

 **PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET**  
PETER BOAL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 26, 2024

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**PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET SCHOOL**  
Presents

**Harold and the**  

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**PURPLE CRAYON**

**Featuring performances by students of Pacific Northwest Ballet School.**

***March 23 and 30, 2024. Five Performances only!***

Saturday, March 23 at 12:30 and 3:30 pm

Saturday, March 30 at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm

Sensory-Friendly Performance: Saturday, March 30 at 4:30 pm

Marion Oliver McCaw Hall  
321 Mercer Street at Seattle Center  
Seattle, WA 98109

Music: Andrew Bird  
Choreography: Robyn Mineko Williams & Terence Marling  
Costume Design: Rebecca Shouse  
Lighting Design: Matt Miller  
Projections & Scenery: Ryan Wineinger-Schattl  
Premiere: 2010, Hubbard Street 2, Chicago

**SEATTLE, WA** – Pacific Northwest Ballet School is delighted to continue its annual family matinee offerings with ***Harold and the Purple Crayon***, an adaptation of Crockett Johnson’s beloved 1955 book, featuring music by Andrew Bird and choreographed by Robyn Mineko Williams and Terence Marling. This hour-long, narrated production features performances by PNB School students and is the perfect introduction to ballet for young theatregoers. (***Harold...*** does not feature PNB Company dancers.) Bring the whole family and watch as Harold draws, and dances through, a landscape full of wonder and excitement. ***Harold and the Purple Crayon*** runs for five performances at Seattle Center’s McCaw Hall. Showtimes are at 12:30 and 3:30 pm on Saturday, March 23, and 10:30 am and 1:30 pm on Saturday, March 30, with a special sensory-friendly performance at 4:30 pm on Saturday, March 30. Tickets start at

just \$30 (with discounts available for children under 14) and are available through the PNB Box Office: in person at 301 Mercer Street at Seattle Center, by phone (206.441.2424), or online at PNB.org.

## PROGRAM NOTES

One evening, after thinking it over for some time, Harold decided to go for a walk in the moonlight. So begins *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, the first of seven delightful picture books by Crockett Johnson, following the adventures of an inventive young boy. As it turned out, there wasn't any moon that night nor was there a path to walk on, so Harold simply drew them. And thus his journey began. Resourceful and brave, Harold creates the world he wants to explore, using nothing more than a big purple crayon and his sky's-the-limit imagination. The *Harold* books have captivated families for more than sixty years, celebrating the imagination of children and the unique way they see the world.

## Sensory-Friendly Performance of *Harold and the Purple Crayon*

PNB is proud to present an inclusive, sensory-friendly performance of *Harold and the Purple Crayon* on Saturday, March 30 at 4:30 pm. This performance will feature a supportive and welcoming environment so those affected by autism or with other sensory needs can enjoy the shared experience of live theatre with their friends and family. Modified lighting and sound levels, fidgets, entry/exit privileges, trained staff, allowance of devices, and a sensory room will be offered at this matinee. For more info, visit PNB.org.

## ARTIST BIOS

A native of the Chicago suburbs, **Andrew Bird** began playing violin at the age of four and graduated from Northwestern University in 1995. His career began in the 1990s with the swing band the Squirrel Nut Zippers. Bird has released sixteen studio albums, and is known for his unique violin playing, accompanied by loop and effect pedals, whistling, and voice. Bird's album "My Finest Work Yet" received a Grammy nomination for Best Folk Album in 2020. [www.andrewbird.net/](http://www.andrewbird.net/)

**Terence Marling** is originally from Chicago. Marling began his ballet training in 1982 at the Ruth Page School of Dance under the direction of Larry Long. Marling joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in 2006 and danced with the company until his retirement from dancing in 2009 at which time he became artistic associate and rehearsal director for HSDC. In 2013, he was named director of Hubbard Street 2. As a freelance teacher, choreographer, and stager, Marling has restaged works by Alejandro Cerrudo and Ihsan Rustem, and taught at HSDC, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, The Chicago High School for the Arts, and more. [www.terencemarling.com/](http://www.terencemarling.com/)

**Robyn Mineko Williams** is from Chicago. She was a member of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago for 12 seasons. She began choreographing in 2001 for HSDC's Inside/Out Workshop and in 2010, alongside Terence Marling, co-choreographed *Harold and the Purple Crayon: A Dance Adventure*, for Hubbard Street 2. She has since been commissioned by HSDC, Grand Rapids Ballet, Visceral Dance Chicago, and The Nexus Project. For PNB, she created the premieres *The Trees The Trees* (2019) and *Before I Was* (2022). Her choreography has been presented at venues such as the Kennedy Center, American Dance Festival, and NYC's Joyce Theatre. She was a winner of Northwest Dance Project's International Choreography Competition in 2012 and was selected as an E-choreographer in 2013 for Springboard Danse Montreal. Williams is a recipient of the 2013 Princess Grace Choreographic Fellowship and a Princess Grace Foundation-USA 2014 Works In Progress Residency Grant. [robyminekowilliams.com/](http://robyminekowilliams.com/)

## TICKET INFORMATION

***Harold and the Purple Crayon*** tickets range from \$30 to \$67, with discounts available for children 14 and under. (All ages require a ticket for admission, including babes-in-arms.) Tickets may be purchased through the PNB Box Office:

- Phone: 206.441.2424
- In Person: 301 Mercer Street at Seattle Center
- Online: [www.PNB.org](http://www.PNB.org)

Tickets are also available 90 minutes prior to each performance, subject to availability, at McCaw Hall, located at 321 Mercer Street. There are no day-of-show rush or TeenTix tickets available for this engagement. For information on group sales, visit [PNB.org/season/group-sales](http://PNB.org/season/group-sales).

PNB's 2024 premiere of *Harold and the Purple Crayon* is generously supported by Bob Benson, The McDade Family, Once Upon a Dance, Leslie Yamada, and The Jane Lang Davis New Works Fund.

Pacific Northwest Ballet's 2023-2024 season is proudly sponsored by ArtsFund, Microsoft, and The Shubert Foundation. PNB's digital season is made possible by Katherine Graubard and William Calvin. PNB media sponsorship provided by *The Seattle Times*.

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**Publicity Contact**

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*Everything is subject to change. For further information, please visit PNB.org.*

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