

L'ÉCOLE
NATIONALE DE
BAJLET
DU CANADA

CANADA'S
NATIONAL
BAJLET
SCHOOL

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Canada's National Ballet School Announces 2012/2013 National Audition Tour & Open Class Dates

September 18, 2012...Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) is pleased to announce that the 2012/13 National Audition Tour (NAT), which includes Open Classes and Auditions, will commence in Regina, SK on November 5. This year's NAT, which is presented by Sun Life Financial, will visit 17 cities across Canada before concluding in Toronto on February 10, 2013.

Auditions for the **Professional Ballet Program** – which offers full-time dance training, academic education and residential care for students in Grades 6 to12 and full-time dance training to post-secondary students (**Post-Secondary Program**) – take the form of a specially designed ballet class where dancers are assessed for quality of movement, coordination and overall suitability for the demands of classical ballet. The minimum age to audition is 10, and no prior ballet training is required for students aged 12 and under.

Open Classes are offered by NBS artistic staff as an outreach component of the National Audition Tour. These classes are for junior and senior dance students regardless of their intent to audition for the full-time program. Designed for young dancers who are eager to explore movement, these classes give participants a dynamic sense of dance and performance.

NBS also offers a full and part-time **Teacher Training Program** to high school dance majors, professional dancers seeking a career change and practicing ballet teachers who would like to enhance their knowledge and teacher skills. Entrance into the Teacher Training Program is by DVD audition submission. Information detailing the application process is available on NBS' website at www.nbs-enb.ca/professional.

"Sun Life Financial is proud to be the Presenting Sponsor of the National Audition Tour for the third year in a row. We recognize and believe strongly in the importance of supporting arts and culture in our communities. By supporting the National Audition Tour, we are promoting access to arts education in Canada and helping talented emerging dance artists achieve their dreams," said Linda MacKenzie, Assistant Vice-President, Philanthropy at Sun Life Financial.

"A highlight of each year is the School's National Audition Tour. Travelling coast to coast across the country, auditioning students for our full-time Professional Ballet Program provides a wonderful opportunity for NBS staff to re-connect with members of Canada's dance community. By visiting dance studios and meeting dance teachers in cities both big and small, you are reminded of the inspirational power of dance, the invaluable role a good dance teacher plays in enriching the lives of their students and the importance of arts training. The opportunity to meet with peers on a yearly basis also helps us ensure that NBS stays up-to-date with the ever-changing dance world. I am grateful to Sun Life Financial for their continued support and

contributions as Presenting Sponsor of the National Audition Tour,” said Mavis Staines, NBS Artistic Director and Co-CEO.

From the more than 1,000 young dancers who audition each year, approximately 150 are chosen to participate in the second-stage assessment, a four-week **Summer School** held at NBS’ state-of-the-art training facilities in Toronto in July.

NBS continues to make its website the key source for information on all its programs, projects and initiatives. The School’s Facebook page now boasts upwards of 4,000 fans, and its YouTube Channel has more than 75 videos. NBS is also on Twitter, and can be found under the handle @NBS_ENB. Registration for Open Classes and Audition dates will open in September, check NBS’ website, www.nbs-enb.ca for details.

National Audition Tour 2012/13 Cities and Dates:

Drummondville, QC	Thursday, September 27, 2012 (in conjunction with outreach initiatives)
Regina, SK	Tuesday, November 6, 2012
Edmonton, AB	Thursday, November 8, 2012
Fredericton, NB	Friday, November 9, 2012
Calgary, AB	Saturday, November 10, 2012
Halifax, NS	Sunday, November 11, 2012
Victoria, BC	Monday, November 12, 2012
Thunder Bay, ON	Monday, November 12, 2012
Steinbach, MB	Wednesday, November 14, 2012
Montreal, QC	Friday, November 16, 2012
St. John's, NL	Sunday, November 18, 2012 (in conjunction with outreach initiatives)
Ottawa, ON	Sunday, November 18, 2012
Vancouver, BC	Sunday, November 25, 2012
London, ON	Monday, January 7, 2013
Windsor, ON	Wednesday, January 9, 2013
Waterloo, ON	Friday, January 11, 2013
Toronto, ON	Sunday, January 27 & Sunday, February 10, 2013
Barrie, ON	Sunday, February 3, 2013

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 engagements in addition to offering recreational and professional programs. NBS graduates can be found as dancers, choreographers, artistic directors, teachers and administrators in over 65 dance companies worldwide, and in even more schools around the globe.

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Media Information

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