



PA | BALLET

PRESS RELEASE

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SHUT UP & DANCE RETURNS FOR ITS 26TH YEAR

Philadelphia, PA — *Shut Up & Dance* is an annual benefit performance produced by Dancers of Pennsylvania Ballet for Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance (MANNA) which will take place this year on **Saturday, April 14** at the **Forrest Theatre** at 8 pm. Each year, Dancers of Pennsylvania Ballet donate their time and talent to put on a one-night-only performance that is sure to make you laugh, cry, and blush.

Each *Shut Up & Dance* ticket purchased provides nourishing meals to MANNA clients battling life-threatening illness, such as HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes and renal disease. Over the 26-year history of the event, it has raised over \$1.7 million for MANNA's programs.

"The volunteer commitment from the Dancers amazes us ever year," says MANNA CEO Sue Daugherty. "Their dedication to MANNA and our clients means so much to us."

Pennsylvania Ballet Soloist Alexandra Hughes will make her debut as Producing Director, after seven years dancing in the show and working on the production team. Hughes says, "It's an honor to be in this role. *Shut Up & Dance* is a legacy that we as dancers are so proud of, and it's important to us to give back to a city that has given us so much. MANNA does amazing things for the greater Philadelphia community, and we are so thankful to use this opportunity to use our passion to benefit our community."

The 2018 *Shut Up & Dance* also features the debut of hosts John Jarboe & The Bearded Ladies Cabaret.

Tickets are available for purchase at www.mannapa.org/dance.

In addition to the performance, three 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 by [Di Bruno Brothers](#) and the MANNA kitchen. The Young Friends of MANNA will be holding their Pre-Party at Ports. Tickets for the VIP party and Young Friends Pre-Party are also available on www.mannapa.org/dance. The official *Shut Up & Dance* after-party at Voyeur Nightclub is open to all ticket holders and begins immediately following the performance.

Event sponsors include: Silver Sponsor: Zurich. Bronze Sponsors: Jefferson University Hospital, Friedman LLP, Independence Foundation, and Penn Jersey Paper.

For more additional information, contact Laura Payne at lpayne@manna.org or 215-496-2662 x115. Visit www.mannapa.org, like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us via [Twitter](#).

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ABOUT MANNA

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 4,500 dedicated volunteers bring more than 95,000 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. Please note that 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 paballet.org, call 215.551.7000 or connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) to go behind the scenes at any time.