



HiT entertainment

**For Immediate Release**

## **ANGELINA BALLERINA™ DANCES INTO THE HEARTS OF YOUNG BALLERINAS**

**The little star with big dreams to appear at ABTKids Following a Matinee Performance with AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE at the Metropolitan Opera House Saturday, May 31 at 11:30am and 2pm**

**Tickets On Sale Now**

**NEW YORK, NY – May 5, 2008** – HIT Entertainment, a leading provider of quality preschool entertainment, brings its little star with big dreams – *Angelina Ballerina* – to ABTKids and the matinee performance of *Swan Lake* by American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House on Saturday, May 31. ABTKids is a one-hour program designed for children ages 4-12 that features clips from various ballets performing during the season. *Angelina Ballerina* dances into the hearts of future ballerinas as she makes a guest appearance on stage at ABTKids and will share the spotlight with her fans in a photo opportunity and a meet and greet for all ticket holders following both performances.

Tickets for American Ballet Theatre's 2008 Metropolitan Opera House season range in price from \$25 to \$101 and are available at the **Metropolitan Opera House** or by calling 212.362.6000. Tickets for the ABTKids performance are \$25. The Metropolitan Opera House is located at Broadway and 64<sup>th</sup> Street. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit [www.abt.org](http://www.abt.org).

Angelina Ballerina, the national children's spokescharacter for National Dance Week, has been associated with American Ballet Theatre since 2003.

### **About Angelina Ballerina™**

*Angelina Ballerina*, celebrating 25 years in publishing in 2008, is a little star with big dreams of becoming a prima ballerina. This feisty little mouse works hard to reach her goal and along the way, always learns from her mistakes. When little girls share in Angelina's experiences, they're inspired to go after their big dreams too. In addition to the critically acclaimed story books created by Katharine Holabird and Helen Craig, *Angelina Ballerina* dances her way into the hearts of young girls weekly on PBS KIDS® and PBS KIDS Sprout™. For more information about *Angelina Ballerina*, please visit [www.angelinaballerina.com](http://www.angelinaballerina.com).

### **About American Ballet Theatre**

American Ballet Theatre, America's National Ballet Company™, is recognized as one of the great dance companies in the world. Few ballet companies equal ABT for its combination of size, scope and outreach. Since its founding in 1940, ABT annually tours the United States, performing for more than 600,000 people and is



the only major cultural institution to do so. It has made more than 30 international tours to 43 countries and has been sponsored by the State Department of the United States on many of these engagements.

### **About HIT Entertainment**

HIT Entertainment, owned by private equity investment group Apax Partners, is one of the world's leading independent children's entertainment producers and rights-owners. HIT's portfolio includes properties, such as *Barney™*, *Bob the Builder™*, *Thomas & Friends™*, *Pingu™*, *Fireman Sam™*, *Angelina Ballerina™* and *Rainbow Magic™*. HIT represents Chapman Entertainment's *Fifi and the Flowertots™* and *Roary the Racing Car™* in North America and Japan, as well as *Wallace & Gromit™*, *Shaun the Sheep™* and Aardman Classics from Aardman Animations. HIT also acts as a worldwide representative for The Jim Henson Company's library of classic family brands and as representative for *The Wiggles®* in the UK. Launched in 1989, HIT's lines of business span television and video production, content distribution, publishing, consumer products licensing and live events and has operations in the UK, US, Canada, Hong Kong and Japan. HIT is a part-owner of US-based preschool channel, PBS KIDS Sprout<sup>SM</sup>, and international preschool channel JimJam, (outside of the US, UK and China). For more information, visit [www.hitentertainment.com](http://www.hitentertainment.com).

To download artwork, please visit [www.hitnewsonline.com](http://www.hitnewsonline.com).

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