

KansasCityBallet

William Whitener Artistic Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kansas City Ballet Celebrates “The Nutcracker Ballet Ball” December 6, 2013

KANSAS CITY, MO (February 4, 2013) — The Kansas City Ballet Guild, an all volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the mission of Kansas City Ballet, will host its 46th annual ball on Dec. 6th in the Grand Ballroom of the Kansas City Convention Center’s Bartle Hall. The newly named Nutcracker Ballet Ball replaces what had for many years been a successful annual dinner-dance held on the first Saturday in March.

Ballet board chairman, Julia Irene Kauffman, stated, “The Kansas City arts community is undergoing significant change and a healthy revitalization with new buildings, new leadership and new programs. The opportunity to connect the Ballet’s major annual fundraising event with the company’s renowned and time honored production of *The Nutcracker* will generate yet another novel and exciting synergy quickly becoming the social event that signals the start of every holiday season.”

The Honorary Chairs of the *2013 Nutcracker Ball* are Dr. Michael and Ginger Frost, community leaders and generous supporters of the performing arts.

Cocktails and dinner will be followed by entertainment and dancing to the Michael Beers Band. The coveted annual *Pirouette Award* will be presented to a person/persons or corporate entity who have contributed extraordinary amounts of time, talent and energy to benefit the Kansas City Ballet and the performing arts community.

Ball benefactor levels of support begin at \$1,000. Benefactors and underwriters will be invited to attend a special VIP reception earlier in the week in a private home yet to be announced.

Proceeds from the *Nutcracker Ball* will enable Kansas City Ballet to continue its mission to become an indispensable asset of the Kansas City community through exceptional performances, excellence in dance training and community education for all ages.

For those interested in attending or contributing to the *2013 Nutcracker Ball*, please visit www.kcbguild.org; contact *Nutcracker Ball* Chairman Susan Bubb at 816-926-0505, Megan Bubb Cribb at 816-813-0132 or balletball@kcballet.org.

About Kansas City Ballet

Founded in 1957, Kansas City Ballet is a 28-member professional ballet company under the direction of Artistic Director William Whitener and Executive Director Jeffrey J. Bentley. The company's mission is to offer our community, region and dance profession dance experiences of the highest quality. Kansas City Ballet is home to the Kansas City Ballet School, serving 600 children and adults, and offers professional training for the career-minded student as well as for those seeking a healthy, active lifestyle. Through our professional company, school and community outreach programs such as ROAD, Project X, and Dance INFORMances, we seek to nurture and develop our artists, audiences and students in the creativity, diversity and joy of dance. Our new home, Kansas City Ballet's Todd Bolender Center for Dance & Creativity (just west of Union Station), in conjunction with our new stage at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, is poised to make Kansas City and Kansas City Ballet a true destination for dance.

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