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2010 USA INTERNATIONAL BALLET COMPETITION INDIVIDUAL TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

Jackson, Miss., April 5, 2010 – Individual tickets for the [2010 USA International Ballet Competition](#) (USA IBC) went on sale to the public today, April 5, 2010. Scheduled for June 12 – 27, at Thalia Mara Hall in Jackson, Mississippi, the event is designated as the official international ballet competition in the United States by a Joint Resolution of Congress.

Every four years, dance enthusiasts gather in Jackson to witness a breathtaking exhibition of the world's finest dancers.

“Excellent seats are still available for almost every performance, but due to the popularity of the event, the public is encouraged to secure tickets as soon as possible,” said Mandy Woodward, USA IBC box office manager.

Tickets may be purchased individually for each round of the competition as well as the Gertrude C. Ford Foundation Opening Ceremonies. Ticket prices range from \$7 to \$50, depending upon both the performance selected and the seat location.

“Audience members can expect to see the highest level of artistry in the competitors we’ve chosen,” said Sue Loblano, USA IBC executive director. “Each night offers exciting performances from the classical or contemporary repertoire. Audiences will also be wowed by guest companies [Bad Boys of Dance](#) and [Philadanco](#).”

World-famous Bad Boys of Dance, which was founded by 1998 USA IBC gold medalist Rasta Thomas, will perform at the 2010 opening ceremonies. Along with the competitors from around the world, the USA IBC will also celebrate the history of the competition and the legacy of [Thalia Mara](#) as part of the [American Masterpieces Initiative](#), awarded by the [Mississippi Arts Commission](#) through the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) (NEA). NEA created this national initiative to acquaint Americans with the best of their cultural and artistic legacy.

The Philadelphia Dance Company, affectionately known as [Philadanco](#), will conduct a master class for advanced and professional dancers and offer a lecture/demonstration open to the public on Wednesday, June 16, and present an evening performance on Thursday, June 17.

Dance-related exhibits, lectures, master classes and a performance by Regional Dance America will also be held in conjunction with the 2010 competition. In addition, the USA IBC Dance School and Teachers Workshop will be offered concurrently with the competition.

For more ticket information or to order packages for the 2010 USA IBC, call 601-973-9249 or [order online](#).

The USA IBC is a two-week, “olympic-style” competition where tomorrow’s stars vie for gold, silver and bronze medals; cash awards; company contracts; and scholarships. The event is designated as the official international ballet competition in the United States by a Joint Resolution of Congress. Presented under the auspices of the International Dance Committee, International Theatre Institute of UNESCO, the USA IBC is held every four years in Jackson, Miss., in the tradition of sister competitions in Varna, Bulgaria, and Moscow, Russia.

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