

**Canada's National Ballet School hosts *Steampunk Gala* on March 4 at The Carlu  
A benefit supporting great dance programs that inspire artists and transform lives**

TORONTO, ON (February 25, 2016) – On Friday, March 4, 2016 at Toronto's The Carlu, Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) will host its annual fundraising gala, this year themed *Steampunk*. The event, co-chaired by Margaret Norrie McCain and Jen McCain, plays a key role in the School's annual fundraising, raising over 40% of the annual goal in a single night. The uniquely whimsical evening will encourage guests to re-imagine the spirited rebellion of the industrial revolution. It will include a cocktail reception, gourmet four-course dinner, a captivating performance by NBS' students and a luxury raffle. In addition, this year's gala will include an exciting Steampunk-inspired lounge and live entertainment. 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.

**Steampunk Gala Details**

- **Theme:** *Steampunk*, a retro futuristic genre celebrating the steam-powered machinery advancements of the Victorian age; a whimsical fusion of usable modern technology and the design aesthetic and values from a bygone era
- **Dinner:** Gourmet four-course dinner by Oliver & Bonacini Restaurants
- **Performance Repertoire:** NBS students will present a range of works featuring both classical and contemporary choreography
- **Raffle:** \$43,000 in prizes to be won, with the grand prize winner receiving a 6-night travel experience for two in South Africa from Quench Trip Design Ltd., valued at over \$12,700
- **Lounge & Entertainment:** Presenting Absinthe and Modernist Cocktails by BarChef; a Gambling Den featuring classic games such as blackjack, poker, roulette and craps; live musical stylings by Bellosound and much more...
- **Live Entertainment:** Live musical act by two very special NBS guest performers
- **Special Feature:** Young Patrons Tickets (ages 19 to 35) are available for \$125 and include a welcome reception, as well as performance, raffle, entertainment and lounge

**Soundbite**

- "Proceeds raised through NBS' annual gala play a crucial role in supporting the School's professional and community programs. The funds support the ongoing needs of NBS' talented professional students, as they continue to pursue their dream of becoming professional dancers. They also ensure NBS can continue to demonstrate the relevance of dance through accessible programs that enhance quality of life for every member of society, regardless of age or ability. NBS is hugely thankful to all its patrons for their unwavering support and commitment to dance education." – Mavis Staines, Artistic Director & CEO

**Event Information**

**When:** Friday, March 4, 2016, Cocktails 6:15 p.m., Dinner & Performance 7:15 p.m., Lounge & Entertainment 10:00 p.m.

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

**Event Tickets:** *Steampunk Gala* individual tickets are available for \$1,500 at [www.nbs-enb.ca/Steampunk-Gala-2016](http://www.nbs-enb.ca/Steampunk-Gala-2016) or by calling Chelsea Ireton, Development Officer, Events at: 416 964 3780 x 2205. Young Patrons Tickets (ages 19 to 35) (8:00 p.m. start; includes Welcome Reception, Performance & Lounge Access) are also available for \$125.

*Steampunk Gala* is generously supported by Burgundy Asset Management Ltd. as Dinner Sponsor; Joan and Jerry Lozinski as Performance Sponsor; Tanya Taylor as Cocktail Reception Sponsor; Lindy Barrow, In Memory of Helen Gardiner as Live Musical Entertainment Sponsor; The Globe and Mail as Media Sponsor; Somerset Graphics Co. Ltd. as Print Sponsor; and Quench Trip Design Ltd. as Lead Raffle Partner.

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**About Canada's National Ballet School's Annual Gala**

Each year Canada's National Ballet School hosts a magical evening for over 600 patrons and friends. Dazzling performances and exceptional raffle prizes keep generous supporters returning, year after year. The NBS gala celebrates

the beauty and relevance of dance experienced by elite young dancers destined for professional careers, and people of all ages who dance for fun, fitness and quality of life. The gala plays a crucial role in securing over 40% of the School's annual fundraising goal in a single night. To learn more, visit: [www.nbs-enb.ca/Steampunk-Gala-2016](http://www.nbs-enb.ca/Steampunk-Gala-2016).

**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. NBS alumni can be found as dancers, teachers, choreographers and artistic directors in over 80 dance companies and schools around the globe. NBS is at the forefront of professional ballet schools in delivering a broad range of community programs. The excellence of the Professional Ballet Program is reflected in all of NBS' programs. For more information, please visit: [www.nbs-enb.ca](http://www.nbs-enb.ca).

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