

KansasCityBallet

Devon Carney, Artistic Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cinderella

Completes Kansas City Ballet's 56th Season

Victoria Morgan's Critically Acclaimed Evening-length Ballet

Premieres at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts May 9-18

KANSAS CITY, MO (April 7, 2014) — Kansas City Ballet's 56th season will conclude with the highly anticipated evening-length **Kansas City Premiere** of Victoria Morgan's *Cinderella*. The delightful score by Sergei Prokofiev will be performed by the Kansas City Symphony, conducted by Kansas City Ballet Music Director Ramona Pansegrau.

Choreographed by Cincinnati Ballet Artistic Director Victoria Morgan, *Cinderella* is a buoyant, expansive three-act ballet which uses at full throttle all of the resources that Kansas City Ballet can throw at it—its full company of 28 dancers, all six of its KCB II second company dancers, plus 90 children from Kansas City Ballet School, splendid sets and richly textured costumes, and 56 Kansas City Symphony musicians in the orchestra pit. The Ballet bounces from traditional “ballroom setting” classical ballet to the hysterical romp of the two ugly sisters (performed en travesti) to the over-the-top grandiosity of the Dance Master—*Cinderella* is considered the world over as the most popular of the great classical ballets and provides an evening (or afternoon) of great family fun.

Dance Magazine wrote, “*Cinderella* is essentially a new, finely woven, and fast-paced work that is a challenge to dance and a thrill to watch.” *The Cincinnati Enquirer* stated, “*Cinderella* captures the spirit of the fairy tale. ... A sweet magic is captured in Victoria Morgan's vision of the classic.”

“One thing I have loved about *Cinderella* is the fact that it is a joy to choreograph to such amazing music,” Morgan stated. “Prokofiev is simply one of those composers that ignite movement. His serious music is glorious and his silly music is cleverly unexpected and makes you laugh. And that part, both the serious and the humorous, is what is so great—it is a ballet full of extremes and breadth. The icing on the cake for me personally is that the Kauffman Center has

been such a nationally talked about theatre, to have my work on that stage sounds thrilling. And, of course, Kansas City Ballet has a great national reputation.”

The ballet is faithful to the beloved 1697 tale by Charles Perrault, in which the heroine's father fails to protect his daughter from the wickedness of a stepmother and two stepsisters. After the intervention of her Fairy Godmother, however, the underappreciated Cinderella is transformed into a beautiful young woman who finds love in the arms of a Prince.

“This production has very special meaning to me personally as I was thrilled to work with Victoria Morgan at Cincinnati Ballet for 10 years during my tenure as Associate Artistic Director there,” KCB Artistic Director Devon Carney said. “I was honored to both assist in the staging of this production in past years as well as actually performing in it. Victoria has such a whimsical approach to her interpretation of this classic story. One which will captivate our audiences and will leave them knowing that, indeed, dreams do come true.”

Cinderella Performances

May 9-18, 2014 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

The delightful fairy tale of the young girl who unexpectedly finds true love and proves that dreams really do come true.

Cinderella

Choreography: Victoria Morgan

Music: Sergei Prokofiev

Fri., May 9 7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 10 7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 11 2 p.m.
Fri., May 16 7:30 p.m.
Sat., May 17 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., May 18 2 p.m.

Tickets are available by calling the Ballet Box Office at 816-931-2232, online at www.kcballet.org where patrons may select their own seats, or through our mobile app which can be downloaded here: <http://www.kcballet.org/newsmedia/mobile.html>.

Cinderella Special Events

Cinderella Tea Party

Join Cinderella on Saturday, May 17th from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. for a very special Cinderella Tea Party at the Baltimore Club presented by Ameriprise Financial with additional support from Rainy Day Books. Guests will park at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and be transported by coach to Prince Charming's castle at the Baltimore Club. Enjoy a light luncheon, story time with special guest Lara Moritz, a visit from Cinderella, and transportation back to the Kauffman for the 2:00 p.m. matinee performance of *Cinderella*. Tickets, priced at \$100 each, include transportation, tea party, a special gift for every child from Rainy Day Books, and main floor seats at the matinee performance. Contact Rene Horne at 816-931-2232 x1346 to purchase tickets or order online at www.kcballet.org.

Sponsors

Kansas City Ballet's 2013-2014 season is supported in part by the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, Hallmark Corporate Foundation, Richard and Sue Ann Fagerberg, the Missouri Arts Council, and Hotel Phillips—host hotel of Kansas City Ballet. *Cinderella* is sponsored by the W. T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank Trustee, the Metropolitan Performing Arts Fund and Bank of Kansas City.

About Kansas City Ballet

To make Kansas City a destination for dance

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 28-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 more than 600 children and adults offering professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those ages 12 and up who are simply seeking a healthy lifestyle.

Through its professional company, its second company (KCB II) and its many community service programs such as Reach Out and Dance (ROAD) and DanceINFORMances 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 on the campus of Union Station, in conjunction with our Resident Company status at the world-class Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts has truly positioned Kansas City as a Destination for Dance.

About the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, a new multi-venue center for music, opera, theater, and dance was designed by Moshe Safdie and opened in Kansas City in September 2011. The Kauffman Center seeks to enrich the lives of all Greater Kansas City residents by presenting vibrant performances, educational programming, and creating a tradition of the performing arts as a catalyst for Kansas City's civic, economic, and educational vitality.

Three of the region's leading performing arts organizations — Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City Symphony, and Lyric Opera of Kansas City — are performing residents at the Kauffman Center. The Center's two performance venues, the 1,600-seat Helzberg Hall and the 1,800-seat Muriel Kauffman Theatre, offer audiences engaging and intimate experiences, while at the same time providing resident companies with dramatically enhanced performance capabilities. Serving as a cultural cornerstone for Kansas City's dynamic downtown, the Kauffman Center brings a new spotlight to the region's performing arts community while simultaneously attracting some of the

Kansas City Ballet Premiere of *Cinderella* at the Kauffman Center
May 9-18, 2014

world's most talented performers and entertainers, further establishing Kansas City as a major cultural destination. More information on the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is available at kauffmancenter.org.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Student Discounts

Student Rush tickets are available for \$15 (with valid ID, one ticket per ID) 90-minutes prior to curtain at all performances based on availability.

Social Media

Kansas City Ballet's website is mobile and ticket-purchase friendly. Receive daily updates by joining the KCB Fan Page at www.facebook.com/kcballet and following @kcballet on Twitter or YouTube at www.youtube.com/kansascityballet. Follow our blog at kcballet.wordpress.com.

Belger Footnote Series

Artistic Director Devon Carney and guest artists offer audience members views on the choreography, history, design elements, and music prior to each repertory performance. These informal discussions are free for all ticket holders and **are held in the theater one hour prior to curtain** for Kansas City Ballet repertory shows.

“Keep Our Dancers on their Toes” Campaign

Kansas City Ballet is reprising its successful season-ending fundraising campaign, “Keep Our Dancers on their Toes.” Proceeds help support the purchase of shoes for our company members. Each female dancer receives 60 pair of pointe shoes each season, at a cost of \$75 a pair. Add to that the cost of ballet slippers for men and women, as well as “character shoes” for specific costumes, and the annual expense can exceed \$65,000.

Yet no piece of equipment is as crucial as the proper shoes, fitted specifically for each dancer. In a very real sense, they can spell the difference between simple movement and soaring art. Gifts can be made online at www.kcballet.org, by phone at 816-931-2232 or at any performance of *Cinderella*. Donors of \$125 or more will receive a backstage tour as a thank you, for \$75 a signed pointe shoe, for \$35 a KCB mug, or for \$10 a signed KCB poster (this item is only available at performances).

Kansas City Ballet

2014-2015 Season at a Glance

Kansas City Ballet ticket office 816.931.2232

Single tickets for all repertory performances will go on sale Aug. 18.

Purchase season tickets online at www.kcballet.org.

ALICE (in wonderland)

October 10-19, 2014 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

Take an incredible, magical journey of misadventures when you tumble down the rabbit hole with *ALICE (in wonderland)*.

ALICE (in wonderland)

Choreography: Septime Webre

Music: Matthew Pierce

Fri., Oct. 10 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 11 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 12 2 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 17 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 18 2 p.m. (*) & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 19 2 p.m.

* No subscriptions are available for this performance

The Nutcracker

December 6-24, 2014 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts | Music performed by Kansas City Symphony

Kansas City's favorite holiday tradition continues with the presentation of Todd Bolender's delightful family classic *The Nutcracker*. Sponsored by Bank of America.

The Nutcracker

Choreography: Todd Bolender

Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky

Sat., Dec. 6 2 p.m. (*) & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 7 1 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 12 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 13 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 14 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 18 7:30 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 19 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 20 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 21 1 p.m. & 5 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 22 7:30 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 23 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Weds., Dec. 24 1 p.m.

* Sugar Plum Fairy Children's Ball

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