

Turnout

Donor Events for Your Calendar!

November 2020



Dear NBS Supporters,

Earlier this year, we modified the usual format of Turnout to allow for a more regular sharing of direct updates as Canada's National Ballet School—like the rest of the world—navigated new and challenging circumstances. As we near the end of the 2020 calendar year, I continue to value the role that Turnout plays, particularly as Canada's National Ballet School's strategy to be resilient in the face of COVID-19 continues to evolve.

Most recently, this strategy has prompted us to look again at Assemblée Internationale. Last spring, we announced a postponement of the festival, optimistically hoping that we would only be delaying by one year. As the pandemic continues to create uncertainty, especially with regards to international travel, we know that erring on the side of safety and caution is the best course of action. As such **we are announcing a further postponement of Assemblée Internationale**. However, rest assured that in this time, we are in active communication with our Assemblée Internationale partners, as well as new partners to build an enhanced, more inclusive version of the festival. Stay tuned for more details as they come into focus.

Our generous community of supporters and donors have made it possible to host a fully-funded event, and have been understanding of our need to postpone. The course of this pandemic has taught us to be nimble and adaptable and, as we look ahead to 2021, we will stay focused on forecasting and planning responsibly. In particular, we are using this time to strengthen the goals and intended outcomes of the Assemblée Internationale festival, with a special emphasis on collaboration and inclusion. In this way, the festival will not only retain its core importance as a collaborative forum in the global ballet community, but will also more closely reflect our commitment to strengthening equity, diversity and inclusion at all levels of dance.

As you will see in this edition of Turnout, there are still many ways to participate in the NBS community. I hope you will take a few minutes of your day to discover them.

With sincere thanks for your ongoing support,



Mavis Staines | Artistic Director and CEO

Upcoming Events

NBS Supporters' Meeting and Presentation

Online event – Tuesday, December 15th

Telephone Town Hall

6:00 PM – 6:35 PM (ET)

Supporters' Event Virtual Broadcast

7:00 PM (ET)

The 2020 NBS Supporters' Meeting will begin with a Townhall-style conversation—featuring Artistic Director & CEO, Mavis Staines; Executive Director, John Dalrymple; and Board Chair, Ed Ogonek—via conference call. Then, enjoy an online programme including information about NBS program development and a special student presentation.

An invitation with more details will be sent to NBS donors. If you do not have an email address and would like to participate in this event, please contact Emilia or Aimee at 416.964.3780 to discuss your options.

Event Update: Nutcracker Rehearsal Event Cancelled

The National Ballet of Canada has cancelled its 2021 suite of Nutcracker performances, and we are saddened to share that, as a result, NBS will not be hosting our beloved Nutcracker Rehearsal event. Though disappointed, students and Artistic Staff members are using this time to hone their training and explore new performance possibilities for all students. We will share more details as they become available.

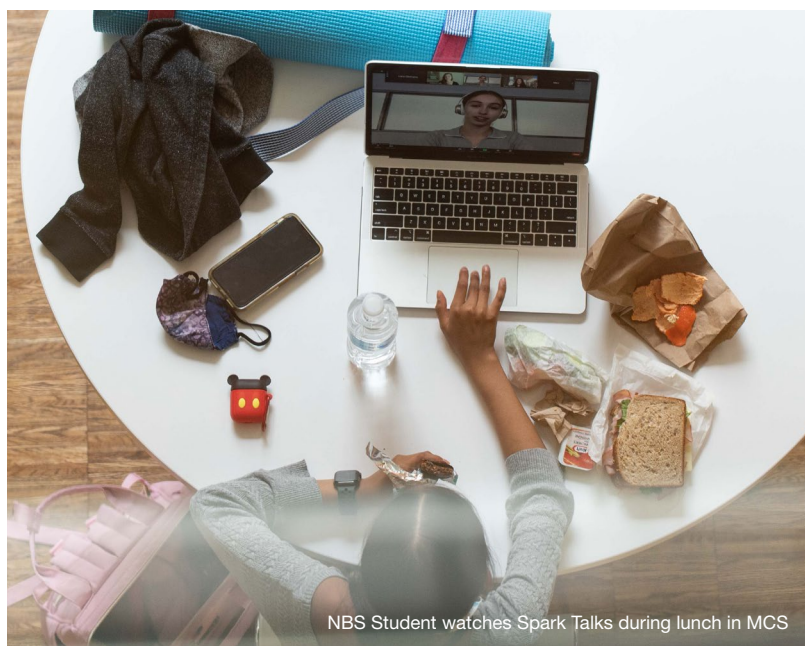
SPECIAL PROJECTS

Fall in Love with Ballet

Fall in Love with Ballet is NBS' new online resource that features performances and supporting materials curated and created to provide a glimpse, through the lens of young artists, into the beautiful world of ballet. This month, fall in love with the newly-added performance and accompanying materials featuring Erik Bruhn's *Swan Lake*.

A Message from NBS Students: Launching our new Spark Talks

“One of the most exciting parts of the new school year has been launching our student-directed Spark Talks. Through this program, NBS Professional Ballet Program students invite two speakers per week to host virtual lunchtime conversations about topics related to what we're learning in dance and beyond. So far, Tuesdays have been focused on artistic topics, and have featured NBS students, alumni, and professionals working in the dance sector. Thursdays invite us to think more deeply about topics related to equity, diversity, and inclusion, both in the dance world and in our communities. We hope this series can be a fun and informal way to learn outside of the studio and classroom.”



NBS Student watches Spark Talks during lunch in MCS

Other News & Announcements

Thank you! – Your generous financial support helps talented young artists achieve their dreams of professional dance training, and inspires people of all ages and abilities to enrich their lives through dance.

While visitor access will likely remain restricted throughout the new school year, we hope to find opportunities to welcome you and our community of supporters back to the School as soon as it is safe to do so. Until then, we will continue to keep you at the heart of our community by sharing important news and updates. In the meantime, if you wish to connect with us or would like a further update, please feel free to call us at 416.964.3780 and ask for Aimee.