BALTIMORE SCHOOL for the ARTS/Twi9s

Baltimore School for the Arts Spring Dance Concert to Be Held April 19-21
Works Include Balanchine's Serenade and Original Works from Tony Nominee Christopher d'Amboise and BSA alumnus Doug Baum

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND – Baltimore School for the Arts' Spring Dance Concert is a lively and fast-paced mix of both ballet and modern works, from some of the most celebrated choreographers in the country as well as Baltimore School for the Arts students. The concert will take place April 19-21 in the Schaefer Ballroom at the school. Performances will be April 19 at 7 pm, April 20 at 5 pm, and April 21 at 1 and 5 pm. Tickets are $10-15.

Baltimore School for the Arts will present *Serenade*, the first ballet the legendary George Balanchine choreographed in the United States, accompanied by the Baltimore School for the Arts' string orchestra Concertato. The program also includes an original work set to the music of *Our Town* from Tony nominee Christopher d'Amboise; an original work from BSA alumnus Doug Baum; and several works choreographed by seniors from the Baltimore School for the Arts.

"This is one of the strongest Spring Dance Concerts the Dance Department has produced," said Norma Pera, Dance Department Head. "It is great to see our students explore three distinctly different types of movement. This is the third time we have been able to perform *Serenade*, which means we have maintained an artistic and technical level consistent with the standards of the Balanchine Trust. Christopher's work is engaging and dynamic, deeply rooted in Broadway traditions. Doug's work is pushing our students into a more contemporary style of choreography that is becoming increasingly important in the dance world."

Christopher d'Amboise is a dancer, director, choreographer, playwright, teacher, and educator. As a principal dancer with New York City Ballet, he worked closely with both George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins. On Broadway, he co-starred with Bernadette Peters in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Song and Dance*, for which he earned a Tony nomination for Best Featured Actor in a Musical--a role in which he only danced. As a choreographer, he has created more than 80 works seen worldwide, and his ballets have been presented in over 30 companies.

Doug Baum began his dance training in Maryland at Mid-Atlantic Center for the Performing Arts before graduating from the Baltimore School for the Arts in 2006. In 2010, Doug received his BFA from Fordham University in collaboration with The Ailey School, where he apprenticed with Ailey II for two years. Since graduating, he has toured internationally with Rasta Thomas Bad Boys of Dance, Compagnie Flak, and Les Ballets Jazz. Baum has completed three seasons with Zhukov Dance Theater in addition to guesting with Jose Mateo, Ezdanza, Thang Dao, Company XIV, Peridance, and iLuminate, as seen on America's Got Talent. Baum joined Complexions Contemporary Ballet in 2014 under the direction of Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, and he is currently an instructor and choreographer for Peridance.

Baltimore School for the Arts is located at 712 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD.

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The Baltimore School for the Arts is a nationally recognized public arts high school that provides its students with intensive pre-professional training in the arts in conjunction with a rigorous academic curriculum. BSA graduates go on to the most selective arts and university programs nationwide and achieve prominence in theater, film, music, dance, and the visual arts. Additionally, the BSA's highly acclaimed TWIGS program offers free after-school arts instruction to 700 city elementary and middle school children from schools across Baltimore, as well as other outreach initiatives to thousands more. Founded in 1979, the school is an integral and vibrant part of Baltimore's educational and cultural communities.

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