

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
Sunday, December 5th at 3:00pm and 5:30pm

Reading, MA - Contrapose Dance is proud to present the third year of their family-friendly holiday dance production: *A Christmas Toy Story*. This hour-length show combines performances by 7 Contrapose Dance dancers and 31 students, aged 9 to 17, from the **LaPierre School of Dance** in Reading, 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 Britten 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. The elves are putting the finishing touches on the toys they have made for Santa. All this hard work has made them hungry, so they take a dinner break. Once the elves leave the workshop the toys come to life, wanting to dance and play. But several toys have not been made properly and they find themselves ridiculed and shunned by their well-made counterparts, performed by **LaPierre students**. Luckily, a wind fairy, performed by **Magdalena Gyftopoulos**, 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 (**Arian Winn**) who has a short leg, a teddy bear (**Rebecca Stancliffe**) who remains unstuffed, a ballerina (**Jenny Lustig**) whose pointe shoes are too big, Raggedy Ann (**Amy Caine**) 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 Reading Memorial High School, 62 Oakland Road, Reading MA, 01867 on Sunday, December 5th at 3:00pm and 5:30pm.

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

MEDIA NOTE: Visit: www.contraposedance.com for high resolution digital images
Or contact Courtney Peix at (508) 631-1706 or courtneypeix@contraposedance.com

BIOGRAPHY

Contrapose Dance

Contrapose Dance was founded in 2008 by artistic director Courtney Peix out of a desire to present new, exciting and entertaining works that engage, invigorate and thrill audiences. This repertory 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 and continuing to add to their diverse repertory, the company hopes to build a larger audience that responds to the strength, creativity, and underlying humor that is Contrapose Dance. To date, Contrapose Dance has 13 original works in the repertory by choreographers Marcus Schulkind, Gianni Di Marco, Nicole Pierce, Courtney Peix, Lucy Warren-Whitman and Stephanie Sherman. The company has participated in 17 performances throughout Massachusetts. Three new works by guest choreographers Heather Roffe (New York), Heidi Rood (Canada) and Gianni Di Marco (Boston) will be premiered in March 2011, continuing to further the diversity of the repertory and the overall vision of Contrapose Dance.