

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BALLET BELLEVUE

presents

Eastside Debut

COPPELIA

with live orchestra

Bellevue, WA – Ballet Bellevue presents the first appearance of *Coppelia* on the Eastside with live orchestra June 2nd (2 PM and 7 PM) and June 3rd (2 PM) at The Theatre at Meydenbauer Center, 11100 NE 6th Street, Bellevue, WA 98004. The noted University of Washington musician, Philip Tschopp, leads the professional orchestra in the familiar music of Leo Delibes, while romance, jealousy, intrigue and mischief fill the stage in this famous comic ballet. The lead roles of saucy Swanhilda and flirting Franz are danced by Clyde Hill native, Caitlin Cooney, and Geoffrey Kropp, both graduates of Pacific Northwest Ballet School and currently members of Kansas City Ballet. Staged by Ballet Bellevue Artistic Director, Jennifer Porter, and Associate Director, Michael Wojack, the Eastside's own professional ballet company brings an evolution of choreography begun in 1870 to delight and amuse audiences of all ages. Dr. Coppelius produces his beautiful dancing dolls, which come to life – or do they? Neil Sandlin does a quick change from his recent performance of Captain Hook to perform for Ballet Bellevue as Dr. Coppelius, and the Mayor who officiates at the wedding of Swanhilda and Franz is proudly portrayed by Ms. Cooney's real father, Kevin Cooney. Rising stars, Natasha Keeley and Alexa Kovalick, are showcased as they graduate from the professional division of Ballet

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Bellevue School, and the youngest hopefuls join advanced students in this exciting chance to share the stage with professional dancers. The story for the ballet was written by Charles Nutter and Arthur Saint-Leon based on E.T.A. Hoffmann's *The Sandman*. *Coppelia* was the first full-length ballet of Delibes, soon followed by the famous and beloved full-length ballets of Tchaikovsky.

Scenery and costumes courtesy of the Eugene Ballet Company, Eugene, Oregon.

Production sponsored by 4 Culture, Bellevue Arts Commission, Movado, Standing Ovation, Microsoft Employee Matching Program.

Tickets: \$32 (VIP Seating), \$27 (Adult), \$22 (Student/Senior), \$15 (Child 12 & under)

Tickets are available through Ticketwindow at 206.325.6500 or www.ticketwindowonline.com

For group discounts and information call 425.455.1345

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