

## **Press Release**

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### **New York City Ballet Dances in Williamsburg to Benefit Virginia Tech**

Dancers from the New York City Ballet, moved by the massacre at Virginia Tech, have contacted a Williamsburg community arts organization, The Institute for Dance, to offer their help and support.

NYC Ballet dancers Adam Hendrickson, Abi Stafford, and others will join with dancers from the Richmond Ballet, National Ballet and the Williamsburg Ballet Theatre to perform on June 30, 2007 in honor of the victims. The benefit performance will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Kimball Theater on Duke of Gloucester Street in Williamsburg. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Virginia Tech Foundation, designated for a university-wide scholarship program in honor of the students and professors who were killed.

The Institute for Dance, a local non-profit school, has trained dancers in classical ballet, tap, jazz and other forms of dance since 1978. "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to show our solidarity with the grieving families and friends," says Kristine Antis, Artistic Director of the school's ballet company, Williamsburg Ballet Theatre. "Dancers dedicate their lives to expressing emotion through movement. We are honored to perform with the NYC Ballet, National Ballet, and Richmond Ballet members in an artistic show of support for Virginia Tech."

The dancers are joined in their effort by other local organizations. The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation has donated the use of the Kimball Theater for the performance. Williams Landscaping is covering the cost of the programs Flower Cupboard will provide flowers for the event. Commonwealth Architects is producing a commemorative poster.

Tickets for the event are \$35.00. They will be on sale at the Kimball Theater box office beginning June 1.

For more information on the benefit performance, contact The Institute for Dance at 757-229-1717.