

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE



RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

TOURING BROCHURE

2015–2016 • 39TH SEASON



**National
Endowment
for the Arts**
arts.gov

2008 National Endowment for the Arts
designated Dallas Black Dance Theatre as an
“American Masterpiece Touring Artist.”

PHOTO BY: SHAREN BRADFORD - THE DANCING IMAGE



Ann Williams
Founder

ANN WILLIAMS, founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976. She is a founding member of the Dance Council and The International Association of Blacks in Dance. Ms. Williams received her early dance training under Barbara Hollis (a member of the Katherine Dunham Dance Company), Edith James, Doris Humphrey, and Charles Weidman. She received additional training under Alvin Ailey and Arthur Mitchell. Ms. Williams is a graduate of Prairie View A&M University and earned a Master of Arts Degree in Dance and Related Arts from Texas Woman's University. She holds a certificate in Arts Management from Texas A&M University, received an honorary Doctor of Humanities from Northwood University, and in May 2008 was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy in Dance from TWU. She served six years on the Texas Woman's University Board of Regents. She is a 2002 inductee into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame; and in April 2005, she was honored at The Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. as a part of the Masters of African-American Choreography series.

She has received many awards and honors for her support and commitment to the arts and service organizations including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Phi Delta Kappa, Sankofa Foundation Legacy Award of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Dallas Dance Council, NAACP, the Dallas Historical Society, Zeta Phi Beta's "Woman of the Year," and she was honored as a "distinguished alumna" by Prairie View and TWU in 1990.

Ms. Williams is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Trinity Chapter-The Links, Inc., The Society, Inc.—Dallas Chapter, Charter 100, Dallas Chapter Associates of Jack and Jill of America, Lifetime member of NAACP, and the Black Chamber of Commerce. She has received The Real Estate Council's "Dreamers, Doers & Unsung Heroes" Award for 1996 and the TACA (The Auction for the Cultural Arts) Award for Excellence in the Performing Arts.

For 38 years, Ms. Williams directed Dallas Black Dance Theatre from a community-based organization and a semi-professional organization to a full professional dance company. Additionally, Ms. Williams founded four performance ensembles—Dallas Black Dance Theatre II, and three Ensembles of the Dallas Black Dance Academy.



She serves on the Board of Directors of Texas Ballet Theater, The International Association of Blacks in Dance and the Texas Cultural Trust. She is a dance consultant and has served as a dance panelist for the City of Dallas/Office of Cultural Affairs, Texas Commission on the Arts, Dallas Center for the Performing Arts Foundation, Houston Arts Council, Arkansas Arts Council, the Corsicana PRIDE Project, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For 44 years, she was married to the late Nathaniel Williams, a retired administrator of the Dallas Independent School District. They are the parents of Angelia Williams Chancellor, a graduate of Florida A&M University School of Business and Industry and University of Dallas School of Business Management.

CONTACT DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE

FOR TOURING: Dallas Black Dance Theatre is professionally represented for touring by booking agency:
Jodi Kaplan and Associates, New York
Phone: (212) 352-0400
www.bookingdance.com

FOUNDER: **Ann Williams**
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“DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE AGAIN PROVES
ITS PLACE IN CONTEMPORARY DANCE.”

—WASHINGTON POST

COMPANY HISTORY

Founded in 1976 by Ann Williams, the mission of Dallas Black Dance Theatre is to create and produce contemporary modern dance at its highest level of artistic excellence through performances and educational programs that bridge cultures and reach diverse communities. With an ever-expanding national and global audience, the company employs a diverse, multi-ethnic troupe of dancers performing for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre celebrates its 39th Season as the oldest, continuously operating professional dance company in Dallas. Under the direction of April Berry, Artistic Director, the ensemble, a contemporary modern dance company, consists of 12 professional, full-time dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, ethnic and spiritual works by nationally and internationally known choreographers. Over the course of its history, DBDT has performed for 3.5 million arts patrons and 2.5 million children worldwide (40,000 annually youth grades K–12).

To keep up with demand and continue to serve its local community, Ann Williams formed Dallas Black Dance Theatre II, the second performing company of Dallas Black Dance Theatre. This company consists of 8 volunteer artists from around the nation. Since its inception, DBDT II has grown in popularity and thrilled audiences with its fresh allure. DBDT II annually hosts their season performing in the new Dallas City Performance Hall.

Under the direction of Executive Director, Zenetta Drew, a professional, administrative staff of ten full-time employees is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the company. Ms. Drew also works with a 50 member Board of Directors whose primary responsibilities are fundraising and fiduciary oversight.

The 41 year old Dallas Black Dance Academy is the official school of Dallas Black Dance Theatre and offers classes (3 levels each) in ballet, jazz, tap and other dance disciplines for ages 4 and up. DBDT's academy offers classes four evenings per week and Saturdays during the school year and summer. The academy trains 475+ students per week in year-round classes at the DBDT Studios.

Moving to the Dallas Arts District continues the legacy of Founder, Ann Williams. In January 2008, 2700 Flora Street, the historic, prior residence of the Moorland YMCA became the first permanent home for DBDT's rehearsal studios, training classrooms, and administrative offices.

In October of 2014, the 2700 block of Flora Street was officially renamed Ann Williams Way in honor of the lifelong work of Williams.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre is a resident company member of the AT&T Performing Arts Center Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre.

PAST NOTABLE NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL TOURS



- DBDT conducts its first international tour in 1991 to **South America** (Lima, Peru) sponsored by SAGA.
- DBDT featured as guest performer for **1991 Arts Festival held in 10 cities throughout Italy and Sicily.**
- Represented the USA at **EXPO '92 in Seville, Spain** (six performances) International tour (5 cities) to Great Britain for **1993 Essex Summer Festival of Music and Dance** with final performances in **London, England.**
- DBDT performs for **1996 Olympic Arts Festival in Atlanta, Georgia** and is the first and only Texas arts' group ever to be invited to be an Olympic Cultural Olympiad participant.
- DBDT opens the **Lincoln Center's 1997 Out-of-Doors Festival Dance Series in New York City.**
- DBDT Hosts three **Annual Conferences of the International Association of Blacks in Dance** in Dallas including the 10th Anniversary conference in 1997.
- DBDT Founder and company recognized in 1997 in **New York** during **Dance Women: Living Legend Series** with performances in Aaron Davis Hall, Brooklyn Academy of Music and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.
- DBDT is **commissioned by the Gershwin Family** to create a new dance production of America's greatest opera "*Porgy and Bess*" set to the jazz music of the legendary Miles Davis.
- DBDT receives 1998 **invitation from South Africa's Minister of Arts, Culture and Sports** to be the featured guest for South Africa's largest cultural festival and to perform educational programs in the cities of Johannesburg, Capetown, Pretoria and Soweto.
- DBDT featured U.S. dance company and guest artist for the **1999 Bermuda Festival, Ltd. In Hamilton, Bermuda.**
- DBDT performs as headline artist for the **2000 Harare International Festival of the Arts** in Harare, Zimbabwe (Africa).
- DBDT featured as guest performers at the **Sixth International Ballet Festival in Miami, Florida.**
- DBDT featured as guest performer at the **226th birthday celebration for America** held by U.S. Ambassador Richard J. Egan on July 4, 2002 in **Dublin, Ireland.**
- DBDT is featured as guest performer for **Austria's First Annual Black Dance Festival** held at the MuseumsQuartier in **Vienna, Austria** November 8–9, 2002.
- **Dallas Black Dance Theatre collaborates with The New York Baroque Dance Company and the Dallas Bach Society** in the creation of a new dance production – "*Soiree Baroque en Haiti*" – a salute to the 200th Anniversary of Haiti's independence presented in New York and in Dallas in November 2003.
- 2008 **National Endowment for the Arts** designates Dallas Black Dance Theatre as an "**American Masterpiece Touring Artist.**"
- DBDT featured as opening artists for the **2011 International Dance Extravaganza Belize Festival.**
- In January 2012 presented first **New York Season at the Ailey Citigroup Theater** as a part of DBDT's 35th Anniversary Season.



PHOTO BY: SHAREN BRADFORD - THE DANCING IMAGE

2015–2016 REPERTORY LIST

View our DBDT promo video 2015!

<http://youtu.be/XI167BMP6Sc>



...And Now Marvin (1994)

Choreographer: Darryl B. Sneed

This work pays tribute to the legendary artist Marvin Gaye. He was an extraordinary singer, composer and arranger. Through his music he expressed despondency over key issues of his generation: politics, the war in Vietnam, the ecology and human conditions.

Angelitos Negros (1972)

Choreographer: Donald McKayle

Angelitos Negros is an excerpt from the ballet, *Songs of the Disinherited*. Translated to English, the lyrics read: Painter born in my native land with the foreign brush; Painter that continues the course of all the painters of old; Though the Virgin may be white, paint black angels for me; For the good ones also go to heaven; Painter indeed you paint with love!! Why do you deprecate those of your color, if you know that in heaven God also loves them? Painter of saints in alcoves, if you have a soul in your body; Why have you forgotten blacks in your paintings? Every time you paint a church you paint beautiful angels, but never do you remember to paint a black angel.

in•ter•pret (2005)

Choreographer: Hope Boykin

v. to establish..., to ascribe...,
to perform..., to translate..., to convert...
Philippians 4:13

This work was funded in part by the *Arts District Foundation*.

Instinct: 11.1 (2010)

Choreographer: Francesca Harper

Dedicated to my mother, Denise Jefferson.

Night Run (2003)

Choreographer: Christopher L. Huggins

Night Run is a look at the interaction of social forces and their transformation as night falls and the run for time. *Night Run* was made possible by a grant from *The Allstate Foundation*.



THE NINA SIMONE PROJECT
BY DIANNE MCINTYRE
PHOTO BY: ROBERT W. HART

Pulse (2007)

Choreographer: Ray Mercer

RED (2001)

Choreographer: Bruce Wood®

Music: Philip Glass, Violin Concerto II-III

This moving and dynamic piece, pays tribute to the choreographer himself. Set to a score by Philip Glass, the music guides the piece as it explores American identity and perspective.

SLIDE (1992)

Choreographer: Margo Sappington

This work was originally commissioned by The Joffrey Ballet for their full evening ballet, *BILLBOARDS*. The section Slide is performed to four of Prince's songs *Computer Blue*, *I wanna Melt with U*, *The Beautiful Ones*, and *Realease It*. This section capitalizes on what the *LA Times* called, "bold artful contrasts in dynamics and emotion".



VARIATIONS I & II BY MILTON MYERS

PHOTO BY: SHAREN BRADFORD - THE DANCING IMAGE

Testament (2014)

Choreographer: Katricia Eaglin

Five themes from the bible abstractly depicted through dance.

touch(listen) – (2014)

Choreographer: Christopher Vo in collaboration with the Dancers of DBDT 2014

Variations I (2003)

Choreographer: Milton Myers

Variations I has been a collaboration between choreographer, Milton Myers and composer, William Cantanzaro. The work is a structural composition of these and variation. The movements develop from beginning elements of walking and running.

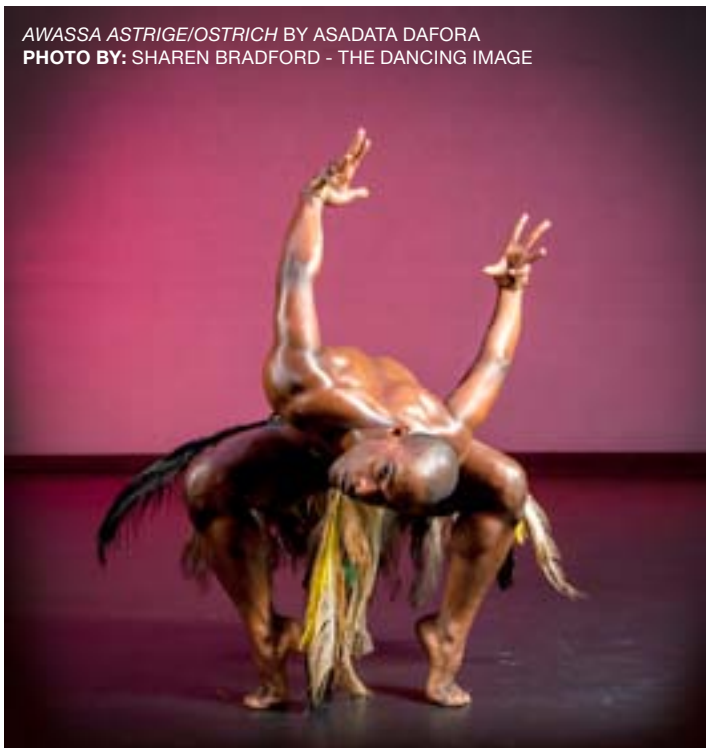
What to Say? Notes on Echo and Narcissus (2015)

Choreographer: Jamal Story

This work is from a larger work exploring the permanence of mythology and folklore in contemporary storytelling. *What to Say* addresses the nuances that might have existed, the possibilities that the complexities of male/female relationships may have changed very little since this ancient nymph/hunter bond.



MEMOIRS BY GARFIELD LEMONIUS • PHOTO BY: SHAREN BRADFORD - THE DANCING IMAGE



AWASSA ASTRIGE/OSTRICH BY ASADATA DAFORA
PHOTO BY: SHAREN BRADFORD - THE DANCING IMAGE

“THEY ARE RAVISHING,
A DISARMINGLY BEAUTIFUL CONTRAST
BETWEEN WEIGHT AND SUBSTANCE AND
SUPPLE EXPANSIVE LYRICISM.”

—DANCE MAGAZINE

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE • 2015–2016 39TH SEASON SCHEDULE

2015

September 4	Dallas DanceFest – DBDT II – City Performance Hall	Dallas, TX
September 5	Dallas DanceFest – DBDT – City Performance Hall	Dallas, TX
September 6	Dance Council of North Texas–Honors Awards–DBDT – City Performance Hall	Dallas, TX
September 11–12	Dallas Symphony Orchestra – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
September 17	North Texas Giving Day – Communities Foundation of Texas – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
September 24	DBDT Annual Board Meeting – DBDT’s Community Room – DBDT & DBDT II	Dallas, TX
October 2-3	DanceAfrica Performances – City Performance Hall	Dallas, TX
October 3	DanceAfrica Marketplace-Annette Strauss Square-All Companies	Dallas, TX
October 4	DanceAfrica Performance Giwayen Mata – NorthPark Center	Dallas, TX
October 10	NorthPark50 – Fifty Years of Giving – DBDT	Dallas, TX
October 17	NorthPark50 – Fifty Years of Giving – Allegro	Dallas, TX
November 4–8	Festival Internacional de Otoño – DBDT II	Matamoros, Mexico
November 6–8	Director’s Choice Series – DBDT – Wily Theatre	Dallas, TX
November 23–24	Behind the Scenes – DBDT Studios – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
November 25	Behind the Scenes – Academy Ensemble – DBDT Studios	Dallas, TX
November 24–29	Dance X BZ 2015 – DBDT	Belize City, Belize
December 11–12	Black on Black – DBDT & DBDT II	Dallas, TX
December 19	Parr Public Library – DBDT II	Plano, TX

2016

January 8	20th Annual Founder’s Luncheon – Hilton Anatole Hotel	Dallas, TX
January 16	Fort Worth Youth Dance Festival – DBDT II	Fort Worth, TX
January 17	MLK Celebration – DBDT II – City of Irving	Irving, TX
January 20–21	Dallas Symphony Orchestra – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
January 22–24	IABD Conference – DBDT, DBDT II & Allegro	Denver, CO
February 10–11	Prairie View A&M University – DBDT	Prairie View, TX
February 18	Cultural Awareness – Student Matinees – DBDT – Wily Theatre	Dallas, TX
February 19–21	Cultural Awareness – DBDT – Wily Theatre	Dallas, TX
March 4	Dancing Beyond Borders – DBDT & DBDT II – Eisemann Center	Richardson, TX
March 10	Dancing Beyond Borders – DBDT & DBDT II	Fort Worth, TX
March 27	St. Paul UMC Easter Sunrise Service – DBDT, DBDT II & Ensembles	Dallas, TX
April 8	Spring Fiesta – Student Matinee – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
April 8–9	Spring Fiesta – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
April 15, 17, 20, 23 & 29	Dallas Opera’s Show Boat – DBDT II	Dallas, TX
April 21–23	New York Series – DBDT – Ailey Citi Group Theatre	New York, NY
April 27–April 30	Publick Playhouse Residency – DBDT	Cheverly, MD
May 1	Publick Playhouse Residency – DBDT	Cheverly, MD
May 1	Dallas Opera’s Show Boat – DBDT II – Winspear Opera	Dallas, Texas
May 10–18	Fintdaz Festival – DBDT II	Liquique, Chile
May 20–22	Spring Celebration – DBDT – Wily Theatre	Dallas, TX

SUMMER PROGRAMS 2016

July 11–22	DBDT’s San Antonio Summer Youth Intensive – Carver Community Center	San Antonio, TX
July 22	DBDT’s San Antonio Summer Youth Intensive – Student Showcase	San Antonio, TX



Claude Alexander III (*6th Season*)

A native of Washington, D.C., Claude comes to Dallas Black Dance Theatre after attending Towson University in Towson, Maryland. He received additional training from The Ailey School as a Fellowship Student, Parsons Dance and Dallas Black Dance Theatre's Summer Intensive professional trainings on full scholarship. Claude's previous dance experience includes dancing with Dishibem and Dance RINK, both of Baltimore, Maryland and Eudora Ballet. He has performed works by Alvin Ailey, Elisa Monte, Hope Boykin, Dianne McIntyre, Bridget L. Moore and Christopher L. Huggins. He has also had the opportunity to set works on DBDT, DBDT II, Allegro and the Senior Performing Ensemble.



Hana Delong (*1st Season*)

Hana Delong, originally from Orlando, Florida, received her training at the Dr. Phillips High School Dance Magnet and Orlando Ballet School. She received her BFA from Adelphi University and studied as a scholarship student at The Ailey School for 3 years. She has worked with choreographers such as Doug Varone, Alexandre Proia, Ray Mercer, Matthew Rushing and has danced in Alvin Ailey's *Memoria* and *Revelations*. Hana performed with Dallas Black Dance Theatre II for one season. This marks her first season with Dallas Black Dance Theatre.



Kayah Franklin (*2nd Season*)

A native of Sacramento, California, Kayah received her BFA in Dance Arts from Howard University under the tutelage of Dr. Sherrill Berryman- Johnson and Pat Thomas. Kayah has studied with The Maryland Youth Ballet, The Dance Institute of Washington, Earl Mosley Institute of the Arts and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. She has performed original works by choreographers such as Hope Boykin, Ray Mercer, Baba Chuck Davis and Darrell Moultrie, and also as a guest artist with Kankouran West African Dance Company. Kayah has performed in *Fame: A Stage Play* (The Life Center, MD) and *FLY* (Dallas Theater Center, TX). She danced two seasons with Dallas Black Dance Theatre II.



Richard A. Freeman, Jr., *Resident Choreographer* (*10th Season*)

A native of Washington, D.C., Richard began his training with District of Columbia Youth Ensemble and the Washington Ballet. He received additional training from Duke Ellington School of the Arts, as well as Virginia Commonwealth University. He danced professionally with Elisa Monte Dance. Richard has choreographed works for the Atlanta Dance Connection, Texas Ballet Theater School, Dallas Black Dance Theatre and DBDT II. He is the former Assistant Director for DBDT's Bloom Performing Ensemble and currently a teacher in the Dallas Black Dance Academy.



Alyssa Harrington (*3rd Season*)

From Lincoln, Nebraska, Alyssa began her dance career at The Pure Movement Dance Institute and with UNO's The Moving Company where she was accepted as the youngest member in school history. She attended many Summer Intensives on full scholarship including Kansas City Ballet, The Ailey School, and Dallas Black Dance Theatre where she was a demonstrator for Dudley Williams and Milton Myers. She attended The Ailey School as a level 1 scholar for two years. During her training in 2011 she received an apprentice position with SDIPrismDance. She was an active performing artist in J.U.S.T.I.C.E League Dance Collective, and SDIPrismDance while performing with Dallas Black Dance II for the 2012-2013 Season.



Michelle Hebert (*6th Season*)

Raised just outside of Detroit, Michigan, Michelle received a BA in Dance Performance from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. She received additional training from Gus Giordanos and Jacobs Pillow Contemporary Traditions Program as a scholarship student. As a professional dancer, she has been a member of Garth Fagan Dance in Rochester, NY, Ballet Creole in Toronto, Canada and as a guest artist with the National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica in Kingston. She is a teacher for Spyceland Dancers summer program in St. George Grenada. Michelle currently teaches ballet and modern techniques in DBDT's Academy and has previously directed DBDT's Academy Junior Performing Ensemble. She is currently the director of the Senior Performing Ensemble.



Keon K. Nickie (*2nd Season*)

From Arouca, Trinidad and Tobago, Keon began his dance training in his native country before immigrating to the United States to further his education and dance studies. In 2007, Keon graduated with a BFA from Long Island University in Brooklyn. He has studied with The Ailey School, Balance Dance Theatre, Ballet Hispanico, Cheryl Byron and Something Positive, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, Eclectic Dance Theatre, and Pure Elements. He has performed works by choreographers Gary Abbott, Cheryl Byron, Kevin Iega Jeff, Lisa Johnson-Willingham, Kevin A. Joseph, Bill T. Jones, Mark Morris, Troy Powell, Pearl Primus, Nathan Trice, Dr. Melissa Vaughan, Lakai Worrel, and Obediah Wright. Keon was a previous member of the second company of Deeply Rooted Productions and DanceWorks Chicago.



Sean J. Smith (*6th Season*)

A native of Vancouver, British Columbia, Sean has received training from The Ailey School, Toronto Dance Theatre and Goh Ballet Academy Canada in Vancouver, British Columbia. He has performed works choreographed by Troy Powell, George Balanchine, Twyla Tharpe, Paul Taylor, George Faison, Robert Battle and Judith Jamison. Sean has previously performed with Ballet Creole and Mascall Dance and as a student with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. As a choreographer, he has presented his works as a student at The Ailey School and as a member of Dallas Black Dance Theatre. He has taught the Dance Technique of Lester Horton for The Ailey Athletic Boys Dance Program, Peridance Capezio Center in New York City and currently Dallas Black Dance Academy.



De'Anthony Vaughan (*2nd Season*)

Born in Kansas City, MO, De'Anthony was drawn into dance by his grandmother at the age of 3. She ran a performing arts school and introduced him to all forms of dance. Having a preference for tap dance, it was the staff at the Kansas City Friends of Ailey School that fostered his love for the other dance disciplines. He attended The Ailey School on scholarship. He received additional training from the Kansas City Ballet. Prior to joining Dallas Black Dance Theatre, he was a member of the Von Howard Project. He performed in the production of *Anything Goes* at the Starlight Theatre. An avid tap dancer, he has earned top honors at several competitive showcases throughout his career.



Jasmine White-Killins (*1st Season*)

Jasmine White-Killins is a May 2013 honors graduate of Southern Methodist University with a BFA in Dance Performance and an honors graduate of the School For Creative and Performing Arts in 2009 in Cincinnati Ohio. Jasmine is a three time fellowship recipient of The Ailey School in 2008 2009, 2010, a summer 2011 scholarship recipient at San Francisco Conservatory, and winter-intensive scholarship recipient of the Martha Graham School in 2010, 2011 and 2012. Jasmine has also studied at Cincinnati Ballet, Dayton Contemporary Dance Theater, and Dallas Black Dance Theatre summer intensives. Jasmine starred in a TV show from 2009–2010 called *Taking the Stage* as a ballerina entailing her life as a dancer. Jasmine had the opportunity to be cast as a soloist for outstanding choreographers such as, Joost Vrouenrats, Robert Battle, Jessica Lang, Cheryl Chaddick, Max Stone, Bill Soleau, Darrell Moultrie, Kirven Boyd, Troy Powell, Debbie Blunden-Diggs, Darryl Bjoza, and the ballet *Serenade* choreographed by George Balanchine, staged by Leslie Peck. Jasmine was a member of Dallas Black Dance Theatre II for two years. This is Jasmine's debut season with Dallas Black Dance Theatre.



McKinley Willis (*1st Season*)

McKinley Willis is a Dallas native. She began her dance training with the Dallas Black Dance Academy and eventually became a teacher. She received her advanced ballet training at Ozsoy's School of Ballet. McKinley is a 2015 graduate of the University of Oklahoma and a 2011 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. At both these schools, she performed works choreographed by Jessica Lang, Dwight Rhoden, Donald McKayle, and José Limón. Willis is a proud 2010 recipient of the Texas Commission on the Arts Young Masters Scholarship and attended summer dance intensives at the Ailey School, Alonzo King's Lines Ballet, The American Dance Festival, and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. She made her debut with the Bruce Wood Dance Project in 2011 as an apprentice and again as a performing member in 2015. This season is her first season with Dallas Black Dance Theatre. She would like to thank her family for supporting her in her journey.



Kimara Wood (*2nd Season*)

Kimara received his BFA in Dance and Choreography at Virginia Commonwealth University, and has performed at the historical Warner Theatre in Washington DC, where he won a dance scholarship through the Washington Post's Music and Dance Scholarship Awards, in 2007, hosted by Jim Vance and Jazmine Guy. He appeared on the hit TV show, "So You Think You Can Dance," making it all the way to Las Vegas in 2009. He has recently studied Brazilian Martial Arts, Capoeira, under Mestre Panao. His future aspirations are to open a studio in Japan, and to create genre of dance combining modern and Hip-hop. Prior to coming to Dallas, he was a member of Strictly Rhythm Dance Center in Alexandria, VA. Last year, Kimara was a member of Dallas Black Dance Theatre II. This is his first season as a proud member of Dallas Black Dance Theatre.



Over the course of its 38-year-history, DBDT has performed worldwide for 3.5 million arts patrons and 2.5 million students, grades K–12. This includes appearances in 30 states, 14 countries and on 5 continents, causing the National Endowment for the Arts in 2008 to designate DBDT as an "American Masterpiece Touring Artist" based on the organization's track record for artistic excellence, awards and experience on a national and international level.



EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS

DALLAS BLACK DANCE THEATRE

RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Dallas Black Dance Theatre has a history of arts education excellence. Our arts-in-education residencies and outreach programs are designed to build critical thinking skills, connect youth to themselves and their own culture, and to invigorate the educational process by building connections between the construction and execution of dance as an art form and traditional learning techniques. Each year DBDT exposes over 20,000 DISD school children to the dance forms of ballet, modern, jazz, hip-hop and African dance. An additional 20,000 students share DBDT in this experience nationally and internationally.

Dance: Let's Move! - Residency

Learn dance from the best! Dancers of Dallas Black Dance Theatre want to share the joy of ballet, modern, jazz or African technique with students of all ages. This residency is designed specifically for during or after-school programming and is aligned with First Lady Michelle Obama's campaign to fight childhood obesity—Supporting America's Move to Raise a Healthier Generation of Kids.

AttenDANCE! - Lecture Demonstration

AttenDance is an informational, interactive lecture demonstration and discussion of the different dance disciplines with history and descriptions of the movements provided by the Artistic Director as the dancers perform. This on-campus, fun-filled lecture/demonstration concludes with selected dance numbers from DBDT's repertoire. Student participation is included and a question/answer session with the dancers follows.

Student Matinee Performances

The ultimate field trip for students! See dance at its best performed at performance halls across the metroplex. Dallas Black Dance Theatre currently provides matinee performances at the state of the art Wylly Theatre and the new City Performance Hall. Dallas Black Dance Theatre brings joy and excitement to students of all ages with its superb performance of dramatic dance works by nationally known choreographers. Study guide for teachers, bookmarks and programs for students are provided to enhance the performance experience.

DBDT Master Classes

Learn dance technique in the genres of classical ballet, modern, jazz, African dance or creative movement (for young students ages 4–6) from professional dancers with extensive experience. These classes are designed to teach specific technique to new dancers and enhance the technique of experienced dancers. Classes can be scheduled either during or after-school time. Master classes may also be used as a component of the Physical Education requirement for students of all ages.

CONTACT US TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR PROGRAM!

Call: (214) 871-2387

Email: o.obioha@dbdt.com



“EXCELLENT COMPANY AT THE
THRESHOLD OF CHANGE.”

—ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE



MEMOIRS BY GARFIELD LEMONIUS • PHOTO BY: SHAREN BRADFORD - THE DANCING IMAGE

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DALLAS BLACK 
DANCE THEATRE
RELENTLESS EXCELLENCE

WHAT THE MEDIA HAS TO SAY

“The performers are feisty, fearless and well trained.
The troupe is in good shape—capable of the unexpected.”
—**Jennifer Dunning, THE NEW YORK TIMES**

“A sleek, conservative group showpiece from the juxtaposition of
European and African vocabularies. . .danced with care and even suavity.”
—**Lewis Segal, LOS ANGELES TIMES**

“There’s more than Alvin Ailey, Dallas Black Dance Theatre again
proves its place in contemporary dance.”
—**Rebecca Ritzel, THE WASHINGTON POST**

“Clearly, its greatest assets are its dancers. They are ravishing, a disarmingly beautiful contrast
between weight and substance and supple, expansive lyricism.”
—**Josie Neil, DANCE MAGAZINE**

“The dance troupe [DBDT] certainly left the audience wanting more—
certainly well worth coming to see this show for these guys alone!!”
—**Thomas Haywood, THE EDINBURGH REPORTER**

“Of course, the company is famous for its explosive,
all-engines firing energy, and of that, there was no lack. But it was the quieter,
more nuanced elements that suggested a new level of sophistication.”
—**Margaret Putnam, THEATERJONES**

“Poses and shapes were carefully carved out and held by the DBDT dancers for some of the most
artful and sophisticated choreography in their repertory.”
—**Manuel Mendoza, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS**

“One of the country’s premiere contemporary dance outfits.”
—**D MAGAZINE**