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New Sponsor to Boost Ballet Arizona's Programming

The AT&T Foundation Sponsors Title 1 School Immersive Experience

PHOENIX – The [AT&T Foundation](#) is supporting [Ballet Arizona](#) in its Performance Hour Program, an immersive arts field trip for students attending Title 1 schools across the Valley. AT&T Foundation is focused on workforce development and supporting the arts in Arizona. The Performance Hour program marries the foundations' goals by giving Title 1 students and young adults with special needs access to career opportunities in the arts.

“The Performance Hour program gives students from all over Maricopa County a real-life look at the job opportunities available in a performing arts organization. Some students may have never looked past the dancer on stage – now they can have dreams of becoming a stage manager, costume designer, or a box office manager,” said Samantha Turner, Ballet Arizona's Executive Director. “We are grateful to AT&T Foundation for helping us introduce the performing arts to Arizona youth and developing the work force of the future.”

The program allows students to examine all working parts of Ballet Arizona: the costume shop, administration, and production, in addition to a viewing of the professional company at work during a rehearsal. This program gives students a holistic look into the back end of a professional arts organizations and the career opportunities available off stage.

“AT&T is proud to support Ballet Arizona and their Performance Hour,” said Toni Broberg, President of AT&T Arizona, and New Mexico. “The arts are a vital piece to making our community a better place, which is evident by the amazing work Ballet Arizona is doing through various programs, such as the Performance Hour.”

Field trips will take place on March 9, 2022, in conjunction with Ballet Arizona's storybook ballet, *All Balanchine*, and March 10, 2022, as a sensory friendly program for the adults of First Place and The Center for Habilitation.

For more information on upcoming performances and how to support Ballet Arizona on their website, please visit balletaz.org.

About Ballet Arizona

Ballet Arizona 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 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. For more information, visit balletaz.org.

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About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

We're committed to advancing education, creating opportunities, strengthening communities and improving lives. AT&T Connected Learning is a multi-year commitment to bridge the digital divide and narrow the homework gap, so today's learners are connected with skills, resources, and opportunities for success in school and in life. Since 2008, we've committed \$600 million to programs that help millions of students across all 50 states and around the world, particularly those in underserved communities.

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