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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 1, 2007

The Rebecca Davis Dance Company presents
A STANDOUT WORLD PREMIERE:
***HELEN KELLER*: an Original Ballet in Two Acts**

PHILADELPHIA, PA: Last year, The Rebecca Davis Dance Company unveiled *Antigone*, an original ballet *Philadelphia Magazine* called “the most intriguing dance premiere this season.” Now, the Company presents another world premiere: ***Helen Keller***: an original ballet in two acts. In a stirring and original vision of the fascinating life of Helen Keller, the Company lives up to its growing reputation for bringing history to life through contemporary and classical dance. Adding an exceptional depth of character and drama to the emotional thrill of ballet, ***Helen Keller*** arrives at the Prince Music Theatre on November 2nd and 3rd, 2007.

Helen Keller transcends a traditional account of blind-deaf Helen Keller’s amazing life story. Infused with surprising romance and little-known true-life drama, ***Helen Keller*** visits Helen’s tragic early illness, her family’s struggle, and the events that would connect Helen with Anne Sullivan, the courageous ambassador who would unlock Helen’s mind. But Rebecca Davis’ ***Helen Keller*** goes beyond the dazzling moment at the water pump, to discover Helen tackling her unprecedented education at Radcliffe College. Audiences gain new insight to the intertwined life story of Helen and Anne, as Anne struggles to balance her stewardship of Helen against her own burgeoning romance with John Macy. Together, Anne and Helen accomplish an astonishing life. By the time Helen faces her Teacher’s death, she is a unique and powerful woman who will impact the world forever.

Helen Keller boasts original choreography by the vibrant Rebecca Davis. Rounding out the promise of an extraordinary ballet, a cast of twenty dancers includes six student dancers. The virtuoso professionals include Delaware native Monica Biener, Danielle

Grimm of Philadelphia, Venezuelan Maria Gabriela Moros (Ballet Memphis), Swarthmore student Carmella Ollero, Cuba native Laura Ramirez, and New York veteran Laura de Rubeis. The student dancers include Caitlyn Casson of Vineland, NJ, the 2007 Company Merit Scholar. Joining her are several young Philadelphia dancers: Rebecca Arthur, Erin Burgmayer, Hannah Cohen, Keira Connors, and CAPA student Edwin Rivera. Also sure to delight is the live music of the internationally known, award-winning Tononi Quartet: violinists Kyoungwoon Leah Kim and Jennifer K. Lee, and cellist Stephen Framil.

Helen Keller is also a feature of the upcoming Greater Philadelphia Independence Starts Here Festival. This city-wide festival of art and culture, workshop, performance, film, literature and music highlights artists and organizations dedicated to accessibility. The Festival celebrates the achievements of artists with disabilities, and features stories inspired by the experience of disability. In joining with the Independence Starts Here Festival, The Rebecca Davis Dance Company both tells Helen Keller's story, and helps to continue Keller's life's work of raising awareness for disability issues.

An award-winning Summa Cum Laude graduate of Temple University's Fox School of Business, choreographer and entrepreneur Rebecca Davis founded her ballet company and pre-professional training program in an inspired leap from the traditional track of the career dancer/choreographer. Impatient to revitalize the art of ballet with her singular vision for training and performance, Rebecca Davis joined her keen business acumen with her lifelong dance training to found the Rebecca Davis Dance Company. Since then, the Company has performed at the Kimmel Center, The Academy of Music, The Union League of Philadelphia, The International Children's Festival at The Annenberg Center, and Angel Orensanz Foundation in NYC. A Fulbright Scholar, Davis absorbed the finest techniques through her studies in Russia, and seeks to make Philadelphia an important new destination for innovative training and performance in ballet.

Helen Keller continues the Company's mission to illuminate and revivify true events with the evocative grace of ballet. This world premiere is made possible by the generous

support of H.F. (Gerry) Lenfest, Gisela & Dennis Alter, Goldenberg Rosenthal LLP, APEX Integrated Solutions, Duane Morris and Monroe Press. Tickets for *Helen Keller*, November 2 at 8pm and November 3rd at 2 and 8pm, \$25-\$35, go on sale October 1st at the Upstages Box Office, available by calling 215-569-9700.

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THE FACTS:

WHO: The Rebecca Davis Dance Company

WHAT: The World Premiere *HELEN KELLER: An Original Ballet in Two Acts*

WHERE: The Gisela and Dennis Alter Mainstage of the Prince Music Theatre,
1412 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA, 215-569-9700.

WHEN: Friday, November 2nd @ 8pm, and Saturday, November 3rd, @ 2pm and
8pm

TICKETS: \$25-\$35, on sale October 1st at the Upstages Box Office of the
Prince Music Theatre. 215-569-9700.

For More Information, call 215-840-3890, or visit www.RebeccaDavisDance.com