

'Best of Ballet' shows

best-loved ballets

4/27/2011 STAR P3

From the grace of "Swan Lake" to the vibrancy of the Spanish ballet, "Paquita," the City Youth Ballet's "Best of Ballet" will bring a brilliant mix of classical ballet to stage at Milligan College's Gregory Center. The performance, set for April 30 at 7:30 p.m. and May 1 at 2 p.m., will showcase parts of some of the world's best loved ballet stories.

Chloe Garbe, an eighth grader at T.A. Dugger Junior High School, will be featured in several of the pieces as a soloist. She is the daughter of James and Theresa Garbe of Elizabethton and has danced with the City Youth Ballet since her days in preschool.

Most of the pieces center on such classical ballets as "Sleeping Beauty," "Don Quixote," "Firebird," and "Romeo and Juliet." Fernando Moraga, a CYB instructor and formerly of the Houston Ballet, will perform the "Romeo and Juliet" piece with senior dancer Christa Rockney.

The CYB's senior dancers also will perform pieces such as "Cry" by modern dance great, Alvin Ailey, and the fast-paced "Rodeo," a piece choreographed by the late Reece Toohey, a founder in 1928 of a dance school that was a forerunner to the City Youth Ballet.

"This show captures the strengths of the City Youth Ballet in that we can put on stage such a variety of selections," said Susan Pace-White, CYB's artistic director. "The audience can truly enjoy the power of ballet."

Elaborate tutus plus the glorious music of such composers as Pytor Tchaikovsky also highlight the show. The performance, under the direction of Pace-White and associate director, Sarah Sims, will raise funds for the City Youth Ballet's future performances. The CYB, a non-profit organization, provides both ballet education

and performances across Northeast Tennessee.

"Best of Ballet" honors the late Wendy Jayne Bailey, a CYB board president and long-time volunteer, who died in January from complications of multiple sclerosis.

"We are honored to show gratitude to Wendy, whose contributions to the City Youth Ballet made it the leading arts organization that it is," Pace-White said.

General Admission tickets are available at the door for \$12 for adults; \$10 for students and children. For more information, visit www.cityyouthballet.org or call 434-2195 and leave a message.



Photo Contributed
Chloe Garbe, an eighth grader at T.A. Dugger, will be featured as a soloist in City Youth Ballet's "Best of Ballet," which will be performed at Milligan College's Gregory Center April 30 and May 1.