

CLEVELAND BALLET

GLADISA GUADALUPE | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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CLEVELAND BALLET STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH UKRAINE

CLEVELAND, OH - Cleveland Ballet strongly supports the people of Ukraine in light of the recent events plaguing the country due to the barbarism of the Russian government.

With the upcoming production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the company has pledged to donate all net profits of the matinee performance to Ukrainian children in need. With this, the company hopes to alleviate even a fraction of the hardships this senseless act of violence has created.

“The Cleveland Ballet reiterates its solidarity with the Ukrainian people in the face of Russia’s aggression in Ukraine,” asserts President and CEO Michael Krasnyansky in a statement from the company.

“Cleveland Ballet and the School of Cleveland Ballet are going to donate all proceeds from our matinee performance of the ballet *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to children of the Ukraine.”

Since its creation, the company has been actively involved in various children’s organizations across the Greater Cleveland area. With the introduction of matinee performances, a new opportunity for children with exclusive access to the performers for a Q&A after the show is possible. Cleveland Ballet currently has 14 outreach programs going out into the community to underprivileged schools to teach the art of ballet and in turn, they are then invited to these special performances.

“In pledging these earnings to the children of Ukraine, we hope to not only give a form of security but hopeful optimism to the future generation affected by this insensible act of brutality,” says Artistic Director Gladisa Guadalupe.

The matinee presentation will take place Saturday, May 7th at 1 p.m. at the Mimi Ohio Theatre. The program is based on William Shakespeare’s 1600 comedy of the same name with music composed by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) and choreography by Gladisa Guadalupe. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* features scenic design and construction by Jeffrey McLaughlin and lighting design by Dennis Dugan.

All three performances will be held at the Mimi Ohio Theatre located at 1511 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44115. To purchase tickets, visit <https://www.playhousesquare.org/events/detail/midsummer-nights-dream> or call 216-241-6000. For additional questions, please visit clevelandballet.org or call 216-320-9000.

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ABOUT CLEVELAND BALLET: From the fascinating history of dance in Cleveland starting at the beginning of the 20th century, Dr. Michael Krasnyansky, a successful Ukrainian businessman who settled in the Cleveland area, and his wife Gladisa Guadalupe, a wonderful dancer originally from Puerto Rico, have made their mission to build on the vision and business acumen of Adella Prentiss and impresario Giacomo Bernardi. Prentiss and Bernardi were instrumental in the development of Cleveland's dance audience. They were responsible for bringing one of the world's foremost ballerinas of the 20th century, Anna Pavlova, as well as the internationally famous Diaghilev Ballets Russes which performed in this city during their first U.S. tour. Today and under their artistic vision, business expertise and leadership Dr. Krasnyansky and Ms. Guadalupe has established the city's resident ballet company, Cleveland Ballet, successfully filling the void of classical and contemporary ballet. Please see <https://case.edu/ech/articles/c/cleveland-ballet> and <https://case.edu/ech/articles/d/dance> for more information.

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