

BALLET ARIZONA

Ib Andersen • Artistic Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BALLET ARIZONA PRESENTS *BALLET UNDER THE STARS*: **15th annual series of FREE performances in Valley Parks**

“They danced until the stars came out” - The Arizona Republic



Photo by Rosalie O'Connor

Phoenix, AZ - This September 20 - 29, Ballet Arizona presents the 15th annual Ballet Under the Stars. This ever popular sunset performance series is free and open to the public at six different valley locations.

Ballet Under the Stars allows Arizona communities to enjoy a professional ballet presentation in a unique outdoor setting complete with stage, lighting, costumes and

beautiful Arizona weather. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy a varied program, ranging from classical to contemporary ballet. This is a great introduction to ballet for all ages.

In addition **Ballet Under the Stars** will feature a presentation of **Class Act**, one of Ballet Arizona's Education and Outreach programs. **Class Act** is a project combining the talents and expertise of the professional dancers of Ballet Arizona with the youthful ideas and creative energies of school-age children.

This September, participating schools include McDowell Mountain Elementary School, Clarendon Elementary School, Broadmore Kidzone, Don Mensendick Elementary School, and Evergreen Elementary Afterschool Program. **Class Act** ignites the children's creative spirit and positively increases their exposure to the performing arts.

WHAT: Ballet Arizona presents **Ballet Under the Stars**

Spend a relaxing evening under the gorgeous Arizona sky as Ballet Arizona continues its annual season opening tradition with **Ballet Under the Stars**. Enjoy classical and contemporary ballet in a casual setting for FREE.

WHEN: September 20 - 29, 2012

SCHEDULE: All performances begin at 7:00PM and last approximately one hour.

Thursday, September 20, 2012 at Fountain Park, Fountain Hills
Friday, September 21, 2012 at Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe
Saturday, September 22, 2012 at Estrella Lakeside Amphitheater, Goodyear
Sunday, September 23, 2012 at Sahuaro Ranch Historic Park, Glendale
Thursday, September 27, 2012 at Beardsley Park, Sun City West
Friday, September 28, 2012 at Paul Mason Sports Complex, Casa Grande
Saturday September 29, 2012 at Steele Indian School Park, Phoenix

DETAILS: balletaz.org 602.381.0184

Ballet Under the Stars 2012 is generously supported by:

APS, Art Works, City of Glendale Arts Commission, City of Goodyear, City of Tempe, Estrella by Newland Communities, Fountain Hills Community Foundation, KBAQ and KJZZ, Recreation Centers of Sun City West, The Arizona Republic, The Steele Foundation, Town of Fountain Hills, US Airways, Walmart Distribution Center #703

Ballet Arizona in its 27th season, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. Ballet Arizona is under the artistic direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen, a former principal dancer with The New York City Ballet and The Royal Danish Ballet. As the official school of Ballet Arizona, under the direction of Carlos Valcárcel, The School of Ballet Arizona promotes excellence and access to the art form of ballet through dance education with a goal of inspiring a life-long love of dance in every student. In addition to the School, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 25,000 children and families every year through its free and low cost outreach programs.

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