

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contrapose Dance
presents
A Christmas Toy Story

The charming fable of elves, broken toys, a great gust of wind, and the resourcefulness of friends

Reading Memorial High School
62 Oakland Road, Reading MA, 01867
December 12th at 5:30 pm
December 13th at 3:00 pm

Bridgewater State College
Auditorium at the Rondileau Campus Center
19 Park Ave, Bridgewater MA, 02325
December 19th at 5:30 pm
December 20th at 3:00 pm

Cambridge, MA - Contrapose Dance is proud to present the second year of their family-friendly holiday dance production: *A Christmas Toy Story*. This hour-length show combines performances by seven Contrapose dancers and 30 students, aged 9 to 17, from the **LaPierre School of Dance** in Reading, Massachusetts, and **Moving Arts Dance** in Harvard, Massachusetts. With choreography and costumes by **Courtney Peix** and **Lucy Warren-Whitman**, sets and props by **Courtney Peix** and **Jason Barros**, and music by Sergei Prokofiev, Benjamin Brittain and Ludwig Minkus, the show will delight the whole family with its upbeat dancing and message about the power of working together.

The charming fable takes place in Santa's workshop after the elves break for dinner. Several broken toys find themselves ridiculed and shunned by their well-made counterparts, performed by **LaPierre students**. Luckily, a wind fairy, performed by **Ruth Bronwen**, arrives to blow away the attacking well-made toys, leaving the broken toys in the workshop. At first happy to be alone, the broken toys -- a toy soldier (**Kathryn Dunkel**) who has a short leg, a teddy bear (**Nina Brindamour**) who remains unstuffed, a ballerina (**Jenny Lustig**) whose pointe shoes are too big, Raggedy Ann (**Lucy Warren-Whitman**) and Raggedy Andy (**Catherine Murcek**) who are sewn together and the Jack-in-the-Box (**Lindsey Ridgeway**) who cannot open - soon realize that Santa no longer has enough toys to bring to waiting children. Rather than despair, the broken toys band together and use their combined resourcefulness to fix each other, surprising the wind fairy, the elves and even themselves. Christmas is saved!

Performances will take place at two venues over two weekends. Reading Memorial High School, 62 Oakland Road, Reading MA, 01867 on Saturday, December 12th at 5:30 pm and Sunday, December 13th at 3:00 pm. Bridgewater State College, Auditorium at the Rondileau Campus Center, 19 Park Ave, Bridgewater MA, 02325 on Saturday, December 19th at 5:30 pm and Sunday, December 20th at 3:00 pm.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children (aged 12 and under). For information and reservations, please call 508-631-1706. To purchase tickets in advance by credit card, please visit www.contraposedance.com

BIOGRAPHY

Contrapose Dance

Contrapose Dance was founded in 2007 by Courtney Peix out of a desire to present new, exciting and entertaining works that engage and thrill audiences. The company aims to bring a fresh energy to the dance scene in Boston and beyond by serving as a platform for innovative choreographers. In permitting choreographers to take creative risks, the company hopes to build a larger audience that responds to the strength, creativity, and underlying humor of the company repertoire.

Building on a backbone of classical training, Contrapose Dance presents contemporary works designed to plumb deep emotions and celebrate the exhilaration of pure movement. We seek not only to reach existing dance audiences but also to widen the circle by reaching out to communities that may not have continual access to professional dance. Contrapose Dance hopes to bring a new generation of dance lovers to a place where tradition and originality meet.

MEDIA NOTE: for more information, or digital images, please contact Courtney Peix at (508) 631-1706



Contrapose Dance in "A Christmas Toy Story"

Photo by Tom Bowling. www.dartisan.com

Dancers from left to right: Catherine Murcek, Lucy Warren-Whitman, Courtney Peix, Jenny Lustig, Nina Brindamour, Lindsey Ridgway