

February 24, 2021

Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Donor
123 Philanthropy Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Donor,

It was wonderful to see you last month at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's Spring Gala at Phipps Conservatory. On behalf of Artistic Director Susan Jaffee and Executive Director Harris Ferris, as well as the entire Development team here at PBT, thank you for your continued support of our work. You are truly one of the reasons we have been able to keep dancing throughout this pandemic. In fact, it is through the generosity of friends like you that we have been able to not keep dancing, but also continue innovating: from our Fall Open Air Series on our newly purchased mobile stage at our home in the Strip District, to our performances of *Dracula* and *Bolero* at the Carnegie Museum of Art, to our virtual production of *The Nutcracker*. We are thrilled that you have continued to make Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre part of your philanthropy plans—your recent gift of \$5,000 to underwrite our Fireside Nutcracker celebration helped us provide the film version of *The Nutcracker* for free. It is only through the kindness of friends like you that we are able to continue to pursue excellence in all we do.

In this spirit of innovation, we are thrilled to invite you to a special sneak peak of our new plans for the mobile stage, the next set of in-person PBT performances, and our approach to uphold our reputation as Pittsburgh's premiere ballet company. On Friday, March 26, PBT is hosting an exclusive dinner for our most loyal and impactful patrons featuring Susan, Harris, and all of our principal dancers to announce our Spring Open Air Series! Dinner will be served onstage at our mobile venue, placed in its new location for the Spring Open Air Series: Flagstaff Hill in Schenley Park, right in the heart of Oakland. Catering will be provided by the award-winning team at Richard Deshantz Restaurant Group, with catered sprints from our Strip District neighbors at Wigle Whiskey and Pennsylvania Libations. While you mingle with other friends of PBT and our senior leadership, we will invite you to take a first glimpse at our new location for the mobile stage, before we take it on tour throughout Western Pennsylvania—bringing the magic of ballet to everyone in our region. We are also proud to present you with a special preview of the ballet headlining the Spring Open Air Series: the premiere of Susan Jaffee's debut choreography for Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*.

If you are interested in attending, tickets to our special Spring Preview Dinner cost \$2,000 per couple. Single tickets are available for \$1,000. While we are so excited about what the Spring Open Air Series holds for Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, we cannot produce this imaginative, groundbreaking event in the heart of Pittsburgh alone. Your attendance at the Spring Preview Dinner will help us along the way to raise the necessary funds to bring live ballet back to Pittsburgh.

Please email me at rdumas@pittsburghballet.org, or call me at (281) 825-9206, to reserve your seats. Spots are limited, so please get in touch at your earliest convenience. If I do not hear from you, I will give you a call personally by March 5.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Dumas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ryan Dumas
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Pittsburgh, PA 15201
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