



## For Immediate Release

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## **Cleveland Ballet and Andrews Osborne Academy Announce Global Academic Partnership to Train and Educate Future Ballet Dancers in Northeast Ohio**

**Cleveland, OH** — The new Cleveland Ballet — under the artistic direction of former Cleveland Ballet principal ballerina Gladisa Guadalupe, announces an exciting global academic partnership with Andrews Osborne Academy (AOA), a private, coeducational, college preparatory day and boarding school (grades 7-12) on a 300-acre campus located in Willoughby, Ohio.

Just as the School of American Ballet educates future professional ballet dancers for the New York City Ballet, Cleveland Ballet can now recruit and educate dancers from around the world in the Cleveland area. Eligible students will have the opportunity to pursue studies in a safe and structured environment that is strong, both academically and professionally.

Beginning in January 2016, this partnership will allow ballet students aged 14 and up to study professional ballet with the School of Cleveland Ballet, Northeast Ohio's premiere professional children's ballet school, with studios based in Cleveland, Ohio. The School of Cleveland Ballet rehearses regularly in the Playhouse Square Idea Center's Gund Dance Studio, a beautiful rehearsal space on Euclid Avenue, in the heart of Cleveland's theatre district. Eligible students will simultaneously matriculate as high school students at AOA to work toward their high school diploma. Students will reside in the dormitories that house students 14 years of age and older, on the school's expansive campus, in a pastoral multi-cultural setting where young people thrive.

"We see this as an opportunity to serve as a 'window to the world,' meaning that we plan to attract the best and the brightest ballet students from around the globe who want to dance with the Cleveland Ballet," said Guadalupe, artistic director of the Cleveland Ballet and the School of Cleveland Ballet. "The students we recruit will demonstrate the highest potential for a successful career in dance."

This model for educating young professional dancers is not new to Guadalupe. A native of Puerto Rico, she moved to New York City to attend the School of American Ballet, graduating as a scholarship alumna, while studying under the celebrated George Balanchine, father of American ballet and of the modern ballet movement.

Her plan is to inspire a new generation of professional ballet dancers to achieve similar success that she enjoyed as a member of the original Cleveland Ballet. In her professional career, she performed under legendary choreographers Dennis Nahat, Ian Horvath, Margot Sappington, and Louis Falco, touring North and South

America, Asia and Europe. In July 2015, Peter Martins, artistic director and chairman of faculty at the School of American Ballet, official school of the New York City Ballet, invited Guadalupe to serve on the Alumni Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.

Ballet students will attend AOA classes in the morning and be transported to the School of Cleveland Ballet for dance training in the afternoon. AOA offers a low student-teacher ratio, honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

This partnership differentiates itself from others that are based out of performing arts high schools. As a college preparatory boarding school, Andrews Osborne Academy focuses on academics, while leaving the highly technical artistic ballet training to the professionals at the School of Cleveland Ballet. After students complete their high school studies, they are encouraged to audition for the Cleveland Ballet to pursue careers locally.

"AOA is proud to now be the educational partner of the Cleveland Ballet," said Dr. Larry Goodman, Andrews Osborne Academy's Head of School. "The arts are a cornerstone of an excellent education and this partnership illustrates how invested we are in the arts and in educational excellence."

The new Cleveland Ballet has enjoyed successful collaborations with other fine arts institutions, including Neos Dance Theatre and with members of The Cleveland Orchestra, several of whom make up the Cleveland Ballet Orchestra.

For more information on this partnership, visit [clevelandballet.org](http://clevelandballet.org) or call 216-320-9000 or visit [andrewsosborne.org](http://andrewsosborne.org) or call 440-210-3257. Stay connected with us on FaceBook, Twitter and Instagram. Make sure to check out our outdoor billboard, located at Chester Avenue and E. 40th Street in Cleveland.

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