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**MILWAUKEE
BALLET**
MICHAEL PINK, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MILWAUKEE BALLET TO ENCHANT AUDIENCES WITH *CINDERELLA*

- The magical production to include six performances, a student matinee, and a charitable shoe drive. -

Milwaukee, WI – March 5, 2024 – Milwaukee Ballet will stage the beloved fairy tale *Cinderella*, presented by Herzfeld Foundation, from April 4-7 at Marcus Performing Arts Center. This family-favorite production promises two hours of magic, humor, and romance that will delight families and audience members of all ages.

Cinderella features performances from Milwaukee Ballet Company, over 40 students from Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy, and the Milwaukee Ballet Orchestra playing Sergei Prokofiev’s famous score live. Last staged in 2015 and rescheduled from the canceled 2019/2020 season, both the Company and audiences have anticipated this enchanting production for many years.

“The story of *Cinderella* is fundamentally about holding on to hope, regardless of circumstance,” says Artistic Director Michael Pink. “That’s what we want audience members, young and old, to see on stage and then take with them out into the world.”

Over 1,100 students from throughout the state will attend a special student matinee production on Friday, April 5. This performance offers subsidized or heavily discounted tickets to public, private, and homeschool student groups, many of whom will see a ballet performance for the first time.

Milwaukee Ballet and locally-owned shoe store Stan’s Fit For Your Feet have partnered to host a *Cinderella*-themed shoe drive throughout the month of March. Donations will go to local organizations serving homeless and low-income individuals, including Hope House Milwaukee, Repairers of the Breach, and Father Gene’s Help Center.

Donation boxes for new and gently-used shoes can be found at Milwaukee Ballet’s Baumgartner Center for Dance in Milwaukee’s Historic Third Ward as well as Stan’s locations in Brookfield, Greenfield, and Glendale. Donors at Milwaukee Ballet will receive a voucher to redeem up to four \$25 tickets to *Cinderella*, and donors at Stan’s Fit For Your Feet will receive a discount code for 20% off up to eight tickets.

“We are proud to be part of Milwaukee’s vibrant arts scene and are excited to give back to the community at large through this shoe drive,” says Milwaukee Ballet Managing Director Tai Pauls. “Shoes are such a fundamental part of ballet, the story of *Cinderella*, and human thriving, so it felt natural to partner with Stan’s to share that with our city.”

On-stage and off, *Cinderella* is sure to be a heartwarming experience for all involved.

Performance Information

Cinderella will take place from April 4-7 at Marcus Performing Arts Center. Tickets start at \$48 and may be purchased online at www.milwaukeeballet.org or through the Milwaukee Ballet Box Office at 414.902.2103.

The performance schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, April 4, 2024 – 7:30 PM
- Friday, April 5, 2024 – 7:30 PM
- Saturday, April 6, 2024 – 2:00 PM
- Saturday, April 6, 2024 – 7:30 PM
- Sunday, April 7, 2024 – 12:30 PM
- Sunday, April 7, 2024 – 6:00 PM

Cinderella is presented by Herzfeld Foundation with support from Principal Sponsor Sensient and Student Matinee Sponsor Associated Bank. Milwaukee Ballet's 2023/2024 Season is presented by Donald & Donna Baumgartner with support from United Performing Arts Fund, Wisconsin Arts Board, CAMPAC, Milwaukee Arts Board, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Shoe Drive Information

Milwaukee Ballet Location:

Open Monday-Friday 9AM- 8PM; Saturday 10AM-2PM

- Baumgartner Center for Dance: 128 N Jackson Street, Milwaukee, WI, 53202.

Stan's Fit For Your Feet Locations:

Open Monday-Friday 10 AM-7 PM; Saturday 10 AM-6 PM; Sunday 11 AM-5 PM

- Brookfield: 17155 West Bluemound Road, Brookfield, WI, 53005
- Glendale: 505 West Silver Spring Drive, Glendale, WI, 53217
- Greenfield: 7405 West Layton Avenue, Greenfield, WI, 53220

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About Milwaukee Ballet

Milwaukee Ballet was founded in 1970. Led by Artistic Director Michael Pink, Milwaukee Ballet creates a rich and diverse community through its inspiring dance performance, education, and outreach. Milwaukee Ballet hosts an international Company of dancers and maintains its own orchestra. Milwaukee Ballet School & Academy is the only professional dance school in the Midwest accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, teaching beginner through pre-professional levels in three locations: Third Ward, Fox Point, and Brookfield. Milwaukee Ballet's award-winning Community Engagement department serves nearly 30,000 people in Southeastern Wisconsin each year through original, interactive programs. Milwaukee Ballet is a proud cornerstone member of United Performing Arts Fund and holds a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Note to Editors: Interviews with Milwaukee Ballet Artistic Director Michael Pink and high-resolution images are available upon request.