

News Release from SaratogaArtsFest

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June 9 “Prelude” at SPAC to launch SaratogaArtsFest 2011

Celebration to be followed by Lar Lubovitch Dance performance

SaratogaArtsFest will officially launch its fifth annual citywide celebration of the arts with a fundraising event, “Prelude 2011: Support the Arts Under the Stars,” at the Hall of Springs in the Spa State Park on Thursday, June 9, 5 to 7:45 p.m.

Following the celebration, patrons move to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center amphitheater for a performance by the renowned Lar Lubovitch Dance Company. This is the first of dozens of ArtsFest events to be held at venues throughout Saratoga Springs from Thursday, June 9, through Sunday, June 12.

“Prelude features music by the Garland Nelson Ensemble, a sampling of Saratoga’s culinary finest, and opportunities to explore the range of arts offerings found in and around Saratoga Springs,” said Mary Ellen O’Loughlin, executive director of SaratogaArtsFest. “It’s sure to be a fun, arts-filled evening in every way—from the Prelude to the performance by the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company—topped off with a special opportunity to meet and mingle with the dancers.”

The art-filled evening, sponsored in collaboration with the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, will begin with a reception featuring Prosecco sparkling wine, followed by the serving of food and wine from some of Saratoga’s finest establishments. Local artist and noted painter Frankie Flores will create a work of art on the scene, and Opera Saratoga will perform. The Garland Nelson Ensemble will provide musical entertainment.

Guests will have the opportunity to bid on a range of items at the event’s live and silent auctions, as well as to win raffle prizes.

General admission to Prelude is \$100, with a “Junior” price of \$65 for those 35 years old or under (or 2 for \$120). Reservations are recommended. Tickets include admission to the 8 p.m. Lar Lubovitch Dance Company performance at Saratoga Performing Arts Center. The “Gold-level” attendance at \$125 offers a post-performance reception with members of the dance company.

Proceeds from the Prelude help support the festival’s arts partners through SaratogaArtsFest program grants.

While at the event, Prelude attendees will have the opportunity to purchase the *ARTSPASS* Admission Package at a discount. In addition to providing access to the full range of SaratogaArtsFest events, the *ARTSPASS* offers discounts and perks at area shops and eateries during the festival, and year-round benefits offered by ArtsFest partners at area galleries, theaters, museums, and concert halls.

For more information visit www.SaratogaArtsFest.org.