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NEVADA BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS THE MAGICAL AND TIMELESS FAIRYTALE,

Valentine's Day Weekend:

Saturday, February 13 • 7:30 pm & Sunday, February 14 • 2 pm

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts

Presenting Sponsor: Nancy & Kell Houssels • Supporting Sponsor: Audra & Bobby Baldwin

Special pre-performance presentation in the Troesh Studio Theater by Christopher Hird, Artistic Manager and Head of Adult Programming for Boston Ballet; free and open to all ticket holders

LAS VEGAS, NV (Thursday, January 21, 2016) – Nevada Ballet Theatre (NBT), celebrating its 44th performance season and fourth year as Resident Ballet Company of The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, presents the treasured story of [Cinderella](#) on Saturday, February 13 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, February 14 at 2 pm. Tickets from \$29 (plus fees) may be purchased by calling The Smith Center Box Office at (702) 749-2000 or by visiting www.nevadaballet.org.

One of the most famous fairytales of all time, *Cinderella* continuously finds inspiration with ballet companies all around the world. Based on the original 1697 story by French author Charles Perrault, *Cinderella* premiered in 1945 by the Bolshoi Theatre with Galina Ulanova in the title role. Beloved as a ballet and embraced for its music, this cherished work is brought to life by Sergei Prokofiev's renowned score (Op. 87). While Prokofiev composed the music for several ballets, *Cinderella* remains one of his most popular and revered compositions.

A full-length classical ballet in two acts, this production of *Cinderella* will feature lavish scenery and one-of-a-kind costumes by famed set and costume designer, David Walker. A prolific English designer for dance, opera and theatre, Walker's opulent visuals will be complemented by an array of impressive props including Cinderella's grand and very regal, horse-drawn carriage.

New and original choreography by Artistic Director James Canfield and Ballet Mistress Tara Foy will further complement this extraordinary production courtesy of Houston Ballet.

"A family-friendly audience favorite, *Cinderella* is a ballet that inspires every generation with its universal message of love and hope," said James Canfield. "We are excited to bring this enchanting fairytale to life for patrons of all ages for a memorable Valentine's Day Weekend."

Prior to both performances, NBT will present *Insights*, an educational pre-performance discussion offering patrons an opportunity to further engage with the ballet. Accompanied by multi-media content, Christopher Hird, Artistic Manager and Head of Adult Programming for Boston Ballet will provide in-depth commentary on the history and music of this time-honored story ballet. *Insights* is free to all ticket holders and will take place in the Troesh Studio Theater 45 minutes prior to curtain (6:45 pm on Fri., Feb. 13; 1:15 pm on Sat., Feb. 14).

As part of its mission to ensure that the arts are accessible to children in Clark County, NBT's Education and Outreach division will host a school matinee on Thursday, February 11 and Friday, February 12, where over 2,000 students will witness the magic of *Cinderella* come to

life on the Reynolds Hall stage. Prior to the performance, students receive a study guide, providing them with information on the ballet, its history and the music.

In addition, NBT's Education and Outreach program will usher in "Kids Night Out at the Ballet," providing 32 students the opportunity to attend opening night with their peers, where they will receive the experience of attending a public performance of a full-length ballet.

ABOUT NEVADA BALLET THEATRE

Under the artistic direction of James Canfield, Nevada Ballet Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Las Vegas and the largest professional ballet company and dance Academy in the state. Committed to the highest artistic standards, this classically based company is at home in an eclectic repertory, moving easily from the classics to the high-energy contemporary ballets. The mission of Nevada Ballet Theatre is to educate and inspire statewide, regional and national audiences and vitally impact community life through professional company productions, dance training and education and outreach. Nevada Ballet Theatre is the resident ballet company of The Smith Center for the Performing Arts. For more information, visit NBT on the web: www.nevadaballet.org; Like NBT on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NevadaBalletTheatre or Tweet: [@NVBallet](https://twitter.com/NVBallet).

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ABOUT JAMES CANFIELD, *Cinderella* Co-Choreographer

James Canfield, Artistic Director of Nevada Ballet Theatre (NBT) and Founding Artistic Director of Oregon Ballet Theatre (1989-2003) was born in Corning, New York and received his early dance training at the acclaimed Washington School of Ballet under the direction of Mary Day. During his career with The Joffrey Ballet and Washington Ballet, Mr. Canfield danced an extensive repertoire of works by noted choreographers such as Sir Frederick Ashton, Anthony Tudor, George Balanchine, Gerald Arpino, Robert Joffrey, William Forsythe, John Cranko, Marius Petipa, Jiří Kylián, José Limón, Agnes de Mille, Choo San Goh and Val Caniparoli among others.

After leaving The Joffrey Ballet, Mr. Canfield was appointed Oregon Ballet Theatre's (OBT) Founding Artistic Director where he along with Haydee Gutierrez established the School of Oregon Ballet Theatre to provide the best classical ballet training to young students and dancers throughout the Northwest. In 2004, Mr. Canfield went on to further his studies and enrolled at The East West College of the Healing Arts. After graduating, he joined the team at The West Portland Physical Therapy Clinic as well as opening his own massage therapy practice.

In 2008, Mr. Canfield was asked to step in as NBT's Interim Artistic Director and in 2009, following an international search, he was appointed Artistic Director. Since, he has established several new initiatives for the company including *NBT Unveiled, 4 x 8, The Studio Series* and *Dance for Life: Palm Springs*. In addition, he continues to collaborate with many artists throughout Las Vegas. In 2010, he and fellow Joffrey Ballet alumni presented *Four Companies One Stage, A Tribute to Robert Joffrey*, featuring the dancers of NBT, Ballet West, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet and Hubbard Street performing together as part of one program.

At the beginning of the company's 2011-2012 40th Anniversary Season, NBT premiered Mr. Canfield's *Cinq Gnessiennes*. A ballet for seven dancers, it was performed at Paris Las Vegas with live musical accompaniment by friend and Principal Pianist, Carol Rich. On May 5, 2012, in celebration of the company's 40th Anniversary and debut at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, NBT collaborated with singer songwriter Matt Goss on a special performance featuring original choreography by Mr. Canfield, set to the music of Goss.

In addition, several of Mr. Canfield's ballets have joined the NBT repertoire including *Jungle, Coco, Degas Impressions, Trois Gnessiennes, Romeo and Juliet, Giselle, Coppélia, Up, Equinoxe* and *Neon Glass pas de deux. Cyclical Night*, his first original work for the company, premiered in 2010. For his second original work, *Still*, Mr. Canfield collaborated with Portland musician and composer, Adam Hurst

In December 2012, Mr. Canfield choreographed and premiered an all-new production of *The Nutcracker* for NBT, complete with new sets, costumes and full orchestra. This highly-anticipated production was his first full-length ballet for the company as well as for Las Vegas audiences.

ABOUT TARA FOY, *Cinderella* Co-Choreographer

Having an association with Nevada Ballet Theatre for her nearly 30 years in the dance community of Las Vegas, Foy brings with her esteemed national and international industry experience. She formerly coached principal dancers for some of the world's most prestigious global ballet companies, including New York City Ballet, The Royal Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and both The Bolshoi and Kirov Ballets, to name a few.

Born and raised in London, England, Foy started her dance career at age 16, when she was awarded a full scholarship to the prestigious Royal Ballet School. She has studied with the finest elite teachers in the world, including Dame Ninette de Valois, founder of Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, and enjoyed a storied ballet career performing as Principal Dancer of Dublin City Ballet and appearing in many television variety shows and movies. Additionally, Foy was invited to choreograph and perform for The Summer Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia in 2000.

Foy's illustrious dance and performance career began at a young age, and she has since become a staple of artistic integrity in Las Vegas, founding the Elite Ballet Summer Intensive, and serving as Artistic Director of The Dance Center, Las Vegas' own prestigious open professional studio, and as the former Ballet Mistress for *Cirque du Soleil*.

Responsible for much of the day-to-day rehearsal and training of the company dancers, Foy plays a central role in the support and development of NBT's artists. In her new role, she works side-by-side with the company's Artistic Director to prepare and grow the dancers.