



**Purchase College**

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

## **The Performing Arts Center**

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[www.artscenter.org](http://www.artscenter.org)

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### **Press Release**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### ***“Bolero: Suburbia”***

Commissioned by The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College  
Choreographed by Larry Keigwin

**PURCHASE** — Next spring when the curtains rise in **The PepsiCo Theatre of The Performing Arts Center** at Purchase College, the spotlights will be shining on an all-star cast from the community performing alongside a troupe of top flight professional dancers from New York City.

This pro-am cast will be part of a unique program commissioned by The Performing Arts Center with renowned choreographer Larry Keigwin which will premiere May 6, 2010 and be presented again on May 8 in The Center’s PepsiCo Theatre.

The PAC Executive Director Wiley Hausam has announced that this large-scale community-based movement work - with perhaps as many as 80 performers onstage - will be staged to Ravel’s ***Bolero*** and will be called ***Bolero: Suburbia***. It will celebrate life in Westchester and Fairfield counties and will include professional and amateur participants of all ages and backgrounds from throughout the region.

There will be an open casting call for the community from noon to 5 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 6 in The Center’s PepsiCo Theatre. A broad array of individuals

will be needed - ranging from young toddlers, young female ballet students and male soccer players, to mothers, fathers and older adults. Rehearsals – to be held evenings and some weekends - will begin Feb. 15.

“We encourage everyone in our communities who has any desire to appear onstage at The Center to come meet Larry and his company and work with us on this fun and exciting project,” says Hausam. “In my years of working in the arts field, this is one of the most gratifying projects I have been involved with. It engages the community in a very satisfying way.”

Joining the community participants onstage will be an eclectic mix of professional dancers from Keigwin’s company, professional dancers-in-training from Purchase College’s acclaimed Conservatory of Dance, and other members of the Purchase community who are not trained dancers.

The work will be the culmination of an evening-length performance that also will feature dances by Keigwin + Company.

***Bolero: Suburbia*** is inspired by the original commission in 2007 called ***Bolero NYC***. It was commissioned by Wiley Hausam, then at the Skirball Center for the Arts at New York University. Hausam has been **The Performing Arts Center’s** executive director since July 2008.

The original commission was extremely successful. At the time of its premiere, The New York Times wrote, “Speed-dial the Skirball Center for the Performing Arts right away: there is just tonight left to see Larry Keigwin’s “*Bolero NYC*,” a joyful and breathtakingly clever celebration of the city and its people that is probably the most inexpensive legal fun to be had for miles around.”

The piece was so successful that it was revived by the Joyce Theater in Manhattan in June 2009 and the Newman Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Denver commissioned a similar piece ***Bolero: Colorado***, which won acclaim in fall 2009 in Denver. “Each version is different and inspired by and tailored to the communities where it is presented,” Hausam explains.

The creative process of the piece will be documented on video by a young documentarian.

Tickets - \$22.50 (including parking charges) - will go on sale Feb. 6, the day of the casting call.

For more information and to buy tickets, call **The Performing Arts Center** ticket office (914-251-6200). For more information, log onto The Center's Web site **[www.artscenter.org/](http://www.artscenter.org/)**.

For more information about the open casting call and rehearsal schedule, call (914) 251-6222.

**The Center's** 32<sup>nd</sup> season is made possible, in part, by the Basic Program Support Grant of Arts Westchester with funds from Westchester County Government. Major sponsorship for the 2009-2010 season is provided by Vivian Milstein through the SVM Foundation. We thank our dear friend Vivian Milstein for her generous gift, which has made possible this concentration of great artists in one season.

Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, N.Y., is located 28 miles northeast of New York City at the Connecticut border. The College, part of the State University of New York, is an institution of public higher education encompassing the liberal arts and sciences, professional training in the performing and visual arts, continuing education, The Neuberger Museum of Art and The Performing Arts Center.