

BOSTON BALLET

MIKKO NISSINEN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Toni Geheb, (617) 456-6236, tbgeheb@bostonballet.org

Lillian I, (617) 456-6235, li@bostonballet.org

Sarah Gledhill, (617) 456-6264, sgledhill@bostonballet.org

BOSTON BALLET ARTISTIC DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES MID-SEASON PROMOTIONS IN THE COMPANY

LAUREN HERFINDAHL AND ADDIE TAPP PROMOTED TO SECOND SOLOISTS

January 11, 2017—(Boston, MA) Boston Ballet Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen has announced two promotions from within the Company: **Lauren Herfindahl** (Kingston, MA) and **Addie Tapp** (Glenwood Springs, CO) have been promoted from Company artists to second soloists. The Company is comprised of 68 dancers—including 12 dancers in Boston Ballet II (BBII)—representing 18 nationalities. Nissinen continues Boston Ballet's dedication to developing technically proficient, versatile dancers within the Company and Boston Ballet School, as well as recruiting top talent from across the United States and abroad.

"One of the best parts of being an artistic director is to reward talent," said Nissinen. "I am very proud of Lauren and Addie's progress."

Second Soloist **Lauren Herfindahl** of Kingston, Massachusetts, studied at Boston Ballet School for seven years prior to joining Boston Ballet II in 2011 and Boston Ballet as a Company artist in 2013. She was the recipient of the Tatiana Gardner Scholarship and was named the Mikko Nissinen Artistic Scholar while at Boston Ballet School, and she was awarded the silver medal at the Boston International Ballet Competition Junior Division in 2012. Herfindahl attended summer programs at the School of American Ballet, Canada's National Ballet School, Boston Ballet School, the Chautauqua Dance Program, and Suzanne Farrell's Cedar Island Program. Additionally, she has attended and performed at the Professional Dance program at the Banff Centre for the Arts, and the 2015 Ballet Program at The School at Jacob's Pillow. Herfindahl has performed featured roles in Mikko Nissinen's *The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake*, George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations* and *Diamonds*, Viktor Plotnikov's *Contour Equipoise*, and Hans van Manen's *Black Cake*. Her most recent featured roles were Dew Drop and Arabian in *The Nutcracker*.

Second Soloist **Addie Tapp** of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, began dancing at the Glenwood Springs Center for the Arts and later at the Glenwood Dance Academy. At age 14, Tapp attended the School of American Ballet's Summer Course and was accepted into its year-round program where she trained from 2010 to 2014. Tapp joined Boston Ballet as a Company artist in 2014. Tapp most recently performed the featured role of Dew Drop in Mikko Nissinen's *The Nutcracker*. Her additional Boston Ballet repertoire includes Nissinen's *Swan Lake*, Val Caniparoli's *Lady of the Camellias*, Helen Pickett's *Eventide*, John Neumeier's *Third Symphony of Gustav Mahler*, John Cranko's *Onegin*, and Balanchine's *Episodes*, *Theme and Variations*, and *Kammermusik No. 2*. Tapp was the recipient of the Mae L. Wien Award for outstanding promise and a 2015 Princess Grace Award nominee.

For full biographies and a roster of Company dancers, visit bostonballet.org.

About Boston Ballet

Since 1963, Boston Ballet's internationally acclaimed performances of classical, neo-classical, and contemporary ballets, combined with a dedication to world class dance education and community initiative programs, have made the institution a leader in its field, with a 53-year history of promoting excellence and access to dance.

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Mikko Nissinen and Executive Director Meredith Max Hodges, the Company maintains a diverse repertoire, ranging from full-length ballets to new works by some of today's finest choreographers. Boston Ballet's second company, Boston Ballet II, is comprised of dancers who gain experience by performing with the Company and independently, presenting special programs to audiences throughout the Northeast.

Boston Ballet School, the official school of Boston Ballet, has a long-standing dedication to providing exceptional dance education and ballet training to students across three studios in Boston, Newton, and the North Shore. Led by Director Margaret Tracey, the School reaches more than 5,000 students (toddler to adult) each year through its four core programs: Children's Program, Classical Ballet Program, Adult Dance Program, and Pre-Professional Program.

Boston Ballet's Department of Education and Community Initiatives (ECI) provides programming, events, and activities that connect the community to dance. ECI reaches more than 4,000 individuals in Boston, North Shore, and the surrounding communities each year through Citydance, ECI on Location, Adaptive Dance, and other community programs.

For more information, please visit bostonballet.org.

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