

Contact: Sharon Morrissey

Governors State University

Email: sbanaszak@govst.edu

708.235.2812

For Immediate Release

A Timeless Start to the Holidays at GSU

Featuring Guest Artists Gillian Murphy and Marcelo Gomes

University Park, IL, November 2, 2016 – Nothing beats the din of holiday preparations—cooking, tree-trimming, caroling, lighting candles, shopping. However you choose to commemorate the holidays, GSU’s Center for Performing Arts offers a timeless way to kick off the holiday season for the whole family.

Salt Creek Ballet performs its classic ***Nutcracker*** on December 3 at 1 and 5 p.m. with a local cast of stellar young talent and some serious star power with guest soloists Gillian Murphy and Marcelo Gomes, both from American Ballet Theatre. Take pictures with Santa at 3 p.m., and enjoy winter treats like hot chocolate and cookies while you meet the Nutcracker cast!

The New York Times says:

Gillian Murphy is "One of the most exciting ballerinas of her young generation."

"Mr. Gomes seems at ease with the world. A model of style, A tower of strength, he’s the artist who most winningly embodies the virtues of American Ballet Theatre at its most terrific."

For Tickets and Information

Tickets: \$43/33/23 adults, \$18 children under 16

Online: CenterTickets.net

By Phone: 708.235.2222

In Person at the Box Office: 1 University Parkway, University Park, IL

Box Office Hours: Monday- Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (open to 6p.m. on Thursdays) & 2 hours prior to all performances

Parking is free. For best GPS directions always use the location search term “Governors State University” only.

This presentation is supported by First Midwest Bank and contributions from Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

About Gillian Murphy

Murphy started dancing at the age of 3. She was awarded the highest honor, the Statue Award, by The Princess Grace Foundation in 2009 and danced in the world premiere of a new production of The Nutcracker for the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Murphy joined American Ballet Theatre in August 1996, was promoted to Soloist in 1999 and Principal Dancer in 2002.

About Marcelo Gomes

Marcelo Gomes is a principal dancer at New York's American Ballet Theatre (ABT) since 2002, and is widely admired for his combination of technical prowess, fine acting and beautiful form. One of the top three male dancers in the world, Marcelo received Dance Magazine's Dancer of the Year Award, in January 2016. A native of Brazil, Marcelo was born in Manaus and raised in Rio de Janeiro.

About Salt Creek Ballet

Salt Creek Ballet (SCB) strives to nurture children and adults alike in the beauty, discipline and art of dance. Producing at least ten fully staged performances each season in addition to a myriad of community engagement programming, Salt Creek Ballet has gained critical acclaim for its quality of dancers and professionalism. SCB performances have reached more than 235,000 people in Cook, DuPage and Kane Counties since its founding in 1985, while earning a national reputation for excellence in dance. Led by Artistic Directors Sergey Kozadayev and Zhanna Dubrovskaya, SCB is an Illinois non-profit corporation, dedicated to its mission to (1) offer high-quality training to students of all ages, (2) present professional-quality dance performances to diverse area audiences, (3) provide high-level performing opportunities for area dancers and (4) encourage appreciation and awareness of dance in the community at large.

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