



Colorado Ballet Annual Report  
FY2015  
2014-2015 Season

A photograph of a ballerina in a white tutu and tiara sitting on a bed next to a large stuffed donkey. She is holding a small object and looking at it. A bowl of popcorn is on the bed in front of her. The scene is dimly lit with blue light. In the top right corner, there is a Colorado Ballet logo and the text "LIFTS YOU OUT OF EVERYDAY." in white capital letters. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM SEPT 26 - OCT 5 A ROMANTIC COMEDY WORTH WATCHING. GET YOUR TICKETS AT COLORADOBALLET.ORG" in white and black capital letters. A small credit line "Chandra Kuykendall by Allen Birnbach" is visible in the bottom right corner of the photo area.

LIFTS YOU  
OUT OF  
EVERYDAY.

Chandra Kuykendall by Allen Birnbach

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**  
**SEPT 26 - OCT 5**  
**A ROMANTIC COMEDY WORTH WATCHING.**  
**GET YOUR TICKETS AT**  
**COLORADOBALLET.ORG**

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Emma Keyser

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Cindy Meany

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Monica Owens

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Rebel Saffold III

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### **LIFETIME HONORARY TRUSTEES**

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Dick Saunders

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Ruth Silver

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Katy Brown

### **ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**

Gil Boggs

### **DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

Mark Hough

### **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

Mark Chase

## Overview/Year in Review

### 2014-2015 Achievements

In August 2014, Colorado Ballet moved into its new home, the Armstrong Center for Dance. This is the first time in the organization's history that the organization has owned its home. Colorado Ballet purchased a building in January 2013 located at 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Santa Fe Drive and renovation on the 100-year-old building finished in August 2014. The staff, dancers, Academy and outreach programs moved into the new 30,000 square foot building later that month. The renovated building will give the professional Company and Academy room to grow with state-of-the-art rehearsal studios, as well as improved amenities for the professional Company including locker rooms and showers as well as a physical therapy room. The new location also has its own Black Box Theater performance space.



Colorado Ballet's new home at 1075 Santa Fe Drive, photo by David Lauer Photography

The 2014-2015 season had several high notes including record attendance at *Dracula*, *The Nutcracker*, and *Peter and the Wolf*. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Ballet MasterWorks* received rave reviews from audiences and critics alike.

A performance at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House is considered sold out at 2,000 patrons and the average attendance for *The Nutcracker* in 2014 was 2,062 per show, breaking the previous average attendance record of 1,981 per show set in 2012. Additionally, 22 of the 24 *Nutcracker* performances were sold out. *The Nutcracker* also broke revenue records with \$2.47 million, shattering the previous record set in 2013 of \$2.39 million. *Peter and the Wolf* had the highest total attendance, highest average attendance per performance and highest revenue for any production that the ballet has ever performed at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts.

Colorado Ballet's subscription revenue increased by 17 percent over the previous season and the 2014-2015 season had the highest subscription revenue in the history of the organization. Overall, the organization exceeded its budget goals for performances during the 2014-2015 season.



Morgan Buchanan in "The Nutcracker," photo by Mike Watson



Artists of Colorado Ballet in "Peter and the Wolf," photo by Mike Watson

## Productions – 54<sup>th</sup> Season

For the seventh year in a row, Colorado Ballet presented various classical and contemporary excerpts at *An Evening Under the Stars* in August 2014 at the Arvada Center.

Colorado Ballet officially opened its 54<sup>th</sup> season with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The ballet featured choreography by Christopher Wheeldon and a score by Felix Mendelssohn, performed by the Colorado Ballet Orchestra and the Colorado Children's Chorale. This enchanting ballet inspired by Shakespeare's story was filled with mischief, romance and comedy and received rave reviews.



Artists of Colorado Ballet in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," photo by Mike Watson

During Halloween weekend, Colorado Ballet performed a special presentation of *Dracula*. The horror classic featured choreography by Michael Pink and music by Philip Feeney, performed live by the Colorado Ballet Orchestra. This spine-tingling adaptation of Bram Stoker's gothic horror classic proved once again to be an audience favorite, attracting record audiences.



Chandra Kuykendall and Domenico Luciano in "Dracula," photo by Mike Watson

Colorado Ballet's season continued in November with *The Nutcracker*. This holiday tradition featured classic choreography paired with Tchaikovsky's extraordinary arrangement performed live by the Colorado Ballet Orchestra. The 2014 production of *The Nutcracker* was the most successful in the organization's history, breaking previous revenue records.

In February 2015, Colorado Ballet presented *Ballet MasterWorks* for the second time with a collection of challenging works to live music by the Colorado Ballet Orchestra. The first *Ballet MasterWorks* took place in 2013 with different works and the second *MasterWorks* included *Concerto Barocco*, by choreographer George Balanchine and music by Johann Sebastian Bach; *In Pieces* by Val Caniparoli and music by Poul Ruders; and *Fancy Free*, choreographed by Jerome Robbins with music by Leonard Bernstein. This masterpiece of three ballets received rave reviews from critics.



Artists of Colorado Ballet in "Fancy Free," photo by Sue Daniels Photography

Colorado Ballet closed the season with the children's classic, *Peter and the Wolf*, choreographed by Michael Smuin with music by Sergei Prokofiev. The production opened with a special performance of *Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1*, choreographed by Clark Tippet and music

by Max Bruch. *Peter and the Wolf* was the most successful production the Company has ever performed at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts for both attendance and revenue.

## Academy

During the 2014-2015 season, the Colorado Ballet Academy moved with the Company into its new home at the Armstrong Center for Dance. This move has helped the Academy expand the number of classes it offers.

In addition to several Academy performances, Academy students performed supporting dance roles with the Company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Dracula* and *The Nutcracker*.

During the 2014-2015 session, the Academy started the Pre-professional Trainee Program. When not in a concentrated academic environment, pre-professional students attend two daily ballet technique classes, augmented with pointe, pirouette and allegro, pas de deux, modern, character, Pilates, variations and choreography classes taught by Colorado Ballet Academy faculty members as well as occasional guest artists. The program started off well with 11 students in the program and the Academy looks to double that number during the next session.

The Academy had its highest ever attendance for the 2015 Summer Intensive Program. Overall, the number of Academy students continued to grow.



*Colorado Ballet Academy Pre-professional students, by Francisco Estevez Photography*

## Education and Community Engagement

Colorado Ballet's Education & Community Engagement Department makes more than 30,000 contacts each year and serves in-need students, teachers, families, people with disabilities and lifelong learners in Colorado. The department continued to offer its Dance Renaissance program, an after school residency that lasts 10-15 weeks. Classes focus on creative movement and ballet. The students study a variety of dance concepts while working on spatial awareness, problem solving, and strengthening the body and brain.



*Warren Village Students*

Education & Community Engagement was in its tenth year of a partnership with Warren Village, offering dance classes for preschoolers. Warren Village helps motivated low-income, previously homeless single parent families move from public assistance to personal and economic self-sufficiency through subsidized housing, on-site nationally accredited child care, intensive case management, education guidance and career development. The dance program consists of two

classes, ages 3 to 4 and ages 4 to 5. The children learn creative movement and focus on 12 different dance concepts. Warren Village students also have a performance and they receive tickets to a ballet.

The department also continued its partnership with the Global Down Syndrome Foundation in its Be Beautiful Be Yourself Program. In addition, the department continued its Rhythm and Grace Program for adults with Parkinson's Disease.

Additionally, Education offered on-site classes at Head Start preschools through the Mayor's 5 By 5 Program. The department continued to offer its *From the Page to the Stage* performances with Colorado Ballet Studio Company dancers at schools, libraries and hospitals including Children's Hospital Colorado.



*Studio Company dancers visit patients at Children's Hospital Colorado as part of the "From the Page to the Stage" series*

Thousands of students also had the opportunity to attend student matinee performances for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Dracula*, *Ballet MasterWorks* and *Peter and the Wolf* for a substantially discounted price. Approximately 2,000 students from high percentage Title I schools were invited for a free performance of *The Nutcracker* as part of the student matinee series.

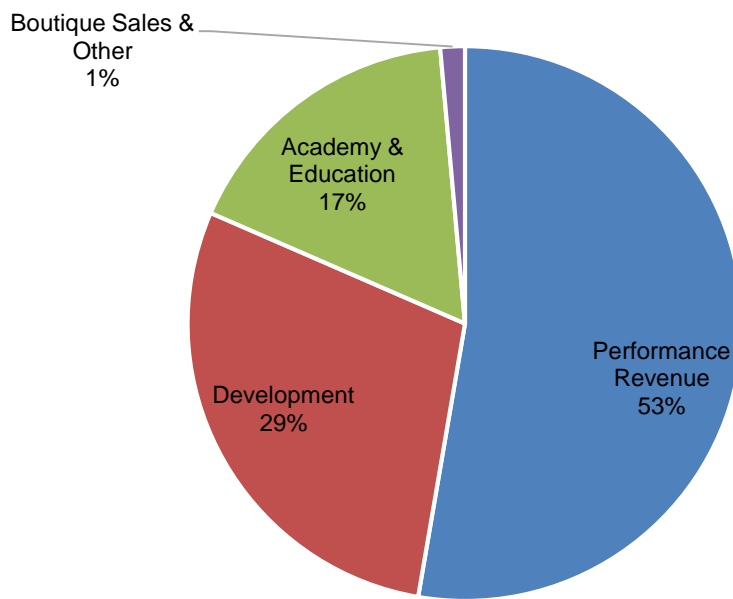
Education also offered a variety of workshops to students of all ages during the 2014-2015 year.

## 2014-2015 Financials

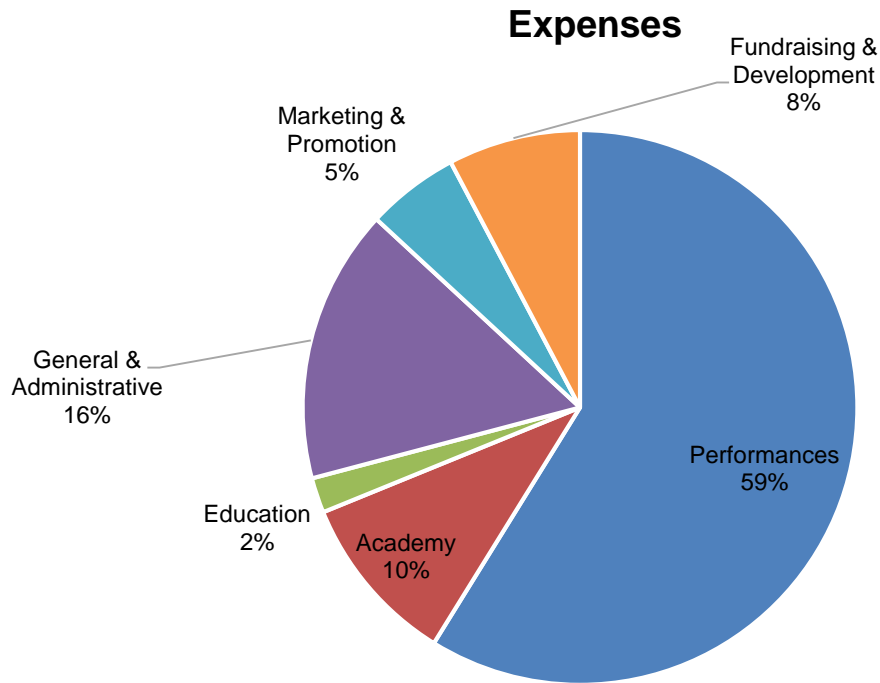
*Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets for the Year Ended June 30, 2015  
(From operations only—excluding depreciation; new building and construction not included)*

**Total Revenue: \$6,743,570**  
**Total Expense: \$6,604,173**

### Revenues, Gains and Other Support



Revenue and Support	Total
Performance revenue	\$ 3,554,177
Development Revenue	1,943,759
Individuals	730,676
Corporations & Foundations	410,624
Government (SCFD, local, etc.)	631,444
Other	170,997
Academy & Education	1,149,019
Boutique & Other	96,615
<b>Total Revenue and Support</b>	<b>6,743,570</b>



Expense	Total
Program services expense	
Performances	3,885,306
Academy	660,811
Education	135,233
Support services expense	
General and administrative	1,056,437
Marketing and promotion	356,566
Fundraising and development	509,820
Total expenses and losses	6,604,173