



March 2010

**news from berkeley ballet
theater**

JULIA MORGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
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TUTU FUND NEEDS YOUR HELP

A tutu is a complicated and artistic piece of equipment designed to flatter a dancer's body lines, and tutus enhance the presentation of our performances. BBT has received \$1950 of the \$5000 needed to match Ashraf Habibullah's generous grant in support of eight new custom-made tutus. Please consider making a designated donation to allow BBT dancers to wear these beautiful costumes for many years to come. These professional-quality tutus will last twenty years or more: your pre-ballet student could wear one when she is in high school!

THE TUMA FAMILY EXPRESSES THANKS

Dearest BBT Family,

We are so grateful and humbled by your generosity, as well as the flexibility shown our family during these difficult times. Dancing has provided the needed outlet to help our girls cope with the changes and added hardship they have faced.

As we are on the road to recovery, God willing, we will continue to grow stronger and our ability to help others traveling difficult roads will expand.

Warmly,

Dennis and Vivien Tuma

MURIEL MAFFRE MASTER CLASS

BBT's Youth Company members will have the privilege of learning from one of the 20th century's most incomparable prima ballerinas. On April 13th, Muriel Maffre will share insights from her training at the Paris Opera Ballet and her career as a principal dancer at San Francisco Ballet.

TALENT SHOW FUNRAISER

On Saturday, March 27, BBT's children, adults, and families will gather to celebrate non-ballet talents. In addition to the wonderful Talent Show, events include a dinner of pizza and salad, an old-fashioned bake sale, and an auction of baskets created by the members of each level of our Children's Division (the broader auction postponed). This annual event brings our community together in a fun, healthy, inspiring way. Do come! Admission is \$20/adult, \$10/child 1-18, and \$5/talent show performer. Please purchase tickets in the office in advance.

SURVEY TO APPEAR IN YOUR INBOX

As Miss Ilona and the Artistic Staff plan for future performances, they are weighing many options and would like to consider the preferences of our BBT families. Soon a brief (less-than-5-minute) questionnaire from Survey Monkey will be distributed via e-mail. Please take a moment to register your opinions. Thanks!

SAVANNAH TUMA WINS FELLOWSHIP

Nominated by a friend of her family, Savannah Tuma won a \$2000 fellowship from the Eva Leah Gunther Foundation to help defray the cost of her dance classes. The foundation supports studies in the arts for deserving young women; learn more at <http://www.evafoundation.org/>. Congratulations Savannah!

BOYS' OUTREACH

Nearly thirty boys came to dance at BBT on Boys' Day in January. They had a wonderful day, learning from fabulous male teachers about dancing, discipline, and how boys and men can be graceful, strong, and musical. BBT's outreach to males has nearly doubled our enrollment of boys this year relative to last. John Segundo, our most recent recruit and a new Pre-Professional dancer, will appear as Prince Desire in this spring's *The Sleeping Beauty*. We are pleased to have a student able to dance this role which might otherwise have required a Guest Artist.



SARAH MARCUS' NEW POSITION

Congratulations to former BBT Artistic Director Sarah Marcus, who is the new Director of the School at the Mark Morris Dance Group in Brooklyn, NY. Way to go, Miss Sarah!

MISS SUSAN AT YOPD CONFERENCE

All over America, attention is being paid to the benefits of dance classes for people with Parkinson's disease. Founding teacher David Leventhal of the Mark Morris Dance Group's Dance for Parkinson's Disease Program has asked BBT's Associate Artistic Director Susan Weber to co-lead two classes at this national conference in Sacramento on March 13. BBT's ongoing program continues to offer free classes for East Bay residents affected by PD; please pass the word to people who could benefit from our program.

Visit www.berkeleyballet.org for more information on Berkeley Ballet Theater and our Dance for Parkinson's Disease Program.

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, March 27	6-9 PM
FUN-Raiser Talent Show	
Sunday, April 4	
Easter Sunday - no classes held	
April 5-11	
Spring Holiday - no children's classes held	
Tuesday, April 13	4-6:30 PM
Youth Company Master Class with Muriel Maffre	
Saturday, April 17	
Tickets for <i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> on sale	
Saturdays, May 1, 8, 15	12-6 PM
Mandatory Full-Call Saturday Rehearsals	
Wednesday, May 19	4-8:30 PM
<i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> Dress Rehearsal	
Thursday, May 20	4-7 PM
<i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> Dress Rehearsal	
	7-9 PM
Adult Show <i>Collage</i> Dress Rehearsal	
Friday, May 21	7 PM
<i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> Performance	
Saturday, May 22	11AM
Pre-Ballet <i>Celebration at the Castle</i>	
	Performance
	2& 7 PM
<i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> Performance	
Sunday, May 23	2 PM
<i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> Performance	
	6 PM
Adult Show <i>Collage</i> Performance	