FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 17, 2003

WHAT: Krasnoyarsk National Dance Company of Siberia

WHEN: Thursday, November 13, 2003 at 7:30 pm

WHERE: Concert Hall
        University of Massachusetts Amherst
        Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or
go on-line to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets

SIBERIAN DANCE HEATS UP THE FAC CONCERT HALL

When a Westerner thinks of “Siberia,” images of frozen tundra come to mind. Yet a wealth of industry and culture thrives in Siberia with the city of Krasnoyarsk at the heart of it all. One of the cultural ambassadors of that country is the Krasnoyarsk National Dance Company of Siberia. On a national tour, they come to the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall on Thursday, November 13th at 7:30pm with a program that captivates audiences with vivid character portrayals, authentic costumes, lively musical movements, and fanciful choreography.

The Company was founded in 1960 and was hailed as a success from the very outset. The company has visited over 50 countries worldwide and currently employs 80 dancers. Its performance of traditional Siberian dances as well as its dash and vigor never leave spectators cold. The vivid character portrayals, the musical movements, and the fanciful patterns of the choreographic design have captivated audiences worldwide. Their most popular dances include "Siberian Round -more-
Dances," "Krasnoyarsk Merry Tunes" and "Men's Dance," each choreographed with many rhythms and episodes, while each dancer is an individual character. The inclusion of old round dances with modern dances unifies each performance.

The secret of the company's success lies not only in the rich imagination of its director and the mastery of its dancers, but also in its orchestra of national instruments. Mikhail Godenko created dances in collaboration with the company's musical director, composer Vladimir Kornev, whose music is distinctive for its folk character and melodiousness. His deep knowledge of folk dances and Siberian folklore help him weave the music into the fabric of the dance in a most original manner, assigning the greatest role to the folk instruments in the orchestra.

The Washington Post declared, “Words fail to express the deep impression created by the beautiful figures, swift movements and virtuoso performance…the smooth, gliding dances…the remarkable jumps and pirouettes…” France Soir, a French newspaper, proclaimed, “Parisians have never seen such dashing spirit, such fire and electrifying tension.”

Tickets for the Krasnoyarsk National Dance Company of Siberia are $35, $25, and $15; 17 and under are $10; Five College students are $15, $10 and $7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or go online to www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries.

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