

Ballet Virginia International Presents

“12 Dancing Princesses”

Ballet Virginia International Contact:
Lisa McCarty, lisambvi@gmail.com
757-446-1401

Norfolk, VA—February 17, 2014—Dance the night away with Ballet Virginia International’s (BVI) *12 Dancing Princesses*, as they waltz their way through the mystery, romance and enchantment of this Grimm’s fairy tale put to music and told through original choreography. Join BVI on March 8th at 2 PM or 7:30 PM at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts in Virginia Beach for this full-length modern day classical ballet.

This magical ballet was first performed by BVI in 2010. The production will benefit from BVI’s continued growth over the past five years—a bigger budget and a higher level of dancing is only the beginning. “Updated and new costumes and sets, professional lighting and set design along with meticulously rehearsed choreography will bring this production to a new level” said Janina Michalski Bove, BVI co-artistic director.

BVI’s reputation in creating and producing professional quality performances has enabled the ballet to attract acclaimed artists. Seth Parker, a former soloist with Ballet San Jose, will dance the role of the royal cobbler but soon-to-be prince. Mr. Parker has also graced the Sandler stage with BVI as our Cavalier in *The Nutcracker* among others lead roles.

After a successful run as in BVI’s *Nutcracker* as Drosselmyer, Stephen Gregory is will be back taking on the role of King Randolph for this ballet. Mr. Gregory brings a wealth of professional performing experience including work with Ballet West and Ballet Met. Coupled with his passion to fully bring his character to life in every ballet, he is sure to please the audience and inspire BVI’s own dancers.

Performing the role of Princess Genevieve will be Marianne Trimble, a fourth year BVI Performing Company member. Previous roles have included Arabian Princess in *Nutcracker*, Cheshire Cat in *Alice in Wonderland* and Dark Spirit in *Snow White*. Ms. Trimble has received national recognition with acceptances to some of the most prestigious summer dance programs in the nation including Houston Ballet, San Francisco Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet. She is currently an honor roll student at Cox High School.

Along with the lead dancers, our region’s finest young dancers round out this talented and stage-ready cast. The cast of over 100 dancers allows BVI to offer the youth of Hampton Roads an unparalleled experience of being part of a professional quality ballet production committed to excellence in dance arts education.

“Watching our dancers grow both technically and artistically is a joy” says Suzanne Lownsbury Long, BVI co-artistic director, “Having the training and performing opportunities available to them right here in Hampton Roads is a gift to not only them but also the people who come to see.”

Tickets for BVI’s production of *12 Dancing Princesses* are available at the Sandler Box Office, www.ynottix.com or 1-877-YNOTTIX. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$34.

About Ballet Virginia International

Founded in 2008, BVI’s Academy specializes in a diverse ballet syllabus inspired by the American, Russian, Italian and French schools. This solid technical base ensures added success in Modern Dance, Jazz and Character classes also offered at BVI. Musicality and artistry are developed joyously in a supportive environment. The professional quality productions allow select students and community dancers the opportunity to truly experience dance as a performance art.