

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Pacific Northwest Ballet Presents the Spring 2011  
**DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance**

10:00 am  
Saturday, March 26, 2011  
Marion Oliver McCaw Hall  
321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center

SEATTLE, WA – Pacific Northwest Ballet will present the second of this season’s two DISCOVER DANCE Community Performances, on Saturday, March 26 at 10:00 am before a wildly appreciative audience 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. With the guidance of PNB Teaching Artists, this performance will include original choreography created by students at four participating schools: **Daniel Bagley Elementary**, **Graham Hill Elementary**, and **Pinehurst K-8** from the Seattle Public School District, and **Eastgate Elementary** from the Bellevue School District. PNB and Spectrum Dance Theater’s **REACH Student Dance Group**, an outreach program for youth ages 11-15, will be featured at this performance as well. Additionally, as a special added attraction, the performance will include excerpts from George Balanchine’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* performed by PNB Company dancers. Tickets to DISCOVER DANCE are only \$12 and may be purchased by calling 206.441.2424, online at [www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org) or in person at the PNB Box Office, 301 Mercer Street.

**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 600 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, alongside repertory excerpts performed by PNB Company dancers. Students in DISCOVER DANCE 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.

As 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. In 2009 the program received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to increase PNB's educational programming capacity in Seattle Public Schools via additional long-term, in-school residencies.

**REACH Student Dance Group** is a partnership between Pacific Northwest Ballet and Spectrum Dance Theater. REACH offers eight-week intensive dance workshops for students to learn different dance styles, create original choreography, attend live performances, and perform at McCaw Hall. REACH is open to students ages 11-15, of all ability and experience levels. The spring 2011 REACH instructor is [Amy O'Neal](#), who has been teaching a high-energy Contemporary Funk class.

### TICKET & SHOWTIME INFORMATION

**DISCOVER DANCE Community Performance** will take place at **10:00 am** on **Saturday, March 26, 2011** at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center.

**Tickets** are only \$12 and may be purchased through the PNB Box Office:

- Phone - **206.441.2424** (Mon.-Fri. 9am-6 pm; Sat. 10am-5pm)
- In person - **301 Mercer St.** (Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm; Sat. 10am-5pm)
- Online - **[www.pnb.org](http://www.pnb.org)** (24/7)

Subject to availability, tickets may also be purchased 90 minutes prior to the performance at McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer Street.

Discounted tickets are available for groups of 10 or more by calling **206.441.2416** or emailing [juliej@pnb.org](mailto:juliej@pnb.org).

*Special thanks to National Endowment for the Arts, Ameriprise Financial, Bellevue Arts Commission, William Randolph Hearst Foundation, Lockwood Foundation, JPMorgan Chase Foundation, D.V. and Ida J. McEachern Charitable Trust, MetLife Foundation, PONCHO, Puget Sound Energy Foundation, Safeco Insurance Foundation, Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund, Washington State Arts Commission, and Peg & Rick Young Foundation.*

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**To learn more about PNB Community Education Programs, please visit [pnb.org/Community](http://pnb.org/Community).**

**To learn more about the National Endowment for the Arts, please visit [nea.gov](http://nea.gov).**

**Images from Community Education Programs are available online at [pnb.org/press](http://pnb.org/press).**

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