

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MILWAUKEE
BALLET**

MICHAEL PINK, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MILWAUKEE BALLET GETS THE CITY MOVING WITH “BALLET BEAT”

- Dancers will bring free workshops, activities, and performances to the Greater Milwaukee area. -

Milwaukee, WI – June 25, 2024 – Milwaukee Ballet’s summer series *Ballet Beat* returns this July with a month of free workshops, activities, and performances around the city. As part of the Company’s community engagement programming, this initiative strives to make ballet accessible and memorable to all.

“The joy of dance is universal,” says Managing Director Tai Pauls. “Whether attendees have danced or seen a performance before, we celebrate that *Ballet Beat* gives individuals of all ages and backgrounds the chance to experience the delights and benefits of ballet.”

Seven Company Artists—Eric Figueredo, Alexander Koulos, Amanda Lewis, Alyssa Schilke, Flynn Stelfox, Jacqueline Sugianto, and Ben Zusi—will headline the cast of this year’s program. They will be joined by five dancers from the Milwaukee Ballet II Second Company.

The series will kick off on June 29 at McKinley Park with two solo performances at Dance for Hope, which unites dance organizations from around Milwaukee. Other events like ballet storytimes, barre classes, and kid-friendly activities will visit popular summer hangouts, including Bastille Days, Washington Park Wednesdays, and the Jewish Community Center Carnival. *Ballet Beat* will also travel to Sister Bay to perform in Death’s Door Dance Festival.

Three full performances will cap off the month’s activities on July 20, 24, and 25 at Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, and Baumgartner Center for Dance. The full *Ballet Beat* cast will share a selection of exciting classical and contemporary works at each venue.

Four private workshops will be held with Milwaukee area partners in addition to the public offerings.

“*Ballet Beat* plays a vital role in connecting our community,” says Pauls. “It brings families and neighborhoods together in an environment that has no expectations of them other than to have fun and enjoy dance. We couldn’t be more excited for its return.”

Schedule

Sat. June 29 - McKinley Park - Dance for Hope

Classical and contemporary solos performed by *Ballet Beat* dancers.

Address: 1750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Event Time: 12:30-2:30 PM

Sun. July 7 - Summerfest Grounds - Sunday Family Funday

Kid-friendly meet and greet with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: Northwestern Mutual Community Park, Summerfest Grounds (Henry Maier Festival Park)

Event Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Thurs. July 11 - Cudahy Library - Storytime

Experience “Christmas in July” with a *Nutcracker*-themed storytime.

Address: 3500 Library Dr, Cudahy, WI 53110

Event Time: 6:30 PM

Fri. July 12 - Bastille Day West - Barre Class & Mini Performance

All-ages-friendly casual barre class and mini performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: West Vliet Street, between 57th and 60th Streets

Event Time: 4:30-5:30 PM

Sat. July 13 - Bastille Days - Barre Class & Mini Performance

All-ages-friendly casual barre class and mini performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: Cathedral Park Square, 520 E Wells St, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Event Time: 11:00-11:45 AM

Mon. July 15 - Watertown Library - Storytime

Milwaukee Ballet dancers will lead storytime and a fun movement activity.

Address: 100 S Water St, Watertown, WI 53094

Event Time: 6:30 PM

Wed. July 17 - Washington Park Wednesdays - Barre Class & Mini Performance

All-ages-friendly casual barre class and mini performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: 1859 N 40th St, Milwaukee, WI 53208

Event Time: 5:00-6:00 PM

Thurs. July 18 - Jewish Community Center Carnival - Barre Class & Mini Performance

All-ages-friendly casual barre class and mini performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: 6255 N Santa Monica Blvd, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Event Time: 4:30-7:00 PM

Sat. July 20 – Silver Spring Neighborhood Center – Full Performance

All-ages-friendly casual barre class and full performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: 5460 N 64th St, Milwaukee, WI 53218

Event Time: 11:30 AM Barre Class & 12:15 PM Performance

Wed. July 24 – Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts – Full Performance

Full performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: 3270 Mitchell Park Dr, Brookfield, WI 53045

Event Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

Thurs. July 25 – Baumgartner Center for Dance- Full Performance

Full performance with Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: 128 N Jackson Street, Milwaukee WI 53202

Event Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

Sat. July 27 - Death's Door Dance Festival - Performance

A performance by Milwaukee Ballet dancers.

Address: Sister Bay, Wisconsin

Event Time: TBD

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About Milwaukee Ballet

Milwaukee Ballet was founded in 1970. Led by Artistic Director Michael Pink, Milwaukee Ballet creates a rich and diverse community through its inspiring dance performance, education, and outreach. Milwaukee Ballet hosts an international Company of dancers and maintains its own orchestra. Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy is the only professional dance school in the Midwest accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, teaching beginner through pre-professional levels in three locations: Third Ward, Fox Point, and Brookfield. Milwaukee Ballet's award-winning Community Engagement department serves nearly 30,000 people in Southeastern Wisconsin each year through original, interactive programs. Milwaukee Ballet is a proud cornerstone member of United Performing Arts Fund and holds a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Note to Editors: Interviews and high-resolution images are available upon request.