



## **Training a new generation of dance artists** **Inaugural edition Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 11:00 GMT** [www.worldballetschoolday.com](http://www.worldballetschoolday.com)

**World Ballet School Day** is delighted to announce that twelve leading international dance schools and institutions are participating in the inaugural **World Ballet School Day**, which will be streamed online on **Tuesday 7 July** from 1100 GMT.

World Ballet School Day (WBSD) connects the next generation of young professional dance artists with young people from around the world. Created by students for students, this event is a platform for young artists in training to share a message of solidarity through the language of dance and ballet.

Students from participating schools will join together in a round table to provide insights into the world of professional ballet and dance training especially during lockdown, and will introduce segments from each school featuring behind the scenes and performance footage filmed both before and during lockdown.

The event will also feature the world premiere of a new dance work. Six international ballet schools worked with choreographer Didy Veldman to explore the theme of physical restriction in a project led by The Royal Ballet School. The Royal Ballet School invited San Francisco Ballet School, Canada's National Ballet School, Paris Opera Ballet School, The Royal Danish Ballet School and the Dutch National Ballet Academy to join them in a creative choreographic challenge for ballet students in lockdown. The dancers worked in six groups and created and rehearsed with Didy over Zoom. The students then filmed their individual performances and Didy and The BalletBoyz have created a film containing their work.

The founding of WBSD is a collaboration of Boston Ballet School, Canada's National Ballet School, English National Ballet School, New Zealand School of Dance, Palucca University of Dance Dresden, and the Prix de Lausanne. The idea was originally conceived by Viviana Durante.

Twelve schools/institutions from three continents are participating in this inaugural year:

The Australian Ballet School  
Boston Ballet School  
Canada's National Ballet School  
Dutch National Ballet Academy  
English National Ballet School  
New Zealand School of Dance

Palucca University of Dance Dresden  
Paris Opera Ballet School  
Prix de Lausanne  
Royal Ballet School  
Royal Danish Ballet School  
San Francisco Ballet School

*Viviana Durante says: "World Ballet School Day is about uniting students training at professional ballet and dance schools around the world. We want to showcase their resilience, strength, dedication, talent, intellect and passion, celebrating how their journey begins and why—now more than ever—ballet, dance and art matter so much."*

**- ENDS -**

For more information, please contact World Ballet School Day on [info@worldballetschoolday.com](mailto:info@worldballetschoolday.com).

## Notes to editors

World Ballet School Day will be streamed on [www.worldballetschoolday.com](http://www.worldballetschoolday.com) on Tuesday 7th July at:

- 400 PT
- 700 ET
- 1100 GMT
- 1200 BST
- 1300 Europe
- 2000 Japan
- 2100 Australia
- 2300 New Zealand

WBSD will be available for catch-up for one month.