	2 p.m.

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Please direct all media inquiries to: Ellen McDonald at 816.213.4355
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