



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Miami City Ballet is pleased to announce Baptist Health as its Official Healthcare Provider

**MIAMI, Fla. (December 20, 2022)** – Miami City Ballet is excited to announce a new partnership with Baptist Health, the largest healthcare organization in South Florida. Baptist Health will serve as the Official Healthcare Provider for their company and dancers for the 2022-2023 season.

Through this partnership, Baptist Health will provide medical support for Miami City Ballet dancers during performances in addition to other healthcare services. Baptist Health and Miami City Ballet will also provide fans with a behind the scenes look at the dancers' exercise regimen and share their best tips for a healthy lifestyle.

"We are ecstatic to have Baptist Health join us as partners with the Miami City Ballet," states Alejandro Piris Nino, PT, DPT, Director of Artistic Health. "The availability to have doctor's on-site for each performance and on-call for our dancers ensures that all dancers can be tended to immediately and feel their best to perform throughout the season.

"Baptist Health is excited to extend our partnerships into the arts and work with Miami City Ballet to provide world-class medical services for their world-class dancers to ensure performance at the highest level," said Baptist Health Doctors Hospital and Baptist Health Orthopedic Institute CEO Javier Hernandez-Lichtl. "Our physicians are thrilled about this partnership and look forward to working with these athletes."

Lead by Lourdes Lopez, Miami City Ballet's 37<sup>th</sup> season opened on October 21, 2022, with *Romeo and Juliet*. Performances are held in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and West Palm Beach. Programs to follow are Modern Masters, Fresh & Fierce, Entradas, and of course, the holiday classic, *George Balanchine's The Nutcracker*® in December. All information regarding programs and tickets can be found at miamicityballet.org.

## **About Miami City Ballet**

Miami City Ballet has a diverse roster of 53 dancers and a repertoire of more than 130 works. As one of the most renowned ballet companies in the country, Miami City Ballet performs for nearly 125,000 patrons annually during its South Florida home season in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and tours to major cities domestically and internationally, including recent visits to New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, and Paris.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is one of the most respected ballet training academies in America. The School trains students, ages 3-18 year-round, and grants more than \$650,000 in scholarships annually.

Miami City Ballet's Community Engagement programs, serving more than 12,000 people annually in schools and communities; our free programs use the power of dance to uplift, teach and bring joy.

Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez leads the company. Lopez was recently awarded the prestigious Dance Magazine Award in 2018 and was named one of "The Most Influential People in Dance Today." She is on the Ford Foundation Board of Trustees, the first artist to ever serve on its Board.

Miami City Ballet was founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin and Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella. It is headquartered in Miami Beach, FL, at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm, Arquitectonica.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has been a generous supporter of Miami City Ballet with over \$11 million in cumulative giving since the company's founding. Knight Foundation is a national foundation with strong local roots. We invest in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. Our goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which we believe are essential for a healthy democracy. For more, visit KF.org.

Major funding is also provided by the Ford Foundation, working with visionaries on the frontlines of social change worldwide.

Miami-Dade County support provided by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

Performances and programming in Miami Beach provided by the City of Miami Beach Department of Tourism and Culture, Cultural Arts Council, and the Miami Beach Mayor and City Commissioners.

Support for Miami City Ballet in the Palm Beaches generously sponsored in part by the Board of County Commissioners, the Tourist Development Council and the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County.

Broward County funding provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners of Broward County, Florida, as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council.

Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

## **About Baptist Health**

Baptist Health is the largest healthcare organization in the region, with 12 hospitals, more than 26,000 employees, 4,000 physicians and over 100 outpatient centers, urgent care facilities and physician practices spanning across Miami-Dade, Monroe, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. Baptist Health has internationally renowned centers of excellence in cancer, cardiovascular care, orthopedics and sports medicine, and neurosciences. In addition, it includes Baptist Health Medical Group; Baptist Health Quality Network; and Baptist Health Care On Demand, a virtual health platform. A not-for-profit organization supported by philanthropy and committed to its faith-based charitable mission of medical excellence, Baptist Health has been recognized by Fortune as one of the 100 Best Companies to Work For in America and by Ethisphere as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies. For more information, visit BaptistHealth.net/Newsroom and connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.