**Ray Delle Robbins Sponsorship**

**New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc.**

Purpose

The Ray Delle Robbins Sponsorship program was created by the New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. to provide dance sponsorships for those enrolled at the New Paltz School of Ballet.

The mission statement:

 “It is the intent of the New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. to recognize the contribution of artistic talent and love given to our productions by the incredibly gifted Ray Delle Robbins. Her vision from paper sketches to fabric to costume construction will continue to amaze our audiences for years to come. Ray Delle’s devotion to her art and her expertise in her craft are an inspiration to us all.”

General Information:

The Ray Delle Robbins Sponsorship is administered by the New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc., a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. This Sponsorship is offered to students in good standing at the New Paltz School of Ballet (NPSB). Sponsorship awards are made in the sole discretion of the New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. according to the guidelines set forth below and are awarded once for the entire school year.

The Sponsorship award amount is based on direct donations to a separate account held for the Ray Delle Robbins Sponsorship and on the overall New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. budget for each year and can range from partial to full tuition awards.

Sponsorship monies are to be used solely for NPSB tuition; NOT registration fees, recital fees, costume fees, leotards, tights and shoes. Sponsorships cannot be used towards New Paltz Ballet Theatre Inc. Master Classes.

Eligibility:

Sponsorship applicants must be enrolled in a minimum of three NPSB classes per week and may choose to apply for a Ray Delle Robbins Sponsorship, which will be based, in part, on financial need. When applying for a Ray Delle Robbins Sponsorship the applicant must submit an essay as well as one of the documents described below, showing financial need or hardship.

The required attachments that each applicant must submit will be presented with the application as follows:

**A short essay**: single page on “Why ballet is important to you”, written by the student, to be submitted with application.

**And one of the following:**

Proof of Free/Reduced lunch **OR** most recent completed tax return

If you attend private or parochial school, please also provide proof of financial aid or other economic assistance you receive towards your tuition.

***All financial information will be kept strictly confidential, viewed only by the Artistic Directors, and returned to the applicant immediately after reviewing.***

There will be no fee required to submit with the application. However, Sponsorship recipients must abide by all New Paltz Ballet Theatre and New Paltz School of Ballet rules and policies, including attendance. **Sponsorships are reviewed quarterly, if all requirements are not maintained, NPSB will notify the New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. of this lack of compliance and New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. reserves the right to disqualify the student and cease the disbursement of additional Sponsorship monies to that student.**

Selection Process:

All applications will be kept in their submitted sealed envelope.

One member of the NPBT Board of Directors will act as the Selection Chairperson, the selection chairperson will be responsible for keeping all applications confidential.

The applications will be opened by the Selection Chairperson, who will then assign a number to the application and the applicants Essay.

Financial information provided will only be viewed only by Peter and Lisa Naumann, the Artistic Directors.

Any New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. Director or Officer who is the parent of a dancer applying for this Sponsorship must recuse themselves from all actions involving this Sponsorship process.

All applications/essays will be reviewed based primarily on financial need and in a non-discriminatory manner. In making all determinations regarding the Sponsorship, New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, or other protected class in its programs and activities in accordance with its non-discrimination policies and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations..

The New Paltz Ballet Theatre, Inc. Board of Directors reserves the right not to award any Sponsorship(s) if none of the candidates meet the required criteria, as determined by the Board of Directors or the Artistic Directors, in their sole and absolute discretion.

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