

TOLEDO BALLET

CLASSICAL • CONTEMPORARY • CONDITIONING

Marie Bollinger Vogt, Founder, Artistic Director Emerita

5327 Monroe St.
Toledo, OH 43623
419.471.0049
FAX 419.471.9005
www.toledoballet.org

Spring 2015

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE ... AND BACK?

March 28, 7:30 p.m. & March 29, 2 p.m. Valentine Theatre

419.242.2787 www.toledoballet.org

A Note from Director Michael Lang

When Toledo Ballet Artistic Director (and wife) Lisa Mayer asked me what I thought about doing *Alice in Wonderland* I was filled

with excited nostalgia! I may have a few early dance recital pictures floating around my mom's house of a certain four year old with a Cheshire grin. And, I definitely have a Halloween picture of a Mad Hatter with an obnoxiously oversized hat (made by mom with love & a bit of overzealousness) and a look on his face that was well, mad!

For the last eight years I have been creating original full scale productions for the Toledo Ballet. Given the fact that we are first and foremost an educational establishment, I feel that the combination of a classic ballet (*Nutcracker*) and the unique experience of building a work from scratch prepares our students for anything that may be

Continued on page 4.

Faculty

McKenzie Beaverson
Jasmine Bell
Laura Blaufuss
Steven Brown
Kim Buehler
Tess Caputo
Ariel Clouse
Kristin DelVerne
Domonique Glover
Meg Grzeszczak
Jeanie Hayward
Ann Heckler
Kathy Humphrey
Michael Lang
Samantha Lanning
Armon Miller
Olivia Posladek Terrell
Kyle Solomon
Cheryl Walter
Michael Warrick
Sansa Warrick
Sara Wegrzyn
Earlyn Whitehead

Staff

Lisa Mayer
Artistic Director
School Director
Mari Davies
Executive Director
Michael Lang
Director
Choreographer
Performance Outreach
Coordinator
Elizabeth White
Business Coordinator
Kelby Sodeman
Grants Coordinator
Cecile Avery
Administrative Assistant
Condessa Croninger
Administrative Assistant
Educational Outreach
Specialist
Anthony Piercefield
Administrative Assistant



MARIE BOLLINGER VOGT TO WIN GOVERNOR'S AWARD



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Marie Bollinger Vogt, Toledo Ballet Emerita, receives Governor's Award

Toledo Ballet Founder and Artistic Director Emerita Marie Bollinger Vogt will be the recipient of the prestigious Ohio Arts Council's Governor's Award for the Arts in Ohio at the annual ceremony in Columbus May 13, 2015. Winners are selected in six categories: Arts Administration, Arts Education, Arts Patron, Business Support of the Arts, Community Development and Participation, and Individual Artist. Madame Vogt will receive the award for Arts Administration. "The Governor's Awards are coveted by arts organizations, corporations, schools, and individuals alike, and the process is extremely competitive," explained Toledo Ballet executive director Mari Davies. "It makes perfect sense that this extraordinary woman wins; she utilized an impressive balance of business savvy and passion for dance to pioneer an organization that is now seventy five years old. I am thrilled our own jewel from northwest Ohio is being recognized this year, and I imagine that many people who reaped the benefits of her talents will join us at the event to cheer her on."

Toledo Ballet thanks those who wrote such compelling letters of support for her nomination: Dick Anderson (Chairman Emeritus, The Andersons); Soili Arvola (World renowned prima ballerina, TB summer intensive instructor); Armon Miller (TB alumna and TB faculty member), Merwyn Su (The Toledo Symphony); Olivia Summons (TB alumna, Toledo Refining Company).

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Lisa Mayer

The award ceremony, held at the Columbus Athenaeum, is followed by an Arts Day Luncheon hosted by the Ohio Arts Council and Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation.



When asked her reaction to the news of her winning this award, Madame responded, "I am extremely honored to be included among distinguished area honorees from the past."

Madame Vogt founded Toledo Ballet in 1939 and in 1941 produced her first Nutcracker. It is now the longest consecutively running annual Nutcracker in the entire country. She continues to sit on the organization's board of directors.

Anyone interested in attending this event to help us cheer Madame on please call Executive Director Mari Davies at Toledo Ballet at 419.471.0049.

TURNING THE CORNER

AND ... WE'VE MOVED TO 5327 MONROE ST.!

The packing crates are gone, the new walls and flooring fresh, and the sparkling studios are ready to welcome a new wave of aspiring dancers. With a fourth studio added to the new venue, Artistic Director Lisa Mayer is able to further expand the curriculum. The Spring schedule has added ballroom, Zumba, and other various conditioning classes including pilates and TRX, and Preschool Enrichment (Fairy Tale Fairies). One most exciting feature of the new facility is that the Marie Vogt Studio, the largest of the four studios, is virtually the same size as the Stranahan Theater stage, making Nutcracker rehearsals so much easier to stage.



Having an additional studio also facilitates TB's ability to offer an opportunity to rent out a studio for birthday parties and other family-friendly events.

The design of the building allows parents to drop their dancer off in a safe zone right in front of the main entrance, avoiding the risk of battling parking lot traffic, which was a prevailing concern with the Franklin Park location. When their child is ready to leave, parents will pick up their dancer at a separate "Exit Only" side door which remains permanently locked from the outside.

An additional perk to the new facility is the on-site storage area which houses a brand new fantastic wardrobe area which includes double hung costume racks as well as spacious shelving for accessories. The guild can now store their inventory on well organized shelves, and most importantly, we will be able to store our spiffy new Nutcracker set and props in this temperature controlled space.

Toledo Ballet wants to take this opportunity to issue a few very special thanks to Devonshire Reit and Bill Bostleman for making us a deal we couldn't refuse, and to Joe Vetter / Vetter Design Group, Rob Koenig, Jim Hill, Sharon Skilliter / 2Scale, and all parents, board members, and others who donated their time, expertise, and resources to make this all possible.

CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY WITH TBA

With the additional space the new facility affords us, TB now offers the opportunity to celebrate aspiring dancers' birthdays in our studio. Choose from a ballet-themed party, a contemporary dance party a musical theatre party or a hip hop party! Parties are offered for ages 3 and up. Birthday parties are offered on:

Saturday

3:30 – 5:00 or 5:30 – 7:00

Sunday

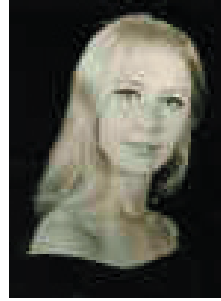
2:00 – 3:00 or 4:00 – 5:30

For more information, please call Toledo Ballet at 419.471.0049.

SAILING INTO SUMMER DANCE

We have been busy planning summer programs even as we sit at our computers and look out at snow as far as the eye can see.

Last year's troika of Summer Intensive instructors was so wildly successful that we decided to offer an encore this year of the indomitable Soili Arvola (July 6-10), powerhouse Tricia Albertson from Miami City Ballet (July 20-24), and our honorary ballet brother Renato Penteadó from MCB (July 27-31).



Arvola



Albertson



Penteadó

BROADWAY VETERANS LISA MAYER AND MICHAEL LANG OFFER THEIR MUSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVE JULY 13-17.

DANCE WITH THE ANIMALS!

Learn to dance, learn more about your favorite animals, move to the music, and cultivate your imagination in our new studios! Boys and girls ages 4-8 will have the opportunity to follow the Dance Enrichment Curriculum, created by Toledo Ballet teacher Ann Heckler in her *Dance With the Animals* summer camp. Four & five year olds will follow the Toledo Ballet Creative Movement and Pre-ballet curriculum. Enrichment activities include animal themed story time, explore circus animals, create a craft, and enjoy snack time. Six - eight year olds will take a classical ballet class each day. They will also explore other types of dance including jazz, character and modern as well as prepare costumes and props. This program will include the study of *Swan Lake*. Both groups will explore *Peter & the Wolf* and have a mini-performance at week's end.

Dates and times will be announced by April 1.



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(Continued from page 1)

to follow would make this a much easier task. Boy, was I wrong! Keeping up with crazy ideas of my own has proven to be much easier than keeping up with Carroll's. The nonsensical style of Carroll has so many moving parts and I find myself saying things like, "Oh good that one is done; woops, I forgot about The White Rabbit!" This is also what makes it so much fun and gives an artist a bit of wriggle room to add to the crazy mix. I have tried to stay very close to Carroll's classic literature. I want the audience to feel as if they have opened the book and literally watched it come to life. Once inside, one will be dazzled by beautiful ballet variations choreographed by our very own Lisa Mayer, contemporary, musical theater comedy, and even hip hop. With Juliette Morgan Quinlan as the Queen of Hearts, Michael Warrick as her King, and Phillippe Taylor as the Mad Hatter, the audience will experience a cast of actors that any director would die to have. Semira Warrick and McKenzie Beaverson give an audience a reason to come twice as they will share the role of Alice and oh yeah! The White Rabbit!