



Artistic Director, Donna Muzio
Managing Director, Leslie Telthorster

PRESS RELEASE

March 8, 2010

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Brandywine Ballet to Hold Company Auditions, May 19, 2010

West Chester, PA - Brandywine Ballet will hold its annual company auditions Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 5:30-6:45 pm. All auditions for Brandywine Ballet Company and Brandywine Ballet Theatre take place at The Dance Center Studios at 317 Westtown Rd, Suite 5, West Chester, PA 19382. The audition fee is \$10. Brandywine Ballet Company auditions are open to all dancers, ages 11 and older, who qualify technically. After audition and acceptance into the company, student dancers sign yearly contracts with the company. Auditions for Brandywine Ballet Theatre, the pre-professional and professional wing of the organization, are open to all dancers, ages 15 and up, who demonstrate exceptional technical proficiency. Dancers may request a private audition by special arrangement with the Artistic Director. Performance opportunities for the 2010-11 Season for both the Company and Theatre include three performance-series.

Donna Muzio founded Brandywine Ballet in 1979, continuously serving as the company's Artistic Director. Brandywine Ballet includes pre-professional and professional dancers, as well as guest artists. The *Certificate in Ballet*, a joint program with West Chester University, enables dancers to pursue the academic degree of their choice while participating in Brandywine Ballet's classes, rehearsals, and performances. In recent years, the company has premiered works by guest choreographer's Matthew Neenan (Ballet X), Ronen Koresh (Koresh Dance Company), Meredith Rainey (formerly Pennsylvania Ballet), and Resident Choreographer Nancy Page. The company has also earned George Balanchine Trust approval to perform four Balanchine pieces *Concerto Barocco*, *Tchaikovsky's Pas De Deux*, *Serenade*, and *Valse-Fantaisie*. Brandywine Ballet's annual performances of *The Nutcracker* are a popular Chester County holiday tradition. National publication *Dance Magazine* recently recognized Brandywine Ballet for its thought-provoking mix of classical and contemporary ballet programming. Brandywine Ballet receives support from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau.

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