



REGIONAL DANCE AMERICA

A National Association of Dance Companies

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Dear Educator,

Regional Dance America is an organization comprised of eighty pre-professional ballet companies from across the United States. They are accepted into RDA through an intensive screening process. The companies as well as the dancers must maintain very high standards in order to continue their membership.

The United States is divided into five Regions. Each year, the companies belonging to an individual Region congregate at a Regional Festival. The dancers attend classes with internationally known master teachers and with experts in the field of dance history, medicine, nutrition and a variety of other dance related topics. Each evening the companies present a work, which has been chosen from their repertoire by an adjudicator of professional stature earlier in the year.

At this Regional Festival, the dancers are able to see works by their peers and view the standards being set within the region. The Festival also provides scouting opportunities for professional dance companies. Many dancers are given scholarships for further dance study and may be offered contracts for professional work. For dancers originating from rural areas this is an especially important window to the professional world of dance.

In May 2012, Regional Dance America will be holding a **National Festival** in Montreal, Canada. This is only the third time in RDA's fifty-five year history that a national festival will be held. Aside from the benefits mentioned above, the dancers will be given a unique perspective to dance in the United States and Canada.

Several students under your jurisdiction will be traveling to attend the **Regional Dance America National Festival 2012**. These students are members of Salt Creek Ballet directed by Sergey Kozadayev. We ask for your understanding and support of their participation as they immerse themselves in their chosen art form. Dance is a youth oriented profession. Therefore, a dancer's educational experiences between the ages of twelve and eighteen are critically important. There is no other event that compares in educational value for these young dancers.

Your support of these talented young people is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gretchen L. Vogelzang, Executive Director
Regional Dance America