

THE *Washington* BALLET

Program for Dedication

Revised

To Honor, Greater
TR: Judy Key
202-362-3600

- 1:45 - 2:25 Guests tour studio wing
- 2:30 Program begins in England Studio
 Bryan Wright - Welcome/Remarks
- 2:33 Patrick Hayes - Remarks
- 2:36 Elvi Moore introduces Young Dancers (performance)
 Elvi Moore introduces Company members (performance)
- 2:51 Elvi Moore introduces Mrs. Clinton
- 2:52 Mrs. Clinton - Remarks (3-5 minutes)
- 2:57 Elvi Moore introduces Lois England
- 2:58 Lois England - Remarks & Presentation of Key to Mary Day
- 3:01 Mary Day - Remarks
- 3:03 Elvi Moore introduces Rabbi Weinberg
- 3:04 Rabbi Weinberg - Blessing
- 3:15 - 4:00 Champagne in the Gallery

Program for Dedication:

1:45 - people start to arrive - young dancers give tours

2:30 - England Studio - Dedication Program

Invocation

Bryan Wright remarks

Elvi introduces the Young Dancers

Elvi introduces the Company

Elvi introduces Mrs. Clinton

Lois England presents the key to Miss Day (Elvi introduces)

Miss Day's Remarks

Rabbi Weinberg offers the benediction (Elvi introduces)

3:15 - Champagne toast in the Gallery

4:00 - Everyone leaves

(brief performance)
(brief performance)

To Helen Greenstein

For Judy Keyserling

4 pages

5-19-97

THE *Washington* BALLET

Media Advisory

**THE WASHINGTON BALLET DEDICATES BUILDING TO FOUNDER MARY DAY
IN CELEBRATION OF NEW STUDIO WING
First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Guest Speaker
Wednesday, May 21 at 2:30 PM**

What: The Washington Ballet will hold a brief ceremony, followed by a champagne reception, to dedicate its Wisconsin Avenue facility to founder Mary Day in celebration of completion of its new 7,000 square-foot studio wing. As of May 21, Washington Ballet headquarters will be called the Mary Day Center for The Washington Ballet and the Washington School of Ballet.

Speakers: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, whose daughter Chelsea has studied at the Washington School of Ballet for the past four years.

B. Bryan Wright, President of The Washington Ballet's Board of Directors.

Lois Hechinger England, Chair of The Washington Ballet's "Campaign for the Future" which raised money to build the new studio wing.

Elvi Moore, General Director of The Washington Ballet.

Where: Mary Day Center for The Washington Ballet and the Washington School of Ballet
3515 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington DC

When: Tours of the new wing will be conducted from 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM.
Ceremony begins promptly at 2:30 PM.

Contact: Judith Keyserling at 202-362-3606 ext 122

Background - Founder of the Washington School of Ballet (1944) and The Washington Ballet professional company (1976), Mary Day has trained tens of thousands of students, many who have won honors, awards, and recognition in ballet competitions and companies around the world. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated her commitment to enriching our community through excellent training, quality productions, performances for special populations, and financial assistance for deserving students.

New studio space has been a long-held dream of The Washington Ballet whose facility was no longer able to accommodate the needs of a six-day-a-week school with over 400 students and a 20-member professional company. The new wing, which includes two dance studios, dressing rooms, teacher and dancer lounges, and costume storage, is the realization of one of three goals of The Washington Ballet's \$4 million "Campaign for the Future."

THE *Washington* BALLET

Mary Day (Founder/Artistic Director) has won the title of "Grand Dame of Ballet in the Nation's Capital." A native of Washington, her vision was to establish in her home city an organization that would be recognized nationally for its standards of quality. The Washington Ballet professional company and the Washington School of Ballet are the culmination of that vision. Miss Day's gift for developing young talent has been recognized throughout the world. *The New York Times'* Anna Kisselgoff said, "Mary Day of The Washington Ballet must be doing something right. Her former pupils are among the best dancers around...." She has been honored for her devotion and dedication to the arts in Washington, and received numerous awards including an Honorary Doctor of Arts degree from Shenandoah Conservatory, an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Mount Vernon College, the Mayor's Award, WETA-TV's "Woman of Achievement" Award, the Metropolitan Dance Award, the Cultural Alliance's Founders Award, the first Chautauqua Dance Award of Excellence in Teaching, and the IONA Senior Services Outstanding Citizen Award. Miss Day has been named "Washingtonian of the Year" by *Washingtonian Magazine* and honored by WGMS Radio, Howard University and the National Theatre Corporation.

The Washington Ballet - Founded in 1976 by Artistic Director Mary Day, The Washington Ballet is the professional resident company affiliated with the Washington School of Ballet, recognized worldwide for its excellent classical training. Considered one of the country's finest dance companies, The Washington Ballet presents a diversified repertoire of classical and contemporary ballets by both emerging and celebrated choreographers including Marius Petipa, George Balanchine, Nils Christie, Lynn Cote, John Cranko, Monica Levy, Graham Lustig, and Choo-San Goh who served for 11 years as resident choreographer and later associate artistic director of the Company. In addition to presenting a full season each year at the Kennedy Center, the Company presents *The Nutcracker* at the Warner Theatre and George Mason University's Center for the Arts. The Company also tours nationally and internationally.

The Washington School of Ballet - Co-founded in 1944 by Mary Day and the late Lisa Gardiner, the Washington School of Ballet is recognized nationally and internationally for its classical training, and dedication to excellence in dance and dance education. The school trains approximately 400 students a year with a curriculum ranging from Pre-Ballet for six-year-olds to advanced Release-Time for students, aged 13 to 18, pursuing a career in dance. Release-Time students attend classes Monday through Friday, and study classical technique, pointe, modern, adagio, and pas de deux. There is also a special class for young male students.

The Young Dancers of The Washington Ballet - The Young Dancers is an ensemble of advanced Release-Time students that performs throughout the area for special audiences who may or may not be able to attend The Washington Ballet professional company's theater performances. Formed in 1984, the Young Dancers program gives pre-professional students opportunities to perform before live audiences and enhance their dance training. The ensemble has performed throughout the Washington metropolitan area at public schools, churches, hospitals, and at community events.

THE *Washington* BALLET

April 1, 1997

yes
5/21

Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

Welcome back to Washington! Chelsea told me what a terrific experience it was for her to be with you on this trip – Mary Day and I followed your trip via the newspapers, and delighted that it was a memorable one for both you and Chelsea, and glad to have you home safe and sound.

Chelsea must have told you that the new wing of The Washington Ballet is 95% complete - and the only thing holding us up in using the two new beautiful studios is the certificate of occupancy from the District. The inspectors however have been giving us a very difficult time with various and sundry requirements in order to receive the certificate. However, we hope to fulfill all of these in the next couple of weeks, and then be able to officially use the new wing.

We are now in the planning stages of an opening/dedication event for the new wing. We would be very honored if you join us for this event, especially because you are a member of The Washington Ballet family, being a parent of one of our students, and because you were the keynote speaker for the groundbreaking ceremony in December 1995. If you recall, we spoke during one of the Nutcracker performances you attended, and you told me then that you would like to join us for the dedication ceremony. We will adjust the date of this event according to your schedule and availability. If you would be so kind as to have someone on your staff let us know what the possible dates might be in late April or early May, we would schedule accordingly. Incidentally, at the time of dedication, an announcement will be made that the entire building will be named The Mary Day Center for The Washington Ballet and The Washington School of Ballet, in honor of the founder and artistic director of our organization.

I look forward to hearing from Capricia Marshall or someone else from your staff regarding this request. In the meantime, Mary joins me in wishing you, the President and Chelsea a very Happy Spring!

Sincerely yours,

Elvi Moore
General Director

*New wing
Program for opening
Mary Day Bio*

*General history of
Wash. Ballet*

THE *Washington* BALLET

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 1995

CONTACT: JUDY KEYSERLING
202-362-3606

THE WASHINGTON BALLET TO BREAK GROUND ON NEW STUDIOS
Friday, December 15 at 10:30 AM
3515 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington DC

WASHINGTON, DC - The Washington Ballet will hold a brief ceremony and reception on Friday, December 15 to celebrate the groundbreaking of a 7,000 square foot addition to its building at 3515 Wisconsin Avenue, NW. The new wing, which will include two dance studios, dressing rooms, teacher and dancer lounges, and costume storage, is the realization of one of three goals of The Washington Ballet's \$4 million "Campaign for the Future," launched in 1992 under the chairmanship of Lois Hechinger England. The addition is expected to be completed in March 1997.

Among the speakers invited to participate in the groundbreaking are Hillary Rodham Clinton, whose daughter Chelsea is a student at the Washington School of Ballet; a member of The Washington Ballet professional company; a student from the School; and Washington Ballet Board of Directors President Tom Gallagher. Mary Day, the legendary founder and artistic director of The Washington Ballet, and General Director Elvi Moore will also participate in the ceremony.

New studio space has been a long-held dream of The Washington Ballet whose existing facility has not been remodeled in 30 years and can no longer adequately accommodate the needs of a six-day-a-week school with over 400 students and a 22-member professional company. The larger of the new studios will have permanent seating for an estimated 80 visitors, making it an excellent venue for arts and education programs and studio performances by Company members and students of the School. The building project is being managed by Edmondson & Gallagher, with KressCox Associates, PC, as architects, and McDevitt Street Bovis as construction manager.

Started three years ago, The Washington Ballet's "Campaign for the Future," has raised \$3.8 million to date, and expects to have the final \$200,000 to close the Campaign by March 1, 1996. Additional goals of the campaign include the establishment of an endowment for community education programs and Washington School of Ballet scholarships; and the creation of a new production fund to develop a cycle of story ballets, the first being *Hansel and Gretel* which was premiered in February 1995.

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