

# BALLET ARIZONA

## IB ANDERSEN | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**Date:**  
July 30, 2010

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## **BALLET ARIZONA ANNOUNCES**

### **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Nutcracker Party**

*Holiday Tradition Benefits Ballet Arizona Outreach  
and The School of Ballet Arizona*

Phoenix, Ariz. (July 30, 2010)— A unique Valley holiday tradition will return for the 20th year at the Camelback Inn on December 5, 2010, when Ballet Arizona and The School of Ballet Arizona present the annual Nutcracker Party. This event features a festive lunch, holiday carolers, a holiday shopping village, children's art and activity stations, and excerpts from *The Nutcracker* performed by students from the School of Ballet Arizona, with a special appearance by Ballet Arizona company dancers.

Since the 1990 inception of the event, Party-goers are provided a sneak peek of Ballet Arizona's production of *The Nutcracker*, and its popularity has soared. Last year, nearly 800 guests were in attendance.

"We are excited to be a part of the Nutcracker Party's 20th Anniversary which continues to be such a special community tradition for families with children throughout Arizona," said Molly DeFilippis and Joyce Lynch, Event Co-Chairs. "Providing exposure to the ballet classic at our annual Nutcracker Party helps us showcase Ballet Arizona as the premier professional Ballet Company in the Southwest, and ensures continued support for local arts organizations."

Proceeds from the Nutcracker Party benefit Ballet Arizona's education and community outreach efforts including programs of The School of Ballet Arizona.

**What:** The Nutcracker Party presented by Ballet Arizona  
**When:** Sunday, December 5, 2010, 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Arizona Ballroom, Camelback Inn  
**Chairs:** Molly DeFilippis and Joyce Lynch  
**Why:** The event benefits Ballet Arizona's Community Outreach and The School of Ballet Arizona.  
**Cost:** \$60 per person if purchased by November 1 (\$75 per person after November 5), Tables available for purchase starting at \$600  
**Contact:** Amy Beth Steinman of Ballet Arizona at 602-343-6520 or [asteinman@balletaz.org](mailto:asteinman@balletaz.org)

### **About Ballet Arizona**

Ballet Arizona produces its widely admired work under the direction of internationally acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen, who was a principal dancer with the legendary George Balanchine and the New York City Ballet for ten years. Under Mr. Andersen's leadership, Ballet Arizona annually serves nearly 90,000 audience members with more than 50 performances each year. Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, the Company looks forward to serving this community with ever more exciting and engaging performances.

### **About The School of Ballet Arizona**

The School of Ballet Arizona is the official school of the Southwest's premier ballet company. Its distinguished staff of professional dancers and dance educators is led by Ballet Arizona Artistic Director Ib Andersen, and School Director Nancy Crowley (Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, La La La Human Steps, Joffrey Ballet). The School provides a positive and inspirational learning environment, inviting students to learn from exemplary artists who have dedicated their lives to dance.

### **Save The Date!**

Ballet Arizona presents Ib Andersen's *The Nutcracker* December 10-26, 2010 at Symphony Hall with the Phoenix Symphony

This beloved holiday classic tells the story of Clara and her magical Nutcracker Prince as they embark on a thrilling adventure." A great show, with lots of stage magic and stunning costumes, falling snow and giant mice." – The Arizona Republic.

Tickets: \$17 - \$121. Children 12 and under 50% off selected tickets. Discounts available for seniors, students, K-12 teachers, active duty military, and groups of 10 or more. To purchase: 602-381-1096 or [www.ticketmaster.com/baz](http://www.ticketmaster.com/baz)

**Media Note:** To schedule a media opportunity, interviews, or for photos, please contact Katrina Olson [kolson@balletaz.org](mailto:kolson@balletaz.org) (602) 343-6517.

Ballet Arizona, in its 25<sup>th</sup> season, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating classical dance while creating and commissioning new, innovative works. Ballet Arizona is under the artistic direction of internationally-acclaimed choreographer Ib Andersen, who was a principal dancer with the New York City Ballet for more than a decade. Ballet Arizona is committed to educational and outreach programs that reach more than 25,000 children and families every year.

Ballet Arizona: 3645 East Indian School Road, Phoenix AZ 85018 [www.balletaz.org](http://www.balletaz.org) 602-381-1096

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