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BENNINGTON COLLEGE SPONSORS EVENT "IN HONOR OF BILL BALES"

BENNINGTON, VT—Bennington College will sponsor a special dance concert and photographic exhibit in honor of dancer, choreographer, and former faculty member William Bales. The events are scheduled for Saturday, October 16, in the Visual and Performing Arts Center on the Bennington College campus. They include a dance archives exhibit and gallery talk in Usdan Gallery at 1:30 p.m., with an evening dance concert in Martha Hill Dance Workshop at 8:00 p.m. The events are free, and the public is invited to attend.

The dance exhibit, "A New Dance," features photographs and archival materials from the Bennington College Archives, the Barbara Morgan Archives, and the Williams College Museum of Art. The exhibit will open with a gallery talk featuring four guest speakers closely connected to Bales: choreographers Sophie Maslow and Jane Dudley; Lloyd Morgan, son of dance photographer Barbara Morgan; and photographer and Bennington faculty member Neil Rappaport. Following an informal panel discussion, the speakers will offer a tour of the exhibit, which is curated by Susanne and Neil Rappaport.

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The evening dance concert features works and performances by friends and students of Bill Bales, including Sophie Maslow, Jane Dudley, Martha Wittman, Bennington alumnae Kathryn Posin, Jane Lapiner, Sierra Simpson, and Linda Tarnay. William Bales' son Michael will speak at the beginning of the concert, and interspersed with performances will be spoken memories from four other Bennington alumnae: Ruth Goldstone, Allegra Fuller Snyder, Ethel Winter Hyman, and Letitia Evans Frank.

Bales, who taught at Bennington from 1940 until 1967 and directed the dance division for almost 20 years, had an extensive career as dancer, choreographer, and teacher. He was a member of Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman's company and danced with the Dudley-Maslow-Bales Dance Trio, for which he also choreographed many dances. In addition to teaching at Bennington, he taught at UCLA, New York University, the Juilliard School, and the New Dance Group Studio. He founded the dance department at SUNY Purchase, where he served as dean from 1967 to 1975. He died in 1990.