



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **KAPLAN VIRTUAL EDUCATION ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH PRESTIGIOUS JOFFREY BALLET SCHOOL**

*Partnership provides dancers with a high-quality online high school curriculum they can fit around busy performance and rehearsal schedules*

Hollywood, FL, March 11, 2009 — Kaplan Virtual Education (KVE), a leader in online education for grades 6 through 12, today announced an exclusive partnership with the New York-based Joffrey Ballet School, an internationally-acclaimed school for young dancers. The partnership will provide the Joffrey dancers with a robust, individualized and flexible curriculum that they can schedule around their unique needs.

"Dancers and choreographers from across the world regard the Joffrey Ballet School as the foundation of fine arts education and the pinnacle of classical ballet instruction," said Charles Thornburgh, President of KVE. "We are pleased to partner with this organization to provide its students with a high-quality online education that will allow the dancers to remain as competitive academically as they are in the arts."

Joffrey students attending KVE programs will have the option of choosing from Kaplan College Preparatory School's (KCPS) middle or high school programs or Kaplan High School (KHS), depending on their learning styles and unique needs.

"Going to school online works great with my busy schedule," said New Orleans native Alexandria Nicole Bailey, 17, a Joffrey student living in New York and attending KHS. "I can bring my laptop with me anywhere, and I can actually complete my coursework after dance class and between rehearsals."

KCPS and KHS, two of KVE's private schools, serve online students across the country. KCPS offers middle and high school students a rigorous college preparatory curriculum complete with more than 100 highly-interactive courses with embedded video, animated learning activities and audio features. In addition to intensive college admissions advising and test preparation, the KCPS courses include core, Advanced Placement, honors and elective courses. Students receive individualized attention with one-on-one instruction from certified teachers, academic advisors, and full technical support. Kaplan High School offers a more self-directed approach, but with a similarly rich curriculum for students who want the benefit of a private school education with the flexibility and convenience of an online platform.

"We are pleased to be able to offer our students the opportunity to pursue flexible educational options through Kaplan Virtual Education," said F. Lee Merwin, Director of Operations for Joffrey. "Many of our students are balancing rigorous dance and performance schedules with school work and Kaplan Virtual Education provides them with a high-quality curriculum that they can customize to meet their individual needs."

Kaplan Virtual Education schools are accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and The Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation (CITA).

KVE is part of Kaplan Higher Education, which is owned by Kaplan, Inc., a global educational services provider founded in 1938.

#### **About Joffrey Ballet School**

Founded in 1952, Joffrey Ballet School is renowned as a pioneering center for dance education, with daily class offerings that include ballet technique, pointe, men's class, pas de deux and modern dance. Joffrey is famous for training dancers and placing them in companies throughout the world. Because of its unparalleled leadership and artistry, the school stands at the forefront of American dance education and classical ballet training.

#### **About Kaplan Virtual Education**

Kaplan Virtual Education, a leading provider of online 6-12 education, offers diverse learners flexible, individualized and high-quality curriculum and instruction to promote student success. KVE operates public and private schools that provide a wide variety of accredited learning options for middle and high school students, schools and school districts. KVE's student body is as diverse as its course offerings. It serves accelerated learners seeking advanced placement and college prep courses, adults seeking high school diplomas, homeschooled students, and at-risk teenagers who require an alternative to traditional high school. KVE is accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and The Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation (CITA). For more information, visit [www.kaplanvirtualeducation.com](http://www.kaplanvirtualeducation.com).

Kaplan Virtual Education is part of Kaplan Higher Education, which serves nearly 100,000 online and on-ground students through 70-plus campus-based schools in United States and abroad. It also offers online post-secondary degree programs through Kaplan University and Concord Law School of Kaplan University. Kaplan Higher Education schools offer a spectrum of academic opportunities, from high school diplomas to graduate and professional degrees, including a juris doctor degree. Kaplan Higher Education is part of Kaplan, Inc., a subsidiary of The Washington Post Company (NYSE: WPO). For more information, visit [www.kaplan.com](http://www.kaplan.com).