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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Monaco Dance Forum to Award Prize at NBS' Assemblée Internationale

**July 30, 2009 . . .** Canada's National Ballet School is thrilled to announce that the Monaco Dance Forum will be attending the Assemblée Internationale, part of NBS' upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations. Members of the Monaco Dance Forum will attend the Assemblée Internationale and will select one of the student-created choreographies they find exciting and one which best showcases the dancers. The group performing this work will be invited to Monaco in March, 2010, to perform as part of the "Tremplin Jeunes Ballets" event, held by the Monaco Dance Forum. The group invited to Monaco will be known as the Assemblée Internationale, a project of Canada's National Ballet School.

The Assemblée Internationale (AI) is a week-long student-centred choreographic festival. Thirteen of NBS' international partner schools are participating, with each school bringing a group of students and a staff member to NBS from November 15 – 22. The students will all train and rehearse together, at the end of the week they will perform both an existing piece of repertoire with their school groups, and a piece of student-created choreography performed by groups composed of students from all the participating schools. The final day of the AI will be spent in a student-centred conference, where these emerging artists can discuss issues pertinent to them. Adding to the excitement of this festival is the presence of the Monaco Dance Forum.

The Monaco Dance Forum is an internationally-renowned dance event. It is a meeting place for dancers and dance professionals as well as an educational tool. Awards, seminars, workshops, installations, exhibitions, meetings with the public and the "Tremplin Jeunes Ballets" audition all take place within the Dance Forum. From March 27 – April 3, 2010, the Monaco Dance Forum invites ballet schools and junior companies to the exclusive event of the "Tremplin Jeunes Ballets" which is comprised of classes, workshops, rehearsals, shows and camaraderie. The goal of this meeting is to have young dancers present their work in studio and on the stage in front of Artistic Directors of companies from across Europe and as far as North America. This unique event is sponsored by the Monaco Princess Grace Foundation, and as such pays for the costs of all students attending the event. The principal goal of Tremplin Jeunes Ballets is to help emerging dancers sign their first professional contracts with the dance companies.

*"Canada's National Ballet School is proud that our Assemblée Internationale is drawing so much public attention from the global dance community. One of our main goals for the Assemblée is to encourage community building amongst young dancers, while helping the art of ballet to continue evolving. With the support and participation of such internationally-renowned institutions as the Monaco Dance Forum, we can only aim to increase the benefits those students participating in the Assemblée stand to receive. I am very excited to have the Monaco Dance Forum join us in November,"* says Mavis Staines, Artistic Director and Co-CEO of Canada's National Ballet School.

The Assemblée Internationale runs from **November 15 – 22, 2009**. For details on this or other 50th celebrations, NBS has launched a special 50th anniversary microsite, which can be found at [www.nbs-enb.ca/50th](http://www.nbs-enb.ca/50th).

**About Canada's National Ballet School**

Canada's National Ballet School is a world leader in the training of professional dancers and teachers. Dedicated to advancing the art of ballet, NBS develops dance professionals in a student-centred environment by weaving innovation with evolving practice in the finest teaching traditions. NBS graduates can be found as dancers, choreographers, artistic directors, teachers, and administrators in over 65 dance companies world wide, and in even more schools around the globe. NBS celebrates its 50th anniversary starting in September 2009.

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Canada's National Ballet School is grateful for the generosity of the following major supporters: The Government of Canada through the Honourable James Moore, Minister, the Department of Canadian Heritage, The Ontario Arts Council, the Government of Ontario, Active 2010, the City of Toronto, the British Columbia Arts Council, Human Resources and Development Canada.

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