August 15, 2015

Dear Dance Friend:

The Brigham Young University Department of Dance is pleased to announce the highly anticipated eviDANCE!

This annual concert showcases five of the Department of Dance's premiere performing companies: Ballroom Dance Company, Contemporary Dance Theatre, International Folk Dance Ensemble, Living Legends, and Theatre Ballet. eviDANCE opens the BYU dance season and boasts an eclectic collection of dance arts. Indeed, the variety of repertoire presented will appeal to new dance enthusiasts as well as seasoned connoisseurs.

In addition to a spectrum of dance, music will be featured in diverse and significant ways. Many pieces in the concert will have live accompaniment and include an array of music genres. Truly, this unique performance is steeped in cultural arts that will move, uplift, and provoke thought.

We are sharing this Study Guide with audiences to help them delve deeper into the content of the show. As you experience the concert and explore the following information, we hope you discover new treasures, insights, and connections with dance—especially dance at BYU.

Performances will run September 17-19th at 7:30 pm with an additional matinee performance on the 19th at 2:00 pm. Tickets may be purchased at http://arts.byu.edu, 801.422.2981, or by visiting the HFAC Ticket Office. Please join us for eviDANCE!

You may watch and share the promotional video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbE_Pu5DFvw

Sincerely,

Marilyn Berrett
Chair, Department of Dance

Ed Austin
Artistic Director, eviDANCE
The purpose of this study guide is to help you see and know more about each of the dances and performing groups in eviDANCE. This guide follows the journey of the concert and concludes with information about the BYU performing groups and dance at large.
Real Song
Choreography by Jeffrey Louizia, adapted by Edwin Austin and Nathan Balser
Music: Happy by C2C
Performed by the full cast

This lively hip-hop piece opens the concert and features the full cast! Its celebratory and high-energy impact will have you dancing in your seats!

To learn more about hip-hop, visit:
http://www.danceheritage.org/hip-hop.html
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lq_wif_dv34

Eagle
Choreography by Jerad Todacheenie
Music: Dream Brother, Sam Cardon
Performed by Living Legends

The eagle flies nearest to our Creator. It is sacred to the native of North America and embodies strength, courage, and wisdom. It demonstrates to us that we have the ability to develop these same qualities.

To learn more about Native American Eagle Dance, visit:
https://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/multimedia/series/VideoStories/native-pride-dancers
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrB0yaF7wFI

Percussive Thunder
Choreography by Greg Tucker
Music: Dueling Banjo by Arthur Smith, Little Liza Jane (Traditional), Sally Gardens (Traditional)
Guest Musical Artists: Mountain Strings: Jacob Bagley, Mauresa Bastian, Grace Dayton, Talmage Haines, Carrie Ostler
Performed by International Folk Dance Ensemble

The intricate and percussive sounds of Appalachian Clogging combine with American traditional music as an energetic and playful competition unfolds on stage.

To learn more about Appalachian Clogging, visit:
http://www.appalachianhistory.net/2012/04/appalachian-clog-dancing.html
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pctzc3v5Cx0

Seed
Choreography by Aubry Dalley
Music: Spring 0, Spring 1, Summer 3 by Max Richter
Performed by Contemporary Dance Theatre

Selected by the American College Dance Association and included in their “2015 Gala Concert,” this brilliant choreography grew from a senior project choreographed by one of our dance majors, Aubry Dalley. It is a kinesthetic representation of how ideas form in the mind. An idea begins as a “seed” and then starts to grow and alter - you spend time refining the idea, turning it over and over in your mind, and allow it to be influenced by others.
Paris Swingbox  
Choreography by Christian Perry  
Music: Booty Swing by Marcus Fuereider  
Performed by Ballroom Dance Company

*There are many styles within the Lindy Hop genre. This choreography features the Charleston version. At the famed Savoy Ballroom the Lindy Hop was a favorite and the dancers became better and better, and more sophisticated as the Saturday night competitions grew in popularity.*

To learn more about Lindy Hop, visit:  
http://www.savoystyle.com  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Sdk3mqVSRA

I Got Rhythm  
Choreography by Suzi Wood  
Music: I Got Rhythm by George Gershwin  
Performed by Theatre Ballet

*This lighthearted ballet celebrates the musicality and brilliance of Gershwin.*

To learn more about George Gershwin, visit:  
http://www.npr.org/sections/ablogsupreme/2011/02/19/133590208/evolution-of-a-song-i-got-rhythm  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrhZp7N2pVg

Carrying Samsonite  
Choreography by Nathan Balser  
Music: Poltergeist by Book on Tape Worm, Halleluja by Leonard Cohen  
Performed by Contemporary Dance Theatre

*We all carry baggage with us in life whether it be regrets, grudges, sins, and more. Sometimes we need other people to help us in letting go of that baggage.*

To learn more about Contemporary Dance, visit:  
http://www.contemporary-dance.org  
To view some prominent contemporary dance companies and choreographers, visit:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAFZLSEfas&index=3&list=RDiEgcff5020Q  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLGpQic-T4M&spfreload=10  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjWhXeWchhM
Braque Tango
Choreography by Curt Holman
Music: Un Soir a Paris, Braque Tango by Jaques Trupin and Fabrice Ravel-Chaupin
Performed by Ballroom Dance Company

*The International style Tango is influenced by the original dance from Argentina. Dramatic music, staccato timing and powerful shapes create an engaging encounter between men and women.*

To learn more about the Argentine Tango, visit:
http://www.heritageinstitute.com/danceinfo/descriptions/argentine_tango.htm
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oge8WoAMF2U

The Emerald Isle
Choreography by Tina Shelley, Victoria Leavitt Ringer, Mike Romney
Music: Soggy's by Sean Graham, Cup of Tea (Traditional), White Petticoat (Traditional), Hanneke Cassel
Soloists: Alina Geslison Bagley, Victoria Leavitt Ringer
Guest Musical Artists: Mountain Strings: Alina Geslison Bagley, Jacob Bagley, Mauresa Bastian, Grace Dayton, Talmage Haines, Carrie Ostler
Performed by International Folk Dance Ensemble

*This celebration of Irish dance is comprised of a Slip Jig (9/8 time signature), a precision figure, a Ceilidh (social gathering), and a percussive Hard Shoe. Irish dance continues to evolve and shape itself on the stages of the world.*

To learn more about Irish Dance, visit:
https://www.crlg.ie/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B718RsboGEI&list=RDeSaa-2t2zmQ&index=9&spfreload=10

El Pajaro Campana
Choreography by Aileen Tamez
Music: El Pajaro Campana, by Damian Girett, Los Misioneros Parguayos
Performed by Living Legends

*El Pajaro Campana is the national Bird of Paraguay and its dance symbolizes liberty. “Tupa,” (God) turned the bell tower of a Jesuit church into a white bird. It’s sound resembled that of a bell and could be heard from that day forward.*

To learn more about Paraguayan dance, visit:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELb3SSvCJEM
A Song for Jennie
Choreography by Toni Redpath
Music: A Song for Jennie by Robin Spielberg
Guest Musical Artist: Alyssa Freeman, Piano Performance Major
Performed by Ballroom Dance Company

This version of the waltz is defined in competitive ballroom genre as “smooth waltz”. Flowing choreographic movement that often breaks from the traditional ballroom dance position offers the performers an opportunity to be more artistically expressive.

To learn more about the waltz, visit:
http://www.rounddancing.net/dance/articles/guest/finch/afewnotesamericanwaltz.html
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tgZ15MioUQ

Tappin’ and Swingin’
Choreography: Colleen West
Music: A Cool Cat in Town by Tape Five
Performed by Contemporary Dance Theatre

A little swing, a lot of fun ... and loads of tap.

To learn more about tap, visit:
http://www.tapdance.org
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlpvhtd1ual&list=RDnlpyhtd1ual#t=76

Magyorok Táncok
Choreography: Jeanette Geslison
Music: Traditional, by the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble, IFDE, BYU Men's Chorus
Performed by International Folk Dance Ensemble

From the county of Somogy in southwestern Hungary, the Üveges & Botoló dances belong to the dialect of “swineherds” and “jumping” dances. The use of props (such as bottles and sticks) was an integral part of this people’s lifestyle—the shepherds would use sticks, and the cooks worked with the bottles. In conclusion, an energetic piece from the Szatmár region fills the stage with one of Hungary’s most beloved traditional dances.

To learn more about Hungarian dance, visit:
http://www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/articles/hungarian_folk_dance_types_dialects_magyar.htm
To learn more about Men’s Chorus, visit:
http://byumenschorus.com

Contemporary Ballet (untitled)
Choreography by Duncan Cooper
Performed by Theatre Ballet

This is a newly commissioned work by Duncan Cooper. The Department of Dance regularly seeks out quality guest choreographers and instructors to broaden students’ artistic and networking experiences.
To learn more about Duncan Cooper, visit:
http://www.nycdance.com/Faculty/Bios/Duncan_Cooper.aspx

I Lived
Choreography: Nathan Balser
Music: I Lived, Ryan Tedder and Noel Zancanell, arranged by McKay Crockett
Guest Musical Artists: Vocal Point: McKay Crockett (director), Adam Heimbigner, Devin Flake, Jordan Hale, Kyle Lemperle, Carl Prince, Spencer Myler, Logan Shelton, Bryce Romney, and Cody Phillips
Performed by Contemporary Dance Theatre

Vocal Point joins CDT in a fusion of frenetic movement and sound. Although these two groups have collaborated in the past, this piece explores, experiments, and pushes the boundaries of a cappella and dance artists.

To learn more about Vocal Point, visit:
http://www.byuvocalpoint.com
To view other collaborations Nathan Balser has worked on with Vocal Point, visit:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VA3iyYJ_H5Y
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tehj_ZTi1Z4&index=4&list=PLzM4iKMyZBGNXgSoXNe070cuTMH0bU6R&spfreload=10

GostoDe Que Bom
Choreography: Eugene Kateseman, Maria Manusova
Music: Gosto De Que Bom by Gerardo Fresina
Performed by Ballroom Dance Company

The international ballroom version of samba is lively and rhythmical with elements from the Brazilian samba. A continuous bounce through the knees combined with a drop action creates the characteristic hip action that defines this style of dance. This playful coquettish dance brightens the atmosphere and entertains all.

To learn more about samba and the choreographers, visit:
http://www.dancelovers.com/samba_history.html
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BlZiM5dEUjI

Ote’a Taveva, Ote’a Amui
Choreography: Kira Tialavea
Music: Ote’a Tavevo, Marguerite Lai, Ote’a Amui, Tahitia Ora
Performed by Living Legends

This Tahitian treasure is from the island known as “The Pearl of the Sea,” the vibrant and powerful movements of this piece express the journeys of life and celebrate a joyful union of husband and wife.

To learn more about Tahitian culture, visit:

See below for more information about each of the performing dance companies.
BYU Performing Dance Companies

Ballroom Dance Company
Ballroom Dance Company has performed worldwide entertaining millions. National television broadcasts have been aired in and presentation highlights have included royal command performances in Jordan and Thailand, showcases for centennial celebrations and a private audience with the vice premiere of the People’s Republic of China – where ballroom dancing is very popular. The Ballroom Dance Company has been undefeated as the United Sates Formation Team champions since 1982. Internationally they have captured the prestigious British “Open to the World” formation title 23 times in Blackpool, England. ballroom.byu.edu

Ballroom in Concert
Fri-Sat, Apr 10-11, 2016
Marriott Center

2016 Tour:
May-June, Scotland & England

Contemporary Dance Theatre
Since 1975, CDT (formerly known as The Dancers’ Company) has toured throughout the world teaching, performing, and communicating through dance. The company has performed dance works that range from lyrical jazz to classical modern created. Some of the talented choreographers this group has worked with include Lar Lubovitch, Alwin Nikolais, Doris Humphrey, Sara and Jerry Pearson, Paul Taylor, Ivan Pulinkala, Ihsan Rustem, and Loni Landon. CDT has made an international mark performing these works while touring Europe, China, India, South Africa, Korea, The Philippines, Australia, and New Zealand. The group was warmly welcomed and their stellar performance garnered praise and admiration by high ranking Chinese officials, artists, and children alike. Contemporary.byu.edu

Dance in Concert
Fri-Sat, Feb 20-21, 2016
de Jong Concert Hall

2016 Tour:
March, Southern California
International Folk Dance Ensemble
Since their first international tour in 1964, the International Folk Dance Ensemble has been provided countless opportunities to perform at international folk dance festivals and in professional venues in over 40 countries. The company has an extensive repertoire of music and dance from throughout the world. They were invited to perform this past summer at International Folk Dance Festivals in Croatia and Spain. Speaking about the company, Mihalyi Gabor, Artistic Director of the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble, commented, “Your ensemble is outstanding. Your program is high class and there is soul in your movements. There is honest devotion and faith shining from the stage. I see that you are a rare community and know the what and why of what are you doing.” worlddance.byu.edu

Christmas Around the World
Dec 4-5,
Marriott Center

Winterfest
Feb 6,
LDS Conference Center, SLC

2016 Tours:
Feb. 26-March 5, Washington, Oregon
June 6-19, Nauvoo, Ill.

International Folk Dance Ensemble in Concert—Journey
Mar 31, Covey Center for the Arts, Provo

Living Legends
Living Legends is unique in all the world. Originally created in 1971 as the Lamanite Generation with Native American students touring reservations in the southwestern United States, today this group captures the essence of ancient and modern culture in a celebration of Native American, Latin American and Polynesian dance and music. Traditions come to life as talented descendants of these cultures blend authentic choreography, intricate costumes and heart-pounding music into one captivating show, telling the story of their heritage. Living Legends has participated in 30 international tours. The national historian of Nicaragua recently said of the group, “You rescue culture. A culture does not die when it dies, it dies when it is forgotten.” Living Legends performers use the medium of dance to pass on the message of their ancestors throughout the world, ensuring that their cultures will indeed live on beyond this generation to future generations. livinglegends.byu.edu
Living Legends: Seasons
Feb 5-6, Mar 24,
de Jong Concert Hall

Winter Fest
Feb 12,
LDS Conference Center, SLC

2016 Tour:
Apr 25-May 16, Samoa, Tonga, New Zealand

Theatre Ballet
For 44 years, BYU Theatre Ballet has performed and toured locally, regionally, and nationally. The company has performed exciting contemporary ballet pieces and full-length ballets on campus, while also touring their “Fairy Tales and Fantasy” tour show with great success. BYU Theatre Ballet is in their third year of being part of the Regional Dance America, Northwest Region as the company continues to expand their reach throughout the nation and the world. This year Theatre Ballet is presenting the first university full-length ballet production of Alice in Wonderland. This production is an exciting creative collaboration with students and faculty mentors who have been working on the project for two years, culminating in January 2016 performances in the deJong Concert Hall. It is exciting to see what is happening with BYU Theatre Ballet as well as the developments of the ballet area at BYU as both entities move forward in increasing their visibility and reputation throughout the world. theatreballet.byu.edu

Alice in Wonderland
Jan 28-30, deJong Concert Hall

2016 Tour, Fairy Tales and Fantasy:
Feb-Mar, Northern California

Regional Dance America/Pacific Region Festival
May 2016, Phoenix, Arizona

For more information about any of the upcoming tours, please visit BYU Performing Arts Management at pam.byu.edu.
Why DANCE?

In the 21st Century there is an incredible amount of emphasis placed on technology, the economy, and global politics, making it easy to ask: WHY DANCE? Dance and movement are universal forms of expression and have been manifested in cultures and societies throughout history. Experiencing dance is an important part of our humanity because we all have bodies and we all move. We can all find power and fulfillment in the body-mind-spirit connection.

“Dance is an art performed by individuals or groups of human beings, existing in time, space, force, and flow, in which the human body is the instrument, and movement is the medium.” R. Kraus, S. C. Hilsendager, and B. Dixon in History of the Dance in Art and Education (emphasis added).

"Dance is a nearly universal behavior with a history probably as old as humanity itself. Since antiquity, paintings, friezes, sculpture, myths, oral expression, and then literature attest to the existence of dance. Dance is embedded in our being. Even when not physically manifest, the concept and vision of dance emerge in our thinking. The dynamics of dance, culture, and society are inseparable." –Judith Lynne Hanna in The Performer-Audience Connection: Emotion to Metaphor in Dance and Society.

Why DANCE at BYU?

Dance at BYU, as well as in the LDS Church, has a long history and tradition. Brigham Young was fond of dance and we continue this legacy at BYU today. In fact, Brigham Young had been deprived of arts education in his youth and expressed: “I shall not subject my little children to such an unnatural training, but they shall go to the dance, study music, read novels, and do anything else that will tend to expand their frames, add fire to their spirits, improve their minds, and make them feel free in body and mind.” M.R. Werner in Brigham Young.

“Dance has a special role to play in the education of the ‘whole man.’ Appreciation for the perfection of the gift of the physical body will enhance one’s social, intellectual, and spiritual nature. Man’s basic need to experience the creative process is fulfilled in direct and personal ways when the body is used as the means of expression.” Dee Winterton, A Few Thoughts on Dance.

Why be a lifelong patron of DANCE and the arts?

The arts are in constant need of strong advocates. Many benefits of dance are discreetly personal and immeasurable by revenue only. Thus, becoming a lifelong patron of dance is necessary for the art form to thrive. You can be a patron of dance by regularly attending performances, supporting arts education, making monetary donations, and even by spreading the good word about dance!

“I consider myself one of the least artistically talented people on the planet, but I love the arts! Even those of us who can’t put oil to canvas, hold a note or write a sonnet can appreciate and learn from the artist’s interpretation of the human experience. At their best, the arts strike a universal chord that suggests that we are not alone in our experience of joy, or grief, or courage. Studying the arts in college prepares the person for a lifetime of pleasure and appreciation, of being open to new experiences and of becoming that ideal every liberal arts college strives to produce--a life-long learner.” Dr. Mitchell B. Rice, President of Washington College in The Value and Importance of the Arts and Humanities in Education and Life (read the full article here: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/barbara-ernst-prey/the-value-and-importance-_b_5788116.html)

Indeed, dance is one of the most glorious celebrations of human expression and body-mind-spirit integration. We hope you continue to explore dance not only through eviDANCE, but throughout your lives.