

L'ÉCOLE
SUPÉRIEURE DE
BALLET
DU QUÉBEC

Press Release
For immediate publication

Anik Bissonnette, member of the *Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec*

Montréal, June 9th, 2021 — Anik Bissonnette, Artistic Director of *L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec*, is one of the 18 new members of the *Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec* (Québec Order of Arts and Letters). Bestowed by the *Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec* (CALQ), it honours artists, managers and patrons of the cultural sector for “their outstanding contribution to the advancement and reputation for excellence of Québec arts and letters, both here at home and abroad”.

“This honour reflects on the entire *École supérieure de ballet du Québec*, the establishment of which she has brilliantly assumed the artistic direction for more than ten years,” stated Chairman of the Board, Pierre A. Goulet. “Ms. Bissonnette has been particularly adept at transmitting to young artists her passion for dance with the same zeal that has made her reputation on stages around the world. The entire board joins me in congratulating her and reiterating its support for the development of the up-and-coming generation of Québec dancers.”

More than a hundred Québec personalities, including the late Vincent Warren, have been honoured with this distinction introduced in 2015 to mark the 20th anniversary of the CALQ. For Anik Bissonnette, this honour is added to a list of awards received over the past 25 years.

About Anik Bissonnette

As principal dancer of Montréal's Grands Ballets Canadiens for close to 18 years, Anik Bissonnette distinguished herself both at home and abroad, receiving critical acclaim for her classical technique as well as her great musical sensibility. Her career has been marked by significant distinctions, including the titles of Officer of the Order of Canada (1995) and Knight of the National Order of Québec (1996). She was awarded the Denise-Pelletier Prize in 2008, the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2014 and L'Ordre de Montréal in 2018. Concurrently, she served as President of the Regroupement québécois de la danse for six years. Since taking the helm of L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec in 2010, Anik Bissonnette has devoted her energies to communicating her knowledge to a new generation of dancers worthy of the finest dance companies in Québec, Canada and the world.

About L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec

L'École supérieure de ballet du Québec has made it its mission to train dancers and creators meeting the highest criteria in the world of professional dance and, in the process, promote the recognition, outreach and development of dance. Founded in 1952 by Ludmilla Chiriaeff and incorporated in 1966 at the request of Québec's Ministère des Affaires culturelles, it is the standard in Québec for teaching and professional training in the field of classical dance.

L'École supérieure carries out its mission thanks to an annual grant from the Ministère de la

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Culture et des Communications du Québec and financial support from the Department of Canadian Heritage. A member of the Association des écoles supérieures d'art du Québec, L'École supérieure also acknowledges the collaboration of its educational partners, the Cégep du Vieux Montréal and the Pensionnat du Saint-Nom-de-Marie.

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