



Artistic Director, Donna L. Muzio
Managing Director, Leslie Telthorster

Press Release
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Brandywine Ballet's *Dracula* Returns to the Stage October 23-25!
Special *Dracula Unmasked* event Fri, Oct 9 at Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast!

September 17, 2009 (West Chester, PA) – Brandywine Ballet will present its popular full-length ballet *Dracula* October 23-25 at the Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall on the campus of West Chester University in West Chester, PA. Tickets are available at www.brandywineballet.com or (610) 696-2711.

The recent bestselling novel and movie *Twilight* illustrates the enduring nature of themes such as undying love and conflicted passion at the center of vampire folklore. Nancy Page's *Dracula* (Oct. 23-25) based on the original Bram Stoker vampire novel, follows the immortal romance of beautiful Mina and the 400 year old vampire prince Count Dracula. In addition to impeccable soloing, sensual pas de deux, and exhilarating ensemble dancing, *Dracula* includes impressive stage sets of eerily lit 19th century castles and sun-draped terraces; tantalizing costumes and suspenseful sword battles; as well as an emotionally moving musical score.

Brandywine Ballet in conjunction with Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast will also host *Dracula Unmasked*, a special masked event featuring *Dracula* cast members, Brandywine Ballet ticket giveaways, an overnight stay at Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast giveaway, a silent auction, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres on Friday, October 9 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm at Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast. Admission is free for guests wearing a mask (\$3 masks available at the door), but requires an RSVP at info@brandywineballet.com.

Donna Muzio founded Brandywine Ballet in 1979, and has continuously served 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), and Meredith Rainey (formerly Pennsylvania Ballet), as well as earned George Balanchine Trust approval to perform three Balanchine pieces *Concerto Barocco*, *Tchaikovsky's Pas De Deux*, and *Serenade*. National publication *Dance Magazine* recently recognized Brandywine Ballet for its thought-provoking mix of classical and contemporary ballet programming.

Dracula Performance Times/Dates:

Friday, October 23, 10 am (Student/Family Matinee)

Saturday, October 24, 7:30 pm

Sunday, October 25, 2:00 pm

At Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall, West Chester, PA

Dracula Unmasked

Friday, October 9, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

At Faunbrook Bed & Breakfast

West Chester, PA

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