

Dare to Dream: Canada's National Ballet School Announces 2017/18 National Audition Tour & Open Class Dates

TORONTO, ON - Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) is proud to announce its 2017/2018 National Audition Tour (NAT) will launch in Vancouver, British Columbia, on October 21st, 2017. This year's NAT will visit 18 cities across Canada before concluding in Toronto, Ontario on February 4th, 2018.

Auditions for the NBS **Professional Ballet Program** – which offers full-time dance training, academic education and residential care for students in Grades 6 to 12, 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. From the more than 1,000 young dancers who audition each year, approximately 175 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.

In addition to Auditions, NBS will offer **Open Classes**, designed for young dancers who are eager to explore movement and give participants a dynamic sense of dance and performance. Through these Open Class sessions, junior and senior dance students have a chance to experience a class with NBS Artistic Staff regardless of their intent to audition for the full-time program.

For high school graduates with a dance background, professional dancers looking to make a career change, or practicing ballet teachers looking to enhance their knowledge and teacher skills, NBS also offers a full and part-time **Teacher Training Program**. 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/Teacher-Training.

"NBS' National Audition Tour is deeply meaningful for my colleagues and me, as it allows us to engage with some of the most talented youth across Canada," said Mavis Staines, Artistic Director and CEO. "Through hosting open classes and auditions, we are able to connect with Canadians of all ages and abilities and celebrate our passion and love of dance."

For instant updates from the Tour, follow the hashtag **#nbsauditions**. Registration for Open Classes and Audition dates is **now open**, visit NBS' website, www.nbs-enb.ca for details.

National Audition Tour 2017/18 Cities and Dates:

City	Open Classes	Auditions
Vancouver, BC	Saturday, October 21st	Sunday, October 22nd
Nanaimo, BC	Monday, October 23rd	Tuesday, October 24th
Calgary, AB	Wednesday, October 25th	Thursday, October 26th
Montreal, QC	Friday, October 27th	Saturday, October 28th

Saskatoon, SK	Saturday, October 28th	Sunday, October 29th
St. John's, NL	Week of November 6th	Week of November 6th
Edmonton, AB	Mon, October 30th	Tuesday, October 31st
Brandon, MB	Wednesday, November 1st	Thursday, November 2nd
Ottawa, ON	Friday, November 3rd	Saturday, November 4th
Sault Ste. Marie, ON	Monday, November 6th	Tuesday, November 7th
Saint John, NB	Wednesday, November 8th	Thursday, November 9th
Halifax, NS	Friday, November 10th	Saturday, November 11th
Waterloo, ON	Wednesday, January 3rd	Thursday, January 4th
Windsor, ON	Wednesday, January 3rd	Thursday, January 4th
London, ON	Friday, January 5th	Saturday, January 6th
St. Catharines, ON	Friday, January 5th	Saturday, January 6th
Toronto, ON	Sunday, January 14th	N/A
	N/A	Sunday, January 21st
	N/A	Sunday, February 4th
Barrie, ON	Saturday, January 27th	Sunday, January 28th

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 wide and diverse range of community programs that improve health and quality of life for people of all ages and abilities. The excellence of the Professional Ballet Program is reflected in all of NBS' programs. For more information, please visit www.nbs-enb.ca.

Media Information

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