

Canada's National Ballet School Launches New Website

February 7, 2012. Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) is pleased to announce it is launching a new website, www.sharingdance.ca. The goal of the site is to encourage all sharingdance.ca participants to experience the joy of dance together, thus helping NBS support its goal of Moving the World.

Sharingdance.ca is designed to encourage people across Canada (and around the world) to learn a 'flashmob' dance routine and then stage a performance of it. Through instructional dance videos housed on the site, sharingdance.ca will support dancers of all ages, levels and experience as they assemble a dance troupe and begin rehearsing their dance. By signing up for a free sharingdance.ca account, each troupe gets its own troupe page which can house photos and videos and has a specific link that can be shared with fellow troupe members, family and friends. Each troupe can track its rehearsal process, post photos and videos of their improvements from week to week, and post their final performance video. By experiencing the joy of dancing together, sharingdance.ca participants will increase their awareness of dance as both an art form and physical activity, thus bringing more members into the greater dance community.

In addition to housing the instructional dance videos, sharingdance.ca will also post performance videos on the main page of the site, thus allowing for wide-spread viewing of all performances. Each troupe on sharingdance.ca is encouraged to stage and film a performance, regardless of location or audience size. The main site will showcase all performance videos, thereby encouraging interaction and community-building between dance groups that are geographically distant but share the common bond of dance. As flashmob performances can be challenging to organize, the website will provide resources to guide a troupe through staging their performance.

The site houses a section dedicated to teacher resources, focusing on non-dance teachers. Sharingdance.ca aims to encourage and support teachers as they integrate dance into their classroom, providing information on how a teacher without dance experience can incorporate dance into lesson plans or start teaching one of the routines to their students. This section will continue to grow and evolve as feedback and suggestions from participating teachers is received.

The interactive community that sharingdance.ca aims to build will be centred around the sharingdance.ca blog, with forums rolling out on the site within the next few months. The blog will feature entries from sharingdance.ca staff, as well as members of various dance troupes. It will be a place where questions can be posed and answered, stories shared and dance tips stored. Members of all sharingdance.ca troupes will be encouraged to submit blog posts, so that the blog accurately reflects the voices of the various dance troupes across the country.

Sharingdance.ca is a project of Canada's National Ballet School, funded by the Canadian Interactive Fund, through the Department of Canadian Heritage.

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 celebrated its 50th anniversary year from September, 2009 – June, 2010.

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