

**Canada's National Ballet School hosts *An Affair to Remember* Gala on March 6th at The Carlu
A benefit supporting the next generation of great dance artists**

TORONTO, ON (February 25, 2015) – On Friday, March 6th, 2015 at Toronto's The Carlu, Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) will host its annual fundraising gala, this year themed *An Affair to Remember*. The event, presented by RBC Royal Bank, raises funds to provide financial assistance to NBS and plays a key role in the School's annual fundraising, raising 35% of the annual goal in a single night. The elegant and romantic evening will include a 1950's-inspired cocktail reception, gourmet Mediterranean dinner, a captivating performance by NBS' students and a luxury raffle. In addition, a vibrant casino and lounge with live entertainment by Canadian soprano (and former NBS student), Antonella Cavallaro, will charm guests with popular love songs from the 1950's. For the second consecutive year, NBS will also offer special Young Patrons Tickets (ages 19 to 35) at a reduced price with the intent of introducing a younger generation to the art of ballet.

An Affair to Remember Gala Details

- **Theme:** *An Affair to Remember*, 1950's glamour and elegance, set against the picturesque backdrop of the New York City skyline at architectural masterpiece, The Carlu
- **Dinner:** Exquisite four-course, gourmet Mediterranean dinner by à la Carte Kitchen Inc.
- **Performance Repertoire:** NBS students will present a range of works featuring both classical and contemporary choreography
- **Raffle:** \$31,000 in prizes to be won, with the grand prize winner receiving a 5-night escape to Paris and the French Riviera from Quench Trip Design Ltd., valued at over \$12,600
- **Casino & Lounge:** Presenting classic games such as blackjack, poker, roulette and craps
- **Live Entertainment:** Canadian soprano Antonella Cavallaro (www.antonellacavallaro.com) will grace guests with the finest love songs of the 1950's era, including the theme song from *An Affair to Remember* (*Our Love Affair*)
- **Special Feature:** Young Patrons Tickets (ages 19 to 35) are available for \$100 and include a 'welcome' wine reception with NBS student ambassadors, as well as performance, raffle, casino and lounge

Soundbite

- "Proceeds raised through NBS' annual Gala are vitally important. These ensure NBS can continue to demonstrate the relevance of dance, through its capacity to enhance quality of life for every member of society, regardless of age or state of health. The funds also are essential in supporting the aspirations of NBS' professional students, blessed with the rare talent and impassioned determination to ultimately dance at the most elite, professional levels. NBS is deeply thankful to all its supporters for their unwavering commitment to celebrating the power and importance of dance education." – Mavis Staines, Artistic Director, CEO

Event Information

When: Friday, March 6, 2015, Cocktails 6:15 p.m., Dinner & Performance 7:00 p.m., Casino & Lounge 10:00 p.m.

Where: The Carlu, 444 Yonge St., Toronto, ON

Event Tickets: *An Affair to Remember Gala* individual tickets are available for \$1,500 per person at www.nbs-enb.ca/AffairToRememberGala or by calling Chelsea Ireton, Special Events Coordinator at: 416 964 3780 x 2205. Young Patrons Tickets (ages 19 to 35) ('Welcome' Wine Reception, Performance, Casino & Lounge Access) are also available for \$100.

Presenting Sponsor: RBC Royal Bank

An Affair to Remember Gala is generously supported by the Presenting Sponsor for 2015, RBC Royal Bank. Other leading supporters include Burgundy Asset Management Ltd. as Dinner Sponsor; Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan as Performance Sponsors; Lead Raffle Partner, Quench Trip Design Ltd.; Media Sponsor, The Globe and Mail; and Print Sponsor, Somerset Graphics.

About Canada's National Ballet School's Annual Gala

Each year Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) hosts a magical evening for over 500 patrons to raise funds for NBS' student financial assistance. Dazzling performances and exceptional raffle prizes keep generous supporters returning, year after year. The NBS gala celebrates emerging talent, the beauty of dance and the determination required to attend one of Canada's leading arts training institutions. It plays a crucial role in securing 35% of the School's annual fundraising goal in a single night. For over 20 years the annual gala has helped NBS retain its core value – that talent remains the sole criterion for entry. To learn more, visit: www.nbs-enb.ca/AffairToRememberGala.

About Canada's National Ballet School

Established in 1959, Canada's National Ballet School is a world leader in the training of professional dancers and teachers. Dedicated to moving the world by teaching and celebrating dance, NBS is committed to promoting the art of dance through community initiatives, as well as offering recreational and professional programs. NBS alumni can be found as dancers, teachers, choreographers and artistic directors in over 80 dance companies and schools around the globe. For more information, please visit: www.nbs-enb.ca.

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