

January 7, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Canada's Ballet Jörgen delivers community programming in Toronto, Whitby and Kingston.

Toronto: Canada's Ballet Jörgen starts the new year with 12 community performances January 8 – 13, including a visit to Toronto's SickKids Hospital.

CBJ will take its **Ballet 101** program into seven elementary schools and dance studios and Toronto's SickKids Hospital this week. Ballet 101 is a free, interactive education program designed especially for children and youth that introduces the audience to dance through a combination of performance and participation. The program provides opportunities to see high-quality professional dance presentations while learning about ballet as a storytelling medium.

The Ballet 101 program is a three-year initiative, supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, that will reach every region of Ontario and provide increased access to the performing arts for young Ontarians.

"We believe it is very important to provide access to high-quality dance to as many people as is possible. We are delighted to be sharing our popular Ballet 101 program with young audiences in the Toronto area this week"

– Bengt Jörgen, Artistic Director

Ballet 101 performances

- Scarborough & Toronto – January 8
- Toronto in partnership with DAREarts – January 9
- Toronto & York – January 10
- Toronto & Whitby January 11

Ballet in the Studio performance

- Kingston – January 13

The week's programming is made possible by The Ontario Trillium Foundation, George Brown College and the Toronto Arts Council.

Ongoing support is provided by the Ontario Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council.

Canada's Ballet Jörgen would also like to acknowledge the sustained support of National Presenting Partner, Bank of Montreal and Education partner George Brown College.

About Canada's Ballet Jörgen

Canada's Ballet Jörgen is one of Canada's largest dance companies and the country's leading touring company. Currently celebrating its 31st season, Canada's Ballet Jörgen enriches our lives by bringing professional ballet to communities - large and small, urban and rural - across Canada. Known for the warmth and beauty of its productions, CBJ reaches every province, delivering more than 2,000 performances, ballet classes and community engagement events involving over 60,000 participants annually. To date, CBJ has reached 253 different communities in Canada and 60 in the US.

The company specializes in reaching underserved communities including the inner suburbs of our major urban centres, and effectively reaches households with income of under \$35,000. Canada's Ballet Jörgen is the 2011 winner of The National Arts Centre Award for Distinguished Contribution to Touring - the first Ontario Performing Arts Organization to win this award.

canadasballetjorgen.ca

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