



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate Release

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Alberta Ballet Appoints Martin Bragg as Executive Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Alberta Ballet, Chair Justice Kristine Eidsvik, is pleased to announce the appointment of Martin Bragg as the new Executive Director.

Martin comes to the ballet from The Canadian Stage Company in Toronto, Canada's largest year round contemporary theatre company, operating in four theatres. For the past 17 years, Mr. Bragg was their Chief Executive Officer/Artistic Producer where he produced more than 150 productions and tripled the revenue base of the Company. Mr. Bragg led the company's national and international touring activities which included their world wide touring production of "*The Overcoat*". As well, he created a number of private sector investment and joint venture activities for the company with partners in New York, London, Hartford and Toronto. Mr. Bragg is a strategic Arts executive with expertise in all aspects of finance, administration, human resources, producing, fundraising, government relations and Board of Trustee management.

Justice Eidsvik said, *The Board of Directors were excited about the incredible calibre of candidates the Alberta Ballet attracted to this opportunity, who came to us from all over North America and Europe. We are delighted that Mr. Bragg has agreed to join the ballet and with his 30 years experience as a leader in both the private and non-profit sectors we believe he will make a major contribution to our Company and the cultural community in Alberta. Martin together with our Artistic Director, Jean Grand-Maître are the dream team destined to take the Alberta Ballet to new heights in management and artistic excellence.*

Mr. Bragg said, *"I am honoured to join the Alberta Ballet family and cannot wait to get started. I have been looking for an exciting new adventure and the chance to work with an artist of the international stature of Jean and a company as renowned as the Alberta Ballet is the opportunity of a lifetime. The Alberta Ballet has an amazing group of artists, a committed staff, one of the best training schools in the country and a passionate Board of Directors. This is a Company that knows how to blend innovation on the stage with sound financial management – both things that make it a major success story for Alberta and Canada. With the ongoing artistic excellence of the Company, I believe that the Alberta Ballet is poised for even bigger things and I am excited that I will have the chance to be part of that journey"*.

Working closely with the Board and acting Executive Director, Colin Jackson, Mr. Bragg will be transitioning into the role in July.

To purchase tickets for the 2010/11 Season: Beauty Beyond Words, visit www.albertaballet.com or phone the Calgary box office at (403) 245-4549, or the Edmonton box office at (780) 428-6839.

About Alberta Ballet:

Alberta Ballet, a not-for-profit organization, is Canada's third-largest ballet company. Since its formation in 1966, with its cutting-edge repertoire and talent led by Artistic Director Jean Grand-Maître, Alberta Ballet has remained at the forefront of the national and international arts scene. One of the only arts organizations in Canada to call two cities home, Alberta Ballet is a proud community leader both on and off the stage.

For interviews or more information, please contact:

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