



CAROLINA BALLET THEATRE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR HERNAN JUSTO

**CAROLINA BALLET THEATRE ANNOUNCES “EMERALD EVENING” 2010
TO BE APRIL 15TH AT THE WESTIN POINSETT HOTEL**

Gatsby-themed fundraiser to feature local take on “Dancing With The Stars”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2010

Greenville, SC – Would you pay to see Rick Erwin dance? What about WSPA’s Kimberly Kelly, or a Clemson University football player? Carolina Ballet Theatre is betting that you will. CBT’s largest annual fundraising and social event of the season, **Emerald Evening 2010**, will take place on Thursday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m. in the ballroom of the Westin Poinsett Hotel. The evening’s festivities will carry a Great Gatsby, Roaring 20s theme and will feature live entertainment, a silent auction as well as a local take on the hit TV program “Dancing With The Stars”, pairing well-known personalities from and around Greenville with CBT company dancers for a spirited dance-off.

Dancers currently slated to participate include Rick Erwin (Owner, Rick Erwin’s West End Grille), Jacob Mann (Realtor, Coldwell Banker Caine), Paul Savas (Executive/Artistic Director of The Warehouse Theatre), Myra Ruiz (Reporter, WYFF Channel 4), Kimberly Kelly (Host, WSPA Channel 7’s “Your Carolina” and “Scene On 7”), Amy Ryberg Doyle (Greenville City Council), Bob Howard (President, Greenville Technical College Foundation), and Tajh Boyd (Clemson University football player). Local and company dancers will be paired and begin lessons next week. Judging the competition will be a panel that includes Mayor Knox White, Kim Hassold (Editor-in-Chief, *TALK Magazine*), Alan Etheridge (Executive Director, Metropolitan Arts Commission) and Barbara Selvy (Founder, Carolina Ballet Theatre). Roy Fluhrer (Executive Director, Greenville Fine Arts Center) will serve as Emcee.

“We are incredibly excited about this year’s Emerald Evening and have set the bar high to raise \$50,000 for CBT,” states Laura Hobbs, Executive Director of Carolina Ballet Theatre. “We know we have a terrific shot at reaching our goal because we have already seen so much support within the community for this special night. The ‘Dancing With the Stars’ vignette in particular will undoubtedly be a signature element that many people are already talking about and looking forward to!”

Jamie Prince, Founder of FLOURISH Integrated Communications, and Cathy Griffin are serving as Co-Chairs of Emerald Evening 2010.

Sponsoring Emerald Evening 2010 are 10Best, Metropolitan Arts Council, *TALK Greenville Magazine*, South Carolina Technology and Aviation Center (SCTAC), Jeff Hall Photo, Metromont Corporation, FLOURISH

Integrated Communications, Hampden Clothing, and Sharon Kay Glickman Associates. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available for a limited time by contacting CBT Executive Director Laura Hobbs at (864) 404-6564 or lhobbs@carolinaballet.org.

Host tickets to Emerald Evening 2010 are \$100/individual or \$200/couple. Hosts receive access to a special "TALKeasy" VIP speakeasy sponsored by *TALK* Magazine from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. preceding the evening's festivities, as well as a very special and memorable surprise experience that evening. General admission tickets to Emerald Evening are also available at \$75/each. All tickets can be purchased through Carolina Ballet Theatre by calling 864-404-6564 or via its web site at www.carolinaballet.org.

About CBT

Founded in 1972, Carolina Ballet Theatre has been a significant contributor to Greenville's vibrant arts and culture scene for more than thirty-five years. Those contributions became even more notable in recent years with the addition of Artistic Director Hernan Justo and his wife, nationally acclaimed dancer Anita Pacylowski-Justo. The talented couple's vision and passion, as well as the commitment of the Theatre's many volunteers and patrons, has evolved the pre-professional company into a professional powerhouse that continues to draw dancers and attention from around the world. Now in its seventh season as the area's premier professional dance company, Carolina Ballet Theatre boasts nine full-time professional dancers, three dance trainees, and an entire community of supporters.

Media Contacts

Laura Hobbs
Executive Director, Carolina Ballet Theatre
(864) 404-6564 | lhobbs@carolinaballet.org

Jamie Prince
FLOURISH Integrated Communications
(864) 248-0255 | jamie@startflourishing.com



Presenting Sponsors:

FLOURISH Integrated Communications | Sharon Kay Glickman Associates | Metromont Corporation | Hampden Clothing