

PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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First DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance of 2009-2010 Season

November 14, 2009

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall
321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center

Performance offers a sneak-peek of PNB's new *Coppélia*

SEATTLE, WA — This season, Pacific Northwest Ballet will present the first of two DISCOVER DANCE Community Performances on November 14 at 2:00 pm at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall. DISCOVER DANCE is part of PNB's Community & Education Programs, offering long-term in-school residencies throughout the Greater Seattle area. This performance will include original choreography created by the nine participating classrooms with the guidance of PNB Teaching Artists. As a special feature, the DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance will also include excerpts from PNB's newly redesigned production of George Balanchine's *Coppélia*, performed by Company dancers and PNB School students. Tickets to DISCOVER DANCE are \$12 and may be purchased by calling the PNB Box Office at **206.441.2424**, online at www.pnb.org or in person at the **PNB Box Office**, 301 Mercer Street.

More About DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance

In an announcement made by the National Endowment for the Arts last May, DISCOVER DANCE was awarded \$40,000 for the 2009-2010 school year. The NEA award serves to substantially increase PNB's educational programming capacity in Seattle Public Schools via additional long-term, in-school residencies. This fall, as a direct result of the award, 225 second grade students from Arbor Heights Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, and Broadview Thomson K-8 have been learning dance and choreography with PNB Teaching Artists. The culmination of their work will be showcased at the DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance, alongside repertory excerpts performed by PNB Company dancers. (A second DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance will take place at McCaw Hall on April 24, 2010.)

More About PNB's New *Coppélia*

A special feature for the DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance audience will be the opportunity to watch a sneak peek of PNB's newly redesigned production of George Balanchine's *Coppélia*, which will be premiering in June as the final offering of the 2009-2010 season. The two excerpts to be presented will feature principal dancers Kaori Nakamura and Jonathan Porretta performing the Act III pas de deux, and principal dancer Mara Vinson leading twenty-four PNB School students in the *Waltz of the Golden Hours*. Don't miss this opportunity to see arts education at work, plus an exclusive preview of PNB's new *Coppélia*.

More About DISCOVER DANCE

Pacific Northwest Ballet's innovative **DISCOVER DANCE** program was launched in 1998, and added a performance component two years later. The program serves a vital need by bringing dance education programs to Seattle and Eastside schools that might not otherwise have such opportunities. **DISCOVER DANCE** gives over 400 students, ages 7-14, the opportunity to work with PNB Teaching Artists, over three- to five-month residencies, to create original choreographic works specifically designed to be integrated into their academic curriculum. The students then perform their works onstage at McCaw Hall. Classes also get a behind-the-scenes look at a professional ballet company, including field trips to rehearsal studios, production offices and the costume shop. PNB's largest Community Education program, **DISCOVER DANCE** gives students a unique and comprehensive learning experience. PNB's Teaching Artists guide students to think of themselves as artists. The end result is not only dance education, but also fostering confidence, creativity, trust, and camaraderie among students.

TICKET & SHOWTIME INFORMATION

DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance will take place at **2:00 pm., November 14, 2009** at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall located at 321 Mercer Street, Seattle Center.

Tickets are \$12 and may be purchased:

- * By calling the PNB Box Office at **206.441.2424** (Mon.-Fri. 9am-6 pm; Sat. 10am-5pm)
- * In person at the **PNB Box Office**, 301 Mercer St. (Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm; Sat. 10am-5pm)
- * Online at **www.pnb.org**
- * 90 minutes prior to the performance at McCaw Hall at 321 Mercer Street
- * Discounted \$10 tickets are available for groups of 10 or more by calling **206.441.2416** or emailing juliej@pnb.org

Special thanks to Bellevue Arts Commission, Harvest Foundation, The Horizons Foundation, The Kobe Foundation, The D.V. and Ida J. McEachern Charitable Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, PONCHO, Safeco Insurance Foundation, Washington State Arts Commission, and the Peg & Rick Young Foundation

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To learn more about PNB Community Education Programs, please visit: www.pnb.org/outreach.

To learn more about the National Endowment for the Arts, please visit: www.nea.gov.

Images from Community Education Programs are available in the press room at: www.pnb.org.

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