

### About American Repertory Ballet

American Repertory Ballet (ARB), with its mission to convey the joy of dance and present the best in contemporary ballet, is one of America's leading dance companies. The company performs an annual season, including Graham Lustig's opulent production of *The Nutcracker*, in major venues in their home state of New Jersey and across the country. They have presented sold out New York City seasons at the venerable Joyce Theatre, receiving acclaim from nationally and internationally respected dance critics.

American Repertory Ballet receives support from major national foundations and government agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts. Designated a Major Arts Institution by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State since 1987, ARB received a Citation of Excellence for 1998-2002, the only dance company to be awarded both honors.

The company and its official educational arm, ARB's Princeton Ballet School, have a history of dance excellence spanning half a century.

The company has been under the artistic leadership of Graham Lustig since 1999. Mr. Lustig is considered one of the finest choreographers working today, and has created ballets for companies around the globe.

ARB's impressive and powerful dancers have

hailed from places as diverse as Australia, Jamaica, South Africa, Argentina and Brazil, as well as from throughout the U.S. The company's repertory includes established masterpieces by great American choreographers such as George Balanchine, and cutting edge works by choreographers such as Val Caniparoli, Kirk Peterson, Dominique Dumais, Salvatore Aiello, Susan Hadley, Mark Godden, Amy Seiwert, Ginger Thatcher, ARB Ballet Mistress Elaine Kudo, and Artistic Director Graham Lustig.

ARB's "*Dancing through the Ceiling*", a project created by Graham Lustig to showcase emerging and established female choreographers, has commissioned a number of critically acclaimed new works.

### A Brief History:

ARB's Princeton Ballet School was founded in 1954 by Audrée Estey; who in 1963 established the Princeton Regional Ballet Company, which became the professional Princeton Ballet Company in 1978 and quickly grew into a vibrant young company of national promise.

In 1991, the company was renamed American Repertory Ballet, a name that more clearly defined its artistic image and status as a nationally recognized ballet company. ARB is

a contemporary arts organization celebrating its 27th year of service to dancers and dance audiences, and our teaching affiliate, ARB's Princeton Ballet School, is one of the largest nonprofit dance education institutions in the country.

#### The Company:

Graham Lustig, *Artistic Director*

Bat Abbit, *Ballet Master*

Kevin Byrne

Jennifer Cavanaugh

Peng-Yu Chen

Laney Engelhard

Ellie Escosa

Dominic Guerra

Audra Johnson

Noah Kopp

Li-Chuan Lin

Michele Lundberg

Rachel McKeever

Andrew Notarile

Peggy Petteway

Samuel Pott

Kristin Scott

John Sorensen-Jolink