

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Dallas Black Dance Theatre II Celebrates 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

[April 2, 2015] –DALLAS – Dallas Black Dance Theatre II (DBDT II) will open their 15th anniversary season in the Dallas City Performance Hall, April 10-11, at 7:30p.m with new works from emerging choreographer Nicholas Villeneuve, a Dallas Black Dance Theatre company member, and the DBDT II Director.

DBDT II will present *The Art of Waiting* by *Nicholas Villeneuve* and *Here's to Michael* by DBDT II Director **Nycole Ray**, set to the music of Michael Jackson. These works will be joined by *Standing on Edge* by **Edmond Giles** and *Doll House* by **Sean J. Smith**, a member of DBDT.

The 8 semi-professional dancers of DBDT II are aspiring artists with roots all over the globe who have each completed prestigious dance training programs and performed a diverse repertoire that includes modern, jazz, African and spiritual works. The second company has grown in popularity because of its fresh allure and high artistic and technical ability.

Also appearing as special guests for the evening's performances will be past company members of DBDT II to help celebrate the company's 15 year anniversary. Those returning to the stage will be Alysia L. Johnson and Michael Stromile, both of whom are currently attending **The Julliard School** in New York City.

**Allegro**, a Performing Ensemble of the Dallas Black Dance Academy, will also perform. Allegro is comprised of students 14 to 18 years old from the Academy who show exceptional performance skills. Dancers interested in joining the performing ensemble participate in a highly competitive audition annually.

For over 10 years, **Macy's** has served as presenting sponsor of the Spring Fiesta Series. "We are delighted to be counted among the supporters of Dallas Black Dance Theatre," said Joe Vella, Director of Corporate Giving for Macy's. "It is a privilege to be associated with an organization that presents significant cultural events to the region and the world."

In addition to the evening performances, a **SOLD OUT** morning matinee program will be held for 700+ schoolchildren from area public and private schools. Support for the student matinee performance is provided by **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas.** 

Performances for the general public are scheduled **April 10<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** To purchase tickets, call the **ATTPAC Box Office** at **214-881-0202** or visit **www.dbdt.com**.

## About Dallas Black Dance Theatre

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.

Located at the eastern end of the thriving downtown Dallas Arts District and under the direction of Artistic Director April Berry, Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) is a nationally recognized professional modern dance company that engages the cross-cultural community through contemporary modern dance presented from the African-American experience. Over the course of its history, DBDT has performed worldwide for 3.5 million arts patrons and 2.5 million students, grades K-12, and annually serves more than 95,000 persons in Dallas and the North Texas area, including more than 20,000 youth.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre's professional company, **DBDT**, consists of 12 full-time professional dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, African and spiritual works by nationally and internationally choreographers. DBDT's second company, **DBDT II**, consists of 8 volunteer artists from around the nation to support DBDT's growing local and regional educational outreach.

Dallas Black Dance Academy- the official school of Dallas Black Dance, celebrates 41 years of providing dance instruction to the community. Over 475 students participate weekly in over 50 dance classes in the disciplines of ballet, jazz, tap, modern, and African. Classes are offered at the DBDT studios located at 2700 Ann Williams Way in the Dallas Arts District as well as in local schools and community centers.

## 38th Season Sponsors (2014-2015)

Dallas Black Dance Theatre appreciates the support provided by the following generous community, corporate and philanthropic organizations for its 38th Season of Dance: Season Sponsors: Downtown Business News, Texas Instruments, Office of Cultural Affairs — City of Dallas. Artistic and Choreography sponsored by: NorthPark Center, Jean Baptiste (Tad) Adoue III Fund of The Dallas Foundation, and the Bowdon Family Foundation. Additional season support provided by: National Endowment for the Arts — cArtWorks, American Airlines, Texas Commission on the Arts, AT&T Performing Arts Center, Lexus, Yellow Cab, Black Business Directory, Elite News, DallasBlack.com, Dallas Examiner, Metroplex Daily, Busca Apps, CBS Channel 11, Dallas Weekly, Post Tribune, WRR and Radio One. DBDT gratefully acknowledges legacy sponsor: Harold Simmons Foundationn.