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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 15, 2013



METROPOLITAN BALLET

**unveils new *NUTCRACKER* with live music for
Ted Mann Concert Hall debut!**

Featuring

The Kenwood Symphony Orchestra - Yuri Ivan conducting

Two performances only ~ December 21, 2013

SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL GUEST STAR

GIUSEPPE BAUSILIO ~ Broadway star of the hit musical *BILLY ELLIOT*!

Greater TWIN CITIES area - Now in its seventh year, Metropolitan Ballet and Kenwood Symphony Orchestra are proud to present the only Twin Cities area *Nutcracker* performance with live accompaniment by a full symphony! The classic story based on E.T.A. Hoffmann's *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* with music by Tchaikovsky is recreated by Founder/Artistic Director Erik J. Sanborn and performed by Metropolitan Ballet & Hopkins Youth Ballet.

With lavish new choreography, sets and costumes, witness Marie's journey, led by a real horse, to the Land of Marzipan Sweets and all the entertaining elements of the *Nutcracker* including Waltz of the Snowflakes, Spanish, Chinese, Arabian, Russian, Reed Flutes and the elegant Waltz of the Flowers! A crowd favorite, see "Mother Ginger" create dancing sugar cookies on stage! And do not miss what happens when GIANT RATS storm the palace!

This holiday event features Broadway's *BILLY ELLIOT* super star GIUSEPPE BAUSILIO, the critically acclaimed star of the hit musical *BILLY ELLIOT*, returns to perform as the Nutcracker Prince! Last year Bausilio brought down the house with his mesmerizing leaps and turns as he performed as the Nutcracker Prince. Bausilio has performed the lead role of "Billy" for the national *Billy Elliot* tour and on Broadway for an entire season! At only 16 years old, Bausilio has won several international and national gold medals in ballet competitions. Credits to his amazing career also include having performed several leading roles on stages in Europe and in the USA.

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During the toughest economy in nearly 100 years, Metropolitan Ballet consistently has been selling out the HHS Auditorium's 1000 seat venue including every production last season, this season's *Giselle* and *Nutcracker* for the past four seasons! This year *Nutcracker* debuts at the prestigious Ted Mann Concert Hall, a world-class concert auditorium known for its elegance and sophisticated acoustic engineering.

For more information visit www.metroballet.org

TICKET INFORMATION

Individual tickets for *NUTCRACKER* with The Kenwood Symphony Orchestra are on sale now!

Tickets are \$19, \$29, \$39 and \$59. Seniors, students and members of Minnesota Public Radio receive a 25% discount. Tickets, maps and parking information available online at www.metroballet.org or purchase your tickets by calling 866-811-4111.

Performance Date: **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2013**

Performance Time: **1:00 PM & 7:30 PM ~ 2 PERFORMANCES ONLY!**

Performance Location: **Ted Mann Concert Hall**
2128 4th St S, Minneapolis, MN 55455

GIUSEPPE BAUSILIO is currently 16 years old and from Bern, Switzerland. Giuseppe began his professional career performing in multiple operas and ballets at the Bern Theatre and Theater im Kofenturm in his hometown of Bern Switzerland. After placing third in a dance competition, Bausilio was invited to audition for the part of "Billy" in *Billy Elliot the Musical*. He was cast in the title role and remained with the production through October 10, 2010, at which time he joined the National Tour production of the same show. In May of 2011, Bausilio was announced as the next "Billy" in the Broadway production and made his Broadway Debut that July. He is trained in Ballet, Jazz, Flamenco, Hip-Hop, Tap, Acrobatics, Martial Arts, Noh and Kyogen and voice. He has won several dance and Cello competitions in Switzerland, France, Italy and the US, placed 2nd at the World Ballet Competition YAGP, 2012 and has performed in *Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Coppelia* at the State Theatre of Bern, and the operas *Mazepa & Falstaff*. Giuseppe recently made his Hollywood debut in a major film entitled "Dead Man Down." Giuseppe enjoys cooking, skiing, metal forging, reading and speaks seven languages. To learn more about Giuseppe go to: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giuseppe_Bausilio

METROPOLITAN BALLETT a Twin Cities Non-Profit arts organization founded in 2002 by Artistic Director/Producer Erik Sanborn with a mission of uniting the communities of dance, music and theater. The ballet company focuses on staging high impact works with an emphasis on accessibility, diversity and affordability. The inaugural production of Prokofiev's Ballet *Romeo and Juliet* was a rave sellout in 2004 and audiences were once again enthralled with *A Classic Gala* at the PANTAGES in 2005, which included a celebrity cast and live music. This season's performances include: *Giselle*, *Nutcracker*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Don Quixote*. Metropolitan has also performed *Agnes DeMille's RODEO*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Les Sylphides*, *CARMEN Suite*, *Dracula*, *Le Corsaire*, *Amadeus*, *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Ballets Russes Festival* in collaboration with The Kenwood Symphony Orchestra, several Gala performances and a full length *Nutcracker* ballet with a live symphony since 2007. Metropolitan Ballet has performed at Northrup Auditorium, The Mayo Civic Center, State Theatre, Pantages Theatre, The O'Shaughnessy and the HHS Auditorium.

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Metropolitan's Founder/Artistic Director Erik J. Sanborn and Music Director Yuri Ivan of Kenwood Symphony Orchestra have collaborated on several projects over the past seven years and performing *Nutcracker* with a live symphony will continue to be a part of this collaborative tradition.

For More information visit: www.metroballet.org

ERIK SANBORN Founder/Artistic Director of the Metropolitan Ballet & Academy. Mr. Sanborn, a native of Minnesota, has been teaching in the fine arts of music and ballet for nearly 30 years. He trained in ballet with Nancy Bielsky, David Howard, Wilhelm Burmann, Fabrice Hauralt, Bonnie Mathis, Lirena Branitsky and Tatiana Berenova. He has performed several principal roles including the Nutcracker Prince, Sugarplum Cavalier, Arabian Prince, Snow Cavalier, Blue Bird Pas de Deux, Head Rancher in RODEO, Prince Florimund in SLEEPING BEAUTY, Fall Pas de Deux in CINDERELLA, Prince Siegfried in SWAN LAKE, Albrecht in GISELLE and the male lead in CAAM'S BUTTERFLY LOVERS choreographed by world renown Chinese Choreographer, Shen Pei. Mr. Sanborn has choreographed and staged several full length ballets including AMADEUS, DRACULA, SLEEPING BEAUTY and SWAN LAKE. He founded the Metropolitan Ballet in 2002 and the ballet academy in 2007.

KENWOOD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA founded in 1972 as the Kenwood Chamber Orchestra, the orchestra became a full symphony in 2003 and appointed Yuri Ivan as Music Director in 2007. From humble beginnings as an adult education class, the orchestra continues to grow in membership, ability, and reputation. Over the years, several gifted conductors have graced the podium, including Uri Barnea, Jim Riccardo, Jeannine Wager, William Intriligator, Myles Hernandez, Kenneth Freed and Jeffrey Stirling. Based at Washburn High School in Minneapolis, the KSO represents over 50 highly accomplished volunteer musicians of diverse ages and occupations including students, working professionals, and retirees, all passionate about playing and sharing great music. We are a nonprofit organization financed primarily by members' dues, financial gifts from friends and supporters, our annual Masters Concerto and Aria Competition and Concert (MCAC) event, and annual performance partnerships with the Metropolitan Ballet

For More information visit: www.kenwoodsymphonyorchestra.org

YURI IVAN became Music Director of the KSO in 2007. He completed his formal music training in Ukraine where his primary teachers were Jarema Skybinky and Mykola Kolessa. Mr. Ivan also studied with Yuri Simonov, Adalberto Tonnini, Vjacheslav Blinov and Yuri Lutsiv. After graduating from The State Conservatory of Music in Lviv, he served from 1996 to 2000 as an Associate Conductor at The State Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, where he conducted productions including *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Rigoletto*, *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, *Pagliacci*, *Eugene Oneguine*, *Die Fledermaus*, *La Fille Mal Gardée*, *Giselle*, *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake* and *Sleeping Beauty*. In 2001, Mr. Ivan was named Artistic Director of Trans-Carpathian Philharmonic, co-founded the Uzhgorod Youth Orchestra, and the Young Virtuosi music festival in Ukraine. He also appeared with LVMI Opera, the National Symphony-Pops Orchestra of Ukraine, the National Broadcasting Company Orchestra of Ukraine and the Northern Hungarian Symphony. Recently, Mr. Ivan completed his doctoral studies in conducting at the U of M where he studied with Akira Mori and Craig Kirchhoff. Currently, he is the Music Director at St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church. Mr. Ivan is active in the artistic life of the Twin Cities metro area, collaborating with a range of artistic and educational organizations. Since 2006, he has served as Music Director of the **Lynden Hills Chamber Orchestra**.

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