

# BALLET *ballet like you've never seen it before.* FANTASTIQUE

DONNA MARISA BONTRAGER  
+ HANNAH BONTRAGER  
DIRECTORS + CHOREOGRAPHER-PRODUCERS  
www.balletfantastique.org | 541-342-4611  
960 oak | downtown eugene, or 97401  
get social with us: facebook | twitter | youtube | pinterest | flickr

For Immediate Release: Dec 5, 2019

**CONTACT:** Donna Marisa and Hannah Bontrager, Ballet Fantastique Choreographer-Producers  
Mobile phone/direct email (not for publication): 541-206-8977; hbontrager@balletfantastique.org

## Ballet Fantastique makes the performing arts accessible to area children through collaboration with Banner Bank, Lane County Cultural Coalition and the Oregon Cultural Trust

*Photo: Ballet Fantastique outreach student Q&A Stephanie Urso—additional high resolution photos available by request*

### QUICK FACTS:

- **WHAT:** Ballet Fantastique Passport to Dance Outreach Performance: *Babes in Toyland*
- **WHO:** 500 area school kids from mostly rural areas in and around Lane County: **Winter Lakes School, Crow High School, Willamette High, Sheldon High School Music Program, Fossil Distance Learning Program, South Lane School District, Cascadia Learning Cooperative**
- **SPONSORED BY:** Banner Bank — with support from Lane County Cultural Coalition and the Oregon Cultural Trust
- **WHEN:** Thursday, December 12 at 10 am (run time 45 min Act I; 15 min Intermission; 45 min Act II)
- **WHERE:** Soreng Theater, Hult Center



On Thursday, December 12, 2019, 500 area students from seven different schools will fill the Hult Center to see Ballet Fantastique's opening performance of *Babes in Toyland*, as recipients of a collaborative grant and generous support from Banner Bank, Lane County Cultural Coalition, and the Oregon Cultural Trust. The annual outreach performance coincides with Ballet Fantastique's mission to be an accessible arts organization, whose doors are open to any who have an interest in the performing arts.

"I believe the arts can change lives. Many of these children and young adults may be experiencing an event such as this for the first time. We consider this an opportunity to inspire them, put a smile on their faces, and expose them to a new form of art that may broaden their interest in the arts for a lifetime," says Hannah Bontrager, Executive Director of Ballet Fantastique.

Mike Murphy from Banner Bank says this about the importance of supporting the outreach show: "As a partner and Outreach Sponsor for Ballet Fantastique, Banner Bank is proud that our investment, in part, ensures that youth throughout Lane and Coos Counties are provided the opportunity to experience world class art, that is creative, engaging, and accessible."

Participating educators rave about the event: "This performance was truly amazing! A one of a kind show...there was not just one thing that awed the children; all their senses were being stimulated. I felt amazed by all the talent that came together to create the best performance that I have ever seen in Eugene. I danced in my seat the entire time and shared a permanent smile with my students."

Interviews will be accommodated before, during, or after this event; coordinate with Liz Gill: 541-510-9833, [liz@thegilmoreagency.com](mailto:liz@thegilmoreagency.com)

###