

Canada's National Ballet School Announces Details of 2012 Gala, Themed 'For the Love of Ballet'

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November 1, 2011...Canada's National Ballet School is pleased to announce that the School's signature fundraising event, its annual Gala, will take place on Saturday, February 11, 2012, at The Ritz-Carlton. The theme, For the Love of Ballet, marks NBS' fifty-two years of passionate and enduring dedication to the advancement of ballet in Canada and around the world. The evening draws together NBS' closest friends and supporters - those who have made it possible for NBS to thrive – to gather and share their pride in the School, all 'For the Love of Ballet'.

NBS is the only ballet school in North America that provides professional dance training, academic instruction and residential care on the same campus. With an international reputation for excellence, the School focuses first and foremost on the students' talent and not their ability to finance their education, as talent is the sole criterion for acceptance into the School's Professional Ballet Training program. All proceeds raised through the For the Love of Ballet Gala will be directed to NBS.

Frank McKenna, Deputy Chair, TD Bank Group, is the Honorary Chair of this year's Gala and will be joined by NBS alumnus and Artist-in-Residence at The National Ballet of Canada, Rex Harrington and Gemini Award-winning Canadian actress and comedian - and Adult Ballet student at NBS - Sandra Shamas, in hosting duties.

This year's Gala will feature many of the aspects of previous years that have proven so popular with attendees, with some new and exciting twists. For the Love of Ballet offers an evening of dinner, dancing and student performance, as well as a Mindham Fine Jewellery-sponsored raffle with a grand prize worth over \$25,000. The live auction features lots that each encompass a different 'for the love of' theme, with prize packages designed to appeal to any and all tastes.

Toronto's most exclusive new venue, The Ritz-Carlton will house this year's Gala. Attendees can look forward to the Ritz-Carlton's signature service, and can wine and dine amidst floor-to-ceiling windows showing off the venue's enviable location, in the heart of downtown Toronto.

For the Love of Ballet is generously supported by the presenting sponsor for 2012, TD Bank Financial Group. Other leading supporters include The Woodbridge Company Limited as Assemblée Sponsor, Mindham Fine Jewellery for the Raffle, Entertainment Sponsor, Karma Wear and Print Media Sponsor, The Globe and Mail. For more information on attending the Gala, purchasing a table or becoming a sponsor of the For the Love of Ballet Gala, please visit NBS' website, www.nbs-enb.ca/gala.

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 moving the world through teaching and celebrating dance, NBS is committed to providing dance through community engagement in addition to recreational and professional programs. 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' 50th celebrated its 50th anniversary year from September, 2009 – June, 2010.

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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, the City of Toronto, the British Columbia Arts Council, Human Resources and Development Canada.

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