

# PENNSYLVANIA BALLET

ROY KAISER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR 2013–2014 SEASON



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Pennsylvania Ballet Dancer Lillian Di Piazza Promoted to Soloist

Philadelphia, PA (February 3, 2014) – Pennsylvania Ballet announces the promotion of Company Member Lillian Di Piazza to the rank of Soloist, the second highest tier in the Company.

“Lily has risen to the challenge of some of the most demanding work in our repertoire,” Artistic Director Roy Kaiser says. “Her impeccable lines and grace make her an undeniably beautiful dancer, and her work ethic and thoughtful approach to every role make her truly deserving of this promotion.”

Originally from Silver Spring, MD, Ms. Di Piazza began her dance training with the Maryland Youth Ballet, attended summer intensive programs at Miami City Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet (on full scholarship), and studied at The School of American Ballet for one year. She was the 2007 National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts Winner in Dance. Ms. Di Piazza joined Pennsylvania Ballet II in 2008 and was promoted to Apprentice for the 2009-2010 Season and to the Corps de Ballet for the 2011-2012 Season. Her featured roles with the Company include Christopher Wheeldon's *Swan Lake* (Pas de Trois), William Forsythe's *The Vertiginous Thrill of Exactitude*, and Jiří Kylián's *Forgotten Land* (White Couple). She also has performed leading roles in several Balanchine ballets, including principal roles in *Ballo della Regina* and *Rubies and Emeralds* from *Jewels*, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker™* (The Sugarplum Fairy), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta), and *The Four Temperaments* (Third Theme).

Ms. Di Piazza can be seen onstage next in a mixed repertory program featuring Balanchine's *Serenade*, February 6-9 at the Merriam Theater. Blank Rome is the Lead Sponsor. Tickets are available online at [paballet.org](http://paballet.org), by phone at 215.893.1999, or in person at the Kimmel Center Box Office.

Pennsylvania Ballet's 2013-2014 Season sponsors include DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, The Sporting Club at the Bellevue, and US Airways.

Pennsylvania Ballet receives support from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts – a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency – and The Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

### About Pennsylvania Ballet

Founded in 1963 by Balanchine student and protégée Barbara Weisberger, **Pennsylvania Ballet** is one of the nation's leading ballet companies. Headquartered in Philadelphia, the Company's annual local

season features six programs of classic favorites and new works, including the Philadelphia holiday tradition, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker™*. For more information, visit [paballet.org](http://paballet.org) or call 215.551.7000.

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