

NEWS

For details contact: Jo Lucas
Marketing and Communications
314.469.6222 phone or fax
alexandra@alexandraballet.com
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www.alexandraballet.com



*Educating, Elevating, and Enriching
St. Louis for over 20 Years!*

For Immediate Release

Alexandra Ballet

presents

A Young People's Performance

of

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Friday, March 17, 2006 - 9:30 am & 12:45 pm

Anheuser-Busch Hall

BLANCHE M. TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

University of Missouri-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121

FREE OF CHARGE TO ST. LOUIS AREA SCHOOLS

- Alexandra Ballet's annual **Young People's Performance** is the finest example of this non-profit organization's commitment to educational outreach into the community, educating and entertaining thousands of school children each year with the thrill of attending a live ballet performance at the beautiful Touhill Performing Arts Center.
- This annual performance has become one of the largest fine arts initiatives in St. Louis, and the only one to offer its program **completely free of charge**, due in large part to the generous contributions of Enterprise, WalMart, and the Boeing Employees Community Fund, as well as Regional Arts Commission-Saint Louis, Missouri Arts Council, and A&E.
- As always, **these performances are filled to capacity**, and AB maintains a long wait list for this popular day. So popular, in fact, that three years ago, upon the completion of the Touhill Performing Arts Center, AB moved its productions to the larger venue and began offering **two separate free performances**, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.
- Before attending the performance, the teacher of each class receives an educational workbook containing age and grade level appropriate information on ballet and its terminology, the synopsis (or *libretto*) of the ballet, composers, choreographers, costuming, theatre etiquette, and more. All information applies to the National, Missouri, and Illinois standards of Education in the areas of Fine Arts, Social Sciences, Communication Arts, Language Arts, Music, Dance, and Theatre. **This educational booklet can be viewed by visiting the website at www.alexandraballet.com, and clicking the link on the home page.**
- Another fun and fascinating component was added last year, with **"What's Going on Back There?"** an interactive demonstration presented by stage manager Tim Hubbard. During this presentation, students are let in on some of the "secrets" of the backstage world of performance art. Hubbard is currently a national trainer in teacher workshops at The Grammy Foundation's Leonard Bernstein Center for Learning, and is a former dancer with Indianapolis Ballet Theatre. His demonstration last year was met with great enthusiasm, and AB proudly welcomes his contribution to the **Young People's Performance** again this year.
- Each component of this educational outreach initiative has been carefully planned, with the intent to reach those who might not otherwise have the opportunity to have an experience like this. **This monumental project is carried out entirely by the dedicated group of volunteers at Alexandra Ballet who know what a difference the arts can make in a child's life.**
- **That these free performances touch children and change lives is evident to all who are a part of them, and Alexandra Ballet is proud to be a leader in this endeavor.**

**CALL 314-469-6222 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER
EXCITING PRODUCTIONS FROM ALEXANDRA BALLET!**



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