



Devon Carney, Artistic Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alice (in wonderland)
Opens Kansas City Ballet
2014-2015 Season at
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
Kansas City Premiere of the Full-length Ballet Alice (in wonderland)
Opens Oct. 10 – 19

KANSAS CITY, MO (Sept. 10, 2014) — The 57th season of Kansas City Ballet will commence with the Kansas City Premiere of *Alice (in wonderland)*, choreography by Septime Webre and music by Matthew Pierce. The production runs Oct. 10-19 at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts and will be accompanied by Kansas City Symphony conducted by Kansas City Ballet Music Director Ramona Pansegrau.

Artistic Director Devon Carney said, “I programmed the upcoming season to represent the broadest range of dance possible, one that both included current, exciting full-length ballets, as well as an ever-popular classical work, among others. Our dancers have shown me they are ready for more challenging work and I am thrilled to show Kansas City audiences what our Company is capable of.”

“I wanted to get wild, pretty wild.” – Septime Webre, Artistic Director, Washington Ballet

Premiered in 2012 by Washington Ballet, *Alice (in wonderland)* is a smorgasbord for the senses. Critics call it “big and glossy” and “crackling with energy and innovative movement.” Propelled by Washington Ballet’s Artistic Director Septime Webre’s revolutionary choreography, Cirque du Soleil designer Liz Vandal’s colorful costumes, and an all-new score by Matthew Pierce and played by Kansas City Symphony, this full-length ballet is a charming interpretation of Lewis Carroll’s classic tale, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*, with additional characters from *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.

The ballet is based on the real Alice, Alice Liddell, at home with her chaotic family and friend of the family, Lewis Carroll, an amateur photographer and storyteller. Real characters from Alice’s life become characters in Carroll’s marvelous story about a little girl’s adventures in Wonderland. Alice’s magical journey begins, of course, with her unforgettable journey down the rabbit hole. Alice’s overbearing mother becomes the Queen of Hearts, her sisters become Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum, and Lewis Carroll himself becomes the Mad Hatter. Carroll’s wit and love of puns are present with snap dragon flies, rocking horse flies and bread and butter flies. Alice is a polite well-mannered child who finds herself in a crazy world where the rules of social etiquette don’t matter and time is irrelevant. She quickly learns how to adapt to this “curiouser and curiouser” world and eventually becomes the heroine who brings down the Queen of Hearts and her house of cards.

As part of Carney’s commitment to be as inclusive as possible with the rich pool of Kansas City-based artists, Paul Mesner, of Paul Mesner Puppets, will be working with Carney to restage the puppet work in the production, which includes a Jabberwocky with a 25-foot wing span operated by seven puppeteers.

Visit www.kcballet.org for more information about Kansas City Ballet’s 2014-2015 season and www.kauffmancenter.org for a downloadable media kit about the Kauffman Center. High resolution photos of the 2014-2015 season can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/67555847@N06/sets/>

Sponsors

The Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, Kansas City Ballet Guild, the Missouri Arts Council—a state agency, the Arts Council of Greater Kansas City, and Hotel Phillips, host hotel of Kansas City Ballet are among the many supporters of Kansas City Ballet’s 57th season.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Season Subscriber Information

For this stirring and unique season in the Kauffman Center, a Series Subscription Package is suggested for best seating. Season ticket patrons enjoy a 3-show series comprised of *Alice (in wonderland)*, *Giselle*, and *Dances Daring (then and now)*, with the option to add on Kansas City’s favorite holiday tradition, *The Nutcracker* and *New Moves*.

All season series feature major savings and patron benefits including: priority seating in the Kauffman Center, ticket discounts, savings on single ticket prices, free ticket exchanges and the chance to purchase discounted tickets for *The Nutcracker*. Subscribers save 20% off individual show tickets. Parents, note this great opportunity to introduce the arts to your children; patrons under 21 can purchase season tickets for half price with an adult subscription order.

2014-2015 season tickets range in price from \$117 to \$261 for the 3-show package. For ticket information, please call the Kansas City Ballet ticket office at 816.931.2232 or visit our website at www.kcballet.org.

Kansas City Ballet 2014-2015 Season at a Glance

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*. Presented by Bank of America.

The Nutcracker Choreography: Todd Bolender Music: Peter I. Tchaikovsky

Fri., Dec. 5	Nutcracker Ball
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.

About Kansas City Ballet

To make Kansas City a destination for dance

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 29-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 1800+ children and adults offering professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those 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, 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.

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