



PATEL CONSERVATORY

STRAZ CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Media Advisory

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Free advanced and intermediate ballet master classes

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WHO: Patel Conservatory at the David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts (formerly the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center)

WHAT: Free master class with Orlando Ballet School Director Peter Stark.

WHEN: Sunday, March 21, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. for advanced students and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. for intermediate students

WHERE: Patel Conservatory, David A. Straz, Jr. Center for the Performing Arts
1010 North W.C. MacInnes Place, Tampa, FL 33602

DETAILS: Peter Stark, director of Orlando Ballet School, will teach both master classes. Stark studied dance with Andre and Leda Eglevsky and at the School of American Ballet. He danced leading roles at New York City Ballet, Boston Ballet and Washington Ballet. While with the Boston Ballet, Stark danced with Maria and Fernando Bujones, under artistic director Bruce Marks. Stark served as the assistant to Bujones and as interim executive director at Ballet Mississippi. Stark was appointed director of Orlando Ballet School in 2000 and has coached award-winning dancers who went on to receive positions in a myriad of professional ballet companies. In addition to serving on grant panels for the National Endowment for the Arts, Stark has received honors such as Central Florida Arts Educator of the Year and was featured on the cover of *Dance Teacher Magazine*.

These master classes for children in grades five to 12 offer an opportunity for placement in the 2009-2010 academic year program and summer programs at the Patel Conservatory. Stark teaches ballet classes weekly at the Patel Conservatory through Orlando Ballet School's partnership with the Patel Conservatory.

Prerequisite: To be eligible for the intermediate master class, students must have had at least three years of consecutive ballet training. To participate in the advanced master class, students must have studied ballet for at least four consecutive years and females must have studied en pointe for at least two years.

To register by phone, call 813-222-1002 or for more information, visit www.patelconservatory.org.