

Share the beauty of dance

This is the time of the year when the Brandywine Ballet presents its season-opening performances West Chester University's Emilie K. Asplundh Hall. In recent years, the company has gotten into a seasonal spirit with performances of "Dracula" just in time for Halloween.

This year, artistic director Donna Muzio has decided to present a different type of show. The company will offer a varied program featuring the works of three different choreographers.

As always, the performances (which are slated Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.) will showcase dancers from the Brandywine Ballet Company, a semi-professional company featuring students from Muzio's Dance Center, and from the Brandywine Ballet Theatre, a professional company.

This year's production will have two pieces choreographed for the Brandywine Ballet by Nancy Page, who is the company's ballet mistress - "Voices" and "Never Ending Road." It will also include "Tchaikovsky's Pas De

Deux" set to choreography by George Balanchine, and "Ragtime & Blue," featuring choreography by Matthew Neenan.

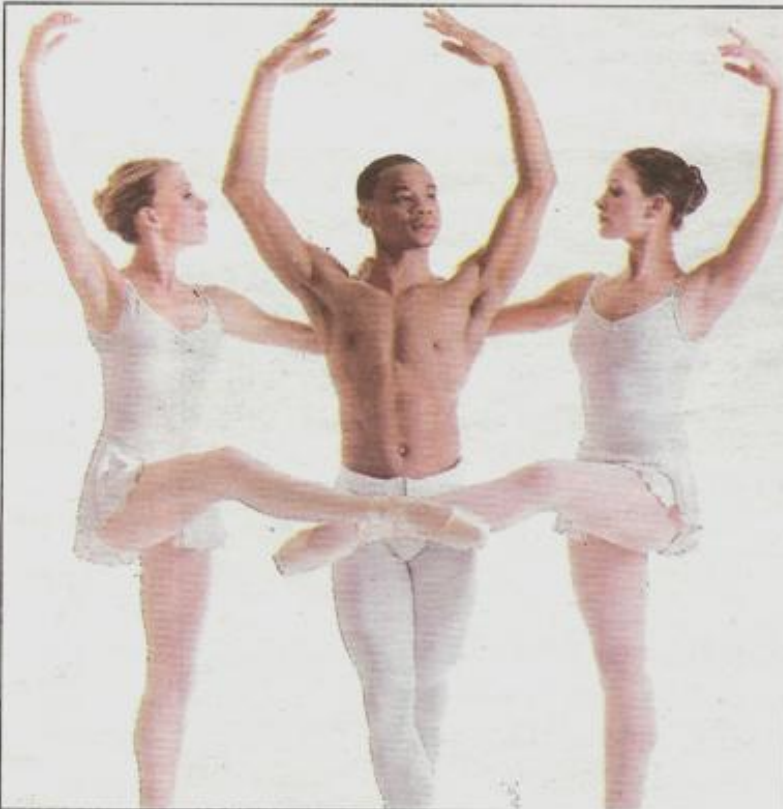
The show will open with "Ragtime & Blue," which had its debut with the company

Page's works. "Never Ending Road" is set to the music of Loreena McKennitt. Based on Celtic rhythms and visual narratives, the piece presents themes of adventure and deliverance.

"Voices" is set to the music of Samuel Barber, a world-famous composer from West Chester who died in 1981 at the age of 70. The dance number, which is set to Barber's "Adagio for Strings," deals with hysteria and features a heroine who must cope with and overcome a raging debate between voices in her head.

What:

Brandywine Ballet fall season opener



The Brandywine Ballet presents works by three different choreographers at West Chester University this weekend.

in 2006. Described as "a lighthearted contemporary piece," it is performed to music by Elena Kats-Chernin.

Next will be "Tchaikovsky's Pas De Deux," a licensed Balanchine piece that was first performed by the Brandywine Ballet in 2004.

The final two numbers are

When: Oct. 25 and 26 - Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m.

Where: West Chester University Emilie K. Asplundh Hall, S. High St., West Chester

Tickets: \$20, \$25 and \$35

Information: 610-696-2711 or www.brandywineballet.com