

# COTTAGES & GARDENS

## Benevolent Ballet



Coming up in April New York City will again host the world's largest student ballet scholarship competition, **Youth America Grand Prix** which will donate over a quarter million dollars to provide talented young dancers with scholarship auditions and performance opportunities. The contests will be topped with a recital of winners and two recent events were held to alert potential sponsors and audience members.

At a special public seminar three stars of American Ballet Theater demonstrated the creative process of dance. ABT dancer and choreographer Marcelo Gomes led ballerina Misty Copeland and Principal Dancer

James Whiteside through the evolution of a new pas de deux enabling guests to see how movement is honed and how quickly dancers can embrace the complex steps of new routines. The presentation was followed by a reception during which audience members were able to converse with the dancers. All proceeds benefited YAGP's Scholarship Fund.

A few days later, supporters of the group assembled for lunch at Le Cirque. YAGP Founder Larissa Saveliev and Chair Lisa Morse mingled with guests and introduced principal ballet dancers James Whiteside and Herman Cornejo of ABT and Charles Askegard of NYCB who recounted highlights of their careers. YAGP's finals will take place April 3-8 concluding with the gala on April 10.

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