

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

#26/58

Celebrate Family Day with Free Events Monday, February 16, 2009

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

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The Walter Carsen
Centre for
The National Ballet
of Canada
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Website
national.ballet.ca

Charitable
Business Number
11905 1449 RR0001

February 12, 2009... On Family Day, Monday, February 16, 2009, The National Ballet of Canada invites families to share in free events at The Walter Carsen Centre for The National Ballet of Canada at 470 Queens Quay West. The free events are hosted by YOU dance, the widely-acclaimed joint outreach programme undertaken by the National Ballet and Canada's National Ballet School. To date, the programme has performed for over 10,000 students and teachers in the GTA.

10:30 am to 12:00 pm **YOU dance Open Class**
Watch the National Ballet Apprentices in class.

11:00 am to 1:30 pm & **Family Movement Workshop and YOU dance Performance**
2:00 pm to 4:30 pm Families with children ages 8 to 12 can participate together in a movement workshop led by teachers from Canada's National Ballet School and then watch a YOU dance performance by the National Ballet Apprentices.

In 2008/09, YOU dance will give 45 interactive performances to students in grades four to six at the Betty Oliphant Theatre and conduct movement workshops at schools across the GTA. These activities give students access to a live professional performance and a hands-on experience of the creativity that can be found in their own bodies, leading to a life-long appreciation of the power that art has to enrich our lives.

To register for Family Day activities, please contact Linda Rimsay, YOU dance Administrative Coordinator, at 416 964 3780 x 2073 or lrimsay@nbs-enb.ca. Hurry as space is limited.

[Visit YOUdancecanada.ca for more information >](http://YOUdancecanada.ca)

YOU dance gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the RBC Foundation, Telus, The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation, the Ministry of Health Promotions' Communities in Action Fund, The Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Canada Council for the Arts.

The National Ballet of Canada's Winter Season will open in Toronto at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts with *Innovation*, a programme of three world premieres by young Canadian choreographers **Peter Quanz**, **Sabrina Matthews** and **Crystal Pite**, on stage March 4 – 8, 2009 and continues with John Cranko's classic retelling of *Romeo and Juliet* March 11 – 22, 2009.

The 2008/09 season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

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IN COLOUR by Peter Quanz is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

DEXTRIS by Sabrina Matthews is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

World Premiere by Crystal Pite is generously supported by Gail Hutchison.

This production of *Romeo and Juliet* entered the repertoire of The National Ballet of Canada on February 8, 1995 and was totally underwritten by Walter Carsen, O.C.

The National Ballet of Canada gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts; the Ontario Arts Council; the City of Toronto through the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Department; The Government of Canada through the Honourable James Moore, Minister, the Department of Canadian Heritage; the Government of Ontario; the Ontario Arts Foundation; the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

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- 30 -

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