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### **Dance Conservatory of Maryland Hosts Open House**

Bel Air, MD (August 2, 2010) – The Dance Conservatory of Maryland will be hosting an open house on Wednesday, August 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Children and parents are invited to meet the faculty, tour the historic school campus and enjoy a free performance by the Harford Ballet Company featuring Fancy Nancy and members of the company's professional division.

The open house performance will kick off the Harford Ballet Company's 2010-2011 season with contemporary and urban choreography commissioned from nationally recognized guest choreographers and from HBC's Resident Choreographer, Shana O'Brien.

"We want to show our audiences that ballet can be exciting, impressive and athletic," says Pamela Villeneuve, founder and Executive Director. "Ballet can include elements from all dance styles including Modern, Broadway and Hip Hop."

The Dance Conservatory of Maryland offers dance classes for ages 2 through adult in many diverse styles of dance. The Harford Ballet Company is the resident performing company of the Dance Conservatory of Maryland and the partnership between them allows both organizations to attract leading teachers and choreographers in the dance field and offer students a unique opportunity to learn by working side by side with professional dancers.

#### **About Dance Conservatory of Maryland**

Founded in 1996 by Pamela Villeneuve, Dance Conservatory of Maryland is the premier classical and contemporary dance program in Harford County and the Northern Maryland region. Headquartered at the 40-acre historic Millstad property on Whitaker Mill Road, three miles south of Bel Air, the 5,000 square foot facility houses the conservatory as well as the headquarters for Ballet Maryland. A DCM dancer can perform professionally, earn scholarships to major professional schools, colleges and universities, and enrich the artistic and cultural life of the community.

#### **About Harford Ballet Company**

Harford Ballet Company is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization overseen by an advisory Board of Directors who work with the artistic director and the company manager to provide administrative support for the Company. The Company's annual season features two programs of classic favorites and new works, including the holiday tradition, *The Nutcracker*.

Harford Ballet Company receives state arts funding through a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board and constantly seeks financial backing for the valuable art of ballet through memberships, grants, and personal and corporate donations.

Harford Ballet Company's sponsors include Bay Area Dentists, Bel Air Auto Service, Bel Air Recreation Committee, Black and Decker, Comcast, Dental Associates, Growing Smiles Dentistry, Klein's Shoprite, Susquehanna Bank, T. Rowe Price and Union Memorial Sports Medicine.

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