



## World Ballet School Day 2021 *Shaping the Future*

Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 2am EST

[www.worldballetschoolday.com](http://www.worldballetschoolday.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Toronto, ON, November 12, 2021 – **Canada's National Ballet School**, alongside six leading international dance schools and institutions, is delighted to present the second edition of **World Ballet School Day**, which will be available online at [www.worldballetschoolday.com](http://www.worldballetschoolday.com) for one month beginning tomorrow at 2am EST.

In addition, submissions from ballet and dance schools from across the world will also feature in a celebration of our global dance community. Organizations are participating from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Hungary, Netherlands, Philippines, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States.

Over the course of the day, students from the seven schools of the organising committee will share interviews, discussions, rehearsal and performance footage to offer a unique insight into the world of professional ballet and dance training.

With an overarching theme of shaping the future, this year the students have focused on the following topics:

1. **Adaptability** – This topic will share how the dance world must evolve to meet the societal conditions of today and showcases how students and their schools have adapted to COVID.
2. **Identity** – Students will focus on how they see themselves on the stage and identify as artists discovering themselves, as well as showcasing the ideas around celebrating/embracing diversity.
3. **Pathways** – As COVID continues to challenge how students will enter the profession, this topic will share and discuss a variety of ways dancers are becoming professionals.

Mavis Staines, Artistic Director and CEO of Canada's National Ballet School, says: "World Ballet School Day is about broadening perceptions about the relevance of ballet in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. My hope is for audiences to gain an expansive understanding and appreciation of ballet's potential to contribute meaningfully on a global level, especially as they learn about how young people train and develop as world-class artists and Olympic-calibre athletes at professional training institutions."

World Ballet School Day connects the next generation of young professional dance artists with young people from around the world. Created by students for students, this event is a platform for young artists in training to share a message of solidarity through the language of dance and ballet.

Simon Adamson De Luca, a grade 12 student in NBS' Professional Ballet-Academic Program and NBS' representative on the World Ballet School Day student committee, says, "I hope audiences will gain an appreciation for dance. Or, if they already have, an even greater one. I also hope that audiences leave the broadcast thinking about what we have discussed and are inspired to have their own conversations. The issues we have brought up are important, and prevalent in the dance world today. Lastly, I hope that World Ballet School Day might inspire people to dance. Dance is an incredible journey that can lead to so much self-discovery and groundedness in one's self. Maybe by seeing our love for it, you will fall in love with it too."

The seven educational institutions in the 2021 organising committee include: The Ailey School, Boston Ballet School, Canada's National Ballet School, English National Ballet School, New Zealand School of Dance, Palucca University of Dance Dresden, and the Prix de Lausanne. The idea was originally conceived by Viviana Durante from the English National Ballet School.

World Ballet School Day will be available online for catch-up for 30 days.

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