



PO Box 745 • Springfield, OH 45501 • 937-324-2712 • [springfieldartscouncil.org](http://springfieldartscouncil.org)

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Contact: Tim Rowe  
Director of Marketing and Communications  
937-324-2712  
[marketing@springfieldartscouncil.org](mailto:marketing@springfieldartscouncil.org)

## Direct from New York City, GROOVALOO Makes Springfield Debut

(SPRINGFIELD, OH) – The Springfield Arts Council will present award-winning dance phenomenon **GROOVALOO** on Friday, January 29 at 8:00 PM at Kuss Auditorium in downtown Springfield.

Best known for their breakout performance on NBC's "Superstars of Dance" and appearances on FOX's "So You Think You Can Dance," "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon," **GROOVALOO** brings their electric dance stage show to Springfield after sold-out performances at The Joyce Theater in Manhattan this past September and December, just prior to the launch of their first national tour.

Based on the troupe's true-to-life experiences as told by the dancers who lived them, **GROOVALOO** combines jaw-dropping displays of physicality with heart-pounding music and powerful stories that chronicle the struggles, hopes and triumphs of the 14-member cast. **GROOVALOO** celebrates the passion and purpose of life while revealing the heart, soul and artistry of freestyle dance.

"We created **GROOVALOO** as a new form of entertainment that truly blurs the lines between theater and dance," said creator **Bradley Rapier**. "The story is told through movement, though we also feature spoken word poetry as well as compelling stories which add to the show's theatricality. In some cases, dance literally saved people's lives; each performer has a story to share, and that's where the real connection is made with the audience."

*The New York Post* cheers, "Take equal parts *Fame* and *A Chorus Line*...result? **GROOVALOO**, an eye-popping display!" and the *Newark Star Ledger* applauds, "infectiously entertaining!" The *Los Angeles Daily News* says "**GROOVALOO** has the power to leave an audience slack-jawed and utterly blown away... I'm still not sure I believe what I saw or that human beings can move with that kind of precision and abandon." Grammy® Award-winner Pink raves, "the show is absolutely AMAZING!"

*The Los Angeles Times* proclaims, "**GROOVALOO** explodes laws of physics. Performers ripple like ocean waves, shake like earthquake zones and spin like corkscrews. Some are capable of standing flips, handstand jumping jacks or locked, sideways handstands in which their bodies are frozen, modern-sculpture-like in impossible twisted shapes. The performers, from a wide variety of cultures and communities, have come together to create something positive. There's real human drama on stage."

Founded in 1999 by Bradley "Shooz" Rapier, **the Groovalooos** have since taken the dance world by storm from winning first place at The American Street Dance Championships to countless industrials and live events nationwide. Members of **the Groovalooos** have been featured prominently in a multitude of popular culture entertainment arenas. Madonna, Justin Timberlake, Miley Cyrus, Will

Smith, Pink and Gwen Stefani have been inspired by the unique talent of these performers and featured their talents in recent concerts and projects. Additionally, **GROOVALOO** dancers have had substantial exposure in feature films (*Step Up*, *Charlie's Angels*, *Idlewild*), in national advertising campaigns (iPod, GAP, Skechers, McDonald's), and on television on NBC's "Superstars of the Dance" and FOX's "So You Think You Can Dance."

**GROOVALOO** is created by **Bradley Rapier** and **Danny Cistone**, and directed by Cistone. This production features Scenic Design by **Laura Fine Hawkes** and Costume Design by **Mora Stephens**. The Lighting Design is by **Charlie Morrison** and Sound Design is by **Lucas Corrubia** and **Michael H.P. Viveros**. Music supervisors are **Steven Stanton** and **Bradley Rapier**. The executive producer is **Daniel Sher**.

**Tickets** for the Springfield, OH performance of **GROOVALOO** on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> may be purchased by calling the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office at **937-328-3874** (toll-free 866-PAC-TKTS.) Tickets may also be purchased online at **springfieldartscouncil.org**. Special discounts for groups of 15 or more are also available.

For more information and to watch a preview of **GROOVALOO**, visit **springfieldartscouncil.org**

*The Springfield Arts Council's SPOTLIGHT SERIES also includes vocal group The Manhattan Transfer, and RAIN: A Tribute to the Beatles, and Broadway's Liz Callaway. For more information about these and other Springfield Arts Council performances, visit **springfieldartscouncil.org**.*

*The Springfield Arts Council's Media Partner for this event is ThinkTV.*

*The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this performance with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.*

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