



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **KNOCK OUT ILLNESS AT SHUT UP & DANCE 2015**

Philadelphia, PA — Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance (MANNA) celebrates *Shut Up & Dance*, a one-night-only benefit performance presented by Dancers of Pennsylvania Ballet on Saturday, March 21st at the Forrest Theatre. The show begins at 8:00 pm and is emceed by WXPB's Michaela Majoun. The Dancers choreograph and perform original pieces for a night of entertainment benefitting MANNA.

Tickets are available for purchase at [www.mannapa.org/dance](http://www.mannapa.org/dance). Each *Shut Up & Dance* ticket purchased provides meals to MANNA clients battling life-threatening illness, such as HIV/AIDS, cancer and renal disease.

This year's performance marks the 23rd year of *Shut Up & Dance*. The performance's boxing inspired theme is "knock out illness!" Pennsylvania Ballet Principal Dancer, Ian Hussey returns as Producing Director for his fourth year.

In addition to the performance, two exclusive parties are held before and after the show. Philanthropist Steven Korman hosts the 6:00 pm VIP party at The Forrest Theatre, featuring cocktails, food and refreshments. Tickets for the VIP party are also available on [www.mannapa.org/dance](http://www.mannapa.org/dance). The official *Shut Up & Dance* after-party at Tabu Lounge is open to all ticket holders and begins immediately following the performance.

"*Shut Up & Dance* is such a unique and inspiring event. We cannot thank the Dancers of Pennsylvania Ballet enough for their dedication and support of MANNA," said Sue Daugherty, CEO of MANNA.

"We dance to raise awareness of MANNA's work and to provide nourishment to our neighbors who are battling illnesses," shared Ian Hussey, Producing Director of *Shut Up & Dance* and Pennsylvania Ballet Principal Dancer.

Zurich Insurance Group returns as the Silver Sponsor and Valley Green Bank joins as the Bronze sponsor. Each company supports MANNA year-round.

For more additional information, contact Emily Gallagher at [egallagher@mannapa.org](mailto:egallagher@mannapa.org) or 215-496-2662 x127. Visit [www.mannapa.org](http://www.mannapa.org), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us via [Twitter](#).

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### **ABOUT MANNA**

Especially for people at acute nutritional risk due to life-threatening illnesses, [MANNA](#) prepares and delivers delicious nourishing meals and counsel, empowering individuals to battle illness and improve their quality of life. A small professional staff and 1,500 dedicated volunteers bring more than 65,000 nutritious, home-delivered meals each month to individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. MANNA dietitians promote wellness through nutrition education and counseling. Through these services, MANNA provides opportunities for caring people to extend loving support to families, friends, and neighbors. MANNA is spelled in all capital letters.

### **ABOUT PENNSYLVANIA BALLET**

Founded in 1963 by Balanchine student and protégée Barbara Weisberger, Pennsylvania Ballet is one of the nation's leading ballet companies. Headquartered in Philadelphia, the Company's annual local season features six programs of classic favorites and new works, including the Philadelphia holiday tradition, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*™. For more information, visit [www.paballet.org](http://www.paballet.org), call 215.551.7000 or connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) to go behind the scenes at any time.

### **ABOUT ZURICH**

Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich) is a leading multi-line insurer that serves its customers in global and local markets. With more than 55,000 employees, it provides a wide range of general insurance and life insurance products and services. Zurich's customers include individuals, small businesses, and mid-sized and large companies, including multinational corporations, in more than 170 countries. The Group is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland, where it was founded in 1872. The holding company, Zurich Insurance Group Ltd (ZURN), is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and has a level I American Depositary Receipt (ZURVY) program, which is traded over-the-counter on OTCQX. Further information about Zurich is available at [www.zurich.com](http://www.zurich.com).

### **ABOUT VALLEY GREEN BANK**

Valley Green Bank, a division of Univest Bank and Trust Co., was founded in 2005 by business leaders who believed there was a need for a locally operated bank that would be responsive to the community's commercial and civic needs. In January 2015, Valley Green Bank merged with Univest Bank and Trust Co., a 139 year old community bank serving Bucks, Montgomery and Chester counties and the Lehigh Valley.