

Karen Kain  
Artistic Director

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## The National Ballet of Canada Visits Five Schools in Toronto with *Dance About*

January 16, 2012... **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director of The National Ballet Canada, today announced that *Dance About* will visit five schools in the Greater Toronto Area from January 17 through January 24. Part of the National Ballet's outstanding outreach and education programme, *Dance About* reaches almost 2,500 children, from kindergarten to grade six, each year. First Soloist **Tanya Howard** will narrate the in-school performances.

For over 40 years, *Dance About* has been visiting schools, giving children from various socio-economic backgrounds and cultures the opportunity to experience classical ballet in their own environment, making the art form more accessible to them.

*Dance About* includes four dancers, a piano accompanist and a narrator who guide students through a day in the life of a dancer, from ballet class (the daily ritual of stretches and exercises) to a performance. The programme features demonstrations of basic ballet exercises, pointe work, partnering, make-up and wardrobe, as well as the creation of exciting and dramatic characters. Highlights of the performance include a selection of dances from The National Ballet of Canada's repertoire and students participating in mime demonstrations.

### Schools:

Bowmore Public School, Tuesday, January 17 at 10:20 am  
Whiteoaks Junior Public School, Wednesday, January 18 at 10:30 & 2:00 pm  
Larkspur Public School, Friday, January 20 at 1:30 pm  
Humbercrest Public School, Monday, January 23 at 10:30 & 1:30 pm  
Hillcrest Community Public School, Tuesday, January 24 at 2:00 pm

The National Ballet of Canada's Winter Season opens with *La Fille mal gardée* (February 29 - March 4, 2012), followed by *The Sleeping Beauty* (March 10 - 18, 2012) and continues with *The Seagull* (March 21 - 25, 2012) at the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts.

The 2011/12 Season is presented by CTV and The Globe and Mail.

Celebrating 60 Years of Partnership with The Volunteer Committee, The National Ballet of Canada.

*Dance About* is sponsored by Scotiabank.

*La Fille mal gardée* is a gift from THE VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA.

World MasterCard presents *The Sleeping Beauty*.

*The Sleeping Beauty* is made possible by generous contributions from Margaret & Jim Fleck, The Catherine & Maxwell Meighen Foundation, Sandra & Jim Pitblado, Gretchen Ross and Nancy Pencer & Michael Benjamin.

*The Seagull* is generously supported in part by an anonymous friend of the ballet.

Tanya Howard is sponsored through *Dancers First* by Nancy Pencer.

60  
years

Celebrating 60 Glorious Years

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The National Ballet of Canada gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts; the Ontario Arts Council; the City of Toronto through the Economic Development & Culture Department; the Government of Canada through the Honourable James Moore, Minister, the Department of Canadian Heritage; the Government of Ontario; the Ontario Arts Foundation; the Ontario Trillium Foundation; and the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund.

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