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**MIAMI CITY BALLET WELCOMES LEGENDARY BALLERINA PATRICIA MCBRIDE
FOR ITS FIRST OPEN BARRE ON NOV. 16 & 17**

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. – (October 26, 2016) – Legendary ballerina Patricia McBride will be the guest artist featured in Miami City Ballet's first Open Barre of the season on Nov. 16-17. McBride was one of the great ballerinas at New York City Ballet, joining the company in 1959 and becoming its youngest principal dancer in 1961. At MCB's intimate studio theater, McBride will discuss her prolific 30-year career working with George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins, and having both masters create numerous principal roles for her. She will then coach MCB dancers in Balanchine's *Who Cares?*, set to the jazzy, unforgettable tunes of George Gershwin, which will be performed in MCB's Program Four March 17-April 9.

Thirty minutes prior to each performance in the lobby, patrons can enjoy a complimentary "open bar" reception with cocktails by Absolut Elyx.

In addition, select MCB Members are invited to an exclusive post-show after party at Vintro Hotel & Bar across the street from MCB Studios where they will mingle with MCB dancers and enjoy complimentary cocktails and light bites. All Members also receive a 10% discount on Open Barre tickets. To become a member, contact Morgan Stockmayer at 305.929.7000 x1402 or membership@miamicityballet.org.

Open Barre is a special dance series that takes place twice a year at MCB's intimate 200-seat Lynn and Louis Wolfson, II Theatre on South Beach (2200 Liberty Avenue). It provides an in-depth, insider's view of the Company, the School and a host of artists who will give audiences a unique perspective on the art form.

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When and Where:

Lynn & Louis Wolfson, II Theatre
2200 Liberty Avenue, Miami Beach

Wednesday, Nov. 16

6:30 pm Open Barre reception (complimentary beverages)

7:00 pm Open Barre with Patricia McBride

Thursday, Nov. 17

6:30 pm Open Barre reception (complimentary beverages)

7:00 pm Open Barre with Patricia McBride

8:00 pm Members after party at Vintro Hotel & Bar (2216 Park Avenue, Miami Beach)

Tickets are \$35 and include a complimentary “open bar” reception beginning 30 minutes prior to curtain. Call the MCB Box Office at 305.929.7010 or 877.929.7010 toll free / Or visit miamicityballet.org.

MCB Members enjoy 10% off Open Barre tickets.

Miami Beach Residents: Complimentary tickets are available to the first 26 Miami Beach residents who arrive at the box office starting at 6:30pm, prior to the Wednesday, Nov. 16 performance. Must present valid ID with Miami Beach address.

About Miami City Ballet:

Miami City Ballet recently celebrated its 30th anniversary season, earning critical acclaim from The New York Times: "Bold, light, immediate, intensely musical, the dancing of Miami City Ballet flies straight to the heart." Led by Artistic Director Lourdes Lopez since 2012, MCB was founded in 1985 by Miami philanthropist Toby Lerner Ansin and Founding Artistic Director Edward Villella. The Company has 51 dancers and a repertoire of more than 100 ballets. MCB performs for nearly 100,000 patrons annually during its South Florida home season in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and Naples, and tours to top theaters domestically and internationally.

Miami City Ballet School, the official school of Miami City Ballet, is one of the most respected ballet training academies in America. The School's renowned faculty, challenging syllabus and affiliation with Miami City Ballet make it a place where all students – from children to adults – can receive comprehensive dance training. The School trains approximately 400 students, ages 3-18, in its year-round program, and 400 during its summer programs, granting nearly \$500,000 in scholarships annually. More than 500 adults participate in a vibrant community division.

Miami City Ballet is headquartered in Miami Beach, Fla., at the Ophelia & Juan Js. Roca Center, a facility designed by renowned architectural firm Arquitectonica.

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Miami City Ballet is a registered trademark of Miami City Ballet, Inc.