

NORTHWEST FLORIDA



Joleigh Jarvis
jjarvis@nfballet.org
(850) 664-7787 ext. 17
www.nfballet.org

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**NORTHWEST FLORIDA BALLET 2011-2012 SEASON
BRINGS MAGIC, ADVENTURE AND ROMANCE TO THE STAGE**

Northwest Florida Ballet's 2011-2012 season, choreographer Todd Eric Allen's 16th year as Artistic Director, serves up three major productions at the Mattie Kelly Fine & Performing Arts Center, including an epic romance, a beloved favorite, special new guest artists and a touch of magic.

The season begins with a roar . . . literally! Movement and light come together in the mesmerizing tale of ***Corbian The Dinosaur: A Glow In The Dark Adventure***. Electroluminescent crayon-like creatures light up the night in a heart rendering tale of a scientist and his creation. Truly unique and visually dazzling, the production has been universally praised by critics across the U.S. and Europe for its cutting edge blend of puppetry, technology and dance. Created by popular NFB principal guest artist Ian Carney and creative partner Corbin Pop, *Corbian* has been performed for enthusiastic audiences of all ages. The performance will be held on Sept 30 at 7:30pm.

Youths in third grade and up are invited to join NFB and the Emerald Coast Science Center before the show for a special "behind-the-scenes" look at the magic of *Corbian*.

No holiday season is complete without the most beloved holiday ballet of all time, ***The Nutcracker***. This year former NFB student and Company dancer Kathleen Breen Combes, who is currently a principal dancer with the acclaimed Boston Ballet, returns to dance the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy for Emerald Coast audiences. Yury Yanowsky, also a principal dancer with the Boston ballet, will perform as the Cavalier. Performances will be on November 19 at 7:30 p.m. and November 20 at 2:30 p.m.

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The touching story of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers, **Romeo and Juliet**, will draw you in with its intimate moments of lyrical beauty and its action-packed encounters of the feuding Montagues and Capulets. Beautifully staged with rich period costumes and sets, choreography by NFB's own Todd Eric Allen and the powerful sounds of Prokofiev's famous music, **Romeo and Juliet** is an experience you won't want to miss. Performances will be on March 30 at 7:30 p.m. and April 1 at 2:30 p.m.

The season will conclude with NFB's annual performance of **Starlight Ballet** at Rosemary Beach in June. This free outdoor performance showcases an exciting and diverse repertory of classical and contemporary dance. NFB Company dancers, internationally acclaimed guest artists and talented dancers from NFB Summer Intensive Workshop are all seen in full force on the NFB stage.

Season subscriptions are now available for the upcoming season. Tickets to individual performances will be available four weeks prior to performance dates. Please call the Northwest Florida Ballet office at (850) 664-7787 or visit nfballet.org for additional ticket and performance information.

The Northwest Florida Ballet is funding in part by the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs.

The Northwest Florida Ballet celebrates its 42nd year as a regionally recognized semi-professional ballet company and school. In addition, NFB has developed the nationally acclaimed Académie – an integrated academic and dance education program serving 140 students from the third to eighth grade. The NFB is led by Artistic Director and CEO Todd Eric Allen, an area native. The NFB is funded in part by the Florida Arts Council.

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Photo attachments:

Corbian The Dinosaur; Credit: Steven Charles Nicholson

The Nutcracker; Credit: Bob Barton

Romeo & Juliet; Credit: Alexander Skalij

Additional photos available upon request.