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PENNSYLVANIA BALLET ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 SEASON ROSTER

Five new dancers join the Company

Philadelphia, PA (September 9, 2011) – Pennsylvania Ballet Artistic Director Roy Kaiser announces the 2011-2012 Season roster, including a number of promotions and new dancers. Notably, Francis Veyette has been promoted to Principal Dancer, and Lauren Fadeley has been promoted to Soloist. Having created stunning images for the Company for the past several years, Alexander Iziliaev is transitioning from Principal Dancer to Pennsylvania Ballet’s photographer and videographer. The Company welcomes five new dancers as well as four new dancers to Pennsylvania Ballet II.

“The 2011-2012 Season roster is a unique mix of artists with distinct talent and drive,” Artistic Director Roy Kaiser says. “I look forward to sharing them with our audience.”

This season, three new dancers join the Corps de Ballet: Samantha Barczak from BalletFleming, Lorin Mathis from Boston Ballet, and Jong Suk Park from The Washington Ballet Studio Company. Edward Barnes, Lillian Di Piazza, and Alex Ratcliffe-Lee have been promoted to the Corps de Ballet from their positions as Apprentices, and Rachel Jambois has been promoted to the Corps directly from Pennsylvania Ballet II, the Joyce and Herbert Kean Trainee Program. Additionally, two new dancers join the Company as Apprentices: Alexandra Hughes from the School of American Ballet and Alexander Peters of Kansas City Ballet. Lara Clemens, Elizabeth Mateer, and Eric Trope have been promoted to Apprentice from Pennsylvania Ballet II. Phoebe Gavula, Jake Helgenberg, Harrison Monaco, and Allison Pierce are all new dancers with Pennsylvania Ballet II.

Pennsylvania Ballet opens its 48th Season in October with Russian Suite: Ratmansky & Balanchine, featuring the North American premiere of Alexei Ratmansky’s Jeu de Cartes. Other 2011-2012 Season highlights include the Company Premiere of Trey McIntyre’s Peter Pan, a World Premiere from Choreographer in Residence Matthew Neenan, and the international debut of Pennsylvania Ballet’s production of George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker™ in Ottawa, Canada. For tickets to the 2011-2012 Season, call 215.893.1999 or visit paballet.org.

Pennsylvania Ballet receives support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. Pennsylvania Ballet also receives support from The Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

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 or call 215.551.7000.

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