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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT

BalletX's *Dance eXchange* Featuring 200 Philadelphia Public School Students to Perform for the Community at the Prince Theater

WHAT:

On February 20 and 21, 2018, over two hundred 3rd and 4th grade students from three Philadelphia schools will participate in the culminating dance performances of BalletX's annual *Dance eXchange* program at the Prince Theater in Center City, Philadelphia. Students from Chester A. Arthur School and Bache-Martin School will perform on Feb. 20, 6:30-7:30pm, and students from Albert M. Greenfield School will perform on Feb. 21, 6:30-7:30pm. *Dance eXchange* performances are free and open to the public. Please RSVP at: <http://balletx.org/education/dance-exchange/>

Dance eXchange, a program developed by BalletX, offers in-classroom dance instruction to students of the School District of Philadelphia, based on the pedagogy of National Dance Institute and inspired by the artistry of BalletX. The program runs annually October-February.

NDI's training provides dance educators with a unique skill set to teach students the fundamentals of dance and performance by integrating a curricular theme, and concluding each program with a final performance. Students also hone their critical and creative thinking skills as their dance techniques develop.

The curricular theme of 2017-18's *Dance eXchange* program and final performance is the Seasons, based on BalletX's *Beautiful Decay*, a full-length ballet by choreographer Nicolo Fonte, featuring Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. BalletX performed *Beautiful Decay* for the company's *Fall Series 2017*, Nov. 29-Dec. 10 at The Wilma Theater. As part of the *Dance eXchange* curriculum, BalletX performed a free matinee performance of *Beautiful Decay* for participating students at The Wilma Theater on December 1.

Dance eXchange is generously funded by the William Penn Foundation, Zeldin Family Foundation, Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation, Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial, Berkowitz Family Foundation, and PECO, lead corporate sponsor. It was founded

with generous support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Leo Model Foundation, Samuel S. Fels Fund, and Stockton Rush Bartol Foundation, among others.

- WHERE:** Prince Theater, 1412 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102
- WHEN:** February 20 and 21, 2018 (both performances run 6:30-7:30 pm)
- PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES:** BalletX and Dance eXchange performances
- INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:** Christine Cox, Kate Carr, R. Colby Damon
- ABOUT BalletX:** BalletX, Philadelphia's premier contemporary ballet, unites distinguished choreographers with an outstanding company of world-class dancers to forge new works of athleticism, emotion, and grace. Founded in 2005 by Christine Cox and Matthew Neenan, and now under the direction of Cox as Artistic & Executive Director, BalletX challenges the boundaries of classical ballet by encouraging formal experimentation while preserving rigorous technique. The company is committed to producing new works of the highest quality and integrity that bring the combined visions of choreographers and dancers to life and cultivate in audiences a collective appetite for bold, new dance. For more information, visit www.balletx.org.

BalletX thanks lead season supporters, the William Penn Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, David Haas, Janet & Jim Averill, Al Palmer, Neal Krouse & Liz Knudsen, Barra Foundation, Fierce Advocacy Fund, Michael Soojian & Terry McKissick, Richard & Anna Marie Grossman, Jane Pepper, and Linda & David Glickstein.