



DARE TO DREAM

NBS NATIONAL AUDITION TOUR 2018/19

Mavis Staines, C.M., DHumL, *Artistic Director, CEO*

Dare to Dream: Canada's National Ballet School Announces 2018/19 National Audition Tour & Open Class Dates

TORONTO, ON - Canada's National Ballet School (NBS) is proud to announce its 2018/2019 National Audition Tour (NAT) will launch in Victoria, British Columbia, on October 28, 2018. This year's NAT will visit 20 cities across Canada before concluding in Toronto, Ontario on February 10, 2019.

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. The information about our Professional Ballet Program can be found on NBS' website at <http://www.nbs-enb.ca/Professional-Ballet>.

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 our website at www.nbs-enb.ca/Teacher-Training.

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.

"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."

This year, NBS is also celebrating the release of Disney's *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms*, in theatres November 2nd, with a contest for those planning to audition. Those who register early to audition will have the chance to win advance screening passes to the film or a movie themed prize pack. The contest closes on October 21, 2018.

Registration is **now open**. Visit NBS' website at www.nbs-enb.ca for details.

National Audition Tour 2018/19 Cities and Dates:

City	Open Classes	Auditions
Victoria	Sunday, October 28	Monday, October 29
Edmonton	Tuesday, October 30	Wednesday, October 31
Thunder Bay	Wednesday, October 31	Thursday, November 1
Kelowna	Thursday, November 1	Friday, November 2
Steinbach	Friday, November 2	Saturday, November 3
Vancouver	Saturday, November 3	Sunday, November 4
Regina	Sunday, November 4	Monday, November 5
Calgary	Tuesday, November 6	Wednesday, November 7
St. John's	Saturday, November 10	Sunday, November 11
Montreal	Sunday, November 11	Monday, November 12
Fredericton	Tuesday, November 13	Wednesday, November 14
Halifax	Thursday, November 15	Friday, November 16
Ottawa	Saturday, November 17	Sunday, November 18
St. Catharine's	Tuesday, January 8	Wednesday, January 9
Waterloo	Wednesday, January 9	Thursday, January 10
London	Thursday, January 10	Friday, January 11
Windsor	Friday, January 11	Saturday, January 12
Toronto	Sunday, January 13	Sunday, January 27
	N/A	Sunday, February 10
Barrie	Saturday, February 2	Sunday, February 3

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.

- 30 -

Media Information

Cailin Collett
Communications Manager
Canada's National Ballet School
416 964 3780 ext. 2117
cailin.collett@nbs-enb.ca