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Ballet Arizona Celebrates 21 Years of Ballet Under the Stars

Annual Community Tradition Returns with Free Performances September 12-15

PHOENIX METRO – As <u>Ballet Arizona</u> kicks off its 2018-2019 season, the only professional ballet in the Valley invites residents to spend a relaxing evening under the Arizona sky as the company continues its 21-year tradition, <u>Ballet Under the Stars</u>. Community performances take place Sept. 12-15 at four Valley locations. Free and open to the public, <u>Ballet Under the Stars</u> allows the local community to enjoy dance in a unique outdoor setting complete with a stage, lighting, costumes and beautiful Arizona weather.

For more than two decades, Ballet Arizona has presented *Ballet Under the Stars* as a gift to the community. For many attendees, the free community performances will be their first exposure to live, professional ballet.

Attendees who fall in love with the ballet during *Ballet Under the Stars* can broaden their exposure to dance with special text discount codes made available during the free performances. Text discounts are valid on upcoming Ballet Arizona performances, *New Moves* (Sept. 27-30) and *Sleeping Beauty* (Oct. 25-28).

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy a varied program, ranging from classical to contemporary. You won't want to miss this perfect show for the entire family!

All performances begin at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 12 at Tempe Sports Complex, 8403 S. Hardy Dr., Tempe Thursday, September 13 at Fountain Park, 12925 N. Saguaro Blvd., Fountain Hills Friday, September 14 at Estrella Lakeside Amphitheater, 10300 S. Estrella Pkwy., Goodyear Saturday, September 15 at Steele Indian School Park, 300 E. Indian School Rd., Phoenix

For more information about *Ballet Under the Stars*, visit balletaz.org.

Photos available upon request

Ballet Arizona

Ballet Arizona, approaching its 33rd season, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating new and innovative works. 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 - Ballet Arizona follows his lead to the future of dance in Arizona. The School of Ballet Arizona, under the direction of Anthony Jones, promotes access to the art form of ballet through dance education, with a focus on excellence in the form, directing each student to a life-long love of dance. Following this vision, Ballet Arizona connects to more than 35,000 children and families every year through its free and low cost outreach programs.

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