

# BALLET LUBBOCK

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## **Ballet Lubbock announces the 2009-2010 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season**

As part of Ballet Lubbock's celebration of four decades of enhancing the performing arts, building dance audiences and launching professional careers for dancers, choreographers and teachers, the Ballet Lubbock Company will present the inaugural fall performance, ***The Carnival of the Animals*** on **September 18, 19, and 20**. In addition, a special ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on September 17 at 5:00 p.m. to launch the 2009-2010 season at the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts.

The Company this September will present three performances of *The Carnival of the Animals* with live orchestral accompaniment under the direction of Gary Lewis in the intimate setting of the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts *Firehouse Theatre*. All of the Company's performances feature original choreography from Ballet Lubbock Artistic Director Yvonne Racz Key and select guest artists and Company members. The fall performance will begin with original choreography by Company member Tatiana DeLawyer followed by *In Tribute* choreographed by Yvonne Racz Key. After intermission the Ballet Lubbock Company will perform the title ballet, *The Carnival of the Animals*. **Tickets will be available on August 1 for \$25 through Select-a-Seat**. All tickets are assigned seating.

Other highlights of Ballet Lubbock's 2009-2010 season include the perennial favorite, ***The Nutcracker (December 10-13)***, the annual gala event, ***Prelude to the Dance (March 26)***, and the spring performance, ***The Sleeping Beauty (April 15-18)***.

The 31st annual production of *The Nutcracker* will take place on December 10-13 at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theatre. Ms. Racz Key choreographs over 150 dancers, including the Ballet Lubbock Company, world class guest artists and students of the Ballet Lubbock School to the accompaniment of a full orchestra. **Tickets will be available on November 1 for \$16 and \$20 through Select-a-Seat**. All tickets are assigned seating.

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The fourth annual gala, ***Prelude to the Dance on March 26*** kicks off the spring season in spectacular splendor with live entertainment, exclusive cocktails, fine wine and delectable cuisine from At Your Service. Attendees will see a sneak-peak of the spring performance, *Sleeping Beauty* as the Company will perform selected excerpts. **Tickets are available for \$75 by calling the Ballet Lubbock office at 785.3090.**

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season will close in beauty, elegance, and wonder with the Company's presentation of ***The Sleeping Beauty April 15-18***. Experience one of the most beloved fairy tales in a way only a full length ballet can deliver. **Tickets will be available on March 1 for \$25 through Select-a-Seat.** All tickets are assigned seating.

### **Ballet Lubbock's Story**

Ballet Lubbock was founded by Suzanne Aker in 1969, and is currently led by Miss Aker's former student, Artistic Director Yvonne Racz Key. Ballet Lubbock boasts the only pre-professional performing company on the South Plains, and has launched the careers of professional dancers, choreographers, and teachers throughout the country. The Ballet Lubbock season includes not only the Nutcracker but also annual spring and fall performances that continue building dance audiences and awareness in Lubbock and its surrounding communities. Ballet Lubbock also teaches nearly two hundred students annually in our School, a dance facility that has become the envy of visiting guest artists, faculty and professional companies.

In all programs, the staff, board, and volunteers of the Ballet Lubbock community seek to fulfill a three-part mission: to maintain a pre-professional performing company, to make classical dance accessible to our entire community, and to provide classical dance training to students ranging from three years of age through adults. With a forty-year strong history of fulfilling this cultural, educational mission, the Ballet Lubbock community looks forward with enthusiasm to continued positive impact on our entire community and in the lives of aspiring dancers.

For media inquiry and more information, please contact Marketing/PR Coordinator Nicholas Dragga by calling (806) 785-3090 or through e-mail at [Nicholas@balletlubbock.org](mailto:Nicholas@balletlubbock.org).