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High-resolution photographs are available for download at

<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

Mahaiwe Presents Pilobolus with Special Events for Students and Seniors

Great Barrington, Mass.—The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present acclaimed dance theater troupe Pilobolus on February 8 and 9, 2019. The engagement includes a performance for children, a movement workshop for seniors at Berkshire South Regional Community Center, and a public performance of the company's latest extravaganza.

“We can't wait to welcome back one of the most innovative, acrobatic, and beautiful dance companies to Great Barrington,” says Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly.

“It's a special opportunity to share their creative gifts with both local school children and the senior community, and we expect a packed house for the public matinee performance as well.”

“The dance company that no one can pronounce is thrilled to return to the theater that no one can pronounce, to share pieces new and old,” says Pilobolus Co-Artistic Director Matt Kent.

The engagement will kick off with a school-time field trip performance of *Pilobolus is a Fungus* on Friday, February 8 at 10:00am. In this interactive show for young audiences, participants take a journey through nature, perceiving the sounds, shapes, colors, and movements of birds, water, trees, and the company's namesake fungus, in new and unexpected ways. With the help of the Pilobolus dancers, audience members learn to express their deep connection to the world through movement and dance. *Pilobolus is a Fungus* is recommended for all ages and grades. Tickets are \$6 per student with school

groups. Contact Mahaiwe Education Coordinator Judy Reinauer at education@mahaiwe.org. Mahaiwe education programs are sponsored by Berkshire Bank, Cain Hibbard & Myers, The Feigenbaum Foundation, and the Dr. Robert C. and Tina Sohn Foundation.

On Friday, February 8 at 3:30pm, Pilobolus Education and Community Engagement Manager Emily Kent will lead the company's unique "Connecting with Balance" workshop in the Jaffe Auditorium at Berkshire South (15 Crissey Road in Great Barrington). This hour-long class is tailored to helping seniors reconnect with their bodies and environment in creative, movement-based ways. Exercises in movement and balance guide participants to maintain and improve balance, think creatively, and build community through social engagement. This class is open to all levels of ability—even those who remain seated throughout. There is no admission fee, but pre-registration is required as class size is limited. To register, stop by the Berkshire South front desk or call 413.528.2810 ext. 0.

Pilobolus will perform *Come To Your Senses* on Saturday, February 9 at 3:00pm. The company invites audience members to engage with childlike wonder in the miracle of the senses through both classic and brand new repertory that begins by examining human biology and ends by utilizing the senses in what they describe as a refreshing immersion in the biosphere. Tickets are \$40 to \$85. In addition, the Mahaiwe offers \$15 youth tickets for everyone ages 30 and under, pending availability, by visiting or calling the box office.

Founded in 1971, Pilobolus tests the limits of human physicality to explore the beauty and the power of connected bodies. The company has performed on Broadway, at the Oscars and the Olympic games, and has appeared on television, in movies, in advertisements, and in schools and businesses, and created over 120 dance works. The company continues to propel the seeds of expression via human movement to every corner of the world, growing and changing each year while reaching new audiences and exploring new visual and musical planes.

The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4:00pm and three hours before show times. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org or call 413.528.0100.

About the Mahaiwe

Located in downtown Great Barrington, Massachusetts, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center is the year-round presenter of world-class music, dance, theater, classic films, Live in HD broadcasts, and arts education programs for the southern Berkshires and neighboring regions. The intimate jewel box of a theater opened in 1905. Since 2005, the performing arts center has hosted over 1,500 events and welcomed over half a million people through its doors. More than 20,000 students from 68 different schools have benefited from the Mahaiwe's school-time performances and residencies. The Mahaiwe receives generous support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Berkshire Bank, and the Barr Foundation and The Klarman Family Foundation through the Barr-Klarman Massachusetts Arts Initiative. For more information, see www.mahaiwe.org.

About the Berkshires

Less than three hours from New York City and Boston, the Berkshires offers culture and adventure year-round. The surrounding mountains provide plenty of opportunity for outdoor excursions in all seasons while world class culture and entertainment, along with a deeply rooted food culture and an array of lodging options amidst picturesque towns, set this region apart. For more information, visit berkshires.org.

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