PITTSBURGH BALLET THEATRE
PNC Presents

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

PRE-VISIT STORY

Sensory-friendly Performance
Sunday | February 23, 2020 | 4:30 p.m.
Benedum Center for the Performing Arts
Pittsburgh
Ballet uses dance and music to tell a story. Dancers will be characters in the story. The dancer’s movements tell the story. The music also helps to tell the story.
During the ballet I will see dancers moving on and off the stage. These dancers are not disappearing, but just going behind the stage. They may come back on the stage. Sometimes many dancers will move on and off the stage at the same time.
In a ballet the dancers wear costumes.
Wearing costumes is like playing dress up.
The dancers are telling a story with their costumes.
The costumes may be colorful.
The dancers will express emotion with movement.
Sometimes the emotion will be happy.
Sometimes the emotion will be scared.
Sometimes the emotion will be sad.
Sometimes the emotion will be love.
Sometimes the stage will get dark all over.
The dark stage is supposed to look like night time.
I should pay close attention so I don’t miss anything.
The music will get louder and softer at different times during the show.

Loud and fast music often means something exciting is about to happen.

Softer music often means it is a calm part of the show.

If I don’t know what is happening I can whisper questions to my parents.
The main character of the ballet is Beauty. Beauty will be seen during the entire show. I will see Beauty when she is feeling sad, scared and happy.
There will be dancers dressed as forest creatures. The costumes make the dancers look like animals. If I don’t like the costumes, I can look at another dancer or look away from the stage. The forest creatures will be on the stage for a short time.
The Beast is a character in the ballet story.
The Beast looks like an animal.
The Beast is wearing a multi-colored costume.
Sometimes there will be one person dancing alone on the stage.

Other times there will be two people dancing with each other on stage.

These people know each other and are working together.
When the Beast takes off the beast costume, he becomes the Prince.
The dancers will change costumes during the ballet.

A dancer may play the same character in a different costume.

This is the same dancer, before and after changing his costume.
The ballet is coming to an end when all the dancers and characters come back onto the stage.
Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Sensory-Friendly Performances
PBT began sensory-friendly performances during the 2013-2014 season to create a welcoming environment for people of all abilities and their families to enjoy the beauty, splendor, and excitement of a live ballet performance.

*Beauty and the Beast* is generously sponsored by

![PNC Bank Logo]

Presented in partnership with the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

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**CREDITS**

**Photos:** Rich Sofranko

**Artists**

Cover: Amanda Cochrane, Nurlan Abougliev, and Artists of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and School

Ballet Story: Amanda Cochrane, Alejandro Diaz, Joseph Parr

Dancers: Artists of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and School

Bluebirds: Diana Yohe, Gabrielle Thurlow

Emotions: Alexandra Kochis, Alejandro Diaz

Dark Stage: Artists of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and School

Music: Elyssa Hotchkiss, Alejandro Diaz, and Artists of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and School

Beauty: Amanda Cochrane

Forest Creatures: Artists of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and School

One or Two Dancers: Alexandra Kochis, Alejandro Diaz

Prince: Nurlan Abougliev

Costume Changes: Alejandro Diaz (in different costumes)

Finale: Amanda Cochrane, Nurlan Abougliev, and Artists of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and School

**Original Concept and Story Author**

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