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## **CINCINNATI BALLET PROUDLY ANNOUNCES LIVE MUSIC FOR UPCOMING *CINDERELLA* AND *MOZART'S REQUIEM***

Cincinnati, OH – January 20, 2010 – It may still be an economic downturn, but Cincinnati Ballet has so far overcome the odds, and is proud and excited to announce live music for its next two productions, Victoria Morgan's *Cinderella*, running February 12 – 14, 2010, and Adam Hougland's world premiere *Mozart's Requiem*, March 26 – 27, 2010, both featuring the Cincinnati Ballet Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Carmon DeLeone. *Mozart's Requiem* will also include the Xavier Concert Choir.

Live music so far has been a significant highlight of the 2009-10 Cincinnati Ballet season: in the season-opening *New Works* (which featured live local musicians on opening night, and included world premiere scores); followed by four productions of *Swan Lake* (with the Cincinnati Ballet Orchestra); and eleven productions of *Frisch's Presents The Nutcracker* (with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra), both conducted by DeLeone.

“Our Academy, Development and Marketing departments have all delivered, working extremely hard to meet our contingency goals this season, which has been key to our ability to continue to present live music for the rest of the season,” says Missie Santomo, Director of Marketing at Cincinnati Ballet. “The Marketing Department is already 93% to our overall goal for season tickets sales with three shows left to go. Last year we were at 77%, which means we are almost 20% ahead of last year.

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“We are well on the way to meet our season goals. Development contributions are up, tracking at over three-quarters of our fiscal year target – surpassing our early contingency goal in January,” says Jay Kalagayan, Director of Development. “In addition, we have used extremely successful innovative grassroots efforts to broaden our communications with appeals for live music. Our Live Music Task Force has already surpassed our dollar goal of \$60,000 by 20% .

“Enrollment is up in all categories so far this year,” says Stacey Recht Czar, Director of Academy Operations at Cincinnati Ballet Otto M. Budig Academy. “At our Blue Ash studio especially, we have grown substantially. Many classes at both locations are full. Our Children's Division is at 90% capacity, with waiting lists for most classes. And Rhythm & Motion enrollment has grown by an average rate of 25% annually. We are already anticipating further gains for our summer programs, based on interest.”

“We are extremely grateful to the community for such strong support for our company and to our own staff, for their hard work, giving us such great results this season. Congratulations are due all around, because this has allowed us to be one of the very few companies in our tier in the country to continue to regularly present live music with ballet performances,” says Artistic Director & CEO Victoria Morgan.

“I hope people enjoy our productions as much as we enjoy presenting them, especially with live music.

“We feel that Dance is such a basic form of expression and so connected to the rhythms, dynamics, subtleties and phrasing of the music. We thank our board, donors, our ever-expanding audience base, and all who have made live music possible – *Cinderella* is about a dream coming true and for us the dream of live music was solidified for three of our six series through the Louise Nippert Musical Arts fund. This incredible gift has allowed Cincinnati Ballet the pleasure of engaging the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra beginning with our 2010-11 Season and continuing into perpetuity. We will receive 5% of the annual distribution of the generous \$85 million endowment, estimated to be about \$200,000 for Cincinnati Ballet.

This gift gives us the opportunity to focus on other challenging operational and artistic areas of our organization that need attention. We hope other people will be inspired by her generosity.”

**About Cincinnati Ballet**

For 47 years, Cincinnati Ballet has been the cornerstone professional ballet company of the Cincinnati tri-state area, presenting a mix of important classical full-length ballets and an adventurous and vibrant mix of repertory ballets, regularly with live orchestral accompaniment. Cincinnati Ballet’s mission is to inspire hope and joy in our community and beyond through the power and passion of dance. Our mantra: “Everybody dances.” To that end, Cincinnati Ballet presents exhilarating performances, extensive education outreach programs (including professional lecture-demos, residencies, scholarship programs and student matinees), and offers top-level professional ballet training at Cincinnati Ballet Otto M. Budig Academy, which enjoys an enrollment of over a thousand participants in multi-leveled programs at The Cincinnati Ballet Center and satellite studios in Blue Ash. Cincinnati Ballet Academy’s “Rhythm & Motion” classes were recently lauded nationally in “36 Hours in Cincinnati, Ohio,” a *New York Times* travel article.

Cincinnati Ballet’s 2009-2010 season is generously sponsored by The Otto M. Budig Family Foundation and Rhonda and Larry A. Sheakley Family Foundation.

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