

Local dance students open for Oregon Ballet Theatre

ASTORIA — Families in Astoria will enjoy Oregon Ballet performances close to home when OBT2 — Oregon Ballet Theatre's junior company — performs for the first time in venues beyond the Portland Metro region.

The performance — 7 p.m. Saturday, June 2, at the Astoria High School Auditorium — opens with a performance featuring 30 local dance students from Astoria School of Ballet, Encore Dance Studio and Maddox Dance Studio. The short contemporary piece is choreographed by Robyn Ulibarri, one of Oregon Ballet Theatre's teaching artists

OBT2 is led by Program Director Lisa Sundstrom, an Astoria native who received her early dance training from Jeanne Maddox Peterson.



Dancers with Oregon Ballet Theatre

PHOTOS COURTESY OREGON BALLET THEATRE

For the show, OBT2 dancers will perform a

collection of excerpts from iconic classical and contem-

porary ballets. The works will explore ballet's rich and varied history.

Established in 2015, OBT2 is composed of talented dancers, chosen from the most gifted students at the top levels of the Oregon Ballet Theatre School.

General admission tickets, priced at \$7, are available at the door and in advance on eventbrite.com.

The Astoria High School Auditorium is located at 1001 W. Marine Drive.



Dancers with the Oregon Ballet Theatre

word nerd

JUNE HOG

[DʒUN HOG]

noun

1. slang: regional parlance in the Pacific Northwest describing the biggest, fattest, most-prized Chinook salmon, *oncorhynchus tshawytscha*. Already the largest species of the Pacific variety, these specimens caught in the Columbia, Spokane and Snake rivers during their summer migratory runs often weigh north of 80 pounds

Origin:

The term is still used today among Columbia River anglers to boast of a hearty summer catch, though the phrase originated around the turn of the 20th century to illustrate the legendary, mammoth six-foot Chinooks that were pulled from the waters by early cannery on the Lower Columbia in the 19th cen-

tury and generations upon generations of indigenous peoples prior to that. The returning fish were compared to swine due to the amount of fat they packed on. According to The Oregon Encyclopedia, these magnificent giants went belly-up shortly after the Grand Coulee Dam was completed in 1941, but the phrase remains to denote a large fish pulled from the rolling deep of the river.

“Enjoy a coffee break, mug up, at Coffee Girl overlooking the water or a beer at the Rogue Ales pub where June hogs, those enormous Columbia River Chinook, were once filleted.”

—Jon Broderick, “Visit the Hanthorn Cannery Museum,” Coast Weekend, Dec. 15, 2016

“Tons upon tons of the fall run salmon were taken in the early 1940s. No more June hog Chinook were caught at our fishing sites in the Tenino area.”

—George Aguilar, Sr., “Live on the River: Fish, fear and freedom,” Spillyay Tymoo, March 13, 1997. P. 8



COURTESY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Lower Columbia River fishermen show off a pair of gigantic “June hogs,” a subspecies of Chinook salmon that was doomed by loss of upriver habitat to dams and overfishing in the late-19th and early-20th centuries.

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